



OFFICIAL NOTIFICATION

INDIAN STARTUP FUNDRAISING MEET – ISFM 2026

Startup Nomination, Evaluation, Investor Connect & Fundraising Process

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Indian Startup Fundraising Meet (“ISFM”) is a startup evaluation, investor-connect and fundraising facilitation programme conceived, launched and operated by **Aspire Seed Solutions Private Limited** (“Aspire Seed Solutions” / “Organizer”). ISFM 2026 has been created with the objective of identifying serious and investment-ready startups, evaluating their business and fundraising preparedness, and facilitating structured interaction between selected startups and relevant investors, angel investors, venture capital participants, investment networks, incubators, accelerators, bankers, industry experts, mentors and other ecosystem participants.

ISFM 2026 is a **privately organised fundraising facilitation programme** and should not be interpreted as a Government scheme, Government grant programme, Government funding programme, bank loan scheme, Alternative Investment Fund, investment fund or guaranteed funding facility. ISFM and Aspire Seed Solutions do not represent that submission of an application, payment of any programme fee, evaluation, selection or participation will automatically result in investment or funding.

The programme presently proposes to engage with approximately **50 to 100**

investors and capital ecosystem participants and facilitate potential fundraising opportunities aggregating **up to ₹100 Crore** across participating startups. These figures represent the intended scale, outreach objective and potential transaction opportunity of ISFM 2026 and shall not be construed as a confirmed, committed, deposited or guaranteed investment corpus. Investor participation, investment appetite, ticket size, sector preference and actual deployment of capital shall remain subject to independent investor decisions, market conditions, due diligence and transaction-specific documentation.

PHASE I – NOMINATION, VERIFICATION AND ONLINE EVALUATION

Phase I shall commence with submission of the startup nomination through the official ISFM platform. At the nomination stage, the startup may be required to provide its basic business and founder information, company or entity details, fundraising requirement, existing pitch deck and such supporting information or documents as may reasonably be required for preliminary assessment.

Upon receipt of the nomination, the ISFM team shall conduct a preliminary review of the submitted information and documents. Where the submitted documentation is considered sufficiently complete for further processing, the applicant shall be informed through its registered email address and/or official ISFM portal that its documents have been verified for the purpose of proceeding to the Phase I Online Evaluation process.

For avoidance of doubt, preliminary document verification by ISFM is an administrative and eligibility-stage verification only. It shall not constitute legal due diligence, financial audit, statutory certification, valuation approval, investment approval or confirmation of funding.

An applicant invited to proceed with the Online Evaluation shall be required to complete the prescribed Phase I process and pay an **Online Evaluation and Programme Processing Fee of ₹5,100**, together with applicable taxes, if any, as displayed on the official payment interface or invoice.

The ₹5,100 fee is charged towards the evaluation process, programme administration, applicant screening, evaluation infrastructure, panel coordination, document processing and related programme activities. The fee is not an investment, refundable security deposit, fundraising contribution or consideration for guaranteed selection or funding. Any applicable refund or cancellation treatment shall be governed by the refund terms communicated

on the official payment interface and programme policies applicable at the relevant time.

Following activation of the Online Evaluation process, the applicant shall be provided access to the applicable submission framework, which may include the prescribed pitch deck structure, financial information format, evaluation questionnaire, supporting-document requirements, startup information form and instructions for submission of a recorded startup pitch of approximately **three minutes**.

The applicant shall ordinarily be required to complete and upload the prescribed evaluation material through the designated ISFM portal within **seven calendar days** from the date on which evaluation access or submission instructions are issued, unless an extension is expressly granted by ISFM.

Once the required evaluation material has been completely submitted, the ISFM team shall review the submission and initiate scheduling of the startup's Online Evaluation. ISFM shall endeavour to schedule such evaluation within approximately **fifteen working days** from receipt of a complete submission. The timeline is indicative and may be reasonably extended where additional information, re-submission, panel availability, sector-specific evaluation or other operational requirements make such extension necessary.

The Online Evaluation is expected to be approximately **fifteen minutes** in duration and shall ordinarily consist of a startup presentation followed by questions and interaction with the evaluation panel. The exact format and duration may vary depending upon the startup, sector and evaluation requirements.

