



### **Fueling Innovation through Startups**

BPCL Ankur Fund invites startups to innovate and transform across the following themes:



**Energy Efficiency** 



**City Gas Distribution** 

Application Deadline: April 10, 2025





### Introduction

Bharat Petroleum, a Fortune Global 500 Company, is engaged in refining of crude oil and marketing of petroleum products, with a significant presence in the upstream and downstream sectors of the oil and gas industry.

As BPCL celebrates its **golden jubilee year**, we are **shaping the future of energy** through technology, innovation, and sustainability. Our five-year strategic framework, **Project Aspire**, is built on **eight pivotal pillars**, categorized under two key themes:

Nurturing the Core – Strengthening our Refining, Marketing and Upstream businesses

In alignment with our commitment to achieve net-zero carbon emissions by 2040, encompassing both Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions, BPCL is strategically charting a roadmap towards a sustainable and green energy transition. This forward-looking plan leverages cutting-edge technology and innovation, with a primary focus on reducing our carbon footprint and embracing the evolving landscape of energy to become an integrated energy company.

BPCL, through its startup initiative "Ankur," has been cultivating a supportive ecosystem that fosters entrepreneurship in the country, nurturing innovative ideas to fruition as vibrant startups, and generating a multiplier effect across the ecosystem. Since 2016, BPCL has supported 30 startups with grant funding of ∼₹ 28 crores. As part of this journey, BPCL has recently launched the "BPCL Ankur Fund" to make equity investments in startups.

The fund is now inviting applications from startups working on the themes below that have developed a Proof of Concept (PoC), prototype, Minimum Viable Product (MVP), or a fully implemented solution in the Oil & Gas sector or any other industry and are now ready to expand into Oil & Gas. Startups opting for customization should factor in the necessary adaptation effort in their funding requirements.

Future Big Bets into Gas, Non-fuel Retailing, Petrochemicals, Green Energy Businesses and Digital Ventures







### **Themes**

Applications for the "Emerge" cohort are invited under the following two themes:



Bharat Petroleum's refineries at Mumbai, Kochi and Bina have a combined refining capacity of around 35.3 MMTPA. Its marketing infrastructure includes a network of installations, depots, energy stations, aviation service stations and LPG distributors.

With substantial energy consumption across its value chain—from exploration and production to refining and transportation—the oil and gas sector is inherently energy-intensive. This energy usage has a significant impact on the environment and results in high operating expenses.

We are now looking for potential startups providing process improvement, waste heat recovery and energy recycling solutions across the oil and gas industry (refining & marketing).

Focus

Innovative solutions to improve energy efficiency across the Oil & Gas Industry (refining & marketing), various technologies and platforms that may reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions

### **THEME CATEGORIES:**



Innovations that enhance sustainability and productivity, optimize energy usage, and reduce environmental impact while aligning with broader ESG principles. Examples - Predictive maintenance of equipment, AI powered energy management systems, Storage & terminal optimization, Pipeline efficiency enhancement, Heat transfer optimization, Advance process control & process optimization, Advanced Robotic Process Automation (RPA) in Operations etc.

WASTE HEAT
RECOVERY AND
ENERGY RECYCLING

Solutions capturing and repurposing unused heat energy in various processes to improve energy efficiency, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and support sustainability goals. Examples - AI and IoT-Enabled Smart Waste Heat Recovery Solutions, Energy-Efficient Equipment etc.









### **INNOVATION IN CITY GAS DISTRIBUTION**

The Gas Business unit of BPCL is working towards India's transition to a gas-based economy. BPCL is a key player in India's City Gas Distribution (CGD) sector, supplying Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) for vehicles and Piped Natural Gas (PNG) to domestic, industrial, and commercial consumers.

BPCL continues its journey to strengthen its position by developing the ecosystem across the gas value chain, right from sourcing to the end consumer. On the demand side, the focus is on establishing and expanding CGD networks to meet the gas demands of domestic, retail, commercial and industrial customers.

BPCL has commissioned over 2300 CNG outlets, meeting customer demand. BPCL is rapidly expanding its CGD infrastructure across multiple regions under the exclusivity granted by the Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB). To meet this goal, BPCL is establishing strategic partnerships to develop and operate CBG plants, supporting its net-zero goals in line with the government's Compressed Bio-Gas (CBG) Blending Obligation mandates.

