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

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4005.
TO BE ANSWERED ON TUESDAY, THE 17TH MARCH, 2026.

PATENT FACILITATION CENTRE

4005. SHRI P C MOHAN:

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

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री

(a) the details of schemes and initiatives implemented by the Government to promote research, innovation and intellectual property creation across sectors such as technology, biotechnology, manufacturing, electronics and healthcare;

(b) whether any sector-wise financial assistance, incentives or grants are provided by the Government to promote innovation and patent creation and if so, the details thereof;

(c) the support extended by the Government to startups and innovators in Bengaluru for research and development, patent filing, incubation and commercialisation, including financial assistance and facilitation support; and

(d) whether the Government has established patent facilitation centres, innovation hubs or special assistance mechanisms for startups and research institutions in Bengaluru and if so, the details of sector-wise assistance provided?

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) & (b): The Government has undertaken several initiatives to promote research, innovation and intellectual property (IP) creation across sectors such as technology, biotechnology, manufacturing, electronics and healthcare and provides financial assistance/incentives/grants to promote innovation and patent creation. Details are placed at **Annexure-A**.

(c) & (d): The Government has undertaken various steps including providing the financial assistance, incentives and grants to promote innovation and patent creation and also extends support to Startups, Innovators etc. in Bengaluru. Major initiatives through various Ministries / Departments / Organisations are placed at **Annexure-B**.

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ANNEXURE-A

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) & (b) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4005 FOR ANSWER ON 17.03.2026.

1. National Intellectual Property Policy launched in 2016 to foster a dynamic, vibrant, and balanced IPR ecosystem serves as a guiding framework for promoting innovation and IP creation in the country. IPR Chairs have been set up in higher education institutes in India under the Scheme for Pedagogy & Research in IPRs for Holistic Education and Academia (SPRIHA) to promote IPR education and research. Cell for IPR Promotion and Management (CIPAM) established under the aegis of DPIIT undertakes nationwide outreach programmes with enforcement agencies, judiciary, academia, industry, and schools, strengthening IP awareness and research across India, to boost IP creation.

2. National Intellectual Property (IP) Awards are conferred every year to recognize and reward the top achievers comprising individuals, institutions, organizations and enterprises, for their IP creations and commercialization.

3. Certificate of Inventorship has been introduced to formally recognize efforts of the inventors in the patented inventions and thereby to incentivize inventors.

4. Scheme for setting up Centres of Excellence (CoEs) provides grant-in-aid to identified Government Research Institutes for improving existing technology and research and to promote development of new applications in the **field of Chemicals and Petrochemicals**. It provides financial support upto 50 per cent of the total project cost subject to an upper limit of Rs. 5 crore. 18 CoEs have been approved so far and filed 80 patents.

5. Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) established network of 15 DRDO Industry Academia Centre of Excellence (DIA-CoE) at various IITs, IISc and Central/ State University to encourage directed research **in defence technologies areas**. DFTM, DRDO is sanctioning projects through 15 DIA-CoEs under Grants-in-Aid scheme. Under this, the institute and university are encouraged to take up research projects for **development of futuristic defence technologies**. Till February 2026, 355 projects are sanctioned at a cost of 1297.96 Crore. The Government has established Technology Development Fund (TDF) Scheme in September 2016 to promote Public and private sector industries especially MSMEs and startups to design and develop innovative Defence technologies. It provides Grant in Aid to Indian industries for the development of Defence and dual use technologies that are currently not available with the Indian defence Industry.

6. **Ministry of Mines** provides financial support under the Research & Development (R&D) component and the S&T–PRISM (Promotion of Research and Innovation in Startups and MSMEs) component of the Science and Technology (S&T) Programme for R&D projects in mining, mineral processing, metallurgical technologies, mineral beneficiation, and recycling across the critical minerals value chain, which are essential for sectors such as technology, biotechnology, manufacturing, electronics, and healthcare. During 2025–26, under the R&D component, 15 projects related to critical minerals have been approved for funding

of ₹5.26 crore. Under S&T–PRISM component, 04 projects related to critical minerals have been approved during 2025–26, with financial support of ₹4.74 crore.

