

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF PLANNING**

**LOK SABHA  
STARRED QUESTION NO.\*167  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 07.03.2018**

**RESEARCH CONTRACTS**

**\*167. SHRI ASHOK MAHADEORAO NETE:**

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

- (a) whether the Government has awarded research contracts to consultants, NGOs, educational and research organisations;
- (b) if so, the details thereof for the last three years along with the progress made in this regard;
- (c) whether research contracts are displayed on the websites of the Ministry;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the details of the internal process for deciding the subjects of research contracts?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING  
AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS**

**(RAO INDERJIT SINGH)**

(a)to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. \*167 FOR ANSWER ON 07.03.2018 FROM SHRI ASHOK MAHADEORAO NETE REGARDING “RESEARCH CONTRACTS”.**

(a) to (e) In line with the NITI Aayog’s mandate to be developed as a Knowledge and Innovation hub, a new set of guidelines viz. “Research Scheme of NITI Aayog 2015” have been framed in December 2015 for funding research studies that are considered important for the national development agenda. Under this Scheme, a total of 25 research proposals have been sanctioned assistance during the last three years i.e. during 2015-16 to 2017-18 (upto February 2018). These research studies awarded to consultants, NGOs, academic and research institutions, cover a range of subjects such as energy, science & technology, drought mitigation, healthcare, state finances, project appraisal, development planning, trade agreements, judicial case studies, railways, e-commerce, etc. The reports of the completed research studies are posted on website of NITI Aayog viz. [www.niti.gov.in](http://www.niti.gov.in).

As per the Scheme guidelines, the funding of the research studies is undertaken under three categories viz. (i) consultancy through advertisement/ bidding, (ii) consultancy by empanelment, and (iii) consultancy by nomination. The upper limit of financial assistance for individual proposals is Rs.25 lakh. The norms for procurement of consultancy services under General Financial Rules issued by the Department of Expenditure are followed. Research Evaluation Committees are constituted under the Scheme for considering the proposals.

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