

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

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1404.
TO BE ANSWERED ON TUESDAY, THE 29TH JULY, 2025.**

ASPIRING ENTREPRENEURS

**1404. SHRI ZIA UR REHMAN:
SHRI CHAMALA KIRAN KUMAR REDDY:**

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

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री

- (a) whether the Government is aware that a large number of aspiring entrepreneurs and youth, especially from Tier-II and Tier-III cities, face challenges in accessing skill development, incubation support and export-oriented training;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the steps being taken under schemes such as Startup India, Make in India, and other industrial promotion initiatives to boost entrepreneurship, support MSMEs, establish district-level incubation hubs and improve ease of doing business; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

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) : Government has implemented various measures/schemes across the country including in non-metro regions to promote entrepreneurship among the youth; support Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs); promote incubation; and improve ease of doing business. Details of such initiatives are placed as **Annexure-I.**

ANNEXURE-I

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (c) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1404 FOR ANSWER ON 29.07.2025.

1. Boosting Entrepreneurship

The Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) through its autonomous organizations, namely National Institute for Entrepreneurship and Small Business Development (NIESBUD) and Indian Institute of Entrepreneurship (IIE) has taken various initiatives to promote entrepreneurship development amongst all sections of the society. These initiatives include Skills Acquisition and Knowledge Awareness for Livelihood Promotion (SANKALP) Scheme, Project Swavalambini, Skill Strengthening for Industrial Value Enhancement (STRIVE), Entrepreneurship Awareness Programmes (EAP), Entrepreneurship Development Programmes (EDP), Faculty Development Programmes (FDP), Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyaan (PM-JANMAN), Entrepreneurship Development Centres (EDC) in North East Region's Educational Institutions, and Udyam Disha – Mentor Platform.

Under the Government's Skill India Mission (SIM), MSDE provides skill, re-skill and up- skill training through an extensive network of skill development centres/ institutes etc. under various schemes, viz. Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY), Jan Shikshan Sansthan (JSS), National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS) and Craftsman Training Scheme (CTS) through Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs), across the country.

Under the Ministry of Rural Development, the Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM) through Start-up Village Entrepreneurship Programme (SVEP) supports Self-Help Groups (SHGs) and their family members to set-up small enterprises in the non-farm livelihoods sector.

Under Startup India initiative, Fund of Funds for Startups (FFS), Startup India Seed Fund Scheme (SISFS), Credit Guarantee Scheme for Startups (CGSS), States' Startup Ranking Framework exercise, National Startup Awards, events such as Innovation Week and Startup Mahakumbh, digital platforms such as the Startup India portal and BHASKAR, activities to encourage corporates to supporting startups by way of mentorship, access to infrastructure, sharing resources and knowledge, assistance in market linkages and investor connect and district outreach programs are undertaken to encourage grassroots innovation and setting up of startups across the country by entrepreneurs.

The Ministry of Education's Innovation Cell (MIC) and All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) promotes innovation and entrepreneurship across educational institutions.

Youth-centric initiatives have been introduced by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports such as setting up of the autonomous body called Mera Yuva Bharat (MY

Bharat), the purpose of it, is to provide an over-arching institutional mechanism powered by technology for youth development and youth-led development through Experiential Learning Programs (ELPs), volunteering opportunities, mentorship programme, etc.

The Ministry of Minority Affairs (MoMA) implements various skill development schemes namely 'Seekho Aur Kamao', 'Upgrading the Skills and Training in Traditional Arts/Crafts for Development (USTTAD)', 'Nai Roshni' and 'Nai Manzil' for socio-economic development of youth from minority communities. These schemes and initiatives have now been converged into an integrated Scheme called 'Pradhan Mantri Virasat Ka Samvardhan' (PM VIKAS).

2. Supporting MSMEs

The Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) through Entrepreneurship and Skill Development Programme (ESDP) aims to promote new enterprises, build capacity of existing MSMEs and inculcate entrepreneurial culture in the country. Ministry of MSME, through Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC), is also implementing Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP) for assisting entrepreneurs in setting up of new enterprises in the non-farm sector. Schemes to support MSMEs to make them more competitive at global level and enhance exports, such as, Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme, Credit Guarantee Scheme for Micro and Small Enterprises, PM Vishwakarma Scheme, Entrepreneurship & Skill Development Programme Scheme, Micro and Small Enterprises - Cluster Development Programme, Raising and Accelerating MSME Performance, MSME Champions Scheme, Tool Room and Technical Institutions (TR & TI), International Cooperation (IC) Scheme etc. are being undertaken. The Udyam Registration Portal for MSMEs has been interlinked with Ministry of Labour and Employment and National Career Service and Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship's Skill India Digital for facilitating credit, skilling, recruitment, etc. The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has also notified concessions in processing fees for MSMEs for the purpose of certifications.

