

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION
LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO.427
ANSWERED ON 23/03/2026

Implementation of STRIDE Scheme

*427. Shri Bibhu Prasad Tarai:
Smt. Smita Uday Wagh:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of implementation of the Scheme for Trans-disciplinary Research for India's Developing Economy (STRIDE), including its objectives and components, State/UT-wise and institution-wise;

(b) the number of higher educational institutions currently supported under the Scheme along with the amount of funds allocated and released during the last three financial years, State/UT-wise, especially in Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh;

(c) whether the initial three-years cycle for institutions selected under Component-1 has been completed and evaluation reports received;

(d) if so, the details thereof, including the key outcomes in terms of research capacity enhancement, innovation, patents, start-ups, collaborative outputs, State/UT-wise;

(e) whether any expansion, restructuring or additional components have been introduced under STRIDE to further strengthen trans-disciplinary research in higher educational institutions, particularly benefiting institutions in Maharashtra, especially in Jalgaon region and Andhra Pradesh; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF EDUCATION
(SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN)

(a) to (f): A Statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY OF PARTS (A) TO (F) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.427 ANSWERED ON 23.03.2026 ASKED BY HON'BLE MPs SHRI BIBHU PRASAD TARAI AND SMT. SMITA UDAY WAGH REGARDING IMPLEMENTATION OF STRIDE SCHEME.

(a) to (f): 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. This scheme had the following 3 components:

1. Component-1: Research Capacity Building and Human Resource Development focused on colleges and Universities [All disciplines] (Duration – up to 3 Years).
2. Component-2: Trans-Disciplinary Research and Inclusive Innovation for National Development [All disciplines] (Duration – up to 3 Years).
3. Component-3: High Impact Trans-disciplinary Research in Humanities and Human Sciences [Including thrust areas in the subjects of (not limited to) - Philosophy, History, Archaeology, Anthropology, Psychology, Liberal Arts, Linguistics, Indian Languages and Culture, Indian Knowledge Systems, Law, Education, Journalism, Mass Communication, Commerce, Management, Environment and Sustainable Development] (Duration – up to 5 Years).

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. Total funds amounting to Rs. 16.28 cr. have been released by UGC under Component I of this scheme. Funds amounting to Rs. 31.75 lakhs and Rs. 3.41 crores have been released under the scheme to the Institutions in the states of Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra respectively. The 3-year cycle for all the institutions selected under Component I has been completed, and 27 HEIs have submitted the evaluation report. The scheme is presently not in operation.

Further, the Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF) has been established through the Anusandhan National Research Foundation Act, 2023 in February, 2024 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. 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.