BPCL is expanding its PNG business to provide a cleaner and more efficient fuel alternative for domestic, commercial, and industrial consumers. Through its CGD network, BPCL ensures the reliable supply of PNG across multiple regions. BPCL has already added over 3.3 lakhs domestic PNG connections and over 100 industrial customers. The company is also investing in infrastructure and partnerships to enhance accessibility and support India's transition to a gas-based economy.

Advancing the City Gas Distribution (CGD) sector through cutting-edge FOCUS technologies that enhance customer experience, operational efficiency, safety, last-mile connectivity and project execution

### THEME CATEGORIES:



COMPREHENSIVE **SOLUTIONS FOR** ENHANCING THE **CNG CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE** 

Innovative solutions to optimize and elevate the end-to-end journey for CNG consumers. Examples -Logistics optimization, End-to-end automation for CNG Stations etc.





Theme 2 continued...



INNOVATIVE
SOLUTIONS
ENHANCING
LAST- MILE
CONNECTIVITY FOR
PNG CUSTOMERS

Developing cost-effective, reliable and scalable solutions to expand and sustain the PNG (Piped Natural Gas) customers. Examples - Smart metering & advanced monitoring, Installation technologies, Smart billing and Customercentric digital services etc.

### **SAFETY SYSTEMS FOR CGD**



Pipeline Monitoring & Leak Detection Systems

Innovations leveraging acoustic technology, SCADA, IoT, or other advanced methods to improve real-time safety and leak detection.



Predictive
Maintenance &
Inspection
Tools

Technologies that enable real-time monitoring and predictive maintenance to reduce downtime, minimize repair costs, and ensure uninterrupted operations.



PROJECT
MANAGEMENT
TOOLS

Solutions that use artificial intelligence to optimize the execution of CGD projects, ensuring faster and more efficient delivery.





# **Eligibility Criteria**

# Relevance of Startup

The startup must be working under the specified theme / theme categories

# Validity of the Startup

The startup must be registered with DPIIT (Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade) and possess a valid certificate of registration

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# Stage of startup

Early stage startups (including seed funding)

### Founder's stake

The Founders must hold more than 26% of the equity in the startup





## **Evaluation process**

A two-stage evaluation process will be adopted to evaluate and shortlist the startups.

The first stage of screening and filtering will be done based on eligibility criteria mentioned above.

The second stage of evaluation will be done based on following broad parameters:









The shortlisted startups will pitch to a 'Committee', which will make the final investment decision, subject to the successful completion of due diligence and valuation.

IDBI Capital Market & Securities Ltd. (ICMS) is our consultant for this cohort. M/s. ICMS will play a key role in evaluating your proposals, assisting with due diligence, and conducting post-investment review and monitoring.





### **Application Submission Deadline**



April 10, 2025

# **Indicative Timelines**

Stages	Month
Pitching of shortlisted startups	May'25
Due diligence of selected startups	June'25
Final Investment Decision	July'25

# **Investment Approach**



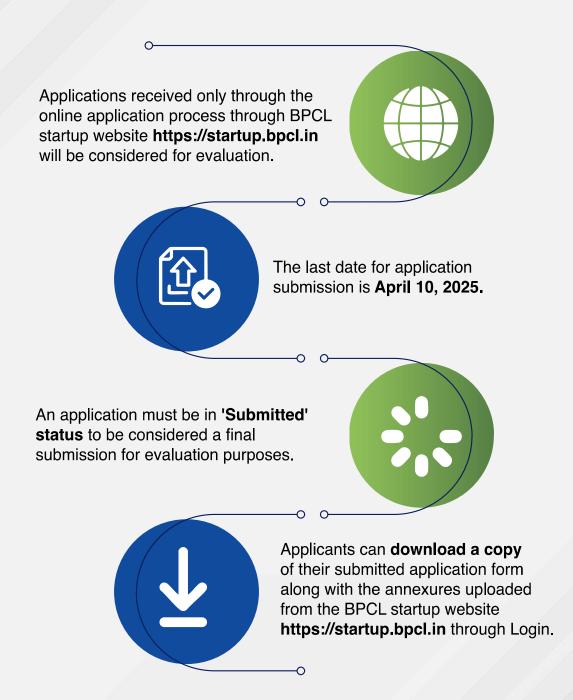








# **General Guidelines**





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- https://startup.bpcl.in



#### Disclaimer

BPCL/BPCL Ankur Trust reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to cancel, terminate, suspend this startup cohort and modify the rules related to the cohort at any point of time without prior notice. In no event shall BPCL/BPCL Ankur Trust be liable for any claims, losses, expenses, or damages, arising out of or in connection with this cohort.