i. Start-Up India

‘Start-Up India’ initiative was launched by the Prime Minister of India on January 16, 2016. The initiative aims at fostering entrepreneurship and promotes innovation by creating an ecosystem that is conducive for growth of Start-ups.

CPSEs under the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas are facilitating an innovation ecosystem and promoting Start-Ups in their respective fields. The CPSEs have set up a Start Up fund aggregating to Rs. 320 Crore for 3 years. The participating CPSE’s are ONGC, OIL, IOCL, BPCL, HPCL, GAIL, EIL, MRPL, NRL and Balmer Lawrie. The CPSE’s have launched their Startup websites and launched Innovation Challenges inviting problem solving ideas on identified pain areas. Apart from internal expertise of the companies, they have also tied up with various academic institutes like IITs and IIMs for mentoring and incubation support.

A workshop on "Creating an Innovation Ecosystem for Start-Ups in the Oil & Gas Sector" was held on 28th November, 2016 at New Delhi. The workshop was chaired by the Hon'ble Minister, P&NG and SDE, and attended by CEO, NITI Aayog, Secretary, P&NG, Additional Secretary (MoPNG), and Senior Officials of MoPNG; CEOs, Directors and Senior Officials of Oil & Gas PSUs; Professor In-charges of IIT Delhi & IIT Mumbai incubators and 12 Start-up Companies. The aim was to put all stakeholders on the same platform to understand what was the ecosystem required for proliferation of a Start-Up ecosystem.

A program on StartUp initiative “STARTUP Sangam” was organized on 25th October, 2017 at New Delhi. The program was held in the presence of Hon'ble Union Minister of PNG and SDE, and attended by CEO NITI Aayog, Secretary P&NG, Secretary, DIPP, JS(R), MoPNG, and senior officials of MoPNG; CEOs, Directors and senior officials of Oil & Gas PSUs; Professor In-charges of IIT Delhi & IIT Mumbai incubators and 29 start-Up companies. During the program, Oil & Gas PSUs exchanged MOU with their Start-Up companies.

ii. Skill Development

Skill India initiative was launched by Prime Minister of India on 15th July, 2015. The Mission creates convergence across sectors and states in terms of skill training activities. In this endeavour, Hydrocarbon Sector Skill Council (HSSC) has been set up on 26-04-2016. HSSC has a projected training plan for certification based skill development programmes and has identified a target of training of approximately 7.3 lakh persons by 2022, which includes skill development under CSR by oil PSUs also. An MoU for collaboration in the area of skill development was signed between Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas and Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship on 28th November, 2016.

In line with National Skill Development Mission of the Govt. of India, Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas (MoPNG) has taken a unique initiative of setting up Skill Development Institutes (SDI) in different parts of the country. Five Skill Development Institutes (SDIs) at Bhubaneswar, Vizag, Kochi, Ahmedabad and Guwahati have been started by IOCL, HPCL, BPCL, ONGC and OIL respectively and one more
SDI at Raebareli, Uttar Pradesh is being setup by GAIL. The SDIs are planned to be world class state-of-the-art Institutes that will focus on imparting skill training of Hydrocarbons sector, sub-sector to cater the sector need in different part of the country.

Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas in consultation with the Industry members identified the high priority 11 trades for National Occupational Standard (NOS)/Qualification Pack (QP) development. All 11 QPs have recently been approved by National Skill Qualification Committee (NSQC) and NSDC's Qualification Registration Committee (QRC).

iii. Make in India

The Make in India initiative was launched by Prime Minister in September 2014 as part of a wider set of nation-building initiatives devised to transform India into a global design and manufacturing hub.

To roll out Make in India campaign in Oil and Gas Sector a Policy to provide Purchase Preference (linked with Local Content (PP-LC)) in all Public Sector Undertakings under Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas has been approved by the Government on 12.04.2017. The policy aims to incentivize the growth in local content in goods and services by implementing oil and gas projects in India by providing purchase preference to the manufacturers/service providers who meet the local content targets in oil and gas business activities.

Under the policy, progressively increasing targets of Local Content are stipulated for procurement of goods, services and EPC contracts for oil and gas business activities. To give fillip to 'Make in India' campaign in the complex and high technology deep water operations, deep water operations with 5% of Local Content target has been included by this Ministry on 14.09.2017.

Upstream, Midstream and Downstream companies of Oil and Gas sector have formed Indigenous Development Group (INDEG) to promote indigenization and are working towards import substitution.

iv. Ease of Doing Business

Transparency and efficiency in Procurement of Goods, services or works is extremely important for any Organisation. Public Sector Enterprises are not only required to follow the various policies and guidelines issued by the Government and Statutory bodies to ensure transparency and fairness, they must also carry out their procurement in most efficient manner so that they remain competitive.

The Oil and Gas PSUs under MoPNG were directed to consider incorporation of relaxation of Past Track Record (PTR) norm subject to meeting the quality and technical specifications (except procurement of items related to public safety, health, critical security operations and equipments etc.) to all Startups (whether MSEs or otherwise) in their procurement manuals.

Oil and Gas PSUs have been advised to adopt Combined Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS) system in services where quality is critical and / or where services are of specialized nature and specification/ scope of services cannot be drawn objectively to eliminate sub-standard services.
v. Engagement of Apprentices

As per the Apprentices Act, 1961, the Oil and Gas PSUs under MoP&NG have to engage apprentices in a band of 2.5% to 10% of the total strength of establishment including contractual staff. The minimum requisite figure of 2.5% of the total strength of workers in the PSUs under MoP&NG is maintained. PSUs have also been directed by MoP&NG to prepare their action plans for increasing engagement of apprentices up to the level of 10% of the total workforce by December 2017.