The evaluation panel may include one or more investors, investment professionals, associates, bankers, incubation or acceleration representatives, industry experts, entrepreneurs, mentors, financial professionals or other persons considered relevant for evaluating the particular startup. Panel composition need not be identical for every applicant and may be determined according to the startup's sector, stage, funding requirement and business profile.

Each participating evaluator may assess the startup under the applicable ISFM evaluation framework and may provide a score or assessment out of 100 together with comments or observations. Evaluation may consider factors including, without limitation, innovation, market opportunity, business model, founder capability, traction, scalability, financial viability, competitive positioning, investment readiness, fundraising requirement and overall

investor fit.

A score obtained during evaluation shall be an internal programme assessment and shall not create any legal right to selection, investor introduction or funding. Startups considered suitable under the applicable evaluation criteria may be selected for progression to **Phase II of ISFM 2026**. ISFM is not required to select a predetermined number of startups and may determine selection standards depending upon the quality and investment readiness of applications received.

PHASE II – INVESTOR MATCHING AND FUNDRAISING FACILITATION

Startups selected for Phase II may undergo further fundraising readiness review. Where reasonably considered necessary, ISFM may communicate recommendations regarding presentation structure, financial presentation, pitch positioning, information clarity or other aspects relevant to investor interaction.

Thereafter, the startup's approved fundraising material, evaluation information and relevant business profile may be classified according to sector, stage, investment requirement, business model and other relevant characteristics for the purpose of identifying potentially suitable investors.

ISFM shall endeavour to match startups with investors on the basis of factors including investment thesis, sector preference, investment stage, ticket size, geography and other available investment criteria. The purpose of such matching is to improve the relevance of investor-startup interactions; however, matching or forwarding of a startup profile does not represent investor interest or investment approval.

For the purpose of undertaking Phase II, the startup expressly authorises ISFM and Aspire Seed Solutions to share the startup's authorised pitch deck, business information, evaluation material, founder information, financial information and other approved fundraising material with relevant investors, investor representatives and authorised ecosystem participants for evaluation of a potential transaction.

Investor circulation, categorisation, interest mapping and preliminary interaction under Phase II may ordinarily require approximately **thirty working days**, although this is an indicative operational period and may vary according to investor response, sector, transaction size, market circumstances and availability of relevant investors.

Any investor receiving a startup opportunity through ISFM shall remain completely independent in determining whether the investor wishes to proceed with discussions, seek further information, conduct due diligence, issue an investment proposal, issue a term sheet, negotiate valuation or decide not to proceed.

Neither ISFM nor Aspire Seed Solutions shall have authority to compel an investor to invest, prescribe the final valuation of a startup or bind an investor or startup to a transaction except to the extent expressly agreed through separate written documentation.

OFFLINE ISFM FUNDRAISING MEET

Following the Phase II investor-matching and interest-mapping process, ISFM may announce an offline or physical **Indian Startup Fundraising Meet** at such city, venue, date and time as may subsequently be notified.

Selected startups may be invited to interact directly with interested investors and other participating capital partners during such meeting. The offline meeting may include founder pitches, investor meetings, question-and-answer rounds, negotiation discussions, transaction discussions and other fundraising-related activities.

Participation in an offline ISFM event may involve a separate event, participation, arrangement or facilitation charge depending upon the venue, format and facilities involved. Any such charge shall be separately disclosed before the startup is required to confirm participation. Payment of the Phase I Evaluation Fee shall not, by itself, be interpreted as payment for any separately announced offline event unless expressly stated otherwise.

Where an investor decides to proceed with a startup, the parties may enter into an appropriate term sheet, expression of interest, fundraising mandate, investment mandate or other transaction documentation depending upon the nature and stage of the proposed transaction.

DUE DILIGENCE AND COMPLETION OF FUNDING

Following material investor interest or execution of the relevant preliminary transaction documentation, the investor and/or its authorised professional team may conduct legal, financial, commercial, technical, promoter, intellectual-property, compliance or other due diligence as considered necessary.