Also, MSMEs are extended with enhanced accessibility on the Government e-Marketplace (GeM) portal through: (i) API integration of GeM-Udyam Registration databases to facilitate 2-step seller auto registration on the GeM portal upon issuance of Udyam; (ii) marketplace filters and product catalogue icons to distinguish products made by women and SC/ ST MSEs in Direct Purchase/ L1 modes of procurement; (iii) exemption from payment of Caution Money by Artisans, Weavers, Self Help Groups (SHGs), women and SC/ ST owned micro and small Enterprises, divyangjan/ persons with disabilities; and NGOs working with PwD, Khadi Producers, Hunar Haat craftsmen, prison inmate products, ODOPs, FPOs, etc. to promote social inclusion; (iv) creation of eight GeM #vocal for local online Outlet Stores for listing and showcasing of products made by women MSMEs, SHG, farmer producer organizations (FPO), artisans and weavers, and ODOP craftsmen

among others; and (v) handholding support to MSMEs for immersive onboarding (from seller registration to product catalogue upload/ listing) through participation in various fairs/exhibitions/trade shows/events, etc.

Startups recognized by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) can also avail benefits such as exemption from Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) submission, relaxation in prior turnover and prior experience on the GeM portal. GeM has created necessary functionality on GeM portal allowing buyers to provide such relaxations while creating the bids on the portal.

The 'Make in India' initiative was launched on 25th September 2014 to facilitate Investment, foster Innovation, build best in class Infrastructure, and make India a hub for manufacturing, design, and innovation. Presently, Make in India 2.0 focuses on 27 sectors including 15 manufacturing sectors, implemented across various Ministries and Departments and State Governments.

3. Promoting incubation across the country

Further, various Ministries and Departments are also promoting the development of incubation centers across the country through initiatives like Startup India Seed Fund Scheme (SISFS), Technology Incubation and Development of Entrepreneurs (TIDE 2.0), Domain Specific Centres of Excellence (CoEs), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) Agribusiness Incubators (R-ABIs), NIDHI Technology Business Incubator (TBI), Atal Incubation Centres (AIC), Software Technology Parks of India (STPI), Livelihood Business Incubators (LBIs) under ASPIRE, and Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC)-backed incubators amongst others.

The Ministry of MSME implements MSME Innovative Scheme, an amalgamation of Incubation, Design, and IPR schemes. The incubation component of the Scheme aims to promote and support untapped creativity and the adoption of latest technologies in MSME that seek validation of their ideas at 'proof-of-concept' level.

4. Improving ease of doing business

Initiatives aimed at simplifying and streamlining business regulations have also been undertaken including the Business Reform Action Plan (BRAP), the B-Ready assessment, Jan Vishwas and Reducing Compliance Burden on Businesses and Citizens and measurement of Cost of Regulation. These initiatives are designed to improve India's business climate, attract investments, and foster economic growth by reducing compliance hurdles and making the regulatory environment more business friendly thereby benefitting MSMEs, entrepreneurs, and startups.

Under, the Regulatory Compliance Burden (RCB) initiative various Ministries, Departments, and States/UTs are supported in reducing the compliance burden on citizens and businesses. The goal is to enhance *Ease of Doing Business* and *Ease of Living* through four key strategies: Simplification of procedures, Rationalization of laws, Digitization of processes, and Decriminalization of minor offences.

Regulatory Compliance (RC) Portal has been developed for tracking action taken by Ministries/ Departments and States/UTs to reduce compliance burden.

Also, to enhance ease of living and ease of doing Business, the Central Government, through the Jan Vishwas (Amendment of Provisions) Act, 2023, has decriminalized 183 provisions across 42 Central Acts administered by 19 Ministries/Departments. To further improve ease of doing business and ease of living, DPIIT has undertaken an analysis of various criminal provisions (including both major and minor offences) across multiple acts under the Jan Vishwas 2.0 initiative.
