



# TURBOCHARGING THE DELHI-NCR START-UP ECOSYSTEM

10<sup>th</sup> September 2019



# ABOUT THE AUTHORS



TiE is a global not-for-profit organization born in Silicon Valley in 1992. It is spread across a vast network of 61 Chapters in 14 countries with a single minded mission of fostering entrepreneurship through mentoring, networking, education, incubation and funding.

The Delhi-NCR chapter of TiE, one of the biggest and most vibrant of the TiE chapters, has unique significance. It seeks to engage not only with entrepreneurs but also with policy makers in order to foster the spirit of entrepreneurship. It seeks to become the bridge that would connect Indian government and industry with successful Indian entrepreneurs across the world, many of whom are regarded as thought leaders.

### zinnov

Founded in 2002, Zinnov is a leading global management and strategy consulting firm, with core expertise in Product Engineering, Digital Transformation, Innovation, and Outsourcing Advisory. Over the past 17 years, Zinnov has successfully consulted with over 250+ Fortune 500 customers to develop actionable insights that help them in their transformation journeys. Zinnov is committed to empowering leading technology companies drive meaningful business outcomes, leveraging a combination of consulting and platforms to deliver value.

### Forward



RAJAN ANANDAN President TiE Delhi-NCR

"Delhi-NCR has a vibrant start-up ecosystem. With over 7000 start-ups what is most interesting is the broad-based nature of start-ups in NCR. The region has enormous potential and can become one of the top start-up and innovation capitals in the world over the next 5 years. Turbocharging the Delhi-NCR ecosystem will require concerted focus on several key areas. This research sheds significant light on what needs to be done"

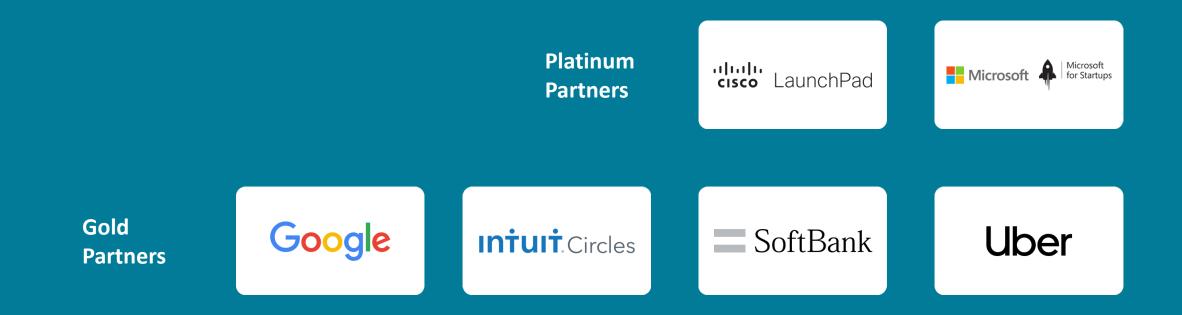


PARI NATARAJAN CEO Zinnov

"Delhi-NCR has the potential to become the go-to start-up destination in the world. Given proximity access to large consumer market across income segments, to the agrarian belt with its rural population and, the largest and underserviced MSME customer base in the country – Delhi NCR has the potential to build global leadership across multiple sectors. This report provides insights on the opportunity at hand and the proactive actions needed to realize it."

### **Our Partners**

This report is a testament of the collaborative nature of the Indian start-up ecosystem and reflective of the strong commitment of our partners – without whose support this report would not have been made possible



### **Message from Our Partners**



SRUTHI KANNAN Program Head Cisco LaunchPad

"Today, Indian tech startups are adopting unique approaches to solving a wide range of problems at scale; disrupting the markets locally as well as globally. Powered by great infrastructure, talent, and a supportive ecosystem, the Delhi-NCR region proves to be a fertile ground for startups. We are truly excited about extending the boundaries of digitization along with start-ups."



LATHIKA PAI Country Head, Middle East & South Asia Microsoft for Start-ups

"TiE's report clearly shows that Delhi-NCR has the highest concentration of Unicorn start-ups in the nation. However, to continue this #1 Unicorn ranking, the Delhi-NCR ecosystem must refocus and reinvest in growing the early stage segment – making funding and talent a top priority. At a macro level there is still a need to focus on environment, infrastructure and policy to support entrepreneurs. Microsoft for Start-ups will invest in programs focused on scaling and enabling Seed to Series A funded start-ups in the Delhi-NCR region."

### **Message from Our Partners**





PAROMA ROY CHOWDHURY Director, Asia Communications & Public Affairs SoftBank Group International

"Delhi being the national capital has always been the nucleus of government-enabled initiatives coupled with the innate culture of entrepreneurial fervour. With a rich history of innovation, Delhi-NCR has cemented its place in leading changes that has impacted the lives of many Indians. It is also the home to some of the biggest Indian start-ups including Paytm, Snapdeal, Zomato and many more, which exemplifies its potential in every aspect, and why it is on its way to truly become the start-up capital of India." "Supporting a worthwhile research project is always good for the ecosystem as it generates data that helps all stakeholders. Delhi-NCR has the highest number of active start-ups in the country as well as most Unicorns today and it has full potential of becoming another innovation hub like Bangalore. The more such hubs we have in the country, the more vibrant a Start-up ecosystem will be. Hopefully this exercise will unlock more opportunities and galvanize the ecosystem even further."



PRADEEP PARAMESWARAN President Uber India & South Asia

"Ten years ago, Uber was born out of a watershed moment in technology. It was the spirit of entrepreneurship and innovation that created a new standard of consumer experience. It's great to see so many new-age enterprises challenge the status quo with ambitious goals to solve real-world issues. Our aim will always be to facilitate and encourage start-up creation for the betterment of society. With entrepreneurship seeping into the economic and social fabric of India, Delhi-NCR is on track to become India's start-up capital and eventually a global hub for transformation."

