

# Info Capsule

## **MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY LAUNCHES “THE START-UP INDIA HUB”<sup>1</sup>**

The Ministry of Commerce and Industry, **on June 19, 2017**, launched the **Start-up India Virtual Hub, an online platform** for all stakeholders of the entrepreneurial ecosystem in India to discover, connect and engage with each other.

The portal will host start-ups, investors, funds, mentors, academia, incubators, accelerators, corporates, Government bodies and more.

The Hub attempts to solve the problem of information asymmetry and lack of access to knowledge, tools and experts, especially in the nascent ecosystems across Tier II and III towns.

The Virtual Hub is a dynamic and interactive platform that will facilitate learning and development, networking, mentorship, funding, etc. for start-ups.

Start-up India Hub has partnered with various organizations to on-board entrepreneurs and investors, as well as build knowledge modules.

To ensure accessibility across various platforms, dedicated Apps are also available on both Android and iOS.

The Hub will act as a nodal platform and will enable users to connect with ecosystem stakeholders, access free learning resources, tools and templates on legal, HR, accounting and regulatory issues and discussion forums.

The Hub has also aggregated over 50 relevant Government schemes/programs.

The platform has been enabled to build smart intelligence along with Chat bots to automatically collate, update information and respond to queries so as to provide a better user experience.

## **CABINET SECRETARY REVIEWS PREPAREDNESS FOR SMOOTH ROLL-OUT OF GST WITH EFFECT FROM JULY 1, 2017; ASKS SECRETARIES OF DIFFERENT DEPARTMENTS AND CMDS OF CPSUS TO TAKE FULL RESPONSIBILITY OF THEIR RESPECTIVE STAKE-HOLDERS AND ENSURE THE SUCCESSFUL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GST<sup>2</sup>**

The Cabinet Secretary Shri P.K. Sinha today took a detailed review of the preparedness for the roll-out of Goods and Services Tax (GST) from July 1, 2017.

In a Review Meeting attended by the Secretaries of 30 Ministries/Departments of the Central Government connected with GST, and video conferencing with CMDs/CEOs of about 167 Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs) under their administrative control, the Cabinet Secretary

<sup>1</sup> Available at: <http://startupindia.gov.in/indiaHubLaunch.php>

<sup>2</sup> Available at: <http://pib.nic.in/newsite/erelease.aspx>

asked all those involved to take full responsibility of their respective stake-holders, and ensure the successful implementation of the GST.

The Cabinet Secretary Shri Sinha expressed his satisfaction over the preparedness of different Ministries and CPSUs for the roll-out of GST w.e.f. July 1 2017. However, he asked them that they should leave no stone unturned for its effective and smooth implementation by educating and involving all the stakeholders concerned.

The focus of the Review Meeting was on the progress made by the different Ministries and CPSUs in getting GST-Ready and status of preparation of their IT system in order to align with GST Network system. Other aspects included the arrangements made by the different Departments for opening the GST Facilitation Cell and a Call Center to guide their respective client groups and vendors. The Cabinet Secretary also asked the Secretaries to organize training programmes and workshops for their officers and stakeholders in order to update and upgrade their information and skills about GST structure and processes. He said that the Department of Revenue, Government of India has lot of experts and resource persons to help them in this regard. Shri Sinha also asked the Secretaries of different Departments/Ministries and CMDs of CPSUs to organize outreach meetings and launch publicity campaigns for explaining the provisions of New GST related Laws and Rules to their respective stake-holders, and also to update them about other GST related issues.

*Team ICSI*

*Disclaimer : The information in the Info Capsules is developed according to the information available in public domain and for academic purposes only. Any person wishing to act on the basis of this document should do so only after cross checking with the original source.*