

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

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2563.
TO BE ANSWERED ON TUESDAY, THE 16TH DECEMBER, 2025.**

CHANDIGARH STARTUP POLICY 2025

2563. SHRI MANISH TEWARI:

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

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री

- (a) the reasons for Chandigarh UT Administration took over seven years from the initial drafting in 2018 to formal launch in April 2025- to notify the "Chandigarh Startup Policy 2025" despite the earlier launch of the national Startup India Policy;
- (b) whether the Chandigarh Administration has failed to operationalise the Startup Policy, 2024, even six months after its notification;
- (c) the number of startups registered under the policy till date and the number of Startups that have so far availed any of the financial or non-financial incentives promised;
- (d) the reasons for the delay in operationalising the policy despite the administration having earmarked an annual corpus of 10 crore for five years;
- (e) the concrete timeline by which e-portal will be made functional, guidelines notified, and first tranche of benefits disbursed; and
- (f) whether the Government has any plans to issue a status-report directive to the UT to ensure timely execution and transparency?

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 (f):** As per the Chandigarh Administration (the Administration), the Union Territory (UT) of Chandigarh, as a small UT with a compact institutional ecosystem, initially focused on promoting uptake of the national Startup India initiative rather than issuing a separate UT-specific policy. Over time, with evolving needs of local startups and multiple directives from Central Government encouraging all States/UTs to adopt structured policy frameworks, the Administration undertook extensive inter-departmental consultations, financial structuring, and stakeholder engagements. This process culminated in the formal notification of the Chandigarh Startup Policy on 29 April 2025.

Following the notification, the Administration has been developing implementation guidelines, incentive disbursement rules, institutional mechanisms, and the online application workflow, all of which require mandatory administrative and financial approvals. No direct financial incentives have been disbursed yet by the Administration, as finalisation of operational guidelines, committee structures, and an auditable application system is essential to ensure transparency, accountability, and responsible utilisation of the earmarked annual corpus of Rs. 10 crore.

Over the period, Chandigarh's ecosystem has continued to develop through implementation of various measures for development of startup ecosystem on Pan- India basis under the Startup India initiative. As a result, while Chandigarh had fewer than 10 DPIIT-recognised startups in 2016, the number has grown to over 633 as of 31st October 2025. Also, recognised startups from Chandigarh created less than 300 jobs in 2017, while they have created 6,260 jobs as of 31st October 2025. Chandigarh has also demonstrated notable progress in women's participation in entrepreneurship. There were less than 10 DPIIT recognised startups with at least one-woman director/partner in 2017, which has increased to 297 as of 31st October 2025.

DPIIT recognised startups from Chandigarh have also availed various key benefits under the Startup India initiative. As of 31st October 2025, Alternative Investment Funds supported under the Fund of Funds for Startups (FFS) have invested Rs. 21.30 crore in startups from Chandigarh. Under the Startup India Seed Fund Scheme (SISFS), supported incubators have approved Rs. 2.89 crore to startups from Chandigarh. Additionally, under the Credit Guarantee Scheme for Startups (CGSS), startup from the UT has been guaranteed loan amounting to Rs. 15 lakh. 15 startups from Chandigarh have also received certificate of eligibility under Section 80-IAC of the Income Tax Act 1961, to claim a deduction of an amount equal to 100% of the profits and gains derived from eligible business for three consecutive assessment years.