# **Executive Summary**



Delhi-NCR has a thriving ecosystem with over **7000 start-ups**, 10 Unicorns and a cumulative valuation of **~\$50 Bn** 

However, unlocking the true potential of the Delhi-NCR start-up ecosystem will require focusing on several core areas

3

2

We recommend proactive measures across three dimensions: a) Strengthen Core

- Build World Class affordable start-up hubs
- Significantly increase the Seed & Early stage investment
- Improve quality of incubators and accelerators
- Develop tech and entrepreneurial talent

b) Prioritize 10 sectors

c) Launch sector specific initiatives

4

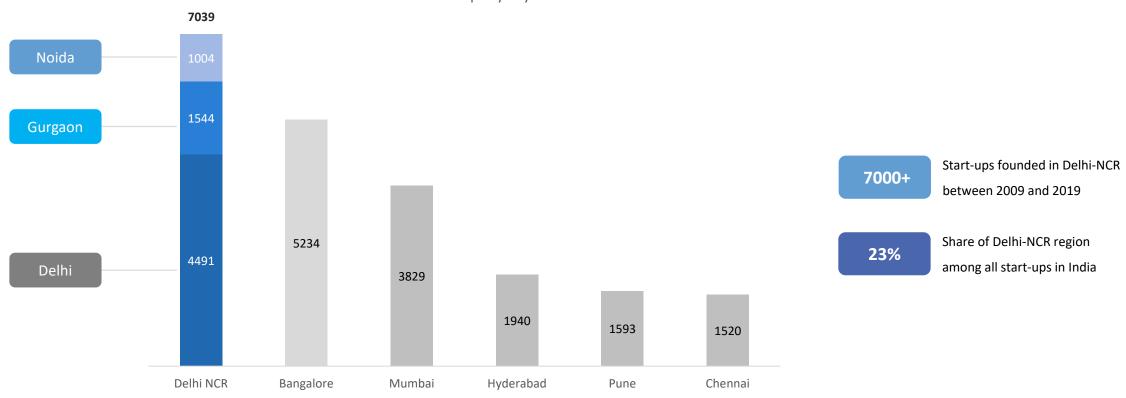
With appropriate interventions, Delhi-NCR will become one of the Top 5 Global Start-up hub with **12000 start-ups, 30 Unicorns** and cumulative valuation of ~\$150 Bn by 2025



# Delhi-NCR has a thriving start-up

ecosystem

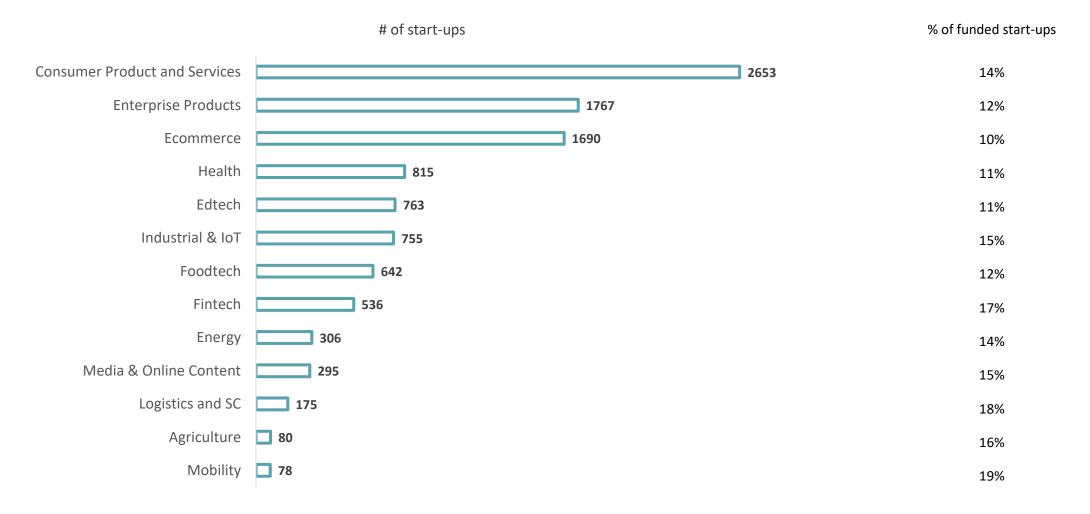
# Delhi-NCR has the largest number of active start-ups in India



# of start-ups by city



# With a healthy mix across different sectors





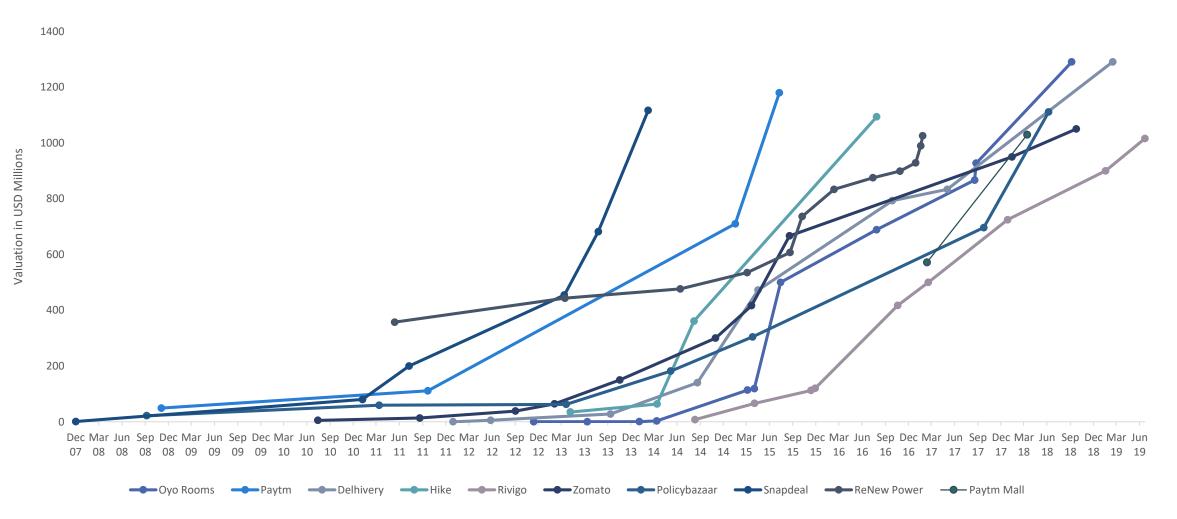
# Delhi-NCR also has the most number of Unicorns

