

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1410**  
ANSWERED ON 31/07/2025

**ANUSANDHAN NATIONAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION**

1410 DR. K. LAXMAN:

SHRI NARAYANA KORAGAPPA:

SHRI KESRIDEVSINH JHALA:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the vision and objectives of the newly constituted Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF);
- (b) whether Government is encouraging private participation through ANRF in R&D and innovation activities;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the steps taken by ANRF to support startups and MSMEs in science and technology;
- (e) whether ANRF is developing AI tools to accelerate core research in Physics, Chemistry, and Biology; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR THE  
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY & EARTH SCIENCES  
(DR. JITENDRA SINGH)

(a) Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF), established through the Anusandhan National Research Foundation Act, 2023 (25 of 2023) came into force on 5<sup>th</sup> February 2024. It aims to provide high level strategic direction for research, innovation and entrepreneurship in the field of natural sciences including mathematical sciences, engineering and technology, environmental and earth sciences, health and agriculture, and scientific and technological interfaces of humanities and social sciences, to promote, monitor and provide support as required for such research and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

(b) to (c): Yes, the Government is actively encouraging private sector participation in research, development, and innovation through the Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF). ANRF's strategic vision includes fostering strong industry-academia collaboration, promoting translational research. Its programmes are designed to support mission-driven, high-impact research with active participation from the private sector. In this direction, ANRF has identified Electric Vehicle (EV) Mobility as a key area under its MAHA (Mission for Advancement in High-impact Areas) initiative. To ensure effective industry engagement, the MAHA-EV Mission mandates the participation of relevant industries, /PSUs/start-ups, and includes a provision requiring 10% of the project cost to be contributed by Industry partners.

(d) The Government has approved the Research Development and Innovation (RDI) Scheme with a corpus of Rs. One lakh Crore. RDI Scheme aims to provide long-term financing at low or nil interest rates to spur private sector investment in RDI. The scheme has been designed to overcome the constraints and challenges in funding of private sector and seeks to provide growth & risk capital to sunrise and strategic sectors to facilitate innovation, promote adoption of technology and enhance competitiveness.

(e) to (f): Under the Advanced Research Grant (ARG) programme, PIs are free to submit proposals for the development of AI tools in the fields of physics, chemistry, and biology. Such proposals, if submitted, may be reviewed and considered by ANRF as part of the standard evaluation process.

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