

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS  
DEPARTMENT OF PHARMACEUTICALS**

RAJYA SABHA  
STARRED QUESTION NO. 104  
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 9<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER, 2025

**Pharma and fertilizers startups in Tamil Nadu**

**104 Shri I.S. Inbadurai:**

Will the Minister of **Chemicals and Fertilizers** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any proposal to promote or establish startups in the pharma and fertilizer sectors in Tamil Nadu and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the number of new industries established through such startup initiatives during the last three years in Tamil Nadu, particularly in Tirunelveli, Madurai and Chennai;
- (c) whether Government provides financial assistance for setting up these industries and, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the total amount of assistance extended and the details of new pharma and fertilizer startups established in the above districts during the last three years?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS  
(SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA)**

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(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**Statement referred to in the reply to RAJYA SABHA STARRED Q. No. 104 for answer on 9.12.2025, raised by Shri I. S. Inbadurai, regarding “Pharma and Fertilisers Startups in Tamil Nadu”**

(a) and (b): As per information provided by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), the Government, with a view to support the startup ecosystem in the country, launched the Startup India initiative on 16.1.2016, under which entities are recognised by DPIIT as “startups” in accordance with eligibility conditions specified in DPIIT’s notification no. G.S.R. 127(E), dated 19.2.2019. As on 31.10.2025, 1,97,692 entities have been recognised as startups by DPIIT, out of which 2,957 entities are in the pharmaceutical sector, including 107 from the State of Tamil Nadu, while none of these entities are in the fertilizer sector. Over the last three years, a total of 67 pharmaceutical sector startups have been recognised in the State of Tamil Nadu, consisting of 10 in the year 2022, 32 in the year 2023 and 25 in the year 2024, district-wise details of which are at Annexure.

Further, the Promotion of Research and Innovation in Pharma-MedTech Sector (PRIP) scheme of the Department of Pharmaceuticals provides financial assistance to industry and startups to support research and development (R&D) for development of products and technologies (outputs) or expeditious validation of R&D outputs for market launch and large-scale commercialisation in three priority areas, namely new medicines, complex generics and biosimilars, and novel medical devices.

(c) and (d): DPIIT has informed that under the Startup India initiative, the following three schemes are being implemented to provide funding opportunities and support startups across sectors at various stages of their business cycle:

- (i) *Fund of Funds for Startups*: This has been established to catalyse venture capital investments and is operationalised by the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI), which provides capital to Alternative Investment Funds (AIFs) registered with the Securities and Exchange Board of India, for investing in turn in startups. As on 31.10.2025, the entire corpus of ₹10,000 crore stands committed to 144 AIFs. An AIF supported under this scheme has invested ₹1 crore in a startup in the pharmaceutical and fertilizer sectors from Chennai district in the year 2024.
- (ii) *Startup India Seed Fund Scheme*: This provides seed funding through incubators. The entire corpus of ₹945 crore has been approved for 219 incubators. An incubator selected under the scheme has approved ₹0.05 crore for a pharmaceutical startup in Coimbatore district in the year 2024.
- (iii) *Credit Guarantee Scheme for Startups*: This enables collateral-free loans to startups through eligible financial institutions and has been operationalised by the National Credit Guarantee Trustee Company Limited from 1.4.2023. As on 31.10.2025, 311 loans to startup borrowers for a total amount of ₹755.25 crore have been guaranteed, which include two loans for a total amount of ₹3.7 crore that have been guaranteed to startup borrowers in the pharmaceuticals and biotechnology sectors from Chennai district in the years 2023 and 2024.

## Annexure

Annexure referred to in the reply to parts (a) and (b) of RAJYA SABHA STARRED Q. No. 104 for answer on 9.12.2025, raised by Shri I. S. Inbadurai, regarding “Pharma and Fertilisers Startups in Tamil Nadu”

District-wise details of entities in pharmaceutical sector in the State of Tamil Nadu that have been recognised as startups by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade in the last three years

Districts	2022	2023	2024
Chengalpattu	2	7	0
Chennai	6	12	5
Coimbatore	0	6	1
Kancheepuram	0	1	3
Krishnagiri	0	0	1
Madurai	0	0	2
Nagapattinam	0	0	1
Namakkal	0	0	1
Ranipet	0	1	0
Salem	0	0	1
Thanjavur	1	1	1
Thiruvallur	0	1	3
Thiruvarur	0	1	1
Tiruchirappalli	0	0	2
Tirunelveli	0	0	1
Tiruvannamalai	1	0	1
Viluppuram	0	1	1
Virudhunagar	0	1	0

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