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NATIONAL STARTUP DAY
Celebrating 10 years of Startup India

5th Edition

States' Startup Ecosystem Ranking

Himachal Pradesh

Top Performer

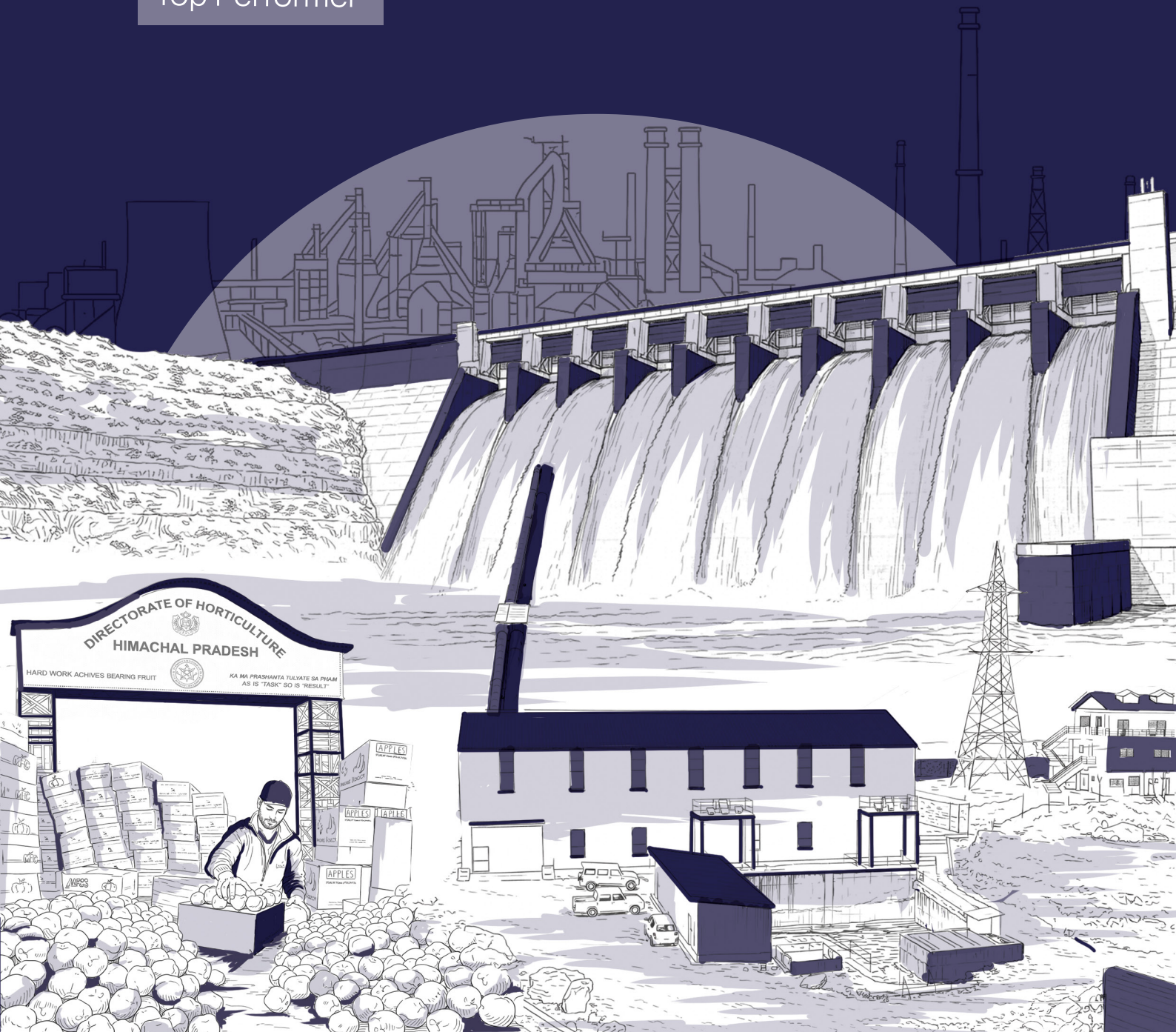


Table of Contents

About the State **04**

State Startup Policies and Initiatives **05**
- State Startup Policies
- Key Initiatives Driving Growth

