

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

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 386.
TO BE ANSWERED ON TUESDAY, THE 04TH FEBRUARY, 2025.**

BENEFIT FROM STARTUP INDIA INITIATIVE

386. SHRI P C MOHAN:

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

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री

- (a) the total number of startups that have benefited from the Startup India initiative since its launch, State/UT-wise, particularly Karnataka;
- (b) whether measures have been introduced by the Government to promote women's entrepreneurship and provide targeted support for startups in Karnataka under the Startup India scheme and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the extent to which the Startup India initiative has contributed to job creation, particularly in urban centres like Bengaluru and the sectors where the highest impact has been observed; and
- (d) whether the Government is considering new initiatives or policy changes to enhance support for startups, particularly in emerging sectors such as artificial intelligence, cyber security, health-tech, agri-tech, and green technologies and if so, the specifics of these measures?

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):** 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). As on 31st December 2024, 1,57,706 entities have been recognised as startups by DPIIT.

The State/Union Territory (UT)-wise number of entities which have been recognised as startups by DPIIT, including for the State of Karnataka is placed as **Annexure-I**.

- (b):** Startup India is an initiative and not a scheme. The Government is implementing specific initiatives/programmes under the Startup India initiative to promote women entrepreneurship across the country including in the State of Karnataka. The details of such initiatives are placed as **Annexure-II**.

(c): Since the launch of Startup India initiative in 2016, the entities which have been recognised as startups have reportedly created over 17.2 lakh direct jobs as on 31st December 2024. The industries where the highest impact has been observed are Information Technology (IT) services, healthcare and lifesciences, professional and commercial services, construction, and education which account for more than 6.4 lakh direct jobs.

Specifically in Bengaluru district (Urban), entities which have been recognised as startups which have reportedly created over 1.6 lakh direct jobs as on 31st December 2024. The industries where the highest impact has been observed are IT services, healthcare and lifesciences, education, human resources, and finance technology which account for more than 65,000 direct jobs created by recognised startups.

(d): Under Startup India initiative, the Government constantly undertakes various efforts for the development and growth of startup ecosystem across sectors. The flagship Schemes namely, Fund of Funds for Startups (FFS), Startup India Seed Fund Scheme (SISFS) and Credit Guarantee Scheme for Startups (CGSS) support startups at various stages of their business cycle. The Government also implements periodic exercises and programs including States' Startup Ranking, National Startup Awards, and Innovation Week 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 support startups in growing and scaling up their businesses have also been undertaken. Digital platforms such as the Startup India portal and BHASKAR enable easy access to resources and startup ecosystem collaboration. These measures are complemented by regulatory reforms and other ecosystem development events and programs.

Sustained efforts by the Government under the Startup India initiative have led to an increase in the number of DPIIT recognised startups to 1,57,706 as on 31st December 2024 across multiple sectors. Specifically, in emerging sectors related to artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, health-tech, agri-tech, and green technologies, DPIIT has recognized more than 17,000 entities as startups as on 31st December 2024.

ANNEXURE-I**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION 386 FOR ANSWER ON 04.02.2025.**

The State/Union Territory (UT)-wise number of entities which have been recognised as startups by DPIIT, including for the State of Karnataka as on 31st December 2024 are provided below:

State/UT	Number of entities which have recognized as startups by DPIIT
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	71
Andhra Pradesh	2553
Arunachal Pradesh	47
Assam	1487
Bihar	3190
Chandigarh	532
Chhattisgarh	1736
Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu	64
Delhi	16082
Goa	587
Gujarat	13053
Haryana	8222
Himachal Pradesh	563
Jammu and Kashmir	988
Jharkhand	1477
Karnataka	16624
Kerala	6361
Ladakh	18
Lakshadweep	3
Madhya Pradesh	5093
Maharashtra	27925
Manipur	179
Meghalaya	62
Mizoram	41
Nagaland	85
Odisha	2769
Puducherry	161
Punjab	1741
Rajasthan	5567
Sikkim	12
Tamil Nadu	10577
Telangana	8243
Tripura	141
Uttar Pradesh	15019
Uttarakhand	1268
West Bengal	5165
Total	157,706

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (b) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION 386 FOR ANSWER ON 04.02.2025.

