

# Operational Guidelines

## Scheme for Trans-disciplinary Research for India's Developing Economy

# STRIDE



July, 2019

University Grants Commission  
Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg, New Delhi-110002  
Website: [www.ugc.ac.in](http://www.ugc.ac.in)



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## Foreword

I am delighted to introduce Scheme for Trans-disciplinary Research for India's Developing Economy (STRIDE) which will strengthen research culture and innovation in higher educational institutions and help students and faculty to contribute significantly to the national growth and development with the help of collaboration research.

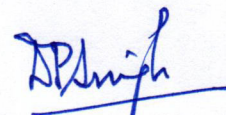
STRIDE will provide support to research projects that are socially relevant, locally need-based, nationally important and globally significant. This will support research capacity building as well as basic, applied and transformational action research that can contribute to national priorities with focus on inclusive human development. The Scheme will provide creation, development and integration of new ideas, concepts and practices for public good and strengthening civil society. The focus on Humanities and Human Sciences will boost quality research on Indian languages and knowledge systems.

The main aim of the STRIDE is to identify young talent, strengthen research culture, build capacity, promote innovation and support trans-disciplinary research for India's developing economy and national development and to fund multi institutional network high-impact research projects in humanities and human sciences. The three components of STRIDE will help strengthening trans-disciplinary research culture in colleges and universities. It will provide opportunity to build multi-sectoral linkages between university-government-community-industry for national development and wellbeing of people.

It is expected that this Scheme will help in enhancing quality and excellence in research which in turn will be useful in improving global ranking of Indian higher educational institutions.

I am confident that this Scheme will be of great help to institutions, teachers, researchers and students in the field of higher education and they will make all efforts to benefit from it both institutionally and individually.

I take this opportunity to sincerely acknowledge the significant contributions of Prof. Bhushan Patwardhan, Vice Chairman, other UGC officials and external experts in formulating this Scheme.



(Prof. D. P. Singh)  
Chairman

University Grants Commission

New Delhi  
8<sup>th</sup> July, 2019

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## UNIVERSITY GRANTS COMMISSION

# Scheme for Trans-disciplinary Research for India's Developing Economy (STRIDE)

### Preamble

Universities and colleges need to integrate education and research in various disciplines to sustain as centres of academic excellence. Systematic research can be instrumental in search of truth, quest for learning and understanding experiences in all domains of human existence to improve the quality of life. Research creates new knowledge, insights, and imparts excitement, vibrancy and dynamism in educational process. Research culture and academic integrity needs to be promoted among faculty and students from universities and colleges by creating conducive environment. Further, these universities and colleges need to be networked through high impact research projects with the active participation of eminent experts in diverse disciplines of humanities and human sciences. It is expected to forge national / international collaborations of academic, research, industry, government, community-based organizations and any other relevant partner led by a lead Indian institution.

As a part of quality mandate, the University Grants Commission (UGC) is proposing STRIDE - a new scheme to promote quality research by faculty and students. This would promote creation of new knowledge, inculcate innovative and cognitive thinking, and improve quality of doctoral research. The MHRD has already announced ambitious schemes including IMPRINT (Impacting Research Innovation and Technology), IMPRESS (Impactful Policy Research in Social Science), SPARC (Scheme for Promotion of Academic and Research Collaboration) and STARS (Scheme for Transformational and Advanced Research in Fundamental Sciences). The National Innovation Foundation has a database of over 310,000 technological ideas, innovations and traditional knowledge practices

from over 608 districts of the country. Over 1000 Institutional Innovation Councils have been recognized by the MHRD. This potential knowledge and resources can significantly contribute to India's developing economy. The STRIDE shall support Indian Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) that are eligible to receive UGC funding, especially Indian Universities and Colleges.

