

Government of India
Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region

RAJYA SABHA

Unstarred Question No.1626

To be answered on

Thursday, March 13, 2025/ 22 Phalgun, 1946 (Saka)

QUESTION

Startups in North Eastern Region

1626 Smt. S. Phangnon Konyak:

Shri Mayankbhai Jaydevbhai Nayak:

Shri Rajib Bhattacharjee:

Dr. Bhim Singh:

Will the Minister of *Development of North Eastern Region* be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken to ensure a balanced startup ecosystem across all the North Eastern States;
- (b) the measures being taken to ensure that startups in the North Eastern Region have adequate access to funding including Venture Capital, Angel investments and debt facilities; and
- (c) the specific schemes or incentives in place to encourage women and tribal entrepreneurs in the Startup ecosystem of the North Eastern region?

ANSWER

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region

[Dr. Sukanta Majumdar]

(a) to (b) The Government, with an intent to build a strong ecosystem for nurturing innovation, startups and encouraging investments in the startup ecosystem of the country launched the Startup India initiative on 16th January 2016.

For the North Eastern States, 2,109 entities have been recognised as startups by DPIIT as on 31st January 2025. The same have been tabulated below:

State	Certificates Issued as on 31st January 2025
Arunachal Pradesh	55
Assam	1514
Manipur	185

Meghalaya	63
Mizoram	44
Nagaland	88
Sikkim	13
Tripura	147
Total	2109

North Eastern Finance Development Corporation Ltd. (NEDFi), is a Non-Banking Financial Company (NBFC) under administrative control of Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region. NEDFi has been contributing towards building startup ecosystem of North East Region (NER) of India. NEDFi has launched and managed three SEBI registered venture capital funds. Also, NEDFi has tied up with Numaligarh Refinery Limited (NRL), a PSU to launch NRL Ideation Angel Fund (NRL IAF).

Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (MDoNER) through NEDFi had created the North East Venture Fund (NEVF). Under NEVF till date, 69 startups have received Investment commitment of around Rs. 100 crore.

(c) A List of initiatives undertaken by the DPIIT for promotion of entrepreneurship in Northeastern states under Startup India, are as follow:

1. **ASCEND Startup Workshop Series and Women for Startups Workshops:** The Government has organized a series of startup workshops – ASCEND (Accelerating Startup Calibre & Entrepreneurial Drive), for entrepreneurs, aspiring entrepreneurs, and students from the North-eastern region.
2. **Knowledge Exchange and Capacity Building Workshops:** DPIIT organized knowledge exchange workshops for dissemination of good practices and mutual learning among States and UTs.
3. **Startup India Yatra Initiative:** Startup India launched Startup India Yatra in 2017 to promote entrepreneurship in rural and non-metro regions across States.
4. **WING:** As a part of DPIIT's program WING - a capacity development program for existing and aspiring women entrepreneurs
5. **District Outreach Initiative:** DPIIT is promoting entrepreneurship by striving to establish at least one DPIIT-recognized startup in every district of India.
