

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
 MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
 DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1558**  
 ANSWERED ON 12/02/2026

**SANCTIONING RESEARCH PROJECTS**

1558 DR. PARMAR JASHVANTSINH SALAMSINH:  
 SHRI RYAGA KRISHNAIAH:

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

- (a) the grants approved and released by Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF) during the last year, discipline-wise;
- (b) whether delays occurred between sanction and fund disbursal;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the manner in which project selection balances fundamental research and mission-mode priorities;
- (e) whether private sector or philanthropic co-funding was mobilised;
- (f) if so, the details thereof; and
- (g) the oversight mechanisms adopted to track research outcomes?

**ANSWER**

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

- (a) The Program wise grants sanctioned and released/assigned by ANRF in the last year are given below:-

Program/Scheme	Grant Sanctioned (₹ in Crore)	Grant Released/Assigned (₹ in Crore)
Core Research Grant	31.42	13.62
Inclusivity Research Grant	117.07	56.21
International Travel Support (ITS)	20.10	20.10
JC Bose Grant	61.39	6.43
Mission for Advancement in High-impact Areas (MAHA)	264.70	182.82
National Post Doctoral Fellowship (N-PDF)	138.60	32.94
Partnerships for Accelerated Innovation and Research (PAIR)	729.18	310.14
Prime Minister Early Career Research Grant	408.79	228.31
Ramanujan Fellowship	29.75	2.50
Scientific and Useful Profound Research Advancement (SUPRA)	39.19	22.03
Seminar/Symposia	22.59	22.59
Teachers Associateship for Research Excellence (TARE)	1.46	0.49

(b) to (c): Sincere efforts are made to ensure the timely and streamlined release of funds following sanction and completion of due diligence, in accordance with prescribed procedures. The process is carried out upon submission of requisite documents and raising of claims by the beneficiaries, with a view to ensuring efficiency, transparency, and effective utilisation of funds.

(d) The Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF) has envisaged different programmes to maintain a balanced approach between fundamental research and mission-mode priorities, aligned with national goals.

For fundamental and individual investigator-driven research, support is provided through broad-based schemes such as the Prime Minister's Early Career Research Grant (PMECRG), Advance Research Grant (ARG), Inclusivity Research Grant (IRG), and Partnerships for Accelerated Innovation and Research (PAIR). In these programmes, the investigators select their research areas, primarily addressing fundamental scientific questions.

On the other hand, mission-mode and outcome-oriented research, focusing on national priorities, is supported through programmes under ANRF's Mission for Advancement in High-Impact Areas (MAHA). These include initiatives such as the 2D Innovation Hub, EV Mission, MedTech Mission, Artificial Intelligence for Science & Engineering (AI-SE), and Critical Raw Materials (CRM) Research Program, where the research areas are identified by ANRF to address specific societal and strategic challenges.

This structure ensures that both investigator-driven fundamental research and mission-oriented applied research are promoted in a complementary manner, maintaining the required balance and advancing national innovation priorities.

(e) to (f): The Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF) has launched several programmes under its Mission for Advancement in High-Impact Areas (MAHA), including the 2D Innovation Hub, EV Mission, MedTech Mission, Artificial Intelligence for Science & Engineering (AI-SE), and CRM Research Programme, to facilitate industry-academia partnerships, develop incubation ecosystems, and implement multi-stage engagement models.

The participation of relevant industries, Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs), and other appropriate partners is mandatory for these programmes. Industry partners are expected to contribute funding in cash or in-kind, such as access to R&D facilities, test beds, vehicles, or systems for testing and validation. For instance:

- In the EV Mission, at least 10% of the project cost is supported by the industry. As a result, the MAHA EV Mission has succeeded in attracting significant industry funding to a tune of Rs. 40 Cr, directly into the supported projects.
- In the 2D Innovation Hub, the industry partner is expected to contribute one-third of the project cost, preferably in cash, or in-kind support.
- Under the CRM Research Programme, industry partners provide a mandatory 10% in-cash cost-sharing contribution.

ANRF has also formally engaged with globally respected foundations such as the Gates Foundation and Wadhvani Foundation, through a Letter of Intent (LoI).

Further, the ANRF Translational Research and Innovation (ATRI) initiative will bring together all key stakeholders to channel expertise and resources, with ATRI Centres providing targeted support to advance promising technologies from Technology Readiness Level (TRL) 4 to TRL 7, thereby strengthening the pipeline from lab to market.

(g) A robust oversight and monitoring framework has been established under the Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF) to track research outcomes and ensure effective utilisation of funds.

ANRF employs a dedicated online monitoring system through which Principal Investigators submit periodic progress reports, utilization certificates, and other required documents. The portal facilitates expert review, mid-term assessments, and outcome-based evaluations. Additionally, onsite inspections and review meetings are conducted wherever required, particularly for large-value projects, to ensure alignment with objectives and timely achievement of research outcomes.

This framework ensures transparency, accountability, and continuous tracking of research performance, enabling ANRF to assess both scientific and societal impact of funded projects.

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