STRIDE plans to add new disciplines for research support with a thrust on research capacity building, trans-disciplinary research facilitating India's developing economy. The specific focus of the Scheme is to support high impact research in thrust areas of humanities and human sciences including arts, Indian languages, culture and knowledge systems through networking of experts from institutions and organizations across India. Typically, trans-disciplinary research is a team effort of investigators from different disciplines to create new conceptual, theoretical, methodological innovations that integrates and transcends beyond discipline-specific approaches to address a common problem. Trans-disciplinary research goes beyond mere production of knowledge and extends to the practical use of the knowledge outside academic endeavour. In essence, it takes into consideration the societal impact of knowledge enunciating as what should be the aim of research. It creates unity of intellectual frameworks beyond the disciplinary perspectives and solves problems by going beyond the boundaries of research to involve various stakeholders. Trans-disciplinary research generates knowledge through the use of multi and inter-disciplinary concepts and integrates new theories among science and society.

STRIDE will support trans-disciplinary research for social inclusion in line with national priorities and also support innovations and entrepreneurship. Inclusive innovations relate to creation, development and integration of new ideas, concepts and practices for public good and strengthening civil society. STRIDE will be focused on solution driven efforts by addressing needs of local/ regional communities and national priorities.

### **STRIDE will support the following innovative research projects:**

- **Socially Relevant**
- **Locally Need-based**
- **Nationally Important**
- **Globally Significant**

STRIDE shall support basic, applied and transformational action research for India's developing economy to attain Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) which will facilitate overall human development.

## Scope:

Research is an essential component of higher education which helps in search of truth, gain insights for creating new knowledge, imparts excitement and dynamism in educational process and facilitates intellectual growth. A trans-disciplinary approach brings specialists from different areas together with the common purpose of evolving new theories, methodologies and frameworks. Keeping this in mind, the UGC strives to promote and strengthen trans-disciplinary research in various disciplines in universities, institutions and colleges.

One of the aims of this scheme is to support high impact research in the areas of Humanities and Human Sciences. Typically, the Humanities and Social Sciences are the study of human behaviour and interaction in social, cultural, environmental, economic and political contexts. STRIDE plans to utilize the available expertise at leading HEIs to create multi institutional network of eminent scholars for developing and executing High Impact Research Projects in Humanities and Human Sciences. Such a network may draw a large number of reputed researchers and institutions from different disciplines to facilitate trans-disciplinary research of high impact.

STRIDE may help to create an appropriate research environment for promising graduate, post-graduate and research students to equip them to undertake quality research and attain excellence. This will also promote an action-oriented research and high impact research among motivated faculty from diverse disciplines focusing on issues and problems related to local, regional and national levels. Further, it will create a network of eminent researchers in identified thrust areas of humanities and human sciences from leading institutions.

## Objectives:

### **The main objectives of STRIDE are:**

1. To identify young talent, strengthen research culture, build capacity, promote innovation and support trans-disciplinary research relevant to national development and to enhance the overall well-being of society.
2. To fund high impact national network projects in the identified thrust areas in Humanities and human sciences, and Indian knowledge systems.



### **Research grant support through STRIDE has three components:**

**Component-1:** Research Capacity Building and Human Resource Development focused on colleges and Universities [All disciplines] (Duration – up to 3 Years).

**Component-2:** Trans-Disciplinary Research and Inclusive Innovation for National Development [All disciplines] (Duration – up to 3 Years)

**Component-3:** High Impact Trans-disciplinary Research in Humanities and Human Sciences [Includes thrust areas in following subjects (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)

**STRIDE Component-1** will endeavour to identify the motivated young talents with research and innovation aptitude in universities and colleges. The Scheme will provide research capacity building opportunities in diverse disciplines by mentoring, nurturing and supporting young talents.

**STRIDE Component-2** will be mainly focused on enhancing problem solving skills with the help of inclusive innovation and action research to innovate pragmatic solutions for local, regional, national priorities to contribute to India's developing economy.

**STRIDE Component-3** will fund high impact research projects in the identified thrust areas in humanities and human sciences through multi institutional network.

All the applications should be submitted via UGC-STRIDE online application portal. Relevant details will be updated on the website time to time. The selection of projects will be based on merit to be critically evaluated with help of expert peer review, Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC), Search-cum-Selection Committee (SSC) and Project Monitoring Committee (PMC) to be appointed by the UGC.

