

Startup Watch

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This Issue

Startup Stories **P.3**

Startup Funding **P.3**

Startup Events **P.4**

STARTUP POLICIES

India's 6G Leap: PM Modi Launches Test Bed For Next-Gen Services

<https://inc42.com/>

- Barely six months after the launch of 5G services, the Indian government has set its eyes on fostering the upcoming 6G telecom services in the country.
- In a step towards this direction, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on March 22 launched the country's first 6G test bed.
- Prime Minister also unveiled 'Bharat 6G Mission', which will serve as a roadmap for the rollout of 6G services in the country over the next few years
- The test bed will be used to test and validate new 6G-related technologies and serve as a platform for industry and startups to tinker with evolving ICT
- The vision document has recommended creation of an INR 100,000 million fund to service the requirements of the industry over the next 10 years.

Govt to unveil first set of PLI for drones

Source: <https://indbiz.gov.in/govt-to-unveil-first-set-of-pli-for-drones/>

The Indian government is expected to unveil the first set of Production-Linked Incentives



(PLI) for drones, according to Civil Aviation Secretary Shri Rajiv Bansal, at the CII International Conference and Exhibition on Advanced and Short Haul Air Mobility for All in Bengaluru. He also mentioned that 15 drone categories have already been certified.

He went on to discuss the government's promotion of a scheme to create airports, heliports, and seaports. He further mentioned that small airfields had already seen progress, while work on heliports is currently underway. However, he identified seaports as the most challenging area of focus and stated that the government is working with the Ministry of Shipping to overcome these challenges.

Shri Bansal further added that there are significant environmental concerns surrounding seaports, making environmental clearance a significant challenge. Nevertheless, he expressed optimism that some of the seaports being built in Andaman & Nicobar and Lakshadweep will be completed in FY24.

G20 taskforce aims to agree on common definition for startups globally

Source: <https://www.livemint.com/companies/>

Aimed at harmonizing the global startup ecosystem, the 'Foundation and Alliances taskforce' of the G20 is working to arrive at a common definition of startups globally that would influence policy going forward, senior DPIIT officials said at a press briefing.

As per Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), an entity would be considered a startup up to 10 years from its date of incorporation and if its turnover for any of the financial years since incorporation does not exceed INR 1000 million.

"Investor should be clear what start-up means because it affects my decision. Whether we will converge to a common definition, is still an open question. However, it is challenging to change the start-up definition from say in India from 10 years to 15 years. Other countries also have those challenges," Startup20 India chair Chintan Vaishnav said. Vaishnav explained that among the key objectives of the Foundation and Alliances taskforce would be to harmonize the global startup ecosystem "through consensus based definitions" and promote a global community of knowledge sharing among the startup ecosystems of G20 members.

An official statement by DPIIT said that Startup 20 has been established under India's G20 Presidency and it aims to act as a dialogue forum with the global startup ecosystem stakeholders and intends to represent the global startup ecosystem to raise the macroeconomic concerns and challenges faced by entrepreneurs with G20 leaders.

"The Group will operate through 3 Task forces under India's Presidency. The B20 has scheduled a total of 100 meetings with the number of in-person meetings being 65 and the number of Hybrid Meetings being 35," the statement read.

Govt Looking To Make Ecommerce Platforms Like Flipkart, Amazon Liable For Sellers' Fraud

Source- <https://inc42.com/>

The consumer affairs ministry is reportedly working on making ecommerce companies such as Amazon and Flipkart liable for fraud committed by sellers on their platforms by attaching "fallback liability" to their role as intermediaries. The ministry would form the rules after ecommerce companies respond to queries on the issue, sent to them by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY). Ecommerce platforms are currently protected by the safe harbour provisions as prescribed in Section 79 of the Information Technology Act, 2000 Under the upcoming ecommerce norms, the government might put more responsibility on ecommerce intermediaries.

Draft Rules On Online Gaming Ready, To Be Notified Soon

Source- <https://inc42.com/>

Minister of State for Electronics and Information Technology Shri Rajeev Chandrasekhar said that the government is likely to notify draft rules on online gaming soon.

The minister informed that the draft rules are ready after 'extensive consultation'. It is currently in the process of scrutiny, he added. He also pointed out that online gaming represents platforms who are operating on the internet. "We will certainly make it very very difficult and certainly illegal for any wagering to happen on these games

Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh called for India's extended collaboration in biotech start-ups and vaccine development with a public-private partnership for global good

Press Information Bureau

India has called for extended collaboration in biotech start-ups and vaccine development

with a public-private partnership for global good.

