

Gujarat retains top spot in rankings

Leads All Other States In Startup Ecosystem Assessment

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Ahmedabad: Gujarat has for the second successive time emerged the best performer in State Startup India Ranking, according to rankings announced by the department for promotion of industry and internal trade (DPIIT) for 2019.

A proactive mechanism to identify regulatory issues from disruptive sectors; iCreate, one of the largest startup incubators in the country; and its 'Student Startup and Innovation' policy helped Gujarat top the list, according to the DPIIT.

The state achieved this feat for the first time in 2018.

The state is seen as a hub for the textile, pharma and more recently auto industries. With more than 4,000 startups in the state, Ahmedabad, which houses the most startup incubators, is seen as one of the best places in the country to launch startups. From FMCG, pharma, IT, solar to agriculture, the state has seen a

“The state government under the leadership of chief minister Vijay Rupani has focused on startups and ensured a sound ecosystem on the back of progressive policy making. According to recent surveys, Ahmedabad has emerged as a hub for startups with 43% of the new startups in the country being set up here. The creation of I-Create has added a new dimension to startups. The new industrial policy also focuses on startups with special focus on innovation and R&D



M K Das | ADDITIONAL CHIEF SECRETARY, INDUSTRIES AND MINES DEPARTMENT

“Since 2015, various startup policies and schemes started by various

departments under the state government have supported creation of pre-incubation and incubation system across Gujarat. Also, various prominent institutions in the state have contributed immensely in providing the right set of academic support to startups. In addition, research institutions, such as ISRO which forayed recently into nurturing and supporting startups, are also attraction points for potentials startups

Satya Ranjan Acharya | DIRECTOR, CRADLE EDII

burst of activities for new ventures in last few years.

CIIE.CO, set up by the Indi-



“Product, processes and people, are the three recommendations for startups, which I believe are the strongest pillars for any startup to grow and stand against all odds. Gujarat-based startups are the best performers for outstanding ideas and real-time solutions in manufacturing as well as the service sector. In addition, from early on Gujarat was able to capitalise and channelize its entrepreneurial prowess into building a supportive platform for startups. It has a robust business enablers network spanning corporates and academics

Nikita Tiwari | CO-FOUNDER, NEERX DEPARTMENT

an Institute of Management, Ahmedabad, in association with the state government and

“Gujarat has all ingredients to create an entrepreneurial ecosystem, be it government support, entrepreneurial spirit, best co-working spaces, market or internal funding. We are increasingly seeing examples here in Gujarat where industries have started sharing their problem statements with the startup ecosystem and with this soon we will see more and more real-time industry-accepted startup solutions in the market

Jaimin Shah | MD, DEV IT LTD, BOARD MEMBER, NASSCOM FOUNDATION



Centre, is one of the most prominent incubators in the country which has accelerated

over 500 startups across various sectors.

Startups are normally identified as a newly emerged, fast-growing business that aims to meet a marketplace need by developing a viable business model around innovative product, service, process or a platform. Gujarat was among the first few states that launched the State Startup Policy in 2015.

The notified Startup Policy under industries and mines department offers benefits and incentives across various areas of intervention. Additionally, the state has announced separate policies with sector-specific focuses and one specifically for student innovators.

The state government has also instituted a scheme for assistance of startups and innovations, allowing startups to leverage financial support of up to Rs 40 lakhs as seed support. More than 260 startups have benefited from this policy, the government said in a media statement.

The pivotal Student Startup and Innovation Policy (SSIP), spearheaded by the education department, is the only dedicated policy for supporting Student Innovation and Startups, the statement said.