

PARLIAMENT QUESTION: VIGYAN DHARA SCHEME

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The VigyanDhara scheme came into force with effect from 16.01.2025 after the merger of three umbrella schemes namely (1) Science and Technology Institutional and Human Capacity Building, (2) Research and Development and (3) Innovation, Technology Development and Deployment of the Department of Science and Technology (DST). The state-wise number of beneficiaries under the VigyanDhara scheme, since its inception, are placed at Annexure-I.

Under VigyanDhara NIDHI-SEED support has been provided to 36 Technology Business Incubators (TBIs) across the country. These TBIs further provided Seed funds to 72 Startups. These Startups were selected through Seed Support Management Committee (SSMC) of the respective TBIs using following broad criteria:

- Problem statement & proposed solutions
- Market opportunity
- Feasibility and novelty
- Potential impact
- Competition

The VigyanDhara scheme is a central sector scheme and is being implemented at pan India level. Total funds allocated and utilized under VigyanDhara, since its inception, are as follows:

Year	Allocation (Rs. in crore)	Utilized (Rs. in crore)
2024-25	330.75	271.98
2025-26	1425	911.59 (as on 31.07.2025)
Total	1755.75	1183.57

Annexure-I

State-wise number of beneficiaries under Vigyan Dhara scheme

Sl. No.	Name of States/UTs	No. of beneficiaries
	Andhra Pradesh	3816
	Arunachal Pradesh	30
	Assam	491
	Bihar	2517
	Chhattisgarh	3812
	Goa	112
	Gujarat	1561
	Haryana	1138
	Himachal Pradesh	753

	Jharkhand	1968
	Karnataka	6676
	Kerala	1278
	Madhya Pradesh	3963
	Maharashtra	3303
	Manipur	262
	Meghalaya	90
	Mizoram	28
	Nagaland	18
	Orissa	3749
	Punjab	687
	Rajasthan	12424
	Sikkim	36
	Tamil Nadu	1707
	Telangana	3679
	Tripura	81
	Uttarakhand	2661
	Uttar Pradesh	13195
	West Bengal	1570
	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	24
	Chandigarh	283
	Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu	20
	Jammu and Kashmir	1183
	Delhi	1155
	Ladakh	21
	Lakshadweep	5
	Pondicherry	83

This information was given by Dr. Jitendra Singh, Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science and Technology, Earth Sciences, MoS PMO, MoS Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions, Department of Atomic Energy and Department of Space, in a written reply in the Rajya Sabha today.

NKR/PSM

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