## **Unique Features of STRIDE**

### **Involvement of Young Talent**

STRIDE envisages creation of trans-disciplinary researchers among graduate, post-graduate doctoral and post-doctoral student population in HEIs. The students admitted to HEIs come from various locales having different socio-cultural background. These students may be encouraged to conduct systematic study of locale specific socio-economic problems

under the guidance of senior faculty/researchers for their degree dissertations and quality publications. The locale specific socio-cultural perspective of the researchers along with the use of rigorous methodology would yield suitable solutions to the problems under study. Further, this exercise will train and ignite the young minds to look at the nuances of socio-economic reality and reflect on different problem solving methods. This will encourage them to work on the research projects and provide an opportunity to interact with the senior researchers at all stages and give them a mature perspective of research.

### **Students (Under Graduate and Post-Graduate):**

The UG and PG students may be encouraged to investigate socio-economic issues pertaining to a selected community and will be selected on merit through a robust process of selection involving eminent faculty. Students may work on any subject that is based on local, regional or national needs. The engagement of students may be planned in collaboration with government and /or non-governmental organizations to attain SDGs and national priorities. This process can be better facilitated by engagement of students from different disciplines of social sciences, health, environment etc. The students in the process learn research methodology, substantive scientific aspect of the research, basis of conducting research in rural and tribal areas involving communities, analysis of data and writing the report. The report will be assessed to understand the scientific aspect of the study, methodology of collecting and analysing data for overall quality of the work. The students will present their research process and output in a conference that would include researchers from different universities and external assessors. They will be supported to prepare research papers for publication by the university or submit to the specialised journals. The students could be encouraged in the field for two months. By the time the students going to the field would have completed substantive theoretical and research methodology courses. The faculty research participants will supervise and guide the students to carry out both the primary and secondary data analysis.

### **Research Fellows (Doctoral and Post-Doctoral):**

The HEIs may design specific research program and announce research fellowships clearly specifying its objectives. Generally, PG candidates must have cleared UGC's NET or equivalent national examination for research fellowships. In exceptional cases, some of the best graduates without NET shall be given project fellowships based on merit and relevance. The doctoral research fellows may undergo a year-long two semesters of course work to fine-tune their substantive skills in scientific advances of the subjects, research methodology and statistical courses. However, the research program may recruit Post-Doctoral Fellows and they may be permitted to conduct specialized courses and also may be encouraged to attend advanced courses if recommended by their supervisor/mentor. The committee for the selection of research fellows should be appointed by the head of HEI and should include at

least one Fellow of National Academies or National Awardees. Doctoral and Post-Doctoral Fellows will be encouraged to select projects in their areas of interest in consultation with the supervisor. There will be a periodic review of the research by the faculty and students.

### **Young Faculty:**

The young and newly recruited faculty will be encouraged with the support of minor research projects / start-up grants and enable them to establish the research in emerging thrust topics of trans-disciplinary nature for developing new knowledge areas. The concerned researchers and the faculties are expected to get familiar with the research being done in the same area in other parts of the world. Fellowships like Commonwealth, Fulbright, DAAD and Erasmus Mundus cover international travel, accommodation and living expenses. Thus, the project resources need not be used to send faculty and researchers for international exposure. Agencies like DST, DBT, CSIR, ICCR and ICSSR have special funds to facilitate travel of Indian and foreign scholars to travel to other countries. In exceptional cases with due justification project grant may support part of international travel. There can be joint workshops or seminars to further explore the area and the outcome should be published as a National or International publication.

## UNIVERSITY GRANTS COMMISSION

# Scheme for Trans-disciplinary Research for India's Developing Economy (STRIDE)

## COMPONENT-1

(For all disciplines)

### Introduction:

Scheme for Trans-disciplinary Research for India's Developing Economy (STRIDE) aims to promote innovative culture for trans-disciplinary research especially in Universities and Colleges. The main objectives of STRIDE are to identify young talent, strengthen research culture, build capacity, promote innovation and support trans-disciplinary research relevant to national development and to fund high impact multi institutional network projects in the identified thrust areas in humanities and human sciences and Indian knowledge system. STRIDE through its three components supports the initiatives and research projects that are socially relevant, local need-based, nationally important and globally significant to accomplish Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and wellbeing of society.