States' Startup Ecosystem Ranking Results **08**

Reform Area 1 - Institutional Support **09**
- Introduction
- Performance

Reform Area 2 - Infrastructure Support **12**
- Introduction
- Performance

Reform Area 3 – Funding Opportunities **14**
- Introduction
- Performance

Reform Area 4 – Market Access & Reach **15**
- Introduction
- Performance

Reform Area 5 – Ecosystem Capacity Building **17**
- Introduction
- Performance

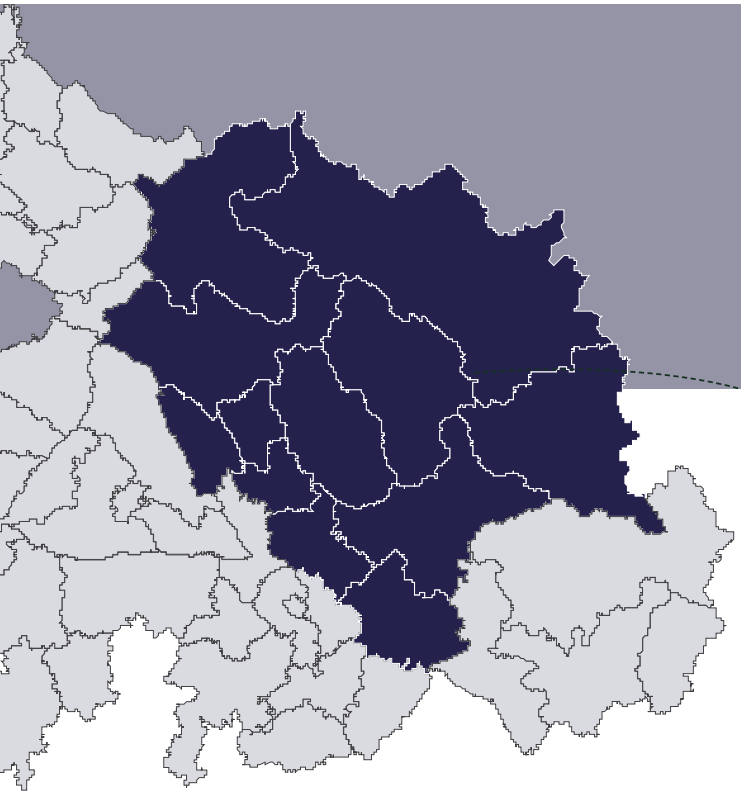
Reform Area 6 – Focus on Innovation & Sustainability **19**
- Introduction
- Performance

Way Ahead **20**

Annexures **22**

Bibliography **24**

1. About the State



Tourism and agriculture are the State's primary economic drivers, with a strong emphasis on fruit production.

Himachal Pradesh

Himachal Pradesh, nestled in the heart of the western Himalayas and known as "Dev Bhumi" (Land of Gods), spans an area of 55,673 sq. km. Tourism and agriculture are the State's primary economic drivers, with a strong emphasis on fruit production.

Home to over 68 Lakh people, Himachal Pradesh's Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) grew from INR 0.73 Lakh Crore in 2011–12 to INR 2.31 Lakh Crore in 2024–25, reflecting a CAGR of 9.3%. The state attracted a total FDI inflow of USD 112.56 Mn in the year 2024-25. Exports also surged from USD 1.66 Bn in 2020–21 to USD 2.43 Bn in 2024–25, marking a growth rate of 9.94%.

The Department of industries, Government of Himachal Pradesh is the nodal department for supporting Startups. It has established a Single Window online portal for registration and the provision of incentives to startups or innovative projects registered under the scheme.

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2. State Startup Policies and Initiatives

2.1 State Startup Policies

Himachal Pradesh has launched the "Chief Minister's Startup/Innovation Projects/ New Industries Scheme 2016" to transform educated youth from job seekers into job creators and to support startups and innovation projects within the State. The scheme offers a range of incentives to help entrepreneurs succeed in their ventures. It also provides for the establishment of incubation centers in host institutions across the State to build capacities, foster networking, create necessary infrastructure, and raise awareness. The primary objectives of this scheme are to promote self-employment, generate employment opportunities, and enhance the skills of entrepreneurs.

The Scheme for Innovation Projects focuses on fostering technology-driven solutions across diverse sectors. The key areas include advancements in rural infrastructure, crafts, arts, water and sanitation, renewable energy, and healthcare. It also emphasizes clean technology, agriculture, horticulture, and allied fields, along with food processing, retail, tourism, and hospitality. Further, the scheme supports innovations in mobile technology, IT and IT-enabled services (including hardware), as well as biotechnology.

The policy provides the following key incentives for startups:

01 Support to Incubators:

Selected institutions will get financial assistance up to INR 30 Lakh per year for three years to set up incubators and related activities. Additionally, incubators may receive up to INR 10 Lakh annually for recurring expenses, subject to performance.

02 Concession in Stamp Duty:

All new startups, industries, and innovation project units will be charged stamp duty at 3% on conveyance and lease deeds

03 Availability of Land:

DOI will allot land to startups, new industries, and innovation projects in Category B and C industrial areas at 50% of the prevailing rates from time to time.

04 Concession in Fee for obtaining consent from H.P. Pollution control board:

Fees for obtaining consent to establish and renew from the H.P. Pollution Control Board will be reduced by 25% for green industries and 10% for orange industries.

05 Interest subvention:

New startups in the micro sector with an investment up to INR 25 lakh, employing at least 5 persons and availing loans from scheduled nationalized or state cooperative banks, will receive interest subvention at 5% on loans up to INR 25 lakh for three years.

06 VAT Concessions:

Startups processing agricultural, horticultural, or herbal produce (except flour mills/rice shellers) are exempt from VAT/CST for 3 years or until INR 2 Cr. turnover, whichever is earlier. New industrial units in Category "C" areas get State tax exemption for 7 years, limited to 80% of fixed capital investment in tribal areas and 60% in backward panchayats.