An indicative period of approximately **fifteen working days** may be provided for completion of the principal due-diligence process after the required information has been made available. This timeline is not binding upon an investor and may be extended depending upon the complexity of the transaction, information requirements, regulatory requirements and findings arising during due diligence.

The startup shall remain solely responsible for the correctness, completeness and authenticity of all documents, representations, financial information, intellectual-property claims, statutory information, customer or revenue data and other information supplied during the programme.

Where the investor is satisfied with due diligence and all conditions precedent are completed, the investment transaction may proceed in accordance with the final transaction documents. Funding shall ordinarily be transferred **directly by the investor or the investing entity to the startup or such legally designated account as provided under the transaction documentation.**

ISFM's reference to an overall fundraising opportunity or funding pool does not mean that Aspire Seed Solutions collects, holds, manages or guarantees an investment corpus on behalf of participating investors.

SUCCESS FEE ON FUNDING RAISED

Where a startup successfully receives investment or funding through an investor opportunity introduced, facilitated, originated or materially progressed through ISFM and/or Aspire Seed Solutions, the startup shall be liable to pay the applicable fundraising success fee to Aspire Seed Solutions in accordance with the applicable mandate and the following KPI structure.

For funding or investment actually raised from **₹0 up to ₹25,00,000**, the applicable success fee shall be **5%**.

For funding or investment above **₹25,00,000 and up to ₹50,00,000**, the applicable success fee shall be **4.5%**.

For funding or investment above **₹50,00,000 and up to ₹1,00,00,000**, the applicable success fee shall be **4%**.

For funding or investment above **₹1,00,00,000 and up to ₹5,00,00,000**, the applicable success fee shall be **3.5%**.

For funding or investment above **₹5,00,00,000**, the applicable success fee shall

be 3%.

Unless otherwise expressly provided in the relevant written fundraising mandate, the applicable percentage shall be calculated on the actual investment/funding amount successfully received by or for the benefit of the startup under the relevant transaction. Applicable taxes shall be charged additionally in accordance with law.

Where investment is released in multiple tranches, the treatment and timing of the success fee may be specified in the applicable fundraising mandate or transaction-specific communication.

No representation of funding merely through an evaluation result, investor meeting, expression of interest or non-binding term sheet shall by itself be treated as actual receipt of funding unless otherwise expressly agreed under a separate written mandate.

DUE-DILIGENCE AND THIRD-PARTY TRANSACTION COSTS

The ₹5,100 Phase I Evaluation Fee and the fundraising Success Fee do not automatically include independent legal, financial, valuation, secretarial, technical, due-diligence, documentation or other professional expenses that may become necessary for completion of a particular funding transaction.

Where any separate due-diligence, transaction-processing or professional cost is applicable, the nature and amount or basis of such cost shall be communicated to the startup at the relevant transaction stage. Any such applicable cost may be payable by the startup after the transaction has reached the relevant investor approval, sanction, term-sheet or due-diligence stage and in accordance with the communication or agreement applicable to that transaction.

NO GUARANTEE OF FUNDING OR INVESTMENT

Participation in ISFM 2026 does not create an entitlement to investment.

Any investment is subject to investor discretion, valuation, negotiation, availability of capital, investment committee approval wherever applicable, satisfactory due diligence, execution of definitive agreements, statutory compliance and fulfilment of transaction conditions.

An investor may decline an opportunity at any stage, including after meetings, evaluation, issuance of an indicative proposal or commencement of due diligence.

ISFM and Aspire Seed Solutions provide evaluation, facilitation, coordination and investor-connect support and do not guarantee any minimum fundraising amount, investment valuation, equity percentage, closing period, investor participation or transaction completion.

Any final equity dilution, valuation, investor rights, securities to be issued, governance rights, liquidation rights, exit rights and other investment conditions shall be determined solely through negotiations and final agreements between the startup and the relevant investor.

STARTUP DISCLOSURE OBLIGATIONS

Every startup participating in ISFM is required to provide true, accurate and non-misleading information.