### **Scheme for Research Capacity Building and Human Resource Development**

In order to support young faculty and motivated scholars from universities and colleges to enhance their basic research capacity and further persuade them to undertake trans-disciplinary research, the University Grants Commission (UGC) introduces a new scheme for research capacity building in Universities and Colleges (for all disciplines) under the umbrella

of STRIDE. This would create an impact on promoting quality trans-disciplinary research that is socially relevant, locally need based, and nationally important with global significance.

### **Objectives:**

The main objective of the scheme is to develop research culture and interest among young faculty, scholars and students to pursue careers and undertake the high-quality research in trans-disciplinary areas that augment and expand their research capacity.

This scheme is meant for the development of researchers and teams via training through competitive selection, to design research, follow research ethics, write research grant proposals, effectively execute the research, publish and patent research findings.

### **This scheme is to strengthen national and international collaborative trans-disciplinary research culture in universities and colleges by adopting the following:**

- ❖ To motivate young faculty to undertake short term projects analysing local, regional, national problems pertaining to social, cultural and economic aspects of development.
- ❖ To encourage critical reasoning, design thinking and constructive enquiry to articulate research questions, objectives, hypothesis and methodology.
- ❖ To acquire scientific writing skills, communication and articulation to disseminate research findings, and also in developing select bibliographies, constructing indices, databases, etc.
- ❖ To sensitize the stakeholders about the issues of societal, national, regional and global importance across disciplines through exchange of ideas by creating forums like discussion groups, periodic meetings, workshops, special lectures by experts, etc.
- ❖ To promote entrepreneurship among young faculty, scholars and students through systematic talent hunt, mentorship programs, ideas, innovation, research presentation competitions, annual research seminars and start-up guidance.
- ❖ To promote and strengthen faculty development and postdoctoral research fellowship programs in all disciplines and also promote academic and research ethics and integrity.
- ❖ To promote exchange between HEI faculty and scientists from national bodies/laboratories like CSIR, DST, DBT, ICMR, ICAR, DRDO, ISRO, ICSSR, ICHR, ICCR etc., for a period of 6-12 months split-site model. This can be mutually beneficial for enhancing quality and relevance of the trans-disciplinary research.
- ❖ To involve retired, yet active faculty/scientists in research capacity building efforts. Eminent faculty (Fellows of National Academies/National Awardees etc) from parent or neighbouring institutions may be invited as emeritus professors to mentor younger faculty in the respective Universities/Institutions.

### **Eligibility:**

Any university which is in formative and / or consolidation stage and any college can submit its project proposal for funding to develop and strengthen research capacity building of teachers and research scholars of all disciplines. It may also tie-up with the neighbouring institutions for its upgradation and inclusion. The university/college must be qualified under Section 2 (f) and 12 B of the UGC Act, 1956. The private institutions will not be entitled for funding however they can apply for recognition as a UGC-STRIDE Center for Research Capacity Building on a Self-finance mode.

### **Quantum of Support:**

The support under the scheme will be up to a maximum of Rs. 1 Crore per institution only to meet the specified objectives. The grant will be utilised as per the UGC rules/norms.

### **Tenure of the Scheme:**

The duration of the scheme shall be three years from the date of receipt of first instalment of approved grant.

### **Procedure for Applying for the Scheme:**

The eligible universities, institutions and colleges can apply online in the prescribed format for the Scheme available on the UGC Website. The institution would identify a Coordinator (academician of repute) at the institution level. The well-conceived project proposal covering at least 50% objectives of the Scheme along with the details of the budget and other information of the institution required as per the given enclosed format would be submitted.

### **Selection Process:**

All the project proposals would be subjected to peer-review and the project will be awarded on a competitive merit basis on the recommendations of the Expert Committee constituted by the UGC for the purpose.