# Unicorns by City





# "Time to Unicorn" in Delhi-NCR is now 5-6 years





# Delhi-NCR ecosystem has the highest cumulative private market valuation in India



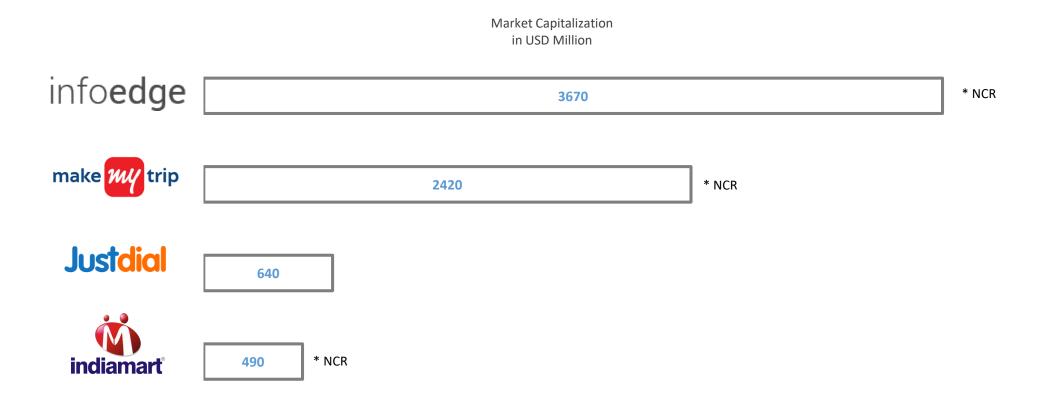
<sup>a</sup> Delhi-NCR contributes **>50%** of cumulative valuation of Indian start-up ecosystem



5 of top 10 most valued start-ups in India are based in Delhi-NCR



# Delhi-NCR also has 3 of the 4 most Valuable listed Internet companies







# However, there are several core areas to address

# The pace of new start-ups being founded has slowed over the past two years – across India and also in Delhi-NCR

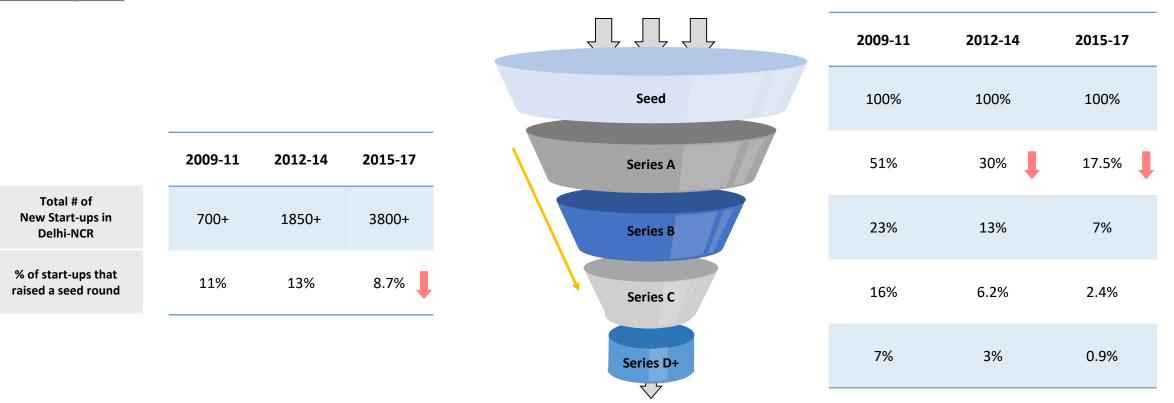
India Delhi NCR H1 2019

# of start-ups founded, by year



# Access to funding across all stages needs to be improved

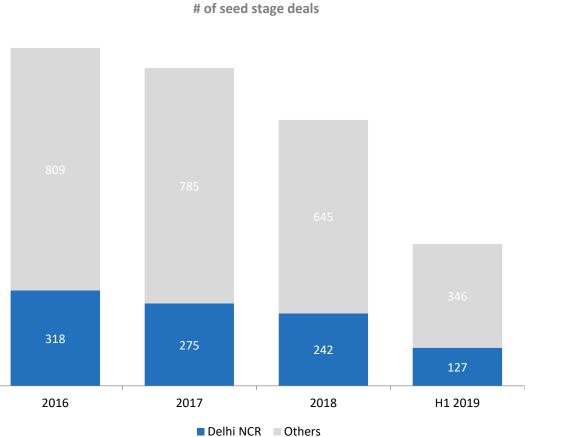
<u>Cohort analysis for start-ups in Delhi-NCR founded between three</u> distinct time periods

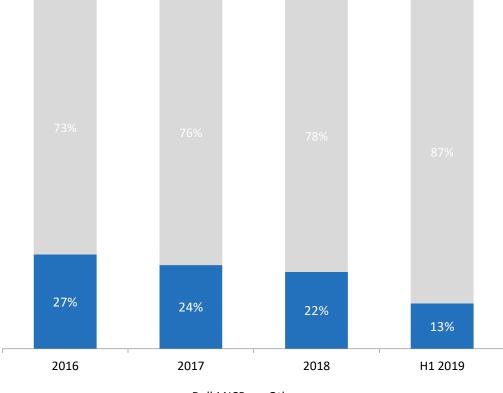


Note: reflects percentage of all seed-funded start-ups that graduate to next funding stage



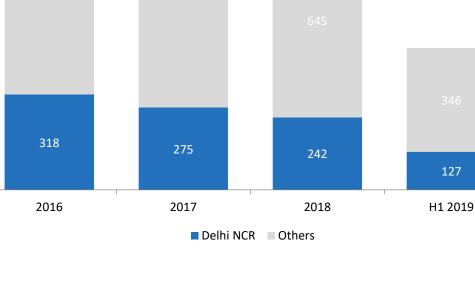
# Seed and Early stage funding needs to be significantly increased





Delhi NCR Others

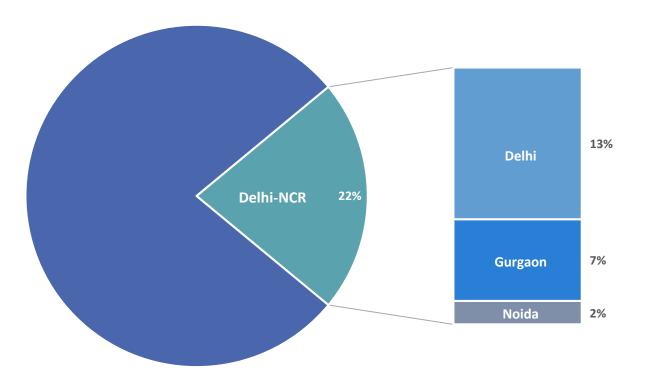




% share of early stage funding amount

# Base of Active Angel investors in Delhi-NCR should be increased

% share of active Angel Investors in India



# Focused effort is required to increase structured programs and corporate participation



With 23% of all start-ups present in the region there is a headroom for more incubators and accelerators

