

TECHNOLOGY

Majority of e-government projects in developing nations fail: World Bank

EIGHTY-FIVE percent of e-government projects in developing countries fail either partially or fully, a World Bank official said.

"It is estimated approximately 35 percent of e-government projects in developing countries are total failures and approximately 50 percent are partial failures," said Robert Schware, World Bank lead informatics specialist.

E-government refers to the use of information and communications technologies to improve the efficiency, effectiveness, transparency and accountability of government. The World Bank funds many e-government projects worldwide such as developing e-trade facilitation systems, e-procurement pilots and one-stop government gateways.

"Only some 15 percent can be fully seen as success. There are equal numbers of very sad statistics about the number of failed implementations in the US and Europe," Schware told delegates at a seminar on e-government.

In India half of the ongoing 200 e-governance projects were bound to fail, he said.