

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

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 705.  
TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 25<sup>TH</sup> JULY, 2025.**

**STATUS OF STARTUP ECOSYSTEM IN KARNATAKA**

**705. SHRI LAHAR SINGH SIROYA:**

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

- (a) the number of Startups registered in Karnataka under Startup India since 2021;
- (b) the support provided through seed funds, mentorship, and incubation centres by Government; and
- (c) the position of Karnataka in the National Startup Rankings and its contribution to the digital economy?

**ANSWER**

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

- (a):** 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.

As per eligibility conditions prescribed under G.S.R. notification 127 (E) dated 19th February 2019, entities are recognized as ‘startups’ under the Startup India initiative by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT).

DPIIT has recognised 1,80,683 entities as startups as on 30th June 2025. Specifically for the State of Karnataka, 13,037 entities have been recognised as startups by DPIIT since 2021 as on 30th June 2025.

- (b):** For promoting holistic growth of the startup ecosystem, different programs and initiatives are implemented by the Government, including support for seed funding, mentorship, and incubation.

To promote seed funding, the Startup India Seed Fund Scheme (SISFS), Innovation and Agri-Entrepreneurship Development programme, IN-SPACe seed fund, National Initiative for Developing and Harnessing Innovations - Seed Support Program (NIDHI-SSP) are implemented to support startups.

To provide startups with mentorship, platforms such as Bharat Startup Knowledge Access Registry (BHASKAR) and MAARG (Mentorship, Advisory, Assistance, Resilience and Growth) under the Startup India initiative, and programmes such as Mentor India under Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), Women Entrepreneurship Platform, and Mera Yuva Bharat (MY Bharat) platform are connecting startups and aspiring entrepreneurs with mentors.

Various Ministries and Departments are also promoting the development of incubation centers across the country through initiatives like Technology Incubation and Development of Entrepreneurs (TIDE 2.0), Domain Specific Centres of Excellence (CoEs), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) Agribusiness Incubators (R-ABIs), NIDHI Technology Business Incubator (TBI), Atal Incubation Centres (AIC), Software Technology Parks of India (STPI), and Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC)-backed incubators amongst others.

Further, through programmes such as Startup Mahakumbh, States' Startup Ranking Framework, and various events and festivals, the Government is also encouraging collaboration amongst different stakeholders of the startup ecosystem including incubators, mentors, investors, and corporates.

- (c): The Government 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 including institutional support through interactive digital portals, capacity building of enablers, funding support, mentorship and incubation support, among others.

So far, four editions of the SRF have been undertaken by the DPIIT. In the latest concluded edition of the SRF, Karnataka was recognized as 'Best Performer'. With respect to economic contribution, specifically for startup ecosystem, 18,727 entities have been recognised as startups by DPIIT from the State of Karnataka as on 30th June 2025. These recognised startups have created over 2.13 lakh direct jobs (self-reported). Further, around 40 AIFs and 20 incubators in the State of Karnataka have been supported under the Fund of Funds for Startups and Startup India Seed Fund Scheme respectively.

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