Absence of high-quality programs at key lifecycle stages limits the extent to which entrepreneur can leverage local ecosystem

b

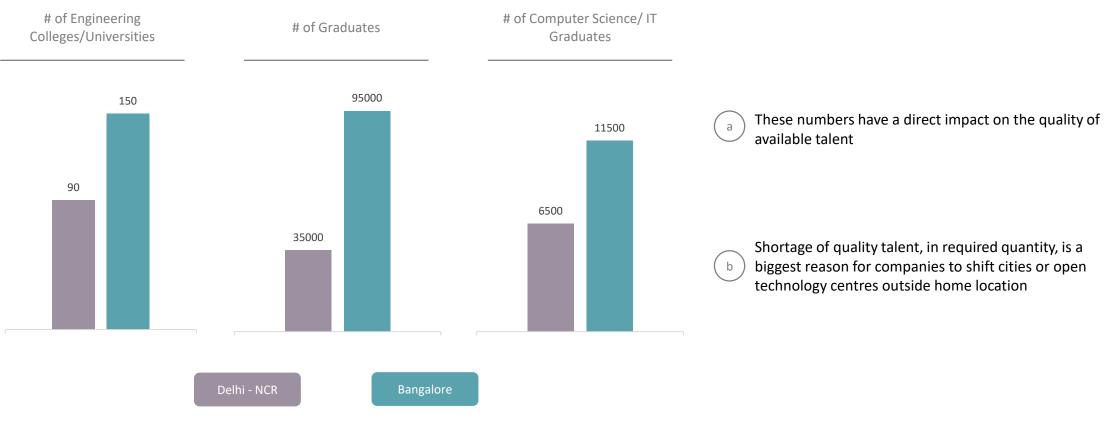
**Low corporate participation** in local ecosystems limits access, reduces opportunities and awareness to new technology

С



а

## Outcome driven programs are required to boost tech talent in Delhi-NCR



#### Fresh talent pool available each year from local ecosystem



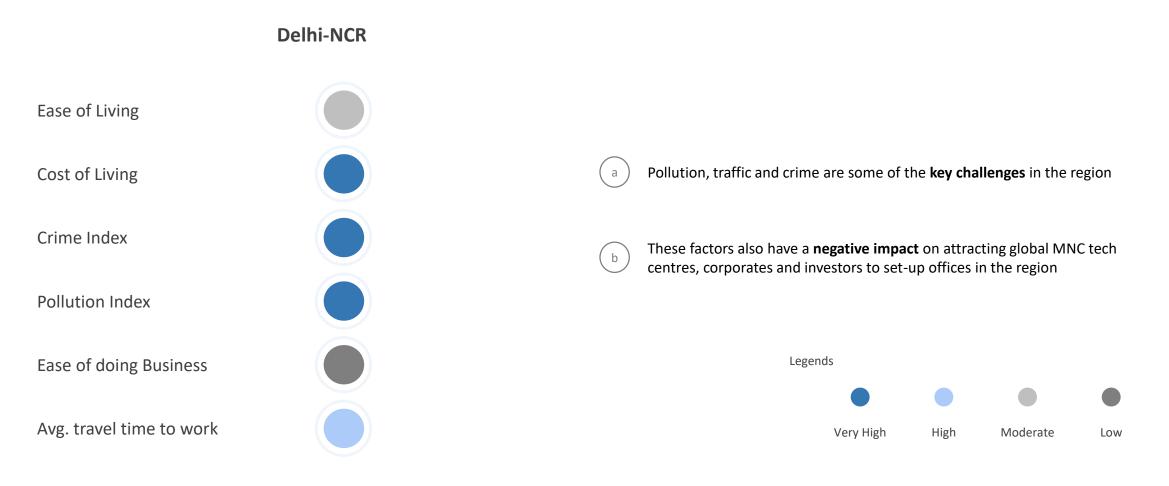
# **Critical need to increase affordable Co-working spaces**



