

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

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2428.  
TO BE ANSWERED ON TUESDAY, THE 10<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2024.**

**IMPLEMENTATION OF START-UP INDIA SEED FUND SCHEME**

**2428. SHRI MANI A:**

Will the Minister of **COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY** be pleased to state:

**वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री**

- (a) the details of current status of the implementation of the Start-up India Seed Fund Scheme, and the number of start-ups that have benefited from it so far;
- (b) the details of steps taken by the Government to ensure that start-ups in rural and semi-urban areas also benefit from the Start-up India Seed Fund Scheme;
- (c) the number of start-ups that have received financial support under the Start-up India Seed Fund Scheme since its inception;
- (d) the details of measures that have been taken by the Government to promote women entrepreneurs under the Start-up India Seed Fund Scheme;
- (e) the number of jobs that have been created directly or indirectly as a result of the Start-up India Seed Fund Scheme; and
- (f) the details of the major challenges faced in the implementation of the Startup India Seed Fund Scheme and the manner in which the Government addressing them and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

**वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री जितिन प्रसाद)**

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

**(a) to (c):** The Startup India Seed Fund Scheme (SISFS) has been approved for the period of 4 years starting from 2021-22 with a corpus of Rs. 945 crore. The Scheme provides financial assistance to eligible startups for proof of concept, prototype development, product trials, market entry and commercialization. The Experts Advisory Committee (EAC) of SISFS, evaluates and selects incubators for allocation of funds. The approved incubators select startups in accordance with the guidelines. SISFS is implemented from 1st April 2021.

As on 31st October 2024, 213 incubators have been selected under the Scheme with a total approved funding of Rs 902.74 crore and the approved incubators have selected 2,490 startups for support under SISFS.

The Government is undertaking several measures to ensure that startups across the country including from rural and semi-urban areas benefit from the Startup India Seed Fund Scheme (SISFS). These include capacity building and handholding workshops to promote the Scheme and encourage incubators to apply for the same. Efforts are also undertaken to handhold the incubators and startups, especially from non-metros, to navigate the application and for both pre and post-application compliances. The Government also launched a digital portal for implementation of SISFS (<https://seedfund.startupindia.gov.in/>) which enables ease of accessibility for entrepreneurs and startups from all parts of the country. Benefits provided under SISFS are also propagated through various social media platforms.

- (d): SISFS is inclusive and encourages all eligible startups to apply for funding under the Scheme and benefit from the Scheme. As on 31<sup>st</sup> October 2024, out of the total 2,490 startups selected by the incubators for funding under the Scheme, 1,278 of these startups have at least one-woman director.
- (e): As on 31<sup>st</sup> October 2024, more than 16,000 direct jobs (self-reported) have been created by beneficiary startups supported by approved incubators under the Startup India Seed Fund Scheme.
- (f): SISFS was launched as a flagship sector-agnostic Scheme under the Startup India initiative to provide financial assistance to startups in early stages of growth. To address certain aspects of accessibility, adoption, awareness, and capacity building during the course of implementation of the Scheme, several steps have been undertaken by the Government which has resulted in better adoption of the Scheme. Details of such considerations and key steps taken by the Government for implementation of the Scheme are placed as **Annexure-I**.

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## ANNEXURE-I

### ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (f) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2428 FOR ANSWER ON 10.12.2024.

Details of steps undertaken under SISFS to increase accessibility, awareness, and adoption of the Scheme as well as facilitate capacity building:

#### 1. **Accessibility**

Startup India Seed Fund Scheme was launched as a sector-agnostic initiative aimed at supporting startups in their early stages of growth. To realise this objective and ensure participation from across the country, it was important to make the Scheme well accessible and easier to navigate for the stakeholders. For this purpose, SISFS portal (<https://seedfund.startupindia.gov.in/>) was developed with an easy-to-use interface enabling digital implementation of the Scheme.

#### 2. **Awareness and Adoption**

One of the important aspects of the Scheme is mobilization of seed stage capital for startups situated beyond metropolitan cities. For achieving this outreach, comprehensive measures have been undertaken, encompassing extensive workshops and handholding of stakeholders, including one-to-one connects with incubators and startups wherever needed. The benefits under the Scheme are also propagated in various other national programs and events organised under the Startup India initiative complemented with social media outreach.

#### 3. **Capacity Building**

A number of beneficiaries under the Scheme are potential early-stage beneficiaries, including budding entrepreneurs and emerging incubators. This called for dedicated efforts on capacity building of the ecosystem at large. Specifically for incubators, it involves capability to provide funding, to monitor the progress of startups and to support startups through various stages of development. For startups, capacity building involves aspects such as exposure to international, national and regional programs for their holistic development including development of business proposals, pitching, product development, market access, etc.

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