**START-UP SUPPORT**

# Incubators in A'bad gear up for collaboration

- *Central govt plans to provide cross disciplinary mentoring*
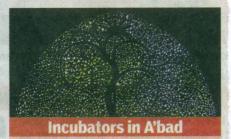- *DST earmarks ₹40 crore for the scheme*

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**Ahmedabad:** Start-up incubatees at any of the government approved incubators in and around Ahmedabad will be able to get mentoring and guidance from the rest of the incubators, according to a plan conceived by the central government. The move is to encourage incubators to coordinate with each other unlike how it is at the moment when they are working in silos. It so happens that incubators here often don't know what is happening at other incubators, said a top government official.

This is a part of upcoming 'Startup Corridor' scheme of National Science Technology and Entrepreneurship Development Board (NSTEDB), a nodal body for promotion of technology based start-ups under the Department of Science and Technology (DST), which will see the light of the day in the fiscal 2016-17. DST has earmarked Rs40 crore for the scheme.

"TBIs in Ahmedabad have their own niche areas. We are looking at interconnecting them. Something like a consortium so that start-ups can be co-incubated," HK Mittal, adviser and member secretary of National Science Technology and Entrepreneurship Development Board (NSTEDB) said on the sidelines of 'Whatnext 2016' an annual event held by the Gujarat government's Technology Business Incubator (TBI), International Centre for Technology and Entrepreneurship (iCreate).

## Incubators in A'bad

**Ahmedabad is** home to nine TBIs approved by department of science and technology , the highest for any city in the country.

**HK Mittal,** adviser and member secretary of National Science Technology and Entrepreneurship Development Board hinted the city would soon get two more TBIs, raising the number to 11. The present ones include:

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|---|---|
| 1. CIIE of IIM-A | 6. IIT-Gandhinagar |
| 2. NDBI of NID | 7. Gujarat Technological University (GTU) |
| 3. Comcubator of MICA | |
| 4. iCreate of Venture Studio of A'bad Uni | |
| 5. National Innovation Foundation (NIF) | 8. GLS |
| | 9. EDI |

## SCHEME MODEL

**As a part of** the scheme, an incubatee of CIIE can get design related mentoring from NDBI of NID or technology related inputs from IIT-G or GTU.

**Similarly if** someone wants guidance in management, they can get it from CIIE.

## ROPING IN THE INDUSTRY

**NSTEB has** also roped in Confederation of Indian Industries (CII) and Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industries (FICCI) to increasingly interact with the TBIs and start-ups.

**"Under the scheme,** start-ups will be paired with the members of CII and FICCI for mentoring," informed Mittal.

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