



PROCEEDINGS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA

Subject: State definition for “**Women Entrepreneurship**”- reg.

Read: 01. Government order No: ITD 27 PRM 2015 dated:27.11.2015.
02. Government order No: ITD 02 PRM 2019 dated:09.07.2019
03. Letter No: KITS/IT/SUPR/03/2021/109 Dt: 01.06.2021 from MD,
KITS.

PREAMBLE:-

Recognizing the need to promote innovation and to encourage the growth of Startups, the Government of Karnataka announced Karnataka Startup Policy, 2015-2020 vide Government order dated:27.11.2015 read at (1) above, with the vision to create a world-class Startup Ecosystem in the State through strategic investment and policy intervention leveraging the robust innovation climate in the state. Further, certain amendments to the policy have been made to cover all sectors of the economy and to provide for a much wider definition of Startups in order to give a thrust and big boost to innovation in all sectors of the economy, vide Government order dated: 09.07.2019 read at (2) above.

02. The State of Karnataka is home to a large number of Startups, Incubators, Accelerators, R&D centres/ Global Capability Centres(GCCs), Academic Institutions, Corporates, MNCs, Tech savvy workforce and talent complimenting each other in various ways and thereby leveraging the ecosystem to accelerate innovation. Department of Electronics, IT and Bt, being the Nodal Department, has been supporting innovative Startups and is constantly encouraging and promoting entrepreneurship in the State. The increasing presence of women as entrepreneurs has led to a transition in the demographic attributes of business and economic growth of the country. Women led business enterprises are also generating more employment opportunities in the country. Women entrepreneurship can lead to a tremendous social change, making women financially empowered and independent. There is a need to promote a section of Startups led by women entrepreneurs and who should benefit from the State’s Startup Policy, its schemes and initiatives.

03. The Managing Director, Karnataka Innovation and Technology Society (KITS) in the proposal read at (3) above has requested for a Government order defining “**Women Entrepreneurship**”, as follows:-

“Women Entrepreneurship - Any entity having women as founder or co-founder (individual or group of women) with minimum 51% stake in the entity and qualifying the definition of a Startup as per the prevailing Karnataka Startup Policy”.

This definition shall be applied for giving preference in seed Funding, Venture Funding and Public Procurement Policy for Startups.

However, Startups with women founder/co-founder having less than 51% stake and giving at least 51% employment opportunities to women in the Startup entity, shall be considered for availing other benefits such as government sponsored incubation support, acceleration support, capacity development workshops, mentorship and so on.

04. The proposal of MD, KITS has been examined. Hence the order.

Government Order No: ITBT 09 PRM 2021,
Bengaluru, dated: 18.06.2021.

In the circumstances explained in the preamble, Government approval is hereby given to define “**Women Entrepreneurship**” as follows:-

“Women Entrepreneurship - Any entity having women as founder or co-founder (individual or group of women) with minimum 51% stake in the entity and qualifying the definition of a Startup as per the prevailing Karnataka Startup Policy”.

02. This definition shall be applied for giving preference in seed Funding, Venture Funding and Public Procurement Policy for Startups.

03. However, Startups with women founder/co-founder having less than 51% stake and giving at least 51% employment opportunities to women in the Startup entity, shall be considered for availing other benefits such as government sponsored incubation support, acceleration support, capacity development workshops, mentorship etc.

By Order and in the name of
Governor of Karnataka

Shalini K Hegde
(Shalini K Hegde) 18/06/2021

Under Secretary to Government,
Department of Electronics, Information Technology,
Biotechnology and Science & Technology.

To:

- 1) The Accountant General (A&E), Karnataka, Bengaluru.
- 2) All Additional Chief Secretaries/Principal Secretaries/Secretaries to the Government.
- 3) The Director, DeitY & Bt, Shantinagar, Bengaluru.
- 4) The Managing Director, KITS, Shantinagar, Bengaluru.
- 5) The Managing Director, KEONICS, Shantinagar, Bengaluru.
- 6) The PS to Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister and Minister for Electronics, IT, Bt and S&T.
- 7) The PS to Addl. Chief Secretary to Government, Department of Electronics, IT, Bt and S&T.
- 8) Section Guard File / Spare Copies.