

# PROCEEDINGS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA

**Subject: Karnataka Startup Policy 2015-2020.**

## **Preamble:**

Karnataka through its policies, in IT and BT and other sectors has been contributing to the creation of a conducive eco-system for the growth of industries in the State. The existence of reputed R & D institutions, premier educational institutions and close collaboration between the academia, the Industry and the Government has made Bengaluru and Karnataka a thriving hub for Startups. As per the Global Startup Eco-system Ranking Report 2015, Bengaluru is one of the top twenty ecosystems in the world.

2. Recognising the need to promote innovation and to encourage the growth of Startups, the Government of Karnataka decided to formulate a Startup Policy. This policy is expected to stimulate the growth of technology-based Startups within the State; help in retaining the position that Bengaluru enjoys and leverage the same to build similar eco-systems in two-tier cities in the State. The contents of Startup policy have been discussed with industry bodies, associations and representative group of Startups to obtain feedback on the measures and strategies to promote and encourage Startups. On the basis of the inputs received, the draft Startup policy has been finalized, as in Annexure.

3. The Startup policy proposes strategies like Encouraging Entrepreneurship in education through assistance to professional and post graduate institutions to set up incubation centres as a part of New Age Incubation Network; fostering strong partnership between R and D institutions and industry by supporting establishment of technology business incubators in institutions of higher learning; providing early stage/idea to proof of concept funding to Startups; creation of incubation infrastructure through PPP; funding of Startups through Fund of Funds; channelizing Innovation for Social Impact; promoting Capacity Building through exposure visits and workshops, Providing State support in the form of incentives and concessions etc.

4. Hence the order.

**GOVERNMENT ORDER No. ITD 27 PRM 2015 dated 27.11.2015**

In the circumstances explained above, Government are pleased to announce the Karnataka Start-up Policy 2015-2020 as annexed to this Government Order.

2. Karnataka Start-up Policy 2015-2020 shall come into force with immediate effect and shall remain in force for a period of five years or till its revision. The policy shall be applicable to Startups in various sectors including IT, BT, manufacturing etc. The Implementation of the Policy in respect of IT, BT and ESDM sectors shall be the responsibility of Department of IT, BT and S&T and in respect of manufacturing sectors coming under the Department of Commerce and Industries, the implementation of the Policy shall be the responsibility of Department of Commerce and Industries.

3. A Startup Council shall be setup under the chairmanship of the Chief Minister with the Ministers for Commerce and Industries and IT, BT and S & T and senior officers of the Government and 10 Industry experts as members to review the implementation of the Startup policy. Equal representation shall be given to various domains like ICT, Animation and Gaming, Agri-Biotechnology, Health, BFSI, ESDM and other manufacturing. The Council shall meet atleast once a year. Separate orders will be issued in this regard by the Department of IT, BT and S & T.

4. A Startup Policy Monitoring and Review Committee shall be setup under the chairmanship of Chief Secretary with Principal Secretary, IT, BT and S & T, Commissioner for Industrial Development and Director of Industries and Commerce, Managing Directors of KSIIDC, VTPC, Director- IT and BT and two-three outside experts as members with the Managing Director, KBITS as the convenor.

5. Detailed operational guidelines shall be put in place for administering all the programs under this Policy and the same shall be reviewed annually.

6. To facilitate hand-holding of new ventures, mostly started by people with little prior knowledge of corporate affairs, a 'Startup Cell' shall be established in KBITS to act as a one stop shop that enables easy flow of information and assistance to the needy Startups. The Cell shall act as a single connect with Government Departments.

7. The Department of Commerce and Industries shall setup a separate Startup Cell in respect of the manufacturing sectors coming under its purview.

8. This order issues with the concurrence of finance department vide their U.O Note No: FD 319 Exp-2/2015 dated 15.10.2015

By order and in the name of the  
Governor of Karnataka



(V. Manjula)

Principal Secretary to Government  
Department of IT, BT and S & T

TO,

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4. Director, Information Technology & Biotechnology
5. Managing Director, Karnataka Udyog Mitra
6. Managing Director, Karnataka Biotechnology Information Technology Services, BMTC Building Shantinagar, Bangalore
7. PS to Chief Secretary/ Additional Chief Secretary,
8. The Private Secretary to CS (Cabinet), Department of Cabinet Affaris, (Ref: C,618/2015).
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