

GENESIS — Gen-Next Support for Innovative Startups

₹490 Crore MeitY Initiative for Tier-II/III Tech Startups

A national MeitY initiative to discover, grow, and nurture 1,600 tech startups over 5 years, targeting founders and innovators in Tier-II and Tier-III cities.

1 Eligibility Criteria

FOR FOUNDERS

Indian citizen, at least 18 years old. First-generation entrepreneur, full-time committed. UG/PG student or founder/co-founder of an early-stage startup.

FOR STARTUPS

Registered in a Tier-II/III Indian city; Pvt Ltd/LLP with ≥51% Indian ownership. Valid DPIIT Certificate; focused on Deep-tech, AI/ML, Cybersecurity, IoT, Fintech, etc. External funding ≤₹10 lakh (EiR/early-stage); not a prior TIDE 2.0/SAMRIDH beneficiary.

2 Key Benefits

Entrepreneur in Residence (EiR)

Grant up to ₹10 Lakh to validate ideas and build prototypes.

Matching Investment

Equity-based matching grants up to ₹50 Lakh for market-ready startups.

Pilot Funding Program

Up to ₹40 Lakh for pilots with corporate/PSU/unicorn work orders.

Incubation & Acceleration

Physical incubation, testing facilities, expert guidance, global market access.

3 Documents Required

Pitch Deck: Detailed business proposal showing idea, model & market impact

Personal/Company Docs: Citizenship & DOB proof, student ID (if applicable); Incorporation & DPIIT certificates

Financials: Bank statements, cap table (for 51% Indian ownership), prior funding details

Program-Specific: Work/purchase orders (Pilot) or investor commitment letters (Matching Fund)

4 Validity

5 Years

SCHEME DURATION

Applying startups generally must be ≤1–2 years old (early-stage/EiR tracks). Support runs for designated validation, acceleration (e.g. 6 months), and incubation periods.