GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 228
ANSWERED ON TUESDAY, JULY 21, 2026

DEPLOYMENT OF CSR

QUESTION

228 Shri Constandine Ravindran:

Will the Minister of Corporate Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has explored the potential of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) resources to support innovation, social enterprises and mission-driven organizations capable of delivering scalable social impact across the country;

(b) if so, the framework developed by Government to encourage deployment of CSR resources towards research, innovation, technology development and social entrepreneurship initiatives and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the initiatives proposed to be taken by Government to strengthen innovation financing and support-growth of high-impact non-profit enterprises in the country?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

[SHRI HARSH MALHOTRA]

(a) & (b): The legal framework for Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) has been provided under Section 135 of the Companies Act, 2013 (‘Act’), Schedule VII of the Act and Companies (CSR Policy) Rules, 2014. Schedule VII of the Act enlists areas or subjects that may be undertaken by a company as CSR.

Schedule VII of the Companies Act, 2013 enumerates the activities that can be undertaken as CSR, which are aligned with national priorities to promote inclusive and sustainable development and support multiple social sectors mentioned in the said Schedule. Item (ix) of the Schedule VII also provides for contribution to incubators or research and development projects in the field of science, technology, engineering and medicine, thereby encouraging deployment of CSR resources towards research, innovation and technology development.

(c): The Ministry has recently vide notification dated 27.05.2026 widened the ambit of Schedule VII by introduction of new item no. (xiii) namely “Subscription to zero coupon zero principal instruments on Social Stock Exchange." This amendment will help Not for Profit Organisations to raise funding for public welfare projects in a transparent and regulated manner.

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