07 Patent filing cost:

Up to INR 2 L per Indian patent and up to INR 10 L for foreign patent.

The Himachal Pradesh Industrial Investment Policy, 2019 aims to establish an optimal ecosystem that enhances startups and entrepreneurship, facilitates technology upgrades, promotes research and development and improves productivity to enhance competitiveness.

The policy provides the following key incentives for MSMEs:

01 Interest Subvention:

3% on term loan for 3 years. While the maximum per annum for Category A: INR 2 Lakh; Category B: INR 4 Lakh; Category C: INR 6 Lakh

02 Transport Subsidy:

For enterprises in Category B, the actual cost or 3% of turnover (max INR 10 L/year for 3 years). While, the Category C, the actual cost or 5% of turnover (max INR 10 L/year for 5 years).

03 Technology, Competitiveness & Quality Certification:

50% reimbursement for setting up in-house testing facilities & certification with maximum limit of INR 5 L per enterprise.

04 Water Conservation & EHS Compliance:

25% reimbursement for ETP/rainwater harvesting equipment (max INR 2 L). 50% of power tariff for ETP for 3 years (max INR 1 lakh/ year).

05 Purchase Preference:

State Govt. will place 25% of orders with local Micro & Small enterprises at lowest approved rates, subject to quality standards.

06 Access to Finance:

50% reimbursement of expenses for raising funds via NSE SME platform (including registration cost). Maximum: INR 10 L per enterprise.

07 Self-Certification:

Enterprises can start project implementation after land title without waiting for certain approvals, provided applications are submitted. Acknowledgement Certificate valid for 2 years.

2.2 Key Initiatives Driving Growth

- **HPCED**
  The Himachal Pradesh Centre for Entrepreneurship Development (HPCED) serves as the State's primary support center for startups and has been designated as the State Innovation Society. Its mandate includes engaging with entrepreneurs, providing handholding support, assessing capacity-building requirements, and coordinating with institutions to address these needs.

- **Rajiv Gandhi Swarozgaar Startup Yojana 2023**
  aimed at fostering entrepreneurship and self-employment among the youth. The scheme provides financial incentives and comprehensive support to encourage the establishment of new industrial enterprises, with a strong emphasis on the green and sustainable sectors.

- **IT, ITES and ESDM policy 2019**
  Aims to drive inclusive growth of the State's Information Technology (IT), IT-enabled Services (ITES), and Electronics System Design & Manufacturing (ESDM) sectors for overall socio-economic development. The policy emphasizes sustainable growth through innovation and knowledge, while generating employment opportunities and promoting entrepreneurship.

- **HIMUDA Startup and Student Innovation Policy**
  Under this policy, HIMUDA has allocated a startup fund of INR 25 L for one year, with each eligible startup proposal entitled to funding of up to INR 5 L. The primary objective is to build a robust ecosystem that fosters innovation and entrepreneurship in Himachal Pradesh, thereby accelerating economic growth and generating employment opportunities.

3. States' Startup Ecosystem Ranking Results

Himachal Pradesh participated in all 6 Reform Areas and 19 Action Points under the 5th edition of States Startup Ecosystem Ranking Framework, and has been positioned as a "Top Performer" State in Category B.

