5726. DR. ARVIND KUMAR SHARMA:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्री be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Startups that has been supported under the Entrepreneurs-in-Residence (EIR) programme of the National Initiative for Developing and Harnessing Innovations (NIDHI) programme by the Department of Science and Technology (DST);

(b) whether grants has been disbursed under this program to aspiring entrepreneurs or Startups; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY & EARTH SCIENCES (DR. JITENDRA SINGH)

(a) & (b) In accordance with the objectives of National Initiative for Developing and Harnessing Innovations (NIDHI) - Entrepreneurs-in-Residence (EIR) program, 410 individuals aspiring to be entrepreneur or form a startup have been supported under this program. The grant is provided in the form of fellowship to the selected individuals, aspiring entrepreneurs, known as EIR fellows.

(c) The NIDHI EIR support recipients (aspiring entrepreneurs- EIR fellows) are eligible for a maximum grant up to Rs. 30,000/- per month for a period of 12 months which is extendable up to 18 months in deserving case. The total quantum of support to the selected EIR fellows is limited to Rs. 3,60,000/-. The NIDHI EIR program is operated through a set of Technology Business Incubators across the country.

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