Union Minister of State Science and Technology, Minister of State Earth Sciences, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy, and Space, Dr. Jitendra Singh stated that India is fast emerging as the major bio-economy of the world. In the last few years, the country has grown a lot in terms of innovation and technology.

The Minister further stated that as part of 'Mission COVID Suraksha,' the Department of Biotechnology (DBT) in the Ministry of Science and Technology delivered four vaccines, increased the production of Covaxin, and established the necessary infrastructure for the successful development of future vaccines, making our nation pandemic ready. He also highlighted the vaccine market of India which has established itself on a global scale is expected to reach a valuation of US\$ 30.5 billion (INR 252 billion) by 2025. He noted that on February 24, 2022, DBT signed a tripartite Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for a five-year term with the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and International AIDs Vaccine Initiative Inc. (IAVI). In accordance with the terms of the MoU, the parties have agreed to work together to prevent, identify, and/or treat diseases that are of concern in India and around the world, such as HIV, tuberculosis, and emerging infectious diseases like COVID-19 and other threats to global health.

STARTUP STORIES

Government e-Marketplace (GeM) commemorates the success of "SWAYATT", an initiative to promote Start-ups, Women and Youth Advantage through e-Transactions on GeM

Press Information Bureau

In New Delhi, a celebration was organised to mark the accomplishment of "SWAYATT," an effort to support start-ups, women, and

youth advantage through electronic transactions on the government eMarketplace (GeM).

More than 8.5 lakh (0.85 million) Micro and Small Businesses (MSEs) have been registered on the GeM platform, and they have been able to receive approximately US\$ 22.65 billion (Rs. 1.87 lakh crore) in commerce distributed across 68 lakh+ orders. Mr. P.K. Singh, CEO of GeM, informed the house about the progress made in achieving social and financial inclusion.

In February 2019, GeM established an effort to promote "Start-ups, Women, and Youth Advantage Through eTransactions" (SWAYATT). The goal of SWAYATT 2019 was to stimulate the inclusion of diverse categories of sellers and service providers on the portal by taking aggressive measures to simplify their training and registrations of such specialised categories of manufacturers and sellers, foster female entrepreneurship, and boost MSME sector and Start-up participation in public procurement.

STARTUP FUNDING

<https://inc42.com/>

- Edtech unicorn upGrad raised INR 3000 million via rights issues from founder Ronnie Screwvala and Temasek. Temasek invested INR 810 million and upGrad's cofounder and chairperson Ronnie Screwvala contributed INR 2,120 million.

STARTUP EVENTS /PROGRAMS >> UPCOMING

Event: DDay (Demo Day)

Date: 18 April 2023

Registration Link: <https://www.9unicorns.in/d-day/>

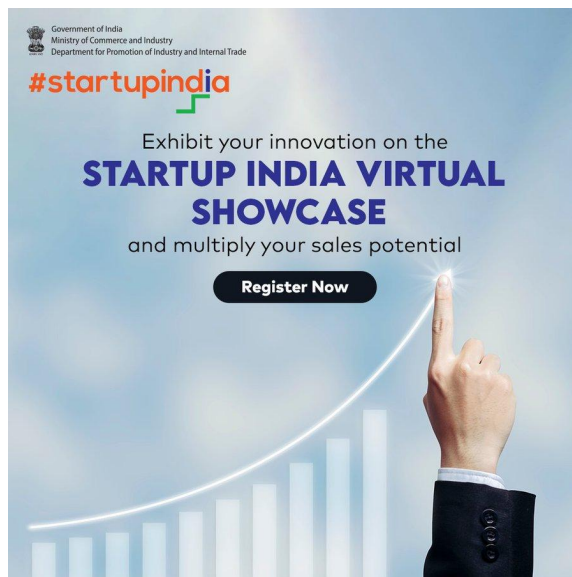
About: A startup pitch event, which will be live streamed in India, Singapore, London, USA, and Dubai, aims to give an opportunity to more than 20 early and growth stage startups (Seed and Series A) to pitch their businesses to over 1.5K global and Indian investors. The past two editions of the DDay, in 2021 and 2022, saw startups lapping up a combined funding of \$360 Mn from more than 1.2K global and Indian VCs.



Program: Leaps Initiative

About: LEAPS, a flagship initiative to recognise the best practices in the logistics sector.

Submit applications to : leaps.logistics.gov.in



Program: Startup India Virtual Showcase

About: The Startup India Virtual Showcase is an opportunity to magnify your startup's reach and visibility.

Register : bit.ly/3BR7pcW

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