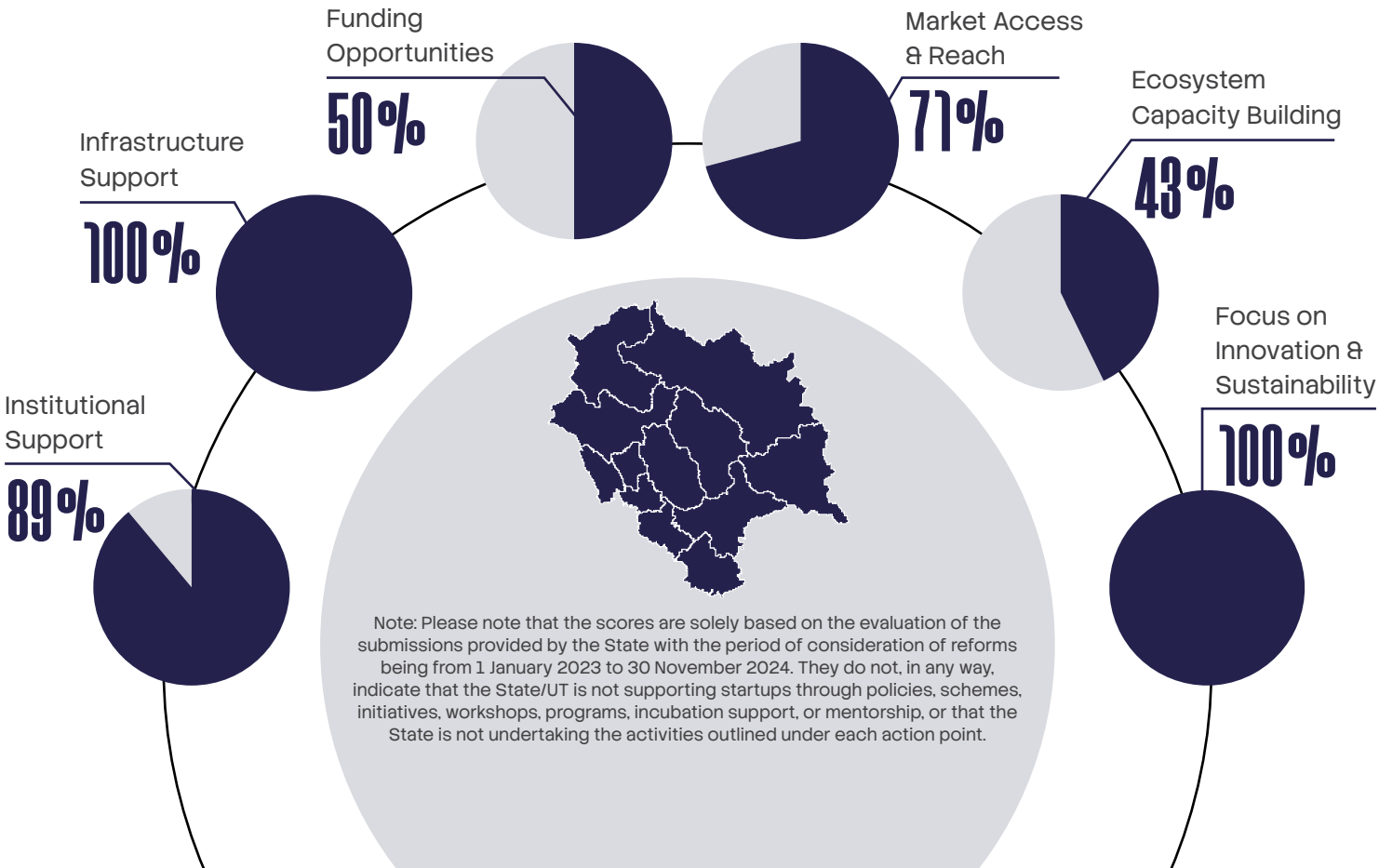
The state's performance across different reform areas is presented below as percentile scores, which is the relative performance of the State in each Reform Area as compared to States/UTs in Category B. For example, if the state has a score of 100th percentile in the 'Institutional Support' Reform Area, this implies that the State has scored higher than all the participating States/ UTs in that Reform Area.

Himachal Pradesh's performance in each of the Reform Area has been graphically represented.

Data presented below is the percentile score, which is the relative performance of the State in each Reform Area as compared to other participating States/UTs.

Overall, Himachal Pradesh has been evaluated across 6 Reform Areas that are critical to strengthening and advancing the State's startup ecosystem. Detailed analysis with insights into the initiatives taken by the State to promote its startup ecosystem are discussed in the subsequent sections.

Figure 1: Reform area wise scores for Himachal Pradesh



4. Reform Area 1 - Institutional Support

4.1 Introduction

Institutional Support focuses on the foundational support provided by state governments to foster startup ecosystems. It evaluates whether states have active startup policies, designated nodal departments, and dedicated teams. It also assesses the extent of support provided by other government departments beyond the nodal agency. Key action points include the presence of a startup policy, identification and development of priority sectors, support for women entrepreneurs, and initiatives for young student entrepreneurs. The goal is to ensure that startups receive structured and multi-departmental support, enabling them to thrive across sectors and demographics.

It covers 6 action points:

Action Point 1:
Support Provided to Startups by State/UT Department(s)

Action Point 2:
For Development with a Futuristic and Disruptive Focus

Action Point 3:
Women Entrepreneurial Development

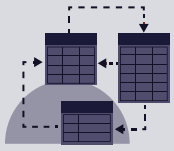
Action Point 4:
For the Growth of Young Entrepreneurs

Action Point 5:
Entrepreneurial Growth in the Social Innovation Landscape

Action Point 6:
Mentorship Support Provided to Startups

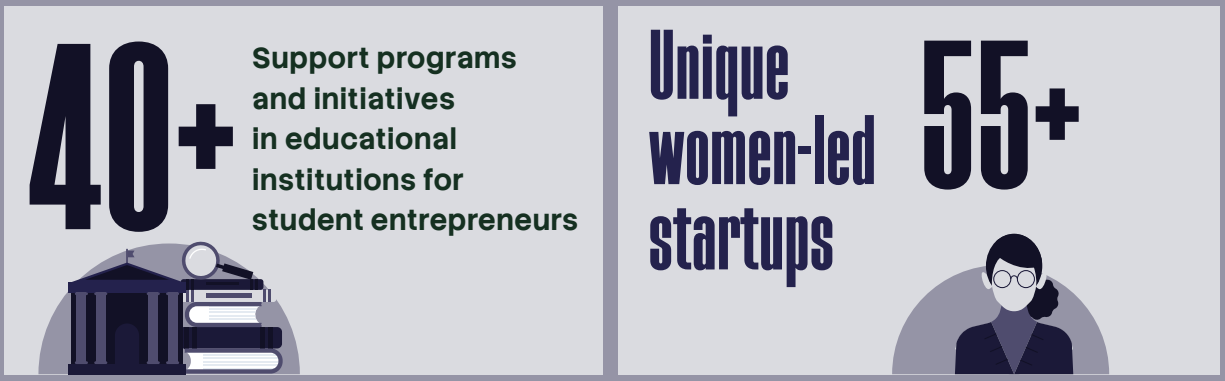
4.2 Performance

8+ Schemes/ Initiatives in Priority Sector



90+

Mentors providing support to Startups.



