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

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1484.
TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 31ST JULY, 2026.

INDIA'S STARTUP ECOSYSTEM

1484. SHRI ABDUL WAHAB:

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

(a) the number of startups registered under the Startup India initiative during the last five years, year-wise and sector-wise;

(b) the number of startups that have ceased operations during the same period and the reasons thereof, year-wise and sector-wise;

(c) the details of seed funding and other financial assistance provided by Government to startups, including State/UT-wise allocations;

(d) the number and details of startups that have attained unicorn status; and

(e) whether Government has assessed concerns that Indian startups are disproportionately concentrated in logistics and consumer-oriented sectors rather than deep-tech and innovation-driven domains, if so, the corrective measures proposed therefor?

ANSWER

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

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

As on 30th June 2026, 2,40,092 entities have been recognised as startups by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT). Specifically in the last five years, viz. 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024 and 2025, a total of 1,65,443 entities have been recognised as startups by DPIIT. The industry-wise and year-wise details of the same are placed as **Annexure-I.**

(b): As on 30th June 2026, 7,534 recognised startups are categorized as closed (i.e., dissolved/struck-off), as per the Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) [basis data shared on 10th July 2026]. The industry-wise number of entities which are categorized as closed (i.e., dissolved/struck-off) are placed as **Annexure-II.**

(c): Under the Startup India initiative, the Government is implementing three flagship Schemes, Fund of Funds for Startups (FFS), Startup India Seed Fund Scheme (SISFS), and Credit Guarantee Scheme for Startups (CGSS) to provide funding opportunities and support startups across sectors at various stages of their business cycle.

FFS has been established to catalyze venture capital investments and is operationalized by Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI), which provides capital to Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)-registered Alternative Investment Funds (AIFs), which in turn invest in startups. As on 30th June 2026, AIFs supported under the Scheme have invested Rs. 27,902.7 crore in 1,460 startups. The State/UT-wise details of the same are placed as **Annexure-III.**

SISFS provides financial assistance to seed stage startups through incubators. SISFS is implemented from 1st April 2021. As on 30th June 2026, incubators supported under the Scheme have selected 4,245 startups with an approved funding of Rs. 706.33 crore. The State/UT-wise details of the number of startups supported and the amount of funding approved by incubators under the Scheme are placed **Annexure-IV.**

CGSS is implemented for enabling credit access through debt funding to startups through eligible financial institutions. CGSS is operationalized by the National Credit Guarantee Trustee Company (NCGTC) Limited and has been operationalized from 1st April 2023. As on 30th June 2026, 478 loans amounting to Rs. 1,469.92 crore have been guaranteed for startup borrowers under the Scheme. The State/UT-wise amount of loans guaranteed to startup borrowers under the Scheme is placed as **Annexure-V.**

(d): Unicorn status is based on private market valuations determined through funding and investor assessments which cannot be verifiably tracked. Therefore, the Government does not centrally maintain the number of startups that have turned unicorns.

(e): Sustained efforts by the Government under the Startup India initiative have led to 2,40,092 entities being recognised as startups across more than 55 industries as on 30th June 2026. The industry-wise number of entities recognized as startups in the country is placed as **Annexure-I.**

Further, various steps are being undertaken to promote startups in deep tech and innovation-driven domains. Details of such initiatives by various Ministries and Departments are placed as **Annexure-VI.**

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ANNEXURE-I

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) & (e) OF THE RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1484 FOR ANSWER ON 31.07.2026.