7. The **Bio-RIDE scheme** is an initiative under Department of Biotechnology. It is designed to foster innovation, promote bio entrepreneurship, and strengthen India's position as a global leader in biomanufacturing and biotechnology. The Scheme consists of three major components - Biotechnology Research and Development (R&D); Industrial & Entrepreneurship Development (I&ED), Biomanufacturing and Biofoundry. It aims to accelerate research, enhance product development, and bridge the gap between academic research and industrial applications. The scheme is part of the Government of India's mission to harness the potential of bio-innovation to address national and global challenges in areas such as healthcare, agriculture, environmental sustainability, and clean energy.

8. Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (**BIRAC**), a public sector enterprise set up by DBT, implements several schemes and programmes to support start-ups and innovators in biotechnology sector. These initiatives provide structured funding, incubation support, and intellectual property facilitation to promote research, innovation, and technology development across domains of biotechnology. The schemes cater to early-stage high risk funding to commercialisation.

9. **BIRAC–PATH** (Patenting and Technology Transfer for Harnessing Innovations) programme grant support is provided for patent drafting, filing, prosecution and maintenance for a limited period, up to the stage of grant of patent in India or commercialization of the technology in India, whichever is earlier.

10. **National Biopharma Mission (NBM)** supports entire innovation and commercialization lifecycle of biotechnology products and technologies. Grantees may utilize the grant for activities related to intellectual property management, including patent filing and prosecution. NBM also established **Technology Transfer Offices (TTOs)** to facilitate technology transfer, intellectual property management, and industry linkages. The support extends to activities enabling technology validation, licensing, and commercialization of developed technologies. Thus, the grant mechanism under NBM is designed to promote translation of research into market-ready products by supporting patenting, technology transfer and commercialisation process.

11. DST under its **Advanced Manufacturing Technologies (AMT) Programme** has supported research and development of novel manufacturing technologies. R&D efforts focused on design and process innovations to overcome the limitations of conventional manufacturing technologies, supported the indigenous development of machines, instruments, devices and tools, and promoted improvements in materials processing strategies for enhanced properties and scalable production. Further, DST through 'NIDHI' (National Initiative for Developing and Harnessing Innovations) program extended end-to-end startup support to nurture startups from ideation to commercialization. It includes a variety of program components for Startups like PRAYAS - prototyping grant for early-stage innovative ideas,

hand-holding support to startups through Technology Business Incubators, seed funding and acceleration support for rapid scaling of startup businesses.

12. In order to encourage the technology development and to augment the indigenous manufacturing in the Capital Goods Sector, **Ministry of Heavy Industries** (MHI) is implementing the scheme for 'Enhancement of Competitiveness in the Indian Capital Goods Sector- Phase-II' with a total financial outlay of Rs. 1207 crores, budgetary support of Rs. 975 crore and industry contribution of Rs. 232 crores. Under this scheme, a total of 29 projects with project cost of Rs. 891.37 crores and Govt contribution of Rs. 716.64 crore have been sanctioned so far.

13. Significant Fee Concessions for Startups, MSMEs, and Educational Institutions are offered by IP Office of India to boost IP filings and encourage IP creation. If IP protection cost is affordable, it indirectly encourages IP creation and innovation.

    - 80% Fee Reduction in Patents for Startups, MSMEs, and Educational Institutions;
    - 75% Fee Reduction in Designs for Startups, and MSMEs;
    - 50% Fees Reduction for Trade Marks filing for Startups and MSMEs

14. The Start-Ups Intellectual Property Protection (SIPP) scheme was launched in 2016 to provide *pro bono* facilitation to startups for the filing and processing of patent, trademark, and design applications. Under this scheme, the Office of the Controller General of Patents, Designs & Trade Marks (CGPDTM) bears the professional fees payable to facilitators. Its scope was also expanded to benefit Indian educational institutions using Technology Innovation Support Centre (TISC) services. Additionally, it now covers the filing of international patent applications filed in India.

15. Following measures are implemented to support/assist patent holders for commercialization of their IP rights:
    - Office of the CGPDTM maintains a comprehensive database, Indian Patent Advanced Search System (InPASS), which provides detailed information on patent applications and granted patents in India. This enables interested parties to identify relevant patented inventions, thereby facilitating potential licensing opportunities and supporting the commercialization efforts of patent holders.
    - Form 27 (statement regarding working of patented invention on a commercial scale in India) has been amended in 2024 to allow patent holders to voluntarily indicate their willingness to license their patents and provide contact details for interested parties.
    - Patent renewal fees for Startups, MSMEs, and Educational Institutions have been reduced by 80%. Further, Renewal fee reduced by 10% if paid in advance through electronic mode for a period of at least 4 years.
    - An online system for the registration of title as licensee with Controller of Patents to facilitate licensing transactions and accelerate commercialization of patented inventions.
    - Allows integration of API setu for verification/authentication by GEM and Military portals which facilitates commercialization and deters counterfeiting and infringement.