Institutional support provided to Startups

The State of Himachal Pradesh has put in place a comprehensive institutional framework to support startups through the Chief Minister's Startup/Innovation Projects/New Industries Scheme (Link), with the Department of Industries, Government of Himachal Pradesh, serving as the nodal department. The framework is supported by a dedicated nodal officer and a specialized team (Link) responsible for startup promotion and facilitation. Several incentives are extended under the policy, including financial assistance, seed funding and grant support, incubation and acceleration support, mentorship, market access facilitation, and regulatory ease measures.

In addition to the nodal department, multiple line departments across the State have extended institutional support to startups in the form of financial assistance, access to incubation facilities, pilot and proof-of-concept opportunities, procurement and market linkages, mentorship support, infrastructure provision, and regulatory facilitation.

Development with a Futuristic and Disruptive Focus

Himanchal Pradesh has identified priority sectors to guide the development of a futuristic and innovation-driven startup ecosystem. These priority sectors include Technology- Driven Innovation, Rural Infrastructure and Facilities, Clean Tech, Agriculture, Horticulture, and Related Areas, Food Processing, Retail, Tourism and Hospitality, Mobile, IT Includes Hardware, Biotechnology among others.

To promote startups operating within the identified priority sectors, the Himachal Pradesh had **8+ schemes, initiatives / policies / activities operational during the evaluation period.** These interventions include Drone policy, Logistic policy, IT policy, Science, Technology & Innovation policy, Skill development in agriculture sector, among others.

Women Entrepreneurial Development

Himanchal Pradesh has undertaken focused measures to promote women entrepreneurship as part of its startup ecosystem development efforts. Dedicated incentives and support mechanisms for women-led startups have been introduced through Chief Minister's Startup/Innovation Projects/New Industries Scheme covering financial incentives, capacity building, incubation and acceleration support. These measures aim to improve participation of women entrepreneurs across sectors and regions within the State.

As per the documentary evidence submitted, the State has supported **55+ unique women-led**

startups during the evaluation period. These startups are distributed across 6 districts within the State.

For the Growth of Young Entrepreneurs

Himanchal has implemented structured interventions to encourage entrepreneurship among students and young innovators through educational institutions. These include Expert Talk and Panel Discussion, Startup bootcamps, Seminar for innovation, Orientation programs, Webinars, among others.

For instance, the state has initiated Executive Symposium - Startup Day at Jaypee University of Information Technology (JUIT). The symposium simulated a Boardroom meeting scenarios for 1st and 2nd year students.

Overall, during the evaluation period, the State implemented **40+ such comprehensive support structures / schemes / programs aimed at supporting student entrepreneurs.**

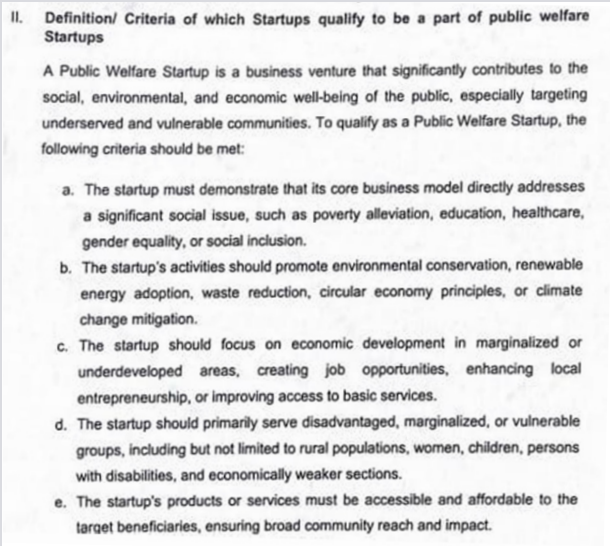
Figure 2: Glimpse of the Executive Symposium at JUIT

Entrepreneurial Growth in the Social Innovation Landscape

Under the 10th meeting of the Empowered Committee Members under the chairpersonship of Principal Secretary (Industries), Government of Himachal Pradesh, the state has delineated the definition/ criteria of which startups qualify to be a part of public welfare startups.

The state of Himanchal Pradesh has extended targeted support to startups operating in the public welfare and social innovation space, through MMSY (Mukhya Mantri Swavlamban Yojana). The interventions include mentoring support, pilot opportunities with government departments, outcome-based funding.