Industry	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Total since 2016 as on 30th June 2026
Advertising	126	135	288	253	365	1748
Aeronautics Aerospace & Defence	212	334	424	382	587	2720
Agriculture	1104	1541	2265	2154	2855	13483
AI	327	309	519	931	2360	7452
Airport Operations	5	4	8	10	14	53
Analytics	144	108	152	120	191	1192
Animation	13	28	42	30	54	235
AR VR (Augmented + Virtual Reality)	90	114	124	109	131	885
Architecture Interior Design	98	157	243	286	358	1612
Art & Photography	50	97	126	140	152	805
Automotive	423	728	880	744	930	4931
Biotechnology	99	122	168	188	319	1072
Chemicals	215	295	460	447	513	2547
Computer Vision	47	31	49	43	63	413
Construction	881	1439	2321	2476	3272	13869
Dating Matrimonial	14	25	23	20	33	174
Design	115	127	186	184	228	1364
Education	1306	1621	1784	1650	2462	13202
Enterprise Software	290	371	506	481	732	3951
Events	79	87	147	190	260	1143
Fashion	242	418	746	790	995	4263
Finance Technology	595	890	991	1022	1295	6987
Food & Beverages	1018	1471	2064	1939	3136	13540
Green Technology	319	505	682	622	888	4674
Healthcare & Lifesciences	1911	2557	3259	3035	4495	22033
House-Hold Services	101	173	279	264	406	1817
Human Resources	380	707	876	827	1082	5324
Indic Language Startups	60	102	136	124	121	673
Internet of Things	227	239	231	205	320	2379
IT Services	2238	2747	3719	3532	5372	27161
Logistics	169	174	254	259	431	1568
Marketing	348	452	616	558	689	3987
Media & Entertainment	273	357	502	466	624	3433
Nanotechnology	25	36	33	35	50	295
Non- Renewable Energy	766	373	323	199	171	2422
Other Speciality Retailers	111	152	341	474	672	2493
Others	984	1131	240	1	1	3761
Passenger Experience	4	5	9	14	14	59
Pets & Animals	51	82	107	91	152	671

Professional & Commercial Services	1144	1277	1738	1872	2220	11538
Real Estate	120	258	399	449	679	2688
Renewable Energy	522	684	1017	1085	1687	7318
Retail	409	571	702	650	1046	5157
Robotics	88	113	127	142	246	1175
Safety	70	81	95	80	117	659
Security Solutions	246	297	363	377	532	2566
Social Impact	132	136	208	187	407	1586
Social Network	126	134	139	119	155	1148
Sports	87	118	171	168	273	1197
Technology Hardware	597	878	1209	1185	1560	7799
Telecommunication & Networking	187	239	309	248	305	1891
Textiles & Apparel	312	457	703	765	1076	4491
Toys and Games	79	102	152	154	177	772
Transportation & Storage	255	330	423	483	551	3227
Travel & Tourism	247	365	580	628	978	4132
Waste Management	201	312	384	407	627	2357
Total	**20282**	**26596**	**34842**	**34294**	**49429**	**240092**

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ANNEXURE-II

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (b) OF THE RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1484 FOR ANSWER ON 31.07.2026.

The industry-wise number of entities which have been recognised as startups by DPIIT categorized as closed (i.e., dissolved/struck-off) as per the Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) are as under:

Industry	**Number of entities recognised as startups categorized as closed (i.e., dissolved/struck-off)**
Advertising	65
Aeronautics Aerospace & Defence	52
Agriculture	328
AI	183
Analytics	57
Animation	4
AR VR (Augmented + Virtual Reality)	57
Architecture Interior Design	43
Art & Photography	22
Automotive	133
Biotechnology	11
Chemicals	26
Computer Vision	24
Construction	181
Dating Matrimonial	12
Design	49
Education	549
Enterprise Software	182
Events	49
Fashion	131
Finance Technology	231
Food & Beverages	370
Green Technology	162
Healthcare & Lifesciences	624
Household Services	63
Human Resources	132
Indic Language Startups	36
Internet of Things	138
IT Services	971
Logistics	28
Marketing	163
Media & Entertainment	141
Nanotechnology	11
Non- Renewable Energy	197
Other Speciality Retailers	43
Others	325
Passenger Experience	1
Pets & Animals	23
Professional & Commercial Services	294
Real Estate	72

Renewable Energy	157
Retail	229
Robotics	46
Safety	19
Security Solutions	48
Social Impact	57
Social Network	91
Sports	36
Technology Hardware	183
Telecommunication & Networking	62
Textiles & Apparel	104
Toys and Games	15
Transportation & Storage	133
Travel & Tourism	141
Waste Management	30
Total	**7534**

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ANNEXURE-III

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (c) OF THE RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1484 FOR ANSWER ON 31.07.2026.