Note: CBD stands for Central Business District



# Key city dynamics need to be improved on multiple fronts





## Competition among states, to attract & nurture start-ups, is increasing

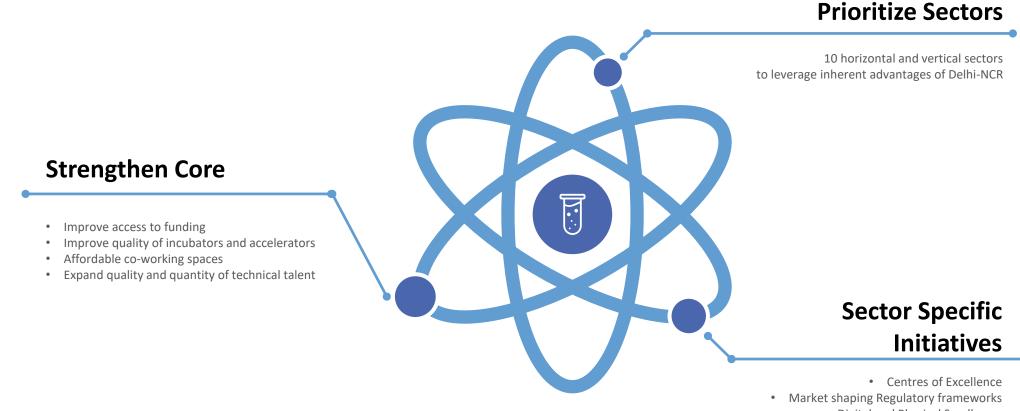






Recommended initiatives to turbocharge the Delhi-NCR ecosystem

### We recommend proactive measures across three dimensions

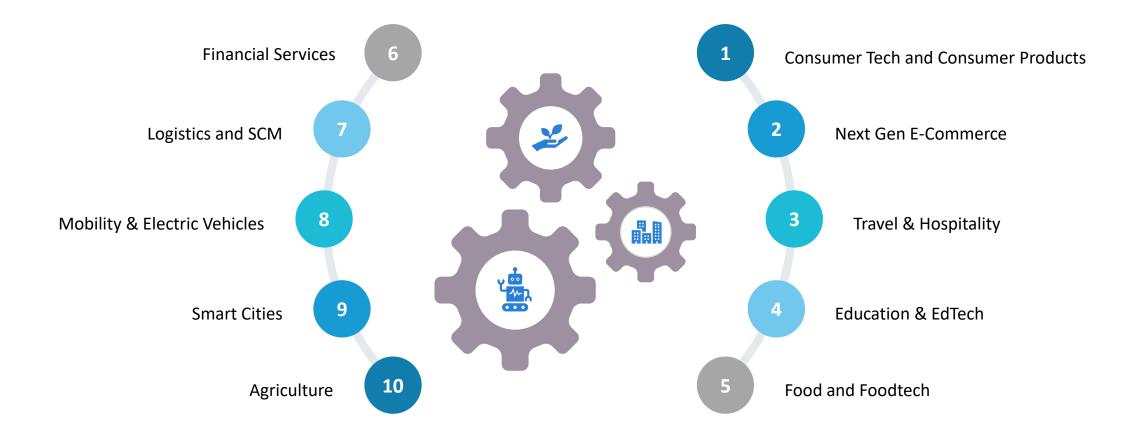


Digital and Physical Sandboxes



Priority Sectors for Delhi-NCR

# **Priority sectors for Delhi-NCR to build global leadership**





# (1/5)

#### **Consumer Tech and Consumer Products**

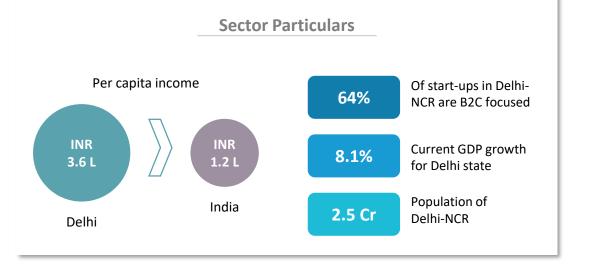
Includes all type of consumer internet start-ups and new consumer product start-ups.

NCR given its large population with highest GDP per Capita and highly connected internet user base provides an exciting launchpad for start-ups.

#### **Next Gen E-Commerce**

First Gen E-commerce based on western E-commerce models, focused on 1<sup>st</sup> 100 million internet users.

Next Gen E-commerce based on video, social commerce and vernacular will focus on next 200 million internet users.





**Sector Particulars** 



# (2/5)

#### **Travel and Hospitality**

Delhi-NCR is home to top 3 online travel companies and the leading hospitality start-up.

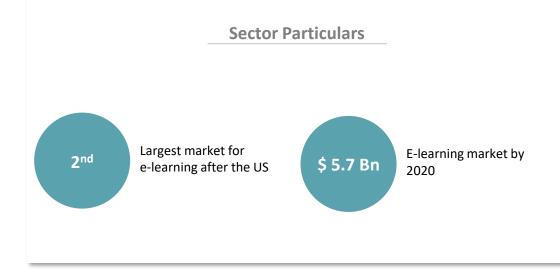
With growing Per Capita Income, rising domestic and international travel, NCR can be the house for a large no. of Travel & Hospitality start-ups.



India's education sector provides large market opportunity with current worth of \$92 billion.

With 500 million internet users and consumers willing to pay online, EduTech is now at the tipping point.







# (3/5)

#### Food and Foodtech

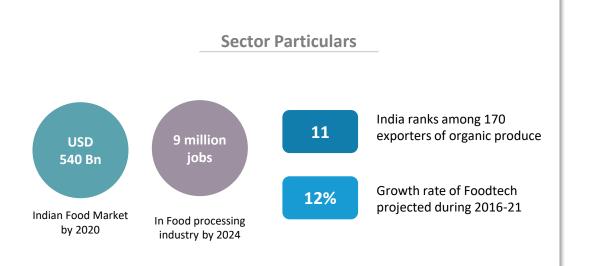
Delhi-NCR is home to largest online food start-up and many large food & food related companies.

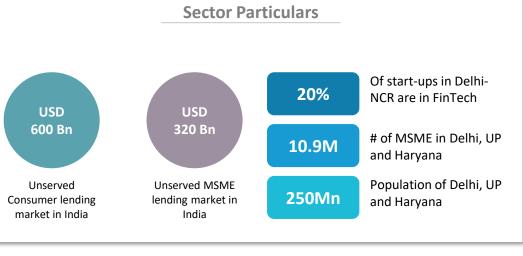
Digitisation provides an opportunity to create cloud kitchen brands and new Direct to Consumer (DTC) brands from NCR.



India has massive unserved financial needs. 500 Mn internet users combined with India Stack (especially UPI) creates an opportunity to build very large fintech companies.

Delhi-NCR has the maximum no. of FinTech start-ups in country with the largest FinTech start-up in India.







# (4/5)

### **Logistics & SCM**

Logistics and SCM sector is currently at an inflection point and is expected to grow rapidly.

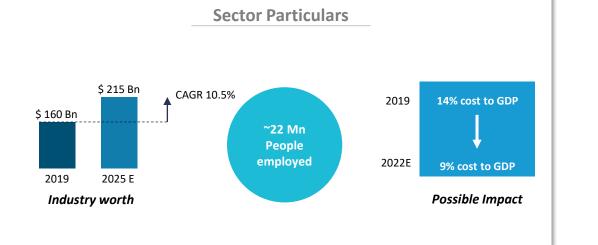
Delhi-NCR is home to two largest Logistics start-ups.

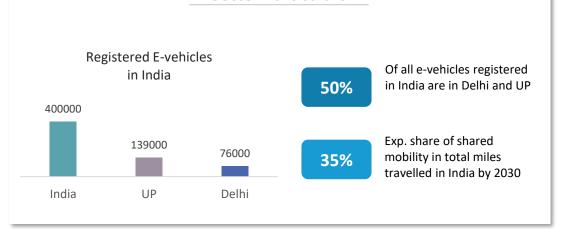


India electric vehicles market is expected to reach \$2 billion by 2023 and is expected to grow at a rapid pace.

The Delhi Government has set the target of achieving 25% of new e-vehicles by 2023 and announced Rs 100 crore for a state electric vehicle fund

**Sector Particulars** 





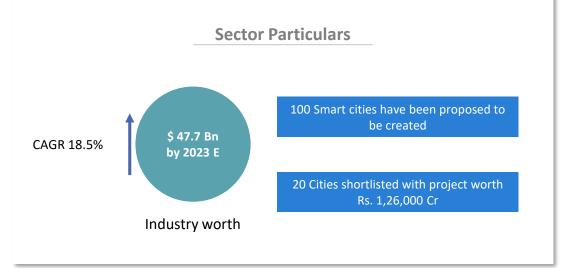


# (5/5)

### **Smart Cities**

Smart City is a digital revolution creating opportunities for start-ups in tech areas (IoT, Artificial Intelligence, Cloud Computing, Blockchain, Sensors, Geospatial Technology).

