

Executive Summary

India is growing into a global innovation hub, along with launching incubators in India is a great initiative by **National Science and Technology Entrepreneurship Development Board (NSTEDB), Department of Science & Technology, Govt. of India** to help innovative Startups and also companies from early to mid-stage entrepreneurial development stage to rapidly transfer their ideas into competitive businesses by giving them mentorship, funding, resources, knowledge, and access to business networks.

This project titled “**A 360° Comprehensive Assessment of Technology Business Incubators (TBIs) and Accelerators primarily in the area of Life Sciences in India**” was successfully implemented by **BIORx Venture Advisors Private Limited** sponsored by **NSTMIS, DST** which was aimed to inclusively assess such incubators which are chiefly helping Life Science industries in India. For achieving the same, questionnaire was developed which broadly covers the nature of incubators, their profile and along with details relating to the investment strategies, break-up of funds, and financial projections of their business. Further, based on the data collected from the targeted respondents the analysis was carried out and key findings are summarized below.

This research report has shown clearly after 2000, the growth of establishment was observed as ecosystem for Startups took the lead and majority of them were institutional incubators coming from non-profit category. Mainly, government was involved in funding where research commercialization and entrepreneurs development were the most important objectives for standalone as well as institutional incubators but in a reverse manner covering northern and southern parts of the country.

Moreover, the companies were taking long time to graduate from the incubators and none of the incubators in our sample set up any equity/debt fund currently where 90% of incubators did not hold international exposure. However some were in a process of doing so. For example: c-camp. However, SIDBI Kanpur was the only incubator that was found not promoting themselves through any of the marketing medium. This was may be because of their high credentials.

Targeted population covered in the study aspired to become one of the top three incubators in the country by providing quality support system in order to translate knowledge and innovation into successful enterprises. Attaining self-sufficiency in operations and up gradation to an accelerator was found to be a vision many looked forward to. Diversifying in other sectors beyond life-sciences and healthcare was also being explored by some in the sample.

From one of our findings, it was observed that the people generally look forward to avail a service tax exemption only which is another area of concern that needs to be addressed by the government. It can either via a plan which can provide more fiscal benefits to promote such establishments, like in US and other developed countries, or the incubators should be made aware of all the benefits that they could currently avail. In this regards, within a similar timeframe, could propel the Startup economy and mid-size industries in India forward.

Considering the challenges faced by the incubator community, they had some expectations from the Government. In addition to making basic infrastructure available, the Government both at the State and Central level was expected to provide some venture capital funds for the start-up companies. It was observed that greater number of incubates approach those incubators where facilities in addition to the monetary support from Government is higher.