The State/UT-wise details of startups supported by AIFs under the FFS as on 30th June 2026 are as follows:

State/UT	Number of startups selected by AIFs	Amount invested in Selected startups by AIFs (in Rs. Crore)
Karnataka	463	8,917.08
Maharashtra	286	6,514.13
Delhi	227	4,347.03
Haryana	111	2,174.21
Tamil Nadu	65	1,420.85
Uttar Pradesh	55	836.64
Telangana	46	811.18
Gujarat	39	804.88
Rajasthan	31	507.27
Kerala	27	418.66
Assam	23	47.87
Madhya Pradesh	18	189.04
West Bengal	16	147.28
Odisha	11	75.80
Manipur	6	7.20
Bihar	5	196.06
Chandigarh	3	21.70
Chhattisgarh	3	76.23
Goa	3	136.89
Meghalaya	3	1.05
Nagaland	3	1.65
Punjab	3	91.50
Uttarakhand	3	7.58
Andhra Pradesh	2	55.60
Arunachal Pradesh	2	1.40
Puducherry	2	11.73
Tripura	2	1.00
Jammu & Kashmir	1	50.00
Jharkhand	1	31.20
Total	**1,460**	**27,902.7**

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ANNEXURE-IV

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (c) OF THE RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1484 FOR ANSWER ON 31.07.2026.

The State/UT-wise details of startups selected by incubators under the SISFS and funding approved as on 30th June 2026 are as follows:

State/UT	Number of startups selected	Fund approved (in Rs. Crore)
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1	0.040
Andhra Pradesh	99	13.965
Arunachal Pradesh	2	0.300
Assam	52	7.479
Bihar	61	10.255
Chandigarh	19	3.240
Chhattisgarh	30	3.896
Delhi	293	50.577
Goa	29	4.355
Gujarat	294	51.686
Haryana	203	34.720
Himachal Pradesh	26	4.220
Jammu and Kashmir	22	3.960
Jharkhand	22	3.945
Karnataka	542	104.869
Kerala	102	17.336
Madhya Pradesh	152	22.574
Maharashtra	665	117.318
Manipur	9	1.100
Meghalaya	3	0.340
Mizoram	9	1.800
Nagaland	34	5.070
Odisha	166	18.977
Puducherry	8	1.206
Punjab	81	14.226
Rajasthan	169	27.555
Sikkim	2	0.200
Tamil Nadu	450	69.159
Telangana	279	50.549
Uttar Pradesh	327	47.038
Uttarakhand	32	5.290
West Bengal	62	9.085
Total	**4,245**	**706.33**

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ANNEXURE-V

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (c) OF THE RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1484 FOR ANSWER ON 31.07.2026.

The State/UT-wise details of the amount of loans guaranteed to startup borrowers under CGSS as on 30th June 2026 are provided below:

State/UT	Number of loans guaranteed	Amount of loans guaranteed (in Rs. Crore)
Andhra Pradesh	4	29.500
Assam	6	23.970
Bihar	2	0.980
Chandigarh	1	0.150
Chhattisgarh	4	18.650
Delhi	35	86.998
Gujarat	14	133.450
Haryana	50	181.700
Jammu And Kashmir	2	7.000
Karnataka	62	150.325
Kerala	17	35.650
Madhya Pradesh	8	11.800
Maharashtra	118	326.071
Odisha	4	9.900
Punjab	2	12.958
Rajasthan	6	28.100
Tamil Nadu	48	187.604
Telangana	33	71.711
Uttar Pradesh	41	90.500
Uttarakhand	2	20.800
West Bengal	19	42.100
Total	**478**	**1469.92**

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ANNEXURE-VI

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (e) OF THE RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1484 FOR ANSWER ON 31.07.2026.

Details of initiatives undertaken by various Ministries and Departments are as follows:

1. The **Startup India Fund of Funds 2.0 (Startup India FoF 2.0)** has been recently operationalized with a total corpus of Rs. 10,000 crore for the purpose of mobilizing venture and growth capital for the startup ecosystem of the country. The Scheme provides capital to Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) registered Alternative Investment Funds (AIFs) which in turn invest in startups. The operational guidelines introduce a structured segmentation of AIFs into deep tech-focused funds, micro venture capital funds supporting early-growth startups, funds focused on innovative and technology-led manufacturing sectors, and sector- and stage-agnostic funds to provide targeted support to startups in these segments.