Submission of forged documents, fabricated revenue, false customer information, incorrect founder information, undisclosed material liabilities, misleading intellectual-property claims, manipulated financial information or any other material misrepresentation may result in immediate suspension or disqualification from ISFM without prejudice to any other rights available to Aspire Seed Solutions or affected third parties under applicable law.

ISFM may request additional documents or clarification at any stage of the programme where required for verification, evaluation, investor communication or transaction processing.

DATA, DOCUMENT AND INVESTOR-SHARING CONSENT

By submitting a nomination or proceeding with ISFM, the startup acknowledges that information submitted to ISFM is being provided for startup evaluation, investor matching, fundraising facilitation, communication, programme administration and potential transaction processing.

The applicant authorises Aspire Seed Solutions and ISFM to process such information and, where reasonably necessary for the programme, share relevant information with evaluators, investors, investor representatives, incubation or acceleration partners, professional advisers and service providers participating in or supporting the fundraising process.

Personal information shall be processed subject to the applicable ISFM website privacy policy and applicable law.

Applicants should exercise reasonable care before submitting trade secrets or

highly sensitive proprietary information. Investor or third-party confidentiality cannot be assumed unless a separate confidentiality or non-disclosure arrangement has been executed with the relevant party.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND PROGRAMME RIGHTS

The name “**Indian Startup Fundraising Meet**”, the abbreviation “**ISFM**”, ISFM branding, logos, programme content, original evaluation frameworks, forms, templates, programme documents, website content, graphics, presentation material and other proprietary materials created for ISFM are owned, controlled or lawfully used by **Aspire Seed Solutions Private Limited**, subject to applicable intellectual-property law and any rights belonging to third parties.

Participation in ISFM does not grant any startup, investor or third party ownership of or unrestricted rights to reproduce, commercially exploit or misrepresent any ISFM proprietary material.

The intellectual property belonging to an applicant startup shall continue to belong to that startup or its lawful owner and shall not become the property of Aspire Seed Solutions merely because it has been submitted for evaluation.

PROGRAMME SCHEDULE AND RIGHT TO MODIFY

The nomination closing date, evaluation schedules, investor interaction windows, Phase II schedule, offline-event date, venue and other programme milestones may be announced separately through the official ISFM website, registered email, applicant dashboard or other authorised communication channels.

Aspire Seed Solutions reserves the right to reasonably modify, reschedule, extend, suspend or restructure any programme timeline, evaluation procedure, event format or operational process where required due to application volume, investor availability, operational requirements, force majeure, regulatory requirements or other legitimate circumstances.

Any material financial or contractual change affecting an applicant who has already paid for a particular stage shall be communicated in accordance with the applicable programme terms.

ACCEPTANCE AND ELECTRONIC CONSENT

Submission of an ISFM nomination constitutes acknowledgement that the

applicant has been provided access to this Official Notification.

Where an applicant subsequently pays the Phase I Evaluation Fee, activates the evaluation process, submits the prescribed evaluation form, uploads the pitch deck or financial information, submits the recorded pitch video, clicks an electronic **“I Agree / Proceed / Accept”** confirmation, or otherwise continues to participate after being provided access to this Notification, such action shall constitute the applicant's electronic acknowledgement and acceptance of the terms and disclosures applicable to the relevant stage of ISFM 2026.

The applicant further represents that the person completing the application or providing such acceptance is duly authorised to submit information and act on behalf of the concerned startup or business entity.

GOVERNING LAW

ISFM 2026 is organised and administered by **Aspire Seed Solutions Private Limited** in India. This Notification and participation in the programme shall be interpreted in accordance with applicable laws of India.

Subject to any mandatory legal forum or dispute-resolution requirement applicable under law or a separately executed agreement, matters arising from the programme shall be subject to the jurisdiction of competent courts at **Ajmer, Rajasthan.**

This Notification forms part of the official disclosures governing ISFM 2026 and should be read together with the applicable Privacy Policy, Terms of Use, Refund/Cancellation Policy, programme-specific communications and any separate fundraising mandate or transaction documentation executed at a later stage.

Issued by

Aspire Seed Solutions Private Limited

Organizer – Indian Startup Fundraising Meet (ISFM 2026)

“Where High-Potential Startups Meet Serious Capital.”