16. An initiative named “MISSION RAKSHA GYAN SHAKTI” (MRGS) launched in April 2018 aims to institute an enabling framework for creation and management of Intellectual Property (IP) culture. The IPs include Patents, Design, Trademark, Copyrights, Semiconductors Integrated Circuit Layout Designs. Till Feb’ 2026 IP filed by DPSUs are 7018; Till Feb’ 2026 IP granted/registered are 3293.

17. Data Innovation (DI) Lab initiative of the capacity Development Scheme is implemented to promote innovation in the field of Official Statistics, with a total budget outlay of Rs 4 crores.

18. National Agriculture Innovation Fund is an initiative to promote Intellectual Property in Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR). Institute Technology Management Units (ITMUs) have been established in ICAR institutes to facilitate IP protection and technology management. 50 Agri-Business Incubation Centres (ABICs) have been also established in its concerned institutes to provide incubation and technical back-stopping support to agri-start-ups/entrepreneurs.

19. Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) organized research and development work in themes with the aim of linking laboratory research to market-ready products and strengthening national self-reliance.

20. The Prithvi Vigyan (PRITHVI) scheme promotes research, innovation, and IP creation in earth sciences; establishing advanced laboratories and observatories; supporting multidisciplinary research with tools like geotechnical instrumentation, coastal monitoring systems, hydro-geochemical sensors, and AI/ML hazard prediction, while grants under the scheme fund studies in solid earth, crustal dynamics, natural hazards, marine geoscience, hydrology, biogeochemistry, cloud microphysics, and mission programs like Mission Mausam.

21. The following GST exemptions are also available in respect of services supplied by startups/incubatees and for research and development activities:

    A. On the recommendations made by the GST Council, the following GST exemptions are provided for services supplied by 'incubatees' and 'incubators' vide Entry No. 44 and 48 of Notification No. 12/2017 Central Tax (Rate) respectively:

        1. Services provided by an incubatee up to a total turnover of Rs. 50 lakh in a financial year subject to the following conditions, namely:- i.) the total turnover had not exceeded Rs. 50 lakh during the preceding financial year; and ii.) a period of three years has not elapsed from the date of entering into an agreement as an incubatee.

        2. Taxable services provided or to be provided, by a Technology Business Incubator or a Science and Technology Entrepreneurship Park recognised by the National Science and Technology Entrepreneurship Development Board of the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India or bio-incubators recognised by the Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council, under the Department of Biotechnology, Government of India.

For the purposes of above exemptions, “incubatee” means an entrepreneur located within the premises of a Technology Business Incubator or Science and Technology Entrepreneurship Park recognised by the National Science and Technology Entrepreneurship Development Board (NSTEDB) of the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India and who has entered into an agreement with the Technology Business Incubator or the Science and Technology Entrepreneurship Park to enable himself to develop and produce hi-tech and innovative products.

3. Similarly, on the recommendations made by the GST Council, exemption from GST has also been provided for research and development services vide Entry No. 44A of Notification No. 12/2017 Central Tax (Rate) dated 28.06.2017.
   Under the said entry, research and development services supplied against consideration received in the form of grants are exempt from GST where such services are supplied by: (a) a Government Entity; or (b) a research association, university, college or other institution notified under clauses (ii) or (iii) of sub-section (1) of section 35 of the Income Tax Act, 1961.

   The exemption is subject to the condition that the research association, university, college or other institution notified under clauses (ii) or (iii) of sub-section (1) of section 35 of the Income Tax Act, 1961 is so notified at the time of supply of the research and development services.

22. The **National Manufacturing Mission (NMM),** announced in Budget 2025-26 with **₹100 crore outlay**, focuses on ease of doing business, future-ready workforce, vibrant MSMEs, technology access, and quality products to strengthen manufacturing capabilities. Production Linked Incentive (PLI) schemes **for 14 key sectors with ₹1.97 lakh crore** outlay aim to boost production, investment in advanced technology, and global competitiveness. The **Biopharma SHAKTI** (Strategy for Healthcare Advancement through Knowledge, Technology and Innovation) is a five-year, Rs. 10,000 crore mission (FY 2026-27 to FY 2030-31) to transform India into a global hub for biologics and biosimilars, addressing the rising burden of non-communicable diseases and shifting from generics to high-value biopharmaceuticals.

