

More Indians turn angels in startup funding boom

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CHENNAI: With more capital flowing in, startups being launched and lucrative exits, the profile of an Indian angel investor is changing. It's no longer just seasoned corporate executives or wealthy business owners but also mid-level professionals, techies in their 30s flush with hefty salaries and vested ESOPs, and conventional stock market investors joining angel networks and writing cheques to get in early on the action.

Angel investment firms told TOI that inquiries and new members have risen by almost 5x in 2021 leading them to conduct more awareness creation for the new kinds of investors and ticket sizes of angel investments too have thus fallen from an average Rs 10-15 lakh to Rs 3-5 lakh. Zomato's listing appears to be the inflection point for angel investing.

YOUNG TECHIES TO BOLLYWOOD ACTORS

➤ Ticket sizes of angel investments too have come down to an **average of ₹3-5 lakh** from ₹10-15 lakh

➤ Angel investment firms are seeing investors, from **young techies to senior executives**, who want to write the cheques and help startups grow in their early stages



➤ **More women, especially Bollywood actors**, are also turning angel investors

"From young techies to senior executives, we are seeing investors who want to write the cheques and help startups grow in their early stages," Padmaja Ruparel, co-founder, Indian Angel Network, said. More women, especially Bollywood actors, are also turning angel investors, she added.

"People from all walks of life are turning angels today and are part of multiple networks to get access to the deals and invest as well," Pooja Mehta, CIO, JITO Angel Network, said.