Programs implemented to promote women entrepreneurship across the country, including in the State of Karnataka are as under:

1. To promote flow of both equity and debt to women led startups, 10% of the fund in the Fund of Funds for Startups Scheme operated by Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) is reserved for women-led startups.
2. Alternative Investment Funds (AIFs) led by women are eligible to be considered for a higher level of management fee (0.1% per annum). The same benefit is also extended to AIFs which are focused on women led startups.
3. Under Credit Guarantee Scheme for Startups (CGSS), for availing the guarantee cover, the Member Institution pays Annual Guarantee Fee (AGF) of 2% p.a. of the disbursement/outstanding amount. For units from the North East region as well as those of women entrepreneurs, the Member Institution pays a standard rate of 1.5% p.a. of the disbursement/outstanding amount.
4. Women Capacity Development Programme (WING) is a unique Capacity Development Program for women-led startups, to identify and support both aspiring and established women entrepreneurs in their startup journeys. The workshops are open to variety of business sectors including Tech, Construction, Product, Machine, Food, Agriculture, Education, etc. The workshops serve as a platform for emerging women entrepreneurs and other stakeholders to discuss the key challenges facing women entrepreneurs. WING workshops create a conducive environment to share best practices and experiences in overcoming challenges and to gain insights learned from the business models adopted in the Indian context.
5. A Virtual Incubation Program for Women Entrepreneurs was conducted to support women-led tech startups with pro-bono acceleration support.
6. Startup India Hub: A webpage dedicated to women entrepreneurs has been designed on the Startup India portal. The page includes various policy measures for women entrepreneurs by both Central and State Governments.
7. ASCEND Startup Workshop Series and Women for Startups Workshops: The Government organized a series of startup workshops - ASCEND (Accelerating Startup Calibre & Entrepreneurial Drive), for the entrepreneurs, aspiring entrepreneurs, and students from North-eastern region. In addition, the workshops are conducted with a specific focus on women entrepreneurs across the northeastern states. The workshops have witnessed participation from ecosystem stakeholders such as government officials, startups, aspiring entrepreneurs, investors, academic institutions, etc.
8. SuperStree Podcast: With a vision to inspire a greater number of women across all regions in India to become entrepreneurs, the SuperStree video podcast series has been launched on women in the Indian Startup Ecosystem. The

podcast spreads awareness related to innovations from women and to further strengthen women entrepreneurship in the country.

9. Through various awareness programmes and capacity building programmes organized by the Government, and through print media and social media platforms, the Government also creates awareness about the existing schemes which support micro, small and medium entrepreneurs, including women entrepreneurs.
10. Women For Startups: State Workshops for Women Entrepreneurs were held across States to build the capacity of aspiring and existing women entrepreneurs. The workshops focused on government scheme awareness, mock pitching, and finance-related training.
11. President's Interaction with Women Entrepreneurs: As part of the "The President with the People" initiative, 25 women entrepreneurs had the opportunity to interact with the Hon'ble President of India. The interaction highlighted the role of women-led startups in driving innovation, creating jobs, and contributing to India's growing startup ecosystem. The Hon'ble President acknowledged their efforts in turning ideas into ventures and emphasized the importance of their success in inspiring future generations.
12. The States' Startup Ranking on support to startup ecosystems is primarily an exercise to identify good practices across all the Indian states. The evaluation includes a specific provision to gauge the formulation and implementation of policies and special incentives to promote women-led startups in each state. The particular action point has witnessed active engagement and thereon reporting of measures undertaken by participating States and UTs.
13. To identify the depth, quality and spread of innovation, inclusivity and diversity, and entrepreneurship in country, the Government instituted the National Startup Awards (NSA). NSA recognizes and promotes startups across 20 sectors and special categories. All four editions of the NSA (2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023) have featured a special category and award for women-led startups.
14. Pitch Forward, an initiative to provide women entrepreneurs, especially from non-metros, a platform to connect with marquee investors. It offers startups across various stages and sectors the opportunity to pitch directly to venture capital funds.