### **Procedure for Release of Grants:**

The grant will be released in two equal instalments. Initially, 50% of the total approved grant will be released to the University/College. The remaining grant shall be released after the receipt of the Utilization Certificate of first instalment.

### **Procedure for Monitoring the Progress of the Scheme:**

Every awardee institution will appoint Mentoring and Monitoring Committee (MMC) consisting of eminent Scholars / Scientists (At least one should be Fellow of National Academy or National Awardee) and one nominee of the UGC. The MMC will continuously

review the progress (at least once in six months however, the UGC nominee may attend once in a year). An annual progress report (certified by the MMC) will be submitted by the awardee institution to the UGC. No extension is permissible beyond the total period of three years. In the final report, the Institution must indicate clear outcomes in line with the objectives of the scheme.

### **Utilization of Grants:**

The grant can be utilised for implementing specific objectives as outlined in the project proposal. The grant can also be utilized for

- a) Organizing short courses in research design, plagiarism policy, procurement policy, intellectual property, academic honesty, scientific and technical writing for academic and research purposes and so on.
- b) Participation in research internship specialized training, methodology workshops, etc.
- c) Domestic and International Travel may be permitted, if properly justified with the approval of Mentoring and Monitoring Committee (MMC).

### **Expected Outcome:**

At the end of the funding period the trained students, scholars and faculty will be expected to have strengthened their capability to prepare and submit scientifically meritorious research project grant applications and to have initiated or enhanced research training and career development programs relevant to the national mission.

### **Cancellation Policy:**

The project will be withdrawn at any point of time if it is found that the institution is ineligible or grant is not utilised for the purpose which it has been sanctioned or UGC rules have not been followed for utilising the grant.

## FORMAT FOR INVITING PROJECT PROPOSAL

### UGC – STRIDE COMPONENT-1

Project proposal may be submitted online as & when public notice is given for the same

## PART-A

### **(Institutional Profile)**

1. Name and Address of the University:
2. Year of Establishment:
3. AISHE Code:
4. NAAC Accreditation Status:
5. NIRF Ranking (If, Any):
6. Name and Address of the Registrar:
7. Name and Address of the Coordinator: (Attach the Profile of Coordinator)
8. Total Number of Faculty and total number of students in the University:
9. Financial assistance received/generated by the University from sources during the last 5 years.
10. Major ongoing areas where linkages with industries/ government agencies/ non-governmental organizations have been established.
11. Major Research and Technology developed by the University and output which has been used by user Departments/ Organizations/ Agencies/ Industries in the form of patents, commercial application/ facilities use for knowledge dissemination/ development in teaching.
12. Availability of infrastructural facilities for research:
  - a. Physical (Instructional and Amenities – Boarding)
  - b. Academic and Research
13. Any other Information



## Part – B

### (Detailed Project Proposal for UGC-STRIDE – Component - 1)

1. Broad Area of the Trans-Disciplinary Research:
2. Statement of Purpose (SOP) 500-800 words
3. Participating Faculties: (Breakdown of Roles and Responsibilities)
4. Approach for Research Capacity Building:
5. Action Plan: (inputs, time frame, methodology and cost)  
 Details of year-wise plan of work proposed to be done to achieve selected objectives of Component - I  
 Research Capacity Building in Specified Area
  - 1) Curriculum
  - 2) Critical Thinking
  - 3) Faculty Resources
  - 4) Collaborations and Partnerships
  - 5) Criteria of Selection
  - 6) Training Strategies
  - 6) Training Methods
  - 7) Innovations
  - 8) Any other approaches
  - 9) Implementation Processes (Time-frame)
6. Proposed Budget: (Most essential and critical financial needs/facilities which will be required for successful implementation and to attain the objectives set- forth)
  - 1) Non-Recurring
  - 2) Recurring
    - i. Core Assistance (Participant Cost and Hiring Services)
    - ii. Human Resources (Subject Experts) Cost
    - iii. Contingencies (Utilities, Stationary and Miscellaneous)
    - iv. Travel (Domestic and International)
7. Expected Output and Outcomes