2. **Introduction of a 'Deep Tech Startup' category:** The Government has expanded the scope and eligibility criteria for recognition of startups under the Startup India initiative through notification G.S.R. 108(E) dated 4 February 2026 to better reflect the evolving scale and diversity of India's startup ecosystem. A separate category has been introduced for startups working on advanced and emerging technologies with extended eligibility parameters:

    i. Age limit: Up to 20 years from the date of incorporation or registration.
    ii. Turnover ceiling: Up to Rs. 300 crore, recognising the longer gestation periods and capital intensity associated with deep technology ventures.

3. As per the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), the **'Gen-Next Support for Innovative Startups (GENESIS)' Scheme** has been initiated in the year 2023 with the aim to strengthen the startup ecosystem in Tier-II and Tier-III cities across India.

4. The Department of Science & Technology is implementing the **National Quantum Mission (NQM).** Under the Mission, four thematic hubs have been established. These hubs focus on key areas: Quantum Computing at the Indian Institute of Science Bengaluru, Quantum Communication at the Indian Institute of Technology Madras in association with C-DoT, Quantum Sensing & Metrology at the Indian Institute of Technology Bombay, and Quantum Materials & Devices at the Indian Institute of Technology Delhi. All four Hubs are now fully functional, driving technology development, nurturing human capital, promoting entrepreneurship, strengthening industry partnerships and advancing international collaborations. These hubs are uniting academia, national laboratories, industry, and startups to translate scientific breakthroughs into deployable technologies while building critical infrastructure and skilled manpower for India's quantum ecosystem and reducing India's dependence on foreign technology supply chains.

    The NQM has actively engaged with startups to foster innovation and accelerate the development of quantum technologies in India. Recognizing that quantum technologies are still in their nascent stage and require substantial investment, NQM formulated exclusive guidelines to effectively onboard and support startups in this domain. The Mission is to support an expanding pool of quantum startups, providing them with funding, access to advanced infrastructure at T-Hubs, and mentorship opportunities through partnerships with industry and strategic sectors. Accordingly, a rolling call has been launched by the NQM to support startups in the area of Quantum Technologies.

5. Through initiatives like **IndiaAI Mission**, the Government is accelerating the momentum with targeted investments and public-private partnerships. These efforts aim to strengthen India's global position and ensure responsible and inclusive leadership in AI. The Mission is structured around seven foundational pillars:

    i. IndiaAI Compute Capacity: Providing affordable access to high-end computing resources, including GPUs, for startups, MSMEs and researchers.
    ii. IndiaAI Foundation Models: Developing indigenous large multimodal and language models trained on Indian datasets and languages to ensure sovereign capability in generative AI.
    iii. AIKosh: Creating a unified platform of high-quality datasets from government and non-government sources for AI model development.
    iv. IndiaAI Application Development Initiative: Supporting AI solutions for India-specific challenges in sectors such as healthcare, agriculture, climate resilience, governance and assistive technologies.
    v. IndiaAI FutureSkills: Expanding India's AI talent pipeline through increased undergraduate, postgraduate and PhD programmes, along with Data and AI Labs in Tier-2 and Tier-3 cities.
    vi. IndiaAI Startup Financing: Providing financial support to AI startups.
    vii. Safe & Trusted AI: Supporting projects focused on reducing bias, protecting privacy, improving transparency and managing AI-related risks while enabling innovation.

6. The **Design Linked Incentive (DLI) Scheme** has been approved as part of the Semicon India Programme to support domestic companies, start-ups, and MSMEs for designing semiconductor IP cores, ASICs, SoCs, and semiconductor-linked designs. The DLI Scheme provides support through a three-tier framework, comprising Design Infrastructure Support with access to EDA tools, IP cores, MPW services, and prototyping facilities; a Product Design Linked Incentive offering reimbursement of up to 50% of eligible project costs, capped at ₹15 crore per application; and a Deployment Linked Incentive providing reimbursement of net sales turnover ranging from 6% to 4% over five years, capped at ₹30 crore per application.