Delhi-NCR having progressive policies can lead to this new wave of innovation.

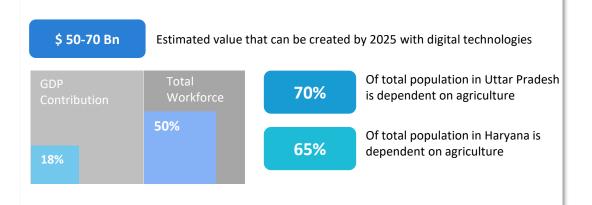


### Agriculture

Agriculture is large blue ocean for start-ups. Being one of the biggest agricultural markets with low farm productivity and poor access to better solutions creates significant opportunities for start-ups.

With proximity to large agricultural base of North India, NCR is the attractive place for Agri based start-ups.

#### Sector Particulars





Sector Specific Initiatives

## **Create global Centres of Excellence**

### Recommendations

- Build sector specific "Centre of Excellence" (CoE) for each priority sector
- Augment CoE with sector specific sandboxes and panel of policy makers to improve of ease of doing business
- Catalyse corporates to engage with CoE to create market opportunities for start-ups and corporates
- Encourage academic institutions to participate in relevant CoE to provide exposure to students

### **Call for Action**



State Govt.









Ecosystem Enablers



Incubator Accelerator

#### Example

• In 2018, Govt. of Maharashtra announced a FinTech Policy to declare Mumbai as a FinTech Hub to capitalize on inherent advantages of the city



# **Build physical sandboxes for smart cities**

### **Recommendations**

- Identify and declare a region of 30 sg. km (2% of land area) in Delhi-NCR as a physical sandbox to test new technologies and solutions ٠
- Augment physical sandbox with regulatory support to secure the environment while providing approvals for testing new technologies and solutions in the areas of:
  - Water, waste and energy, construction and traffic management (movement and parking etc.)
  - Pollution monitoring, e-Governance (incl. asset monitoring and tax collection)
- Augment with digital sandbox to make available data at a city-level, on similar lines as Open Government Data Platform in India, for start-ups to build solutions

### **Call for Action**

State Govt.



Corporates



Academic Institutions

### Example

• In 2014, Singapore set-up Smart Nation Program Office to drive policy change and technology adoption for variety of challenges faced by the city nation. Cornerstone of Singapore's success as a smart city is in its ability to create digital, policy and physical sandboxes to test new technologies in real-world conditions



### **Build Delhi-NCR as a hotbed for electric vehicle**

### **Recommendations**

- Introduce digital window to expedite re-certification process for electric vehicles (incl. e-bikes)
- Revise phased localization approach to: over 1-2 years or 30% localization giving enough time for Industry to build local start-up ecosystem
- Set-up a special EV Cell in the city for following :
  - Planning and setting up of charging Infrastructure
  - Working with Incubators and Manufacturers to support start-ups

ШШ

Central Govt.

- Providing Land at subsidized rates to start-ups for setting up Manufacturing hub of EV and Battery units

### **Call for Action**



State Govt.



Corporates



Incubator Accelerator

- The Chinese government had introduced EV subsidies in 2010 which has been adjusted in annual policy to promote EV sales
- Govt has an active policy to promote the construction of EV charging infrastructure and has target-setting, funding and mandated standards
- The policy has resulted into maximum EV sales in the world



### **Mobility-as-a-Service Program**

### **Recommendations**

- Bring sandbox to test innovative products, services and business models of start-ups under relaxed regulatory environment for short span of time ٠
- Clearing the regulatory uncertainty for the mobility sector e.g.
  - Making carpooling a viable option
  - Enable shared mobility for commercial vehicles
- Provide Incentives to companies for encouraging their employees to use mobility as a service ٠
- Simultaneously, provide incentives to on-demand transport start-ups and companies to use electric vehicles ٠

### **Call for Action**



State Govt.

Central Govt.

- Mobility on-demand (MOD) Sandbox program launched in 2016 in US for testing the new business models of mobility and has been funded under the govt. transport research and development program
- This model brought many start-ups with new business model & provided more options for comfortable commuting



Strengthen Core

### **Build world-class start-up hubs**

#### Recommendations

- Establish 3 world-class start-up hubs one each in Delhi, Noida and Gurugram
- Facilities should be designed to provide infrastructure for:
  - Co-working space (for start-ups, enablers and investors)
  - Centre of Excellence for priority sectors identified for the region
- Community Events, Meetings and Networking sessions

### **Call for Action**





State Govt.

Corporates

- The T-Hub, set-up in 2015 by Govt. of Telangana, has become a central location for start-ups, corporates, investors and mentors to meeting, network and operate.
- It has become hub for corporate innovation, co-working, events and a sectoragnostic acceleration program.



### Encourage outcome driven initiatives for enhancing talent pool

### **Recommendations**

- Encourage local & global EdTech start-ups with outcome driven business model to focus on NCR
- Open a "Start-up School" focusing on teaching the basics of starting up
- Enhance talent in new technologies (AI, ML, Blockchain, IoT, Data science):
  - Develop special 3 months coding program by collaboration of College with Large corporates
  - Special internship opportunities for IIT Delhi and Top engineering college students at Tech companies and leading start-ups
  - Tie-ups for NCR colleges with education technology firms like Udacity, Coursera, upGrad and Udemy

### **Call for Action**





Academic Institutions

- Made in China 2025 policy focusing on reduce China's dependency on imported technology by closing the skills & talent gap between China and the U.S.
- This resulted in upskilling of individual talent in the deep tech area who eventually turned into entrepreneurs



### Improving quality of incubators and accelerators

### **Recommendations**

- Institute an innovation fellowship program to attract individuals with prior hands-on experience in building start-ups
- 2 innovation fellow should be mapped per incubator and accelerator,
  - Prior work experience in the sectors relevant to I/A
  - With an objective to accelerate time-to-market for start-ups
- Fellowship should be selected by any of the Investors committee or seasoned founders

### **Call for Action**





State Govt.

