



Startup Ecosystem Report 2025

Why in News?

According to the **Startup Ecosystem Report-2025**, Uttar Pradesh has ranked 3rd in the country's startup ecosystem, where **26 startups** have achieved **unicorn status**.

Key Points

- **About:**
 - According to the report, Uttar Pradesh has made remarkable progress in its **startup ecosystem** . As a result, over **14,000 startups** have emerged in the state.
 - Uttar Pradesh has become **the first state in the country** where startups are active in **49 districts** .
 - Earlier, the centre of startups was only in big cities like **Noida, Ghaziabad, Lucknow** and **Kanpur**, but now they are growing rapidly in smaller cities as well.
- **Top 10 Startup Hub Cities of Uttar Pradesh:**
 - Among the **top 10 startup hub cities** of **Uttar Pradesh** , **Noida** leads the list with **3418 startups** , followed by **Lucknow** with **1789** , **Ghaziabad** with **1582** , and **Kanpur** with **586 startups**.
 - There are **406 startups** active in **Varanasi** , **359** in **Agra** , **291** in **Meerut** , and 283 in **Prayagraj** . At the same time **201 startups** are active in **Gorakhpur** and 177 in **Bareilly**.
- **Contribution of Uttar Pradesh to the Country:**
 - Uttar Pradesh **contributes 9.6%** of the total recognized startups in India.
 - Despite lagging slightly behind **Delhi (10%)** and **Karnataka (10.6%)** , Uttar Pradesh's rapidly growing share could soon take it to the second spot.

Unicorn

- **Introduction:**
 - A unicorn is any **privately owned firm** with a market capitalization of over **USD 1 billion**.
 - This reflects the emergence of new entities dedicated to offering **creative solutions and new business models**, among other products/services .
 - **Its various categories include [FinTech](#), [EdTech](#), [Business-to-Business \(B2B\) companies](#)**, etc.
- **features:**
 - **Divisive Innovation:** Almost all unicorns have brought innovation in the sector they belong to, **for example** 'Uber' has changed the face of commuting.
 - **Technology Driven:** This business model is driven by the latest technological innovations and trends.
 - **Consumer-Centric:** Their aim is to simplify tasks for consumers and become a part of their everyday lives.
 - **Private Ownership:** Most unicorns are privately owned, their valuation increases further when an established company invests in them.
 - **Software-Based:** A recent report shows that 87% of Unicorns' products are software, 7%

are hardware and the remaining 6% are other products and services.

PDF Reference URL: <https://www.drishtiias.com/printpdf/startup-ecosystem-report-2025>