    Under the DLI Scheme, fiscal support has been approved to projects for designing chips and System on Chip (SoCs) for various applications. In addition, centralized access to advanced chip design tools has been provided to startup/ MSME companies. These companies are designing chips across various sectors, which include satellite communication, drone detection, surveillance camera, power management for Internet of Things (IoT) devices, LED driver, IoT and medical applications, broadband application, smart meter, gas sensors, and general-purpose microprocessor Intellectual Property (IP) cores for edge AI etc.

7. The following initiatives have been taken by **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)** under MoD and executed by this Dte through which private sector, especially MSMEs & Startups, are encouraged to participate in Defence R&D by providing Grant-in-Aid. This scheme aims to indigenize production of Defence equipment, thereby reducing India's dependence on defence imports.

    i. Technology Development Fund (DTDF) Scheme: The Technology Development

Fund Scheme is a Programme of MoD (Ministry of Defence) executed by DRDO under Make in India initiatives. The Government has approved the TDF Scheme to encourage industries, especially MSMEs and Startups, to design and develop innovative defence technologies.

ii. Dare to Dream Pan India Innovation contest Dare to Dream is a Pan India Innovation Contest to support Startups & Innovation to contribute in Defence ecosystem. Through this contest, DRDO invites innovation ideas and best ideas are selected and awarded. Four versions of Dare to Dream Contest have already been successfully conducted.

iii. Special focus on Development of Critical and DeepTech Technologies by involving startups and academia as collaborative development.

8. Under the **Ministry of Defence, the Scheme for Innovations for Defence Excellence (iDEX) and Acing Development of Innovative Technologies with iDEX (ADITI)** are fostering innovation and technology development in defence and aerospace by engaging startups.

9. The **Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF)** has initiated the program, Mission for Advancement in High-impact Areas (MAHA) to address priority-driven, solution-focused research in mission-mode.

10. **IN-SPACe, Department of Space**, has taken various promotion and investment Schemes such as Preincubation Entrepreneurship, Seed Fund, Technology Adoption Fund, and Rs. 1,000 crore Venture capital fund.

11. The Government has launched the **Research Development and Innovation (RDI) Scheme** with a corpus of Rs. 1 lakh crore. RDI Scheme aims to provide long-term financing or refinancing with long tenors at low or nil interest rates to spur private sector investment in Research and Development (R&D). The scheme has been designed to overcome the constraints and challenges in funding of private sector and seeks to provide growth and risk capital to sunrise and strategic sectors to facilitate innovation, promote adoption of technology and enhance competitiveness. The Scheme targets to de-risk private sector-led R&D and funding support to eligible technology entities including startups and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in sunrise sectors for transformative projects at higher Technology Readiness Levels (TRL 4 and above). In case of startups, equity-based financing or loan or both cases may be considered.

12. To strengthen international linkages and enable global market access for Indian startups, the Government facilitated participation of startups in major international innovation platforms such as **Bharat Innovates 2026 and VivaTech 2026.** Bharat Innovates 2026, organised in Nice, France as part of the India–France Year of Innovation, enabled Indian startups to showcase innovations, participate in over 1,350 B2B meetings, and forge more than 50 collaborations with global partners, creating opportunities for startup acceleration, research partnerships, technology commercialisation and market access. Similarly, at VivaTech 2026, where India participated as the AI Country Partner with its largest-ever delegation of over 80 deep-tech startups, Indian startups showcased innovations across emerging technology sectors and engaged with global investors, technology leaders and businesses, strengthening cross-border collaborations and expanding international market opportunities.

13. Under **Startup India initiative**, the Government constantly undertakes various efforts, including policy, regulatory and fiscal measures, for the development and growth of startup ecosystem across sectors and industries. The Government implements periodic exercises and programs including States' Startup Ranking, National Startup Awards, Innovation Week, and TEJAS (Transforming Entrepreneurial Journeys Across States & Districts) which play an important role in the holistic development of the startup ecosystem. Government also encourages and support ecosystem led initiatives as Startup Mahakumbh which serve as a vibrant platform for stakeholders to network and collaborate. Initiatives to improve market access and enable public procurement also support startups in growing and scaling up their businesses. The Government has also taken various measures to enhance ease of doing business including starting up of business, raising capital, and reducing compliance burden to simplify the regulatory environment and create a conducive business environment.

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