

Executive Summary

Beyond Horizon

Round 2

Dree:

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Problem Statement 1: Identify the key challenges of the startup ecosystem of both China and Singapore and suggest measures to resolve them.

China:-

- Challenge: Securing Funding
 - Solution: Promote more venture capital investment in early-stage firms
- Challenge: Lack of managerial skills and seasoned entrepreneurs
 - Solution: Initiatives to educate business owners
- Challenge: Inadequate protection for intellectual property (IP)
 - Solution: Initiatives to educate about IP protection and/or tighten its IP laws and regulations.
- Challenge: Heavy competition from big, state-owned enterprises (SOEs)
 - Solution: Level the playing field for startups
- Challenge: Lack of a defined legal framework for startups
 - Solution: Make laws and regulations more comprehensible and consistent

Singapore:-

- Challenge: Expensive to live and conduct business
 - Solution: Offer tax breaks or subsidies for early-stage businesses
- Challenge: Weak local market
 - Solution: fund projects to connect Singapore with the rest of the world
- Challenge: Severe talent competition
 - Solution: Initiatives to bring in and keep talent.
- Challenge: Lack of market diversity
 - Solution: Initiatives that encourage innovation and entrepreneurship in other industries. initiatives that encourage innovation and entrepreneurship in other industries.

Problem Statement 2: Putting yourself in the shoes of an entrepreneur, what according to you is the biggest challenge of the Indian startup ecosystem?

Challenge: Lack of finance and cash

- Strict regulation of banking industry
- Hesitation to lend to startups

Problem Statement 3: Name one reform from the countries discussed above that you would like to see replicated domestically with or without any variation or moderation. Justify your answer.

Reform: Decentralisation of authority in China

- Modification 1 : Provide local governments more discretion in making decisions and approving investments, as well as additional fiscal resources and regulations.
- Modification 2 : Fund initiatives and infrastructure to link local markets with regional and international markets

Problem Statement 4: If you, as a startup founder, had to choose headquarters for your company (assuming seed capital is no bar) which country would you choose? Justify your answer. You may answer conditionally or include personal reasons as well.

Country: United States of America (U.S.A.)

Reasons:

- Massive Market
 - Strong Venture Capital Sector
 - Diverse Talent Pool
 - Innovation and Entrepreneurship culture
 - Personal Reasons
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