

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3013
ANSWERED ON MONDAY, MARCH 15, 2021/
PHALGUNA 24, 1942 (SAKA)**

CSR FUNDS FOR R&D PROJECTS

QUESTION

3013. SHRIMATI POONAM MAHAJAN:

MS. RAMYA HARIDAS:

**Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS
be pleased to state:**

कारपोरेट कार्य मंत्री

- (a) whether the Union Government has decided to allow corporate sector of the country to use their mandatory Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) spending for investment in the research and development in major institutions and bodies;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether it is a fact that the Government is also considering to divert the CSR funds for the Government projects too; and**
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?**

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FINANCE
AND CORPORATE AFFAIRS**

वित्त एवं कारपोरेट कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री

(SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR)

(श्री अनुराग सिंह ठाकुर)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. Schedule VII of the Companies Act, 2013 ('the Act'), enlists the activities that can be undertaken by the companies under their Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) policies. Item no. (ix) of Schedule VII of the Act which reads as:

"(ix) (a) Contribution to incubators or research and development projects in the field of science, technology, engineering and medicine, funded by the Central Government or State Government or Public Sector Undertaking or any agency of the Central Government or State Government; and

(b) Contributions to public funded Universities; Indian Institute of Technology (IITs); National Laboratories and autonomous bodies established under Department of Atomic Energy (DAE); Department of Biotechnology (DBT); Department of Science and Technology (DST); Department of Pharmaceuticals; Ministry of Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy (AYUSH); Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology and other bodies, namely Defense Research and Development Organisation (DRDO); Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR); Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), engaged in conducting research in science, technology, engineering and medicine aimed at promoting Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)".

(c) & (d) : No such proposal is under consideration of the Government. CSR is a Board driven process and the Board of the company is empowered to decide the activities to be undertaken as per Schedule VII of the Companies Act, 2013 taking into consideration the recommendation of its CSR committee.