Incubator E Accelerator



- Government of Kerala is offering a one-year fellowship to experienced professionals and motivated youngsters in making Kerala a vibrant hub of tech startups and talent pool skilled in emerging technologies
- Selected fellows work with Kerala Start-up Mission, other Government bodies, industry leaders and associations, start-ups and other stake holders



### Catalyse pre-seed start-ups with cash grants support

### Recommendations

- Establish a regional fund with an initial corpus of INR 20 Cr and a total corpus of INR 100 Cr for providing cash grant support to start-ups who have not raised any equity funding
- To enable efficient deployment of funds it is further recommended:
  - Implementation be driven through series of quarterly events to provide added advantage of visibility to start-ups with at least a prototype
  - Deployment should be single tranche of Rs. 10 Lakhs for start-ups that are selected by a panel of angel investors, entrepreneurs and policy makers
  - Preference should be for start-ups aligned to region's priority sectors / themes
- 5% of the corpus should be kept aside to support quarterly events

### **Call for Action**





State Govt.

Angel Ecosystem Investor Enablers

- Idea2PoC, scheme initiated by Govt. of Karnataka in 2015, provides up to INR 50L as grants to start-ups.
- Start-ups are selected in different thematic area through the year and funds are disbursed over a 2-year period in multiple tranches.
- Till date 156 start-ups have received funding.



### Create seed stage co-investment fund for angel groups

### Recommendations

- Establish a regional fund with an initial corpus of INR 100 Cr and a total of INR 500 Cr for co-investments with recognized and established angel investor groups or online fundraising platforms
- To enable efficient deployment of funds it is further recommended:
  - An implementation committee of early stage venture capital investors be set-up to screen and approve angel investor groups or online angel investment platforms as "Co-investment Partner"
  - Preference be given to angel groups with (a) focused on priority sectors for Delhi-NCR; (b) with dedicated office in Delhi-NCR
- 1-2% of the corpus should be kept aside to support angel groups in covering operational expenses

### **Call for Action**



- UK's Angel CoFund was set-up with GBP 100Mn corpus was set-up in 2011 to specifically invest alongside angel investors.
- Followed by London Co---investment Fund in early 2015 with a corpus of GBP 25Mn.
- Both funds are currently active and investing in the seed stage and have been deemed successful.



### **Create Fund-of-Funds to accelerate early stage venture capital**

### **Recommendations**

- Establish a regional fund-of-funds with an initial corpus of INR 200 Cr and a total corpus of INR 1000 Cr for investments in SEBI-registered funds focused on investment at ٠ Series A stage
- To enable efficient deployment of funds it is further recommended:
  - Govt. appointed investment team to manage the disbursement
  - Preference be given to venture funds with (a) focused on priority sectors for Delhi-NCR; (b) with office in Delhi-NCR; and (c) with general partners
- Fund-of-Funds should be deployed across at least 10 venture funds with contribution not more than 10% in the total corpus of each venture fund

### **Call for Action**



State Govt.

Venture Fund

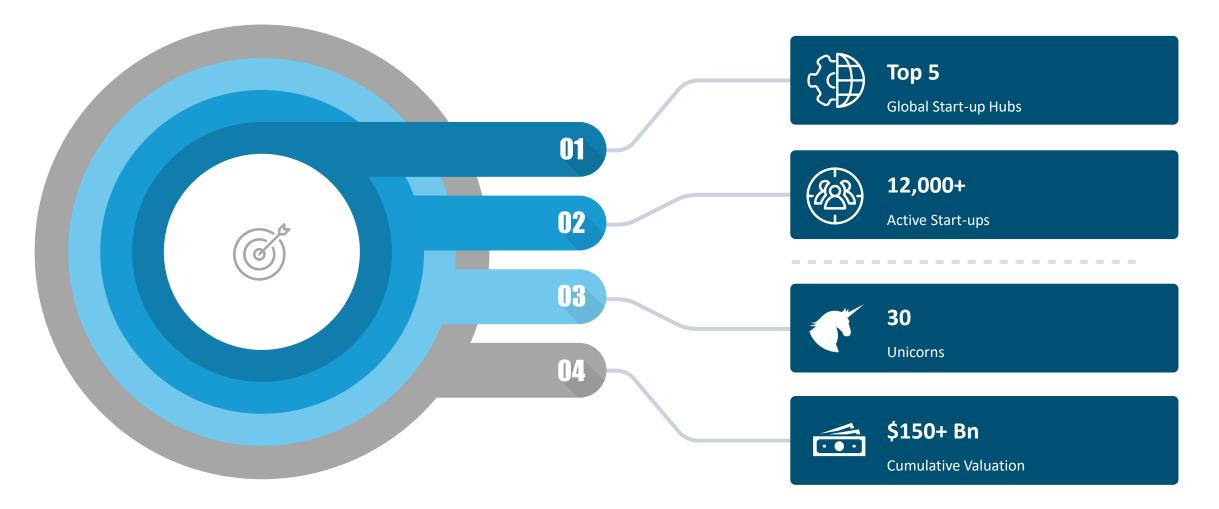
- The Yozma initiative, which ran between 1993 and 1998, used public money to attract foreign funding to Israeli businesses
- When the scheme was set-up 1993, around 50% of venture capital funding in Israel came from public money, but by 2000 the proportion had declined to almost nothing





# Vision 2025 for Delhi-NCR

### Vision 2025 for Delhi-NCR start-up ecosystem







## **About Partners**



The Bridge to Possible for Start-ups Cs.co/CiscoLaunchPad

**Cisco LaunchPad** brings together technologies, start-ups, and the partner community to jointly deliver compelling businessrelevant digital solutions. We empower start-ups with the tools imminent for their scaleup journey



**Microsoft for Start-ups** is an immersive program providing sales, marketing and technical support for Seed to Series A funded start-ups worldwide.



### You're here to do great things. We're here to help.

startups.microsoft.com



## Intuit. Circles

**Google**'s mission is to organize the world's information and make it universally accessible and useful. Through products and platforms like Search, Maps, Gmail, Android, Google Play, Chrome and YouTube, Google plays a meaningful role in the daily lives of billions of people and has become one of the most widely-known companies in the world.

Google is a subsidiary of Alphabet Inc.

Intuit's mission is to power prosperity around the world. Guided by this, Intuit Circles program aims to empower start ups and small businesses by creating a thriving community of peers, investors, partners like coworking spaces, incubators and accountants. Intuit Circles tries to *solve some of the biggest start-up needs by leveraging smart technology* (AI/ML) and Intuit's 36-year experience in serving small businesses globally. The program also enables tech start-ups to partner with Intuit's QuickBooks Online to collaboratively develop solutions for the 4.5 million global customers.