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ANNEXURE-B

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (c) & (d) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4005 FOR ANSWER ON 17.03.2026.

1. The Government established a WIPO Technology and Innovation Support Center (TISC) at the Karnataka State Council for Science and Technology (KSCST) to support researchers, inventors, and entrepreneurs in protecting, managing, and creating value from their intellectual property through training, specialized resources, and networking support from the Government and WIPO.

2. Under S&T–PRISM component, support has been extended to two R&D projects (one for startups and another for MSMEs) in Bengaluru for R&D on extraction of critical minerals from used lithium batteries and development of red mud flocculants, with financial support of ₹3.725 crore.

3. The DRDO released an SoP for industry engagement in projects under DIA – CoE to promote industry participation in defence R&D through Technology Transfer (ToT) or technology enhancement as Co-PI; 11 MoAs have been signed, and 18 Bengaluru-based industries, including 4 startups, have been supported under the Technology Development Fund scheme.

4. Biotechnology Ignition Grant (BIG) programme - BIG is a flagship early-stage funding programme that provides grant-in-aid support of up to ₹50 lakh for a period of 18 months to startups and individual innovators for establishing proof-of-concept of innovative biotechnology ideas. The scheme is implemented through 8 partner incubators across the country, of which one is located in Bengaluru namely Center for Cellular and Molecular Platforms (C-CAMP). The programme also facilitates technical mentoring, intellectual property support, regulatory guidance, and market linkages, enabling translation of research outcomes into scalable technologies. More than 1000 startups have been supported across the biotechnology domains in the country, of which 179 startups are from Bengaluru.

5. BIRAC established 94 biotechnology incubation and pre-incubation centres across 25 States and Union Territories, through BioNEST (Bioincubators Nurturing Entrepreneurship for Scaling Technologies) and E-YUVA (Empowering Youth for Undertaking Value Added Innovative Translational Research) schemes. Total 7 **incubation and pre-incubation centres are supported in Bengaluru.**

6. The Sustainable Entrepreneurship and Enterprise Development (SEED) Fund, implemented through 16 BioNEST incubators (including three in Bengaluru), provides first-equity support of up to ₹30 lakh per startup to facilitate transition from proof-of-concept to early-stage commercialization; 153 biotech startups nationwide, including 36 from Bengaluru, have been supported for product validation, early market access, and scaling technologies.

7. **Launching Entrepreneurial Driven Affordable Products (LEAP) Fund:** The LEAP Fund provides equity-based support of up to ₹100 lakh per startup to accelerate commercialization and market entry of startups with validated technologies, supporting scale-up, regulatory advancement, and manufacturing readiness. The programme is implemented through 6 designated BioNEST

incubators across the country, of which one is Center for Cellular and Molecular Platforms (C-CAMP) in Bengaluru. So far, 62 startups have been supported under this scheme across the nation, including 20 startups from Bengaluru.

8. Since the inception of PPP scheme, 131 startups and innovators in Bengaluru have received financial assistance from BIRAC for research and development in biotechnology sector which lead to patent filing and product commercialization. Scheme-wise break up is as follow:

Scheme	Number of Startups and Innovators receiving Financial Assistance	Financial Assistance provided by BIRAC (Rs in Lakhs)
BIPP	55	7409.19
SBIRI	49	1240.99
PACE	27	709.55
Total	131	9359.73

9. **Programmes in Synthetic Biology and Clean Technologies:** During the last 3 years, the "Program for synthetic biology" and "Innovation clean technology-scale up" has supported the following projects from Karnataka:

Synthetic biology:

1. CSIR-CIMAP, Bengaluru in collaboration with Amnion Biosciences, Bengaluru
2. E2E Biotech, Bengaluru in collaboration with ICGEB, New Delhi
3. HiTech Biosciences, Pune in collaboration with IISc, Bengaluru
4. Jananom Pvt. Ltd., Bengaluru in collaboration with IBAB, Bengaluru

Innovation Clean Technologies (Ict):

1. Openwater.In Pvt. Ltd, Bengaluru
2. GPS Renewables Pvt. Ltd, Bengaluru

10. **National Biopharma Mission (NBM):** NBM has supported 22 grantees in Bengaluru with financial assistance amounting to ₹103 crore.