**Signature of the Coordinator**  
**With Seal**

**Signature of the Registrar/Principal**  
**With Seal**

**Signature of the Vice-Chancellor**  
**With Seal**

## UNIVERSITY GRANTS COMMISSION

# Scheme for Trans-disciplinary Research for India's Developing Economy (STRIDE)

## COMPONENT-2

(For all disciplines)

### Introduction:

Scheme for Trans-disciplinary Research for India's Developing Economy (STRIDE) aims to promote innovative culture for trans-disciplinary research especially in Universities and Colleges. The main objectives of STRIDE are to identify young talent, strengthen research culture, build capacity, promote innovation and support trans-disciplinary research relevant to national development and to fund high impact multi institutional network projects in the identified thrust areas in humanities and human sciences and Indian knowledge system. STRIDE through its three components supports the initiatives and research projects that are socially relevant, local need-based, nationally important and globally significant to accomplish Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and wellbeing of society.

### **Scheme for Trans-Disciplinary Research**

This component of the scheme is to encourage young and mid-career faculty to engage in high quality research across disciplinary boundaries and knowledge systems, for sustainable development of selected local/regional geographies. This scheme mainly focuses on an action-oriented approach in higher education to improve quality of life, and the ecosystem. The basic idea is to enhance problem solving skills with the help of inclusive innovation and action research for national development and entrepreneurship.

## Objectives:

Main objective of the scheme is to promote trans-disciplinary research and inclusive innovation to facilitate national development. This will be attempted by promoting research projects that are socially relevant, locally need-based, nationally important or globally significant.

### **Specific objectives of this component of the scheme are as follows:**

- ❖ To encourage faculty, research scholars and students to undertake basic / applied/ action research projects with the engagement of the people in the larger framework of national priorities, policies and public good.
- ❖ To support trans-disciplinary research projects based on ideas emerging from inclusive, innovations and national missions related to poverty, gender, health, nutrition, hygiene, agriculture, animal husbandry, environment, disaster management, safety, energy, water, rural development, transport, urbanization, housing, digital knowledge, skill development, entrepreneurship, etc. related to local, regional and national development.
- ❖ To investigate the important areas related to people, communities and groups, to overcome exclusion based on social, economic, ethnic and gender identity issues.
- ❖ To explore possibilities of collaboration/ internships at the government, corporate and voluntary organizations level which may help faculty, scholars and students to get insights into real problems to address them in future.

## Eligibility/Target Group:

This component of the scheme is mainly meant for young/ mid-career faculty. UGC will provide support to regular Assistant/Associate Professor in any institution/university which qualifies under Section 2 (f) and 12 B of the UGC Act, 1956.

## Nature of Assistance:

Up to Rs. 50 Lakh. However, in exceptional cases where official collaboration with Government/ Corporate / Voluntary Organization is developed, the grant amount can be up to Rs 1 Crore for well justified project. In such case at least 40% share should be assured from the relevant collaborating organization. Representative list of important National Missions which may be considered for collaboration is given at Annexure 1.

## Non-Recurring Grants:

The grants will be utilized to procure the equipment for the proposed research work before the mid-term evaluation of the project. The equipment acquired by the Principal Investigator (PI) under the Scheme must be deposited with the University/ Institution/ College after the completion of the Scheme which will be the institutional property.

### **Recurring Grants:**

The financial support under this will be used for the items like Project Fellowships, Hiring Services, Contingency, Travel and fieldwork, etc. as per the UGC norms. However, PI may re-appropriate maximum 20 per cent of the recurring grant allocated under each head with the permission of Head of the Institution under intimation to the UGC with the justifications. The fellowship/honorarium/institutional overhead grants cannot be re-appropriated.

### **Tenure and Implementation:**

The tenure of the project/program under the Scheme will be three years. The effective date of implementation of the project will be from the date of receipt of first instalment of approved grant.