Figure 3: Definition of Public welfare startups under proceedings of 10th ECM



II. **Definition/ Criteria of which Startups qualify to be a part of public welfare Startups**

A Public Welfare Startup is a business venture that significantly contributes to the social, environmental, and economic well-being of the public, especially targeting underserved and vulnerable communities. To qualify as a Public Welfare Startup, the following criteria should be met:

a. The startup must demonstrate that its core business model directly addresses a significant social issue, such as poverty alleviation, education, healthcare, gender equality, or social inclusion.
b. The startup's activities should promote environmental conservation, renewable energy adoption, waste reduction, circular economy principles, or climate change mitigation.
c. The startup should focus on economic development in marginalized or underdeveloped areas, creating job opportunities, enhancing local entrepreneurship, or improving access to basic services.
d. The startup should primarily serve disadvantaged, marginalized, or vulnerable groups, including but not limited to rural populations, women, children, persons with disabilities, and economically weaker sections.
e. The startup's products or services must be accessible and affordable to the target beneficiaries, ensuring broad community reach and impact.

Mentorship Support Provided to Startups

Himanchal Pradesh has facilitated structured mentorship support for startups as part of its ecosystem development initiatives through state-led mentorship programs.

As per the documentary evidence provided, a total of **90+ mentors have been engaged to provide mentorship support to startups within the Himanchal Pradesh** during the evaluation period.

5. Reform Area 2 - Infrastructure Support

5.1 Introduction

Infrastructure Support evaluates the availability and quality of both digital and physical infrastructure provided by states to startups. Digital infrastructure includes state startup portals with features like online registration, grievance redressal, and accessibility in local languages and for persons with disabilities. Physical infrastructure focuses on the establishment and upgrading of incubators, especially those supporting manufacturing and hardware startups. It also assesses the number of startups receiving incubation support and the facilities available to them.

It covers 2 action points:

Action Point 7:
Access to Digital Infrastructure

Action Point 8:
Access to Physical Infrastructure

5.2 Performance

40+

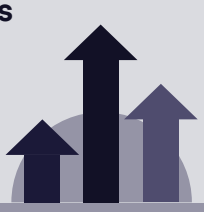
Startups registered on the State Startup Portal

2+

New manufacturing Incubators Setup

12+

Existing Incubators Upgraded



Access to Digital Infrastructure

The state of Himanchal Pradesh has enabled digital access for startups through a unified State Startup Portal – Startup Himachal (Link) that serves as a single-window interface for registration, information dissemination, and service delivery.

Besides, the state's startup portal also provides a dedicated Grievance Redressal page (Link) for startups to raise queries and issues.

As per the records submitted, 4**0+ startups are registered on the State Startup Portal.**

Figure 4: Webpage of Startup Himachal Portal

Access to Physical Infrastructure

Himanchal Pradesh has strengthened physical infrastructure support for startups, particularly those engaged in manufacturing and hardware sectors, through the establishment and upgradation of incubators and acceleration facilities.

During the evaluation period, the state has set up **2+ new manufacturing incubators,** including IIM Sirmaur, AIIMS Bilaspur while **12+ existing incubators were upgraded.** These include CSIR-Institute of Himalayan Bioresource Technology, IIT, Mandi, NIT, Hamirpur, Himanchal Pradesh University, CSK Himachal Pradesh Agriculture University Palampur, HP Council for science technology and environment, Chitkara University, Himachal Pradesh.

Figure 5: Startup Helpdesk of Himachal Pradesh

As per the documentary evidence submitted, a total of **40+ unique startups have received incubation or acceleration support across State-supported incubators and accelerators** during the period of consideration.

6. Reform Area 3 - Funding Opportunities

6.1 Introduction

Funding Opportunities examines the financial mechanisms established by states to support startups. It includes the creation and management of seed funds, venture funds, and funds of funds, especially those targeting priority sectors. It also evaluates the number of startups that have received funding through these mechanisms and the extent of collaboration with financial institutions. Additionally, it assesses initiatives like pitching sessions and investor connect programs that facilitate access to private capital.

It covers 3 action points:

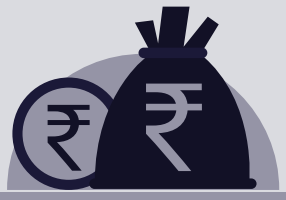
Action Point 9:
Access to Funding

Action Point 10:
Number of Startups which have Received Funding through State Supported Funds or Mechanisms

Action Point 11:
State Support in Fundraising Initiatives

6.2 Performance

5+ State initiatives to promote angel funding/equity and debt financing



Access to Funding

The State has initiated collaborative funding provisions for startups in partnership with banking and financial institutions through MoUs with HDFC Bank and SIDBI, among others. As per the documentary evidence submitted, details have been provided on sanctioned funding, proof of release of funds, total amount disbursed during the evaluation period, and associated sanction letters.

State Support in Fundraising Initiatives

The state has undertaken targeted initiatives to facilitate fundraising for startups by enabling structured interactions with angels, investors, and financial institutions.

These include **5+ state-led fundraising initiatives** such as Himalayan Investor Den at Himalayan Startup Trek 2023; Capacity Building Workshop for potential investor/Industrialist and Demo Day for Startup; Awareness camp held at Baddi Technical Institute; Demo Day/ Exhibition/ Poster Presentation of Business Plans & linkage with Innovation Ambassadors/ Experts for Mentorship Support (Combating Hate Speech Online With AI); Pitch Master's 2.0 Makers' BuildAthon-Building Innovations Igniting Future, among others.

