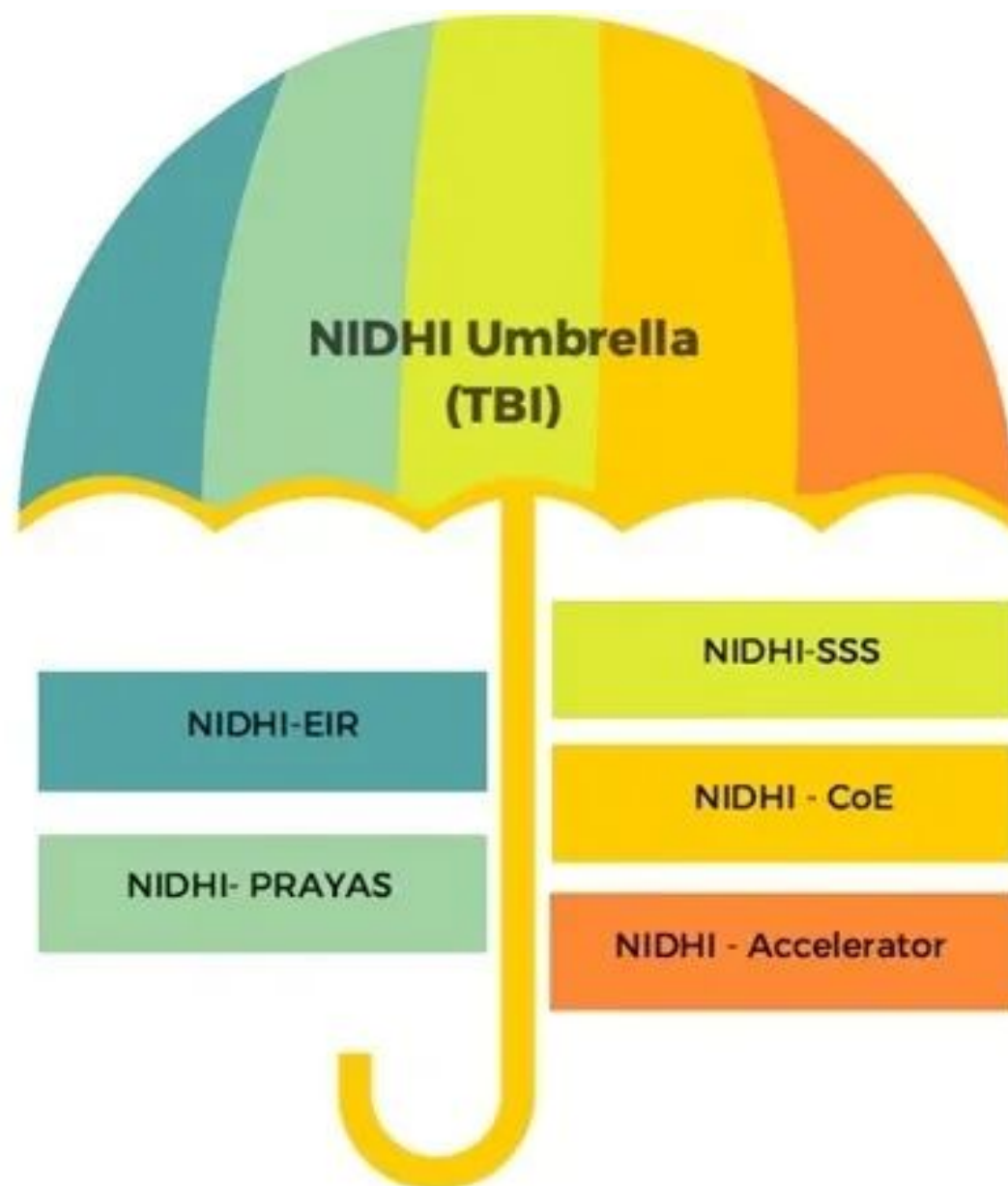


NIDHI Program

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About NIDHI Programme:

- **The National Initiative for Developing and Harnessing innovations** (NIDHI) program was launched in 2016.
- It is an umbrella programme conceived and developed by the Innovation & Entrepreneurship division, Department of Science & Technology.
- **Aim:** To **nurture start-ups** through scouting, supporting and scaling innovations.

- **Key stakeholders:** Various departments and ministries of the central government, state governments, academic and R & D institutions, mentors, financial institutions, angel investors, venture capitalists and private sectors.
- **Funding:** It is funded by the National Science & Technology Entrepreneurship Development Board (NSTEDB).
- **Key Components of the Program**
 - The **NIDHI- PRAYAS** (Promoting and Accelerating Young and Aspiring Innovators and Startups) program at **Proof-of-Concept level** provides mentoring and financial support to innovator for converting their ideas into prototypes.
 - **NIDHI Entrepreneurs-In-Residence** (EIR) Program **provides fellowships** to the students opting for entrepreneurship.
 - The **NIDHI Seed Support Program** provisions availability of early-stage seed support funding to startups and the NIDHI Accelerator program speeds up the investment readiness of the startups.
 - The NIDHI program has been helpful in creating state-of-the art infrastructure for incubating startups in technology sectors through Technology Business Incubators (TBIs) and Centres of Excellence (CoE).
 - **NIDHI Accelerator:** An accelerator is typically a **3-6 months fast track structured** program helping ideas get accelerated to the next orbit.

What are i-Technology Business Incubators (i-TBIs)?

- i-TBIs (Inclusive TBI) is a **three years duration initiative** Supported by DST for **educational institutions** who are likely to foster innovation and entrepreneurship culture among the students, faculties, entrepreneurs, and nearby communities.

Q1: What is Startup India Initiative?

It is a flagship initiative of the Government of India intended to catalyse start-up culture with the objective of supporting entrepreneurs, building a robust startup ecosystem and transforming India into a country of job creators instead of job seekers.

Source: [Women-led StartUps to place India in global arena, says Jitendra Singh](#)

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/nidhi-program/>

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