

- (xi) To bring about reforms in the functioning of three Services with the aim to augment combat capabilities of the Armed Forces by reducing wasteful expenditure.

(b) The mandate of the Department of Military Affairs *inter-alia* includes "Facilitation of restructuring of Military Commands for optimal utilisation of resources by bringing about jointness in operations, including through establishment of joint/theatre commands".

Defence India Start-up Challenge

17. DR. L. HANUMANTHAI AH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of start-ups which have been funded under the "Defence India Start-up Challenge" for achieving the target of 50 tangible innovations for the advancement of the Defence Sector; and

(b) the details of such start-ups along with the amount spent on them respectively?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) 44 iDEX winners have been identified for 14 problem statements and grants have been released to 24 of them.

(b) Grants of Rs 2.98 crores have so far been released to following 24 iDEX winners:—

Sl. No.	Company
1.	Tatvabodh Technology Pvt. Ltd.
2.	Logic Fruit Technologies Pvt Ltd
3.	North Street Cooling Towers Pvt Ltd
4.	Tonbo Imaging India Private Limited
5.	Dimension NXG Private Limited
6.	Kinetix Engineering Solutions Limited
7.	Nyokas Technologies Private Limited

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8. Radome Technologies and Services Pvt Ltd
 9. Saif Automations Services LLP
 10. Astrome Technologies Private Limited.
 11. MMRFIC Technology Private Limited
 12. Lekha Wireless Solutions Pvt Ltd
 13. Zmotion Autonomous Pvt Ltd
 14. Gurutvaa Systems Private Limited
 15. Isenses Incorporation Private Limited
 16. OSSUS Biorenewables Pvt Ltd.
 17. HW Design Lab Pvt Ltd
 18. Chipspirit Technologies Pvt Ltd
 19. Big Bang Boom Solutions Private Limited
 20. Nopo Nanotech Pvt Ltd
 21. BigCat Wireless Pvt Ltd
 22. Big Bang Boom Solutions Private Limited (for separate challenge)
 23. Optimized Electrotech Pvt Ltd
 24. DV2JS Innovation
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Entry of girls in NDA and Sainik schools

†18. SHRIMATI KANTA KARDAM: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether girls are not allowed to participate in the entrance exam for National Defence Academy (NDA);

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government has received any proposal to open Sainik schools especially for girls;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.