7. Reform Area 4 - Market Access & Reach

7.1 Introduction

Market Access & Reach focuses on how states help startups access markets by relaxing public procurement processes, awarding Government Work Orders, and domestic and international exposure. It evaluates the number of tenders floated with startup-friendly relaxations, the number of startups awarded work orders, and the reach of market access initiatives across districts. It also considers programs that connect startups with government departments, corporates, and international trade bodies for product showcases and pilot projects.

It covers 3 action points:

Action Point 12:
Market Access Opportunity Provided to Startups through Public Procurement

Action Point 13:
Number of Startups Awarded Purchase Orders or Work Orders

Action Point 14:
Access to Domestic and International Market Access Opportunities

7.2 Performance

9+

Tenders/RFPs floated with startup related relaxations

7+ Unique market access opportunities of Startups

Market Access Opportunity Provided to Startups through Public Procurement

Himanchal Pradesh has enabled market access for startups by facilitating their participation in public procurement through procedural relaxations in tenders and RFPs issued by State government departments and public sector undertakings (Link). Such relaxations include relaxation in prior experience, turnover requirements, EMD, among others, by departments such as Himachal Pradesh State Electronics Development Corporation, among others.

As per the documentary evidence submitted, the State has floated **9+ tenders or RFPs** during the evaluation period that incorporated startup-specific relaxations.

Access to Domestic and International Market Access Opportunities

The state has undertaken structured initiatives to enable startups to access domestic and international markets through programs that are funded or executed end-to-end by the state, as well as through facilitative partnerships with external agencies.

During the evaluation period, the State implemented **7+ market access initiatives** for improve visibility, customer acquisition, and business expansion opportunities for startups. Some of these initiatives include Himalayan Startup Trek 2023; Capacity Building Workshop for Potential and Investors/Industrialists; RIDE-Hack'24; The Hackathon: Combating Hate Speech Online with AI; Pitch Master's 2.0; Elevator Pitch; and Un-Startup Chronicles (Investor Awareness); among others.

The Himalayan Startup Trek (HST) 2023, IIT Mandi Catalyst's flagship event, successfully concluded in September 2023, connecting startups, mentors, and investors through pitch competitions and workshops focused on themes like Human-Computer Interaction, Environment & Sustainability, and "Build for the Himalayas," fostering innovation and ecosystem growth with significant DST support. The 7th annual event saw huge interest with 1500+ applications, culminating in winners across themes and showcasing innovations from startups like Siachen Naturals, highlighting regional potential.

Figure 6: Glimpses of Himalayan Startup Trek 2023

As per the documentary evidence submitted, these initiatives have benefitted startups across **5+ districts** within the State.

8. Reform Area 5 - Ecosystem Capacity Building

8.1 Introduction

Ecosystem Capacity Building evaluates efforts to strengthen the startup ecosystem through training and sensitization programs. It includes workshops for government officials, capacity development for incubators, and sensitization programs for ecosystem enablers like mentors, investors, and accelerators. The focus is on building awareness, improving stakeholder capabilities, and fostering collaboration across the ecosystem.

It covers 3 action points:

Action Point 15:
Capacity Building of Officials of State Government Departments on Startup Ecosystem of India

Action Point 16:
Number of State-supported Incubators Trained Through Capacity Development Workshops

Action Point 17:
Number of Programs Conducted to Sensitize Ecosystem Enablers

8.2 Performance

15+ State departments participated in the Sensitization Workshop

Capacity Building of Officials of State Government Departments on Startup Ecosystem of India

During the evaluation period, **15+ state departments participated across different sensitization workshops/programs conducted to familiarize officials with startup-related policies, regulatory frameworks,** and the role of government in enabling entrepreneurship.

A capacity-building workshop by the Department of Industries and RCED focused under the CM Startup Scheme, fostering industry–startup collaboration and showcasing state's startups in innovative space. It highlighted industry roles in mentorship, funding, and procurement, encouraged problem statement submissions, and built awareness to strengthen partnerships and the overall startup ecosystem.

Number of Programs Conducted to Sensitize Ecosystem Enablers

The state has conducted targeted programs to sensitize existing and potential ecosystem enablers, focusing on themes such as State's startup policy, and incentives thereof, angel investing, among others and have been designed to encourage greater engagement with startups at various stages of growth.

As per the documentary evidence submitted, the State has conducted or supported **1+ sensitization programs** such as Capacity Building Workshop for Potential and Investors/ Industrialists at Baddi Technical Training Institute, during the period of consideration. It was knowledge-based session to provide an overview of CM Startup Scheme and its benefits, angel investment and mentorships, among others.

9. Reform Area 6 - Focus on Innovation & Sustainability

9.1 Introduction

Focus on Innovation and Sustainability assesses how states promote innovation and sustainability through support for Intellectual Property Rights (IPR), Research and Development (R&D), and startups focused on climate change and circular economy. It evaluates the presence of policies facilitating IPR, the extent of R&D support, and the number of sustainability-focused startups receiving incentives.