Intuit Circles Facebook LinkedIn Twitter



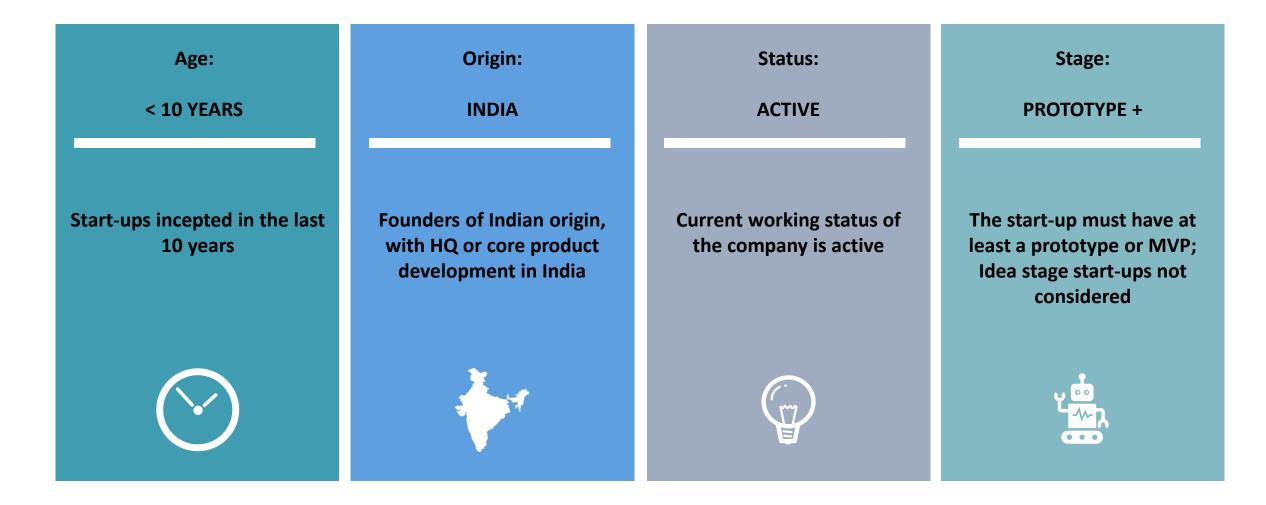
# Uber

The SoftBank Group invests in breakthrough technology to improve people's quality of life around the world. The SoftBank Group is comprised of SoftBank Group Corp. (TOKYO: 9984), a holding company that includes telecommunications, internet services, AI, smart robotics, IoT and clean energy technology providers; Arm Limited, the world's leading semiconductor IP company; and the SoftBank Vision Fund, which is investing up to \$100 billion to help extraordinary entrepreneurs transform industries and shape new ones **Uber**'s mission is to create opportunity through movement. We started in 2010 to solve a simple problem: how do you get access to a ride at the touch of a button? More than 10 billion trips later, we are building products to get people closer to where they want to be. By changing how people, food, and things move through cities, Uber is a platform that opens up the world to new possibilities.

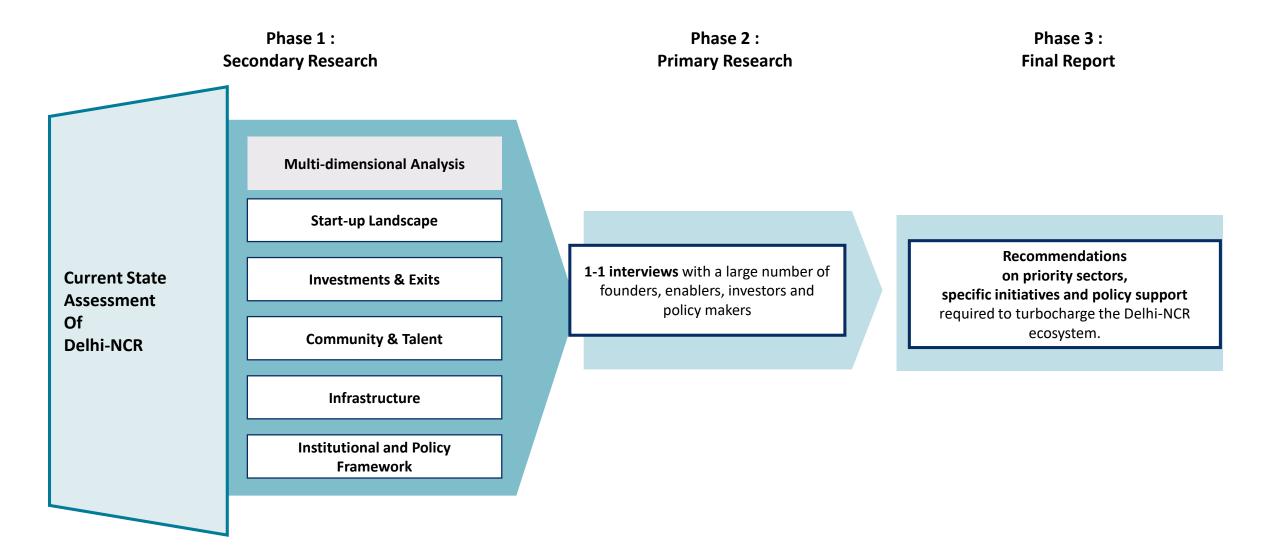


# Note for Readers

### **Start-up Definition**



### Methodology



Copyright © 2019



A5, 4th Floor, The Edenpark Hotel, Shaheed Jeet Singh Marg, Qutab Institutional Area ,New Delhi – 100067 India Phone: +91 (120) 4066500 E-mail: <u>info@tienewdelhi.org</u>

Unit 1102, 11th Floor, Tower A Advant IT Park, Plot No 7, Sector 142 Expressway, Noida - 201 305 (U. P) India Phone: +91 (120) 4066500 E-mail: <u>info@tienewdelhi.org</u>



69 "Prathiba Complex", 4th 'A' Cross Koramangala Ind. Layout, Koramangala 5th Block, Bangalore-560 095, India Phone: +91 (80) 4080 4600 E-mail: <u>info@zinnov.com</u>

#### **Research Team**

• Geetika Dayal

#### **Research Teams**

- Sudhir Gupta
- Rahul Mahto
- Atit Danak

#### Disclaimer

The information contained herein has been obtained from sources believed to be reliable. Authors disclaims all warranties as to the accuracy, completeness or adequacy of such information. Authors shall have no liability for errors, omissions or inadequacies in the information contained herein, or for interpretations thereof.

The material in this publication is copyrighted. No part of this report can be reproduced either on paper or electronic media without permission in writing from author(s). Request for permission to reproduce any part of the may be sent to TiE Delhi-NCR and Zinnov.





