

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY
DEPARTMENT FOR PROMOTION OF INDUSTRY AND INTERNAL TRADE
RAJYA SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1492.
TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 01ST AUGUST, 2025.**

EXPANSION/L/STRENGTHENING OF STARTUP INDIA

1492. SHRI LAHAR SINGH SIROYA:

Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry has expanded or will expand Startup India seed fund or incubator grants to tech hubs beyond Bengaluru such as Mysuru, Hubballi or Mangaluru in Karnataka;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Central Government is taking steps to further strengthen the Startup ecosystem in Karnataka, particularly Bengaluru, which has contributed significantly to India's tally of unicorns;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether Government is considering/will consider targeted policy or funding support for deep-tech and globally scalable startups emerging from Karnataka's innovation hubs, especially in Tier 2 and 3 cities; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY
(SHRI JITIN PRASADA)**

(a) & (b): The Startup India Seed Fund Scheme (SISFS) was launched to enable financial assistance for eligible early-stage startups through incubators across India.

In the State of Karnataka, 22 incubators have been selected under the Scheme with a total approved funding of Rs. 104.48 crore as on 30th June 2025. This includes incubators from Mysuru, Hubballi and Mangaluru as well. The district-wise details of incubators supported under SISFS in the State of Karnataka are placed as **Annexure-I**.

(c) & (d): Under Startup India initiative, the Government constantly undertakes various efforts for the development and growth of startup ecosystem across the country, including in the State of Karnataka. As on 30th June 2025, Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) has recognised 18,727 entities as startups in the State of Karnataka. These recognised startups have created over 2.13 lakh direct jobs (self-reported).

Further, in addition to SISFS, other flagship Schemes under Startup India initiative including Fund of Funds for Startups (FFS) and Credit Guarantee Scheme for Startups (CGSS) support startups at various stages of their business cycle. As on 30th June 2025, Alternative Investment Funds (AIFs) supported under FFS have invested more than Rs. 7,300 crore in over 395 startups in the State of Karnataka. Further, under CGSS, 35 loans amounting to around Rs. 75 crore have been guaranteed to startups in the State of Karnataka, as on 30th June 2025. The Central Government also implements the States' Startup Ranking Framework (SRF) exercise, which promotes and recognises States and Union Territories (UTs) on development of regional startup ecosystems across various parameters. In the latest concluded edition of the SRF, Karnataka was recognized as 'Best Performer'. Various startups from Karnataka have also been recognised as part of National Startup Awards.

There are also various sector specific Schemes and interventions implemented by various line Ministries/Departments of the Central Government [refer answer to (e) and (f) below] as well as interventions of State Government targeting promotion of startups.

Such initiatives are complemented with various events and workshops to promote and strengthen the startup ecosystem, such as events for promoting angel investments, encouraging domestic capital mobilization, startup showcase, panels to promote manufacturing startups, visits and interactions of senior officials with local startup ecosystem, and Startup India Yatra conducted across more than 15 districts in Karnataka.

- (e) & (f):** The Government has undertaken various measures for the development and growth of startup ecosystem across sectors including deep tech across the country, including in the State of Karnataka. These include initiatives such as Fund of Funds for Startups (FFS) under Startup India initiative, Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), Startup Accelerator of MeitY for Product Innovation, Development, and Growth (SAMRIDH), Technology Incubation and Development of Entrepreneurs (TIDE 2.0), Innovations for Defence Excellence (iDEX), GENESIS (Gen-Next Support for Innovative Startups), National Initiative for Developing and Harnessing Innovations (NIDHI) programmes, Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC) initiatives, National Mission on Interdisciplinary Cyber- Physical Systems (NM-ICPS), National Quantum Mission (NQM), India AI Mission, Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF), Technology Development Fund (TDF), BioE3 Policy (Biotechnology for Economy, Environment & Employment), National Supercomputing Mission (NSM), and Venture Capital Fund for Space Sector, amongst others.

ANNEXURE-I**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) & (b) OF THE RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1492 FOR ANSWER ON 01.08.2025**

The district-wise details of incubators supported under the Startup India Seed Fund Scheme (SISFS) in the State of Karnataka as on 30th June 2025 are as follows:

| S. No. | District | No. of incubators selected under SISFS | Total amount approved (in Rs. Crore) to selected incubators |
|---------------|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| 1. | Dakshina Kannada (includes Mangaluru) | 1 | 5.25 |
| 2. | Mysuru | 1 | 5.25 |
| 3. | Dharwad (includes Hubballi) | 2 | 10.50 |
| 4. | Bengaluru Urban | 14 | 66.68 |
| 5. | Udupi | 2 | 9.45 |
| 6. | Tumakuru | 1 | 2.1 |
| 7. | Ramanagara | 1 | 5.25 |
| Total | | 22 | 104.48 |