It covers 2 action points:

Action Point 18:
Initiatives Undertaken by the State/UT to Facilitate Research and Innovation

Action Point 19:
Support to Startups for a Sustainable Focus

9.2 Performance

30+ **Startups focused on renewable energy, climate change, and sustainability**

Science Technology & Innovation Policy 2021 provides strong R&D support for startups in priority sectors through measures such as strengthening R&D institutions, promoting private investment, facilitating IP filing and prototype development, supporting commercialization, and establishing incubation and knowledge centres. These initiatives enable startups in areas like renewable energy, climate-tech, and clean-tech to access resources, develop prototypes, secure IP, and move toward market readiness.

Initiatives Undertaken by the State/ UT to Facilitate Research and Innovation

The state has undertaken initiatives to strengthen research and innovation within the startup ecosystem to support for patents, copyrights, trademarks, and other IPR-related activities such as establishing Intellectual Property Facilitation Centre (Link), and incentives under Science Technology and innovation Policy 2021 (Link), among others.

In addition, the state has extended R&D support to startups operating in identified priority sectors through targeted incentives and programs. Such support includes with academic or research institutions, pilot and proof-of-concept support, or procurement-linked under the Industrial Policy and Science Technology and Innovation Policy 2021.

Support to Startups for a Sustainable Future

During the evaluation period, **1+ active policies or schemes supporting startups in the circular economy and sustainability domains** have been implemented by the State. These include Science Technology and Innovation Policy 2021

As per the documentary evidence submitted, the State has supported **30+ startups working in areas such as renewable energy, climate resilience, climate technology, resource efficiency, waste management, and other sustainability-focused solutions.**

10. Way Ahead

- The State may formalise a single-point coordination hub that links the Industries Department, the nodal mission and all line ministries, publishes a clear contact directory and regularly tracks the rollout of incentives, procurement relaxations and support services across the state.
- The State may publish a detailed sector-wise matrix that translates every identified priority area into concrete incentive packages, eligibility criteria and application steps. By clarifying how each sector (technology-driven innovation, clean-tech, agriculture, tourism, etc.) can access financial aid, incubation and market-linkage benefits, the matrix will make the policy framework more actionable for startups.
- The State may define "women-led" enterprises on the startup portal and create a dedicated support track that includes reserved incubation seats, targeted seed-grant streams, capacity-building workshops and a mentorship pool focused on the challenges faced by women entrepreneurs.
- The State may introduce a "student-entrepreneur" pathway that bundles campus-based mentorship, prototype-development grants, credit-free loan facilities and streamlined access to the incubator network.
- The State may transform the Startup Himachal portal into a true one-stop-shop that enables online registration, grievance redressal, incentive applications, a searchable knowledge-bank, real-time tender alerts and funding-opportunity notifications.
- The State may expand physical infrastructure by creating "incubator-plus" hubs that combine co-working space, plug-and-play prototyping labs, testing facilities and shared equipment. New hubs should be sited in districts that currently lack such resources, while existing incubators receive upgrades to provide these enhanced services.
- The State may set up a dedicated financing architecture comprising a seed fund, a venture-stage fund and a fund-of-funds, each with transparent eligibility rules, scheduled disbursement cycles and clear reporting dashboards. This will complement existing bank partnerships and give startups reliable, affordable capital at every growth stage.
- The State may institutionalise a predictable calendar of fundraising and networking events such as regional pitch-days, sector-focused investor-connect sessions and annual startup conclaves that rotate across the state, ensuring that entrepreneurs outside the main urban centres have regular access to capital-raising platforms.

- The State may create a market-access liaison cell that partners with trade bodies, industry chambers and export-promotion agencies to organise domestic expos, international delegations and virtual showcase platforms. This will broaden the geographic reach of startups and open new customer and partner channels.

- The State may build a structured capacity-building programme for ecosystem enablers such as government officials, incubator managers, mentors and investors, delivered as certified modules covering policy awareness, procurement reforms, financing models, IPR processes and best practices in mentorship. Certified participants become ambassadors for entrepreneurship within their organisations.

- The State may launch a focused "green-innovation" support package that identifies renewable-energy, climate-tech and circular-economy sub-sectors, and bundles fast-track IPR assistance, R&D grants, prototype-testing subsidies, priority incubation slots and preferential procurement pathways. This will reinforce the existing science-technology and innovation policy and give sustainability-oriented startups a clear, differentiated incentive suite.

11. Annexures

List of Figures

Figure 1: Reform area wise scores for Himachal Pradesh

Figure 2: Glimpse of the Executive Symposium at JUIT

Figure 3: Definition of Public welfare startups under proceedings of 10th ECM

Figure 4: Webpage of Startup Himachal Portal

Figure 5: Startup Helpdesk of Himachal Pradesh

Figure 6: Glimpses of Himalayan Startup Trek 2023

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- Himachal Pradesh (Know India) – https://knowindia.india.gov.in/

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