

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3701
ANSWERED ON 25/03/2026

Progress of STRIDE scheme

3701 # **Shri Mokariya Rambhai:**
Shri Deepak Prakash:
Dr. Anil Sukhdeorao Bonde:
Dr. Parmar Jashvantsinh Salamsinh:

Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

- (a) the current status of implementation of the Scheme for Trans-disciplinary Research for India's Developing Economy (STRIDE);
- (b) whether the initial three-year cycle for the institutions selected under Component-1 has been completed and whether the evaluation reports have been received;
- (c) if so, the details thereof including key findings in terms of research capacity enhancement, innovation and collaborative research outcomes;
- (d) whether any expansion, restructuring or additional components have been included under STRIDE to further strengthen trans-disciplinary research in higher educational institutions; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
(DR. SUKANTA MAJUMDAR)

(a) to (e): The University Grants Commission (UGC) launched the Scheme for Trans-disciplinary Research for India's Developing Economy (STRIDE) in 2019 for strengthening research culture, innovation and supporting trans-disciplinary research. It had the following three components:

1. Component-1: Research Capacity Building and Human Resource Development focused on colleges and Universities.
2. Component-2: Trans-Disciplinary Research and Inclusive Innovation for National Development.
3. Component-3: High Impact Trans-disciplinary Research in Humanities and Human Sciences.

The UGC has informed that the proposals under the scheme were invited during 2019 and after a thorough review of the proposals, 35 institutions were finally selected for Component-1 under STRIDE. The 3-year cycle for all the institutions selected under Component I has completed, and 27 HEIs have submitted the evaluation report.

At present, the Scheme for Trans-disciplinary Research for India's Developing Economy (STRIDE) is not in operation.

Further, the Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF) was established through the Anusandhan National Research Foundation Act, 2023 in February, 2024. The ANRF supports interdisciplinary research that brings together the depth of the core sciences with the contextual insight of the social sciences and humanities through its Convergence Research Centres of Excellence program launched in July, 2025. The program aims to address contemporary societal challenges that require integrated, trans-disciplinary solutions. The total outlay of the program is Rs. 375 crores for 5 years.

The Government of India has also established the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) as the apex body for research in the social and human sciences. ICSSR, through its various research schemes promotes, supports, and funds transdisciplinary research. During the last three years, ICSSR has awarded 2156 transdisciplinary research projects to 6468 beneficiaries with a sanctioned budget amounting to ₹3,55.94 crores.

In 2023–24, funding for transdisciplinary research under ICSSR was Rs.47,95,20,174. This increased to Rs.159,35,31,900 in 2024–25 (+232.32%) and Rs.148,63,36,600 in 2025–26 (+209.96%). Overall, this represents an increase of more than 200% in transdisciplinary research funding by ICSSR over the three-year period from 2023–24 to 2025–26.