### **Procedure for Applying:**

Eligible Assistant/Associate Professors may submit their applications/project proposal ONLINE in the prescribed Proforma available on the UGC website. Before submitting to the UGC the concerned institute should get the proposal assessed by their research bodies with a certificate that the proposed research work is in conformity with the scheme guidelines. Downloaded three (3) copies of the filled Proforma duly forwarded by Registrar/Principal of the concerned University/College should be brought at the time of interface meeting.

Project proposals submitted must be original in ideation and content, free from any form of plagiarism. All submitted proposals would be subjected to a third-party similarity check and proposal is liable to be rejected if found plagiarised. Applicants are requested to pre-check their proposals for plagiarism as per UGC policy before uploading on the UGC web-portal.

### **Procedure for Approval:**

The proposals (Online and downloaded) duly forwarded by the concerned Universities/Colleges will be assessed with the help of a subject experts. Based on the experts recommendations the Principal Investigator (PI) of short listed project found complete in all respect will be invited for defence before the committee constituted for the evaluation. The final decision will be taken by the UGC on the basis of recommendations made by the committee.

### **Procedure for Release of Grants:**

The first instalment of the grant shall comprise of 100% of the Non-Recurring including Overhead Charges, and 50% of the total Recurring grant for the total duration of the scheme. The grant will be released to the Registrar/Principal of the University/College. The amount released will be spent according to the approved heads/items within the approved allocation mentioned in sanction letter. Remaining Grant will be released on the basis of the mid-term evaluation of project and as per the UGC norms.

### **Monitoring and Evaluation:**

After one and half years, PI of the Project will submit a progress report through Online and the same will be assessed by the Reviewers. The continuance of the project would be decided

on the basis of the reviewers report. After the completion of project tenure of 3 years, the parent institution of PI's should arrange to make the final assessment/evaluation of the project within the institution by two external experts, then the institution should forward the completion documents along with expert committee report in the prescribed Proforma.

### **Final Report and Settlement of Grants:**

- The final report of the project may be uploaded on the Scheme Portal of UGC Website and a Certificate of the same duly signed and stamped by the Registrar/Principal.
- It is mandatory to post the final report and executive summary of the report, research documents, monographs, academic papers published under project on the website of the University / College.
- The Principal Investigators/Institutions are expected to settle the accounts immediately on completion of the project. In case the balance grant, if any, is not claimed within six months from the date of completion of the project, the same will lapse and no representation will be entertained on this behalf.
- Year-wise statement with date of joining towards salary of staff appointed under the project.
- A consolidated audit statement of expenditure and utilization certificate for the amount actually utilized towards the project duly signed and sealed by the Govt. Internal Auditor/ Chartered Accountant, Registrar/ Principal as well as the Principal Investigator in the prescribed proforma.
- The unutilized grant if any, may be refunded immediately through RTGS / Online Transfer directly in favour of the Secretary, University Grants Commission, New Delhi.

### **Cancellation Policy:**

The project can be withdrawn at any point of time if it is found that the university/ Institution/ college is ineligible or grant is not utilised for the purpose which it has been sanctioned or UGC rules have not been followed for utilising the funds.

### **General Rules for Operation of the Scheme: As per UGC Guidelines.**

- a) The UGC will invite fresh proposals through a Public Notice published on UGC website ([www.ugc.ac.in](http://www.ugc.ac.in)) and the proposal submitted online is evaluated by reviewers, based on the recommendations the PI may be invited for presentation.
- b) After finalization of the selection procedure of the projects the names of the selected PI will be posted on the UGC website. The PI should check their names and send their acceptance certificate duly forwarded by the Registrar/Principal of the institutions immediately, to enable the UGC to send the approval/sanction letter. However, the

commencement of tenure of the project is from the date of release of grants.

- c) If the PI is transferred from his/her original place of work to another Institution [under Section 2 (f) and 12 B of the UGC Act, 1956] No Objection Certificate should be furnished for the transfer of the project from both the Institutions stating that necessary facilities will be provided by the Institution in which the awardee is transferred for