11. Under NIDHI–PRAYAS program, 2,254 innovators/startups have been supported out of which 381 innovators/startups are from Karnataka. Department of Science and Technology (DST) has established 17 incubation centres in the state of Karnataka to provide comprehensive support and help startups progress in their ideas to commercialization journey**. Around 39 projects** supported under this programme are in the Bengaluru region.

12. The **iDEX (Innovation for Defence Excellence) scheme**, launched in **April 2018**, fosters innovation in **Defence and Aerospace** by engaging **MSMEs, startups, individual innovators, R&D institutes, and academia**, with **₹498.78 crore** allocated from 2021-22 to 2025-26 to support development of innovative technologies. It provides **grants up to ₹1.50 crore** for R&D and other support that has potential for defence adoption, while the **MISSION RAKSHA GYAN SHAKTI (MRGS)** initiative launched in April 2018, promotes an **IP culture**, with **7,018 IPs filed** and **3,293 granted/registered** by February 2026.

The **ADITI (Acing Development of Innovative Technologies with iDEX) scheme**, with a **₹750 crore budget** from 2023-24 to 2025-26, provides **grants up to ₹25 crore** to support **iDEX-winning startups and MSMEs nationwide**, including **Bengaluru**, for the development of **cutting-edge, critical, and strategic technologies**.

13. Innovators and startups in Bengaluru receive comprehensive facilitation through Patent Information Centre (PIC) of the Karnataka State Council for Science and Technology:
    - **Prior Art Search Services:** During FY 2024-25, 54 prior art search reports were generated for inventions from startups and R&D institutions to assess patentability.
    - **Filing and Registration:** Technical guidance is provided for drafting and filing Patents, Designs, Trademarks, and Copyrights. In FY 2024-25, associated cells filed 253 patent applications and 33 design applications.
    - **Commercialization Facilitation:** IPRs are analyzed for commercial feasibility, and suitable industry partners or private stakeholders are identified for market entry.
    - **Geographical Indications (GI):** Support for drafting and filing GI applications for local products, such as Rani Ele and Rani Pepper, and registering Authorized Users.

II. The Government has established a widespread network of facilitation hubs centered in Bengaluru:

- **Nodal Centre:** The primary **Patent Information Centre (PIC)** is located at the Karnataka State Council for Science and Technology, **Indian Institute of Science (IISc) Campus, Bengaluru**.
- **University-Based Innovation Hubs:** A total of **92 IP Cells** has been established in various educational institutions across the state to act as nodal centers for local IPR activities.
- **Recent Bengaluru Hubs:** New IP cells established in FY 2024-25 include those at **Bengaluru University (BU)**, **Sri Venkateshwara College of Engineering (SVCE)**, and **New Horizon College of Engineering (NHCIIE)**.
- **Via the DCTE (Department of Collegiate and Technical Education) PIC –** KSCST has trained personnel from 20+ Government Engineering colleges, and numerous polytechnics in the past year. The aim is that each one of these institutions establishes its own mechanism for IP capture and IP prosecution.

14. Two projects related to the usage of AI in Official Statistics have been awarded to Consortium of Indian Institute of Technology , Madras and Axonwise Pvt Ltd (Sarvam AI), which is a Bengaluru based Startup, with IIT Madras as lead partner, with a total project cost of Rs. 69 lakh.

15. In Bengaluru, four ICAR institutes—IIHR, NIVEDI, NIANP, and NBAIR—are conducting domain-specific research and innovation, protecting their products, processes, and technologies through Copyright, Design, Patent, Plant Varieties, and Trademark.

16. The CSIR-National Aerospace Laboratories, a CSIR constituent lab, supports startups in the aerospace sector through its Technology Incubation Centre, which has nurtured about 32 startups, while its Innovation Protection Unit (IPU) assists laboratories in identifying and drafting patent specifications.

17. A total of **87 financial facilitations** for patent applications were provided to startups and innovators from **Bengaluru** under the **SIPP Scheme** during the last three financial years through pro bono support for filing and processing patent applications.

18. Startups from **Bengaluru** availed **80% fee relaxation** for **1,162 patent application filings**, **749 patent examinations**, and **257 patent renewals**.

19. Startups from Bengaluru availed benefits of expedited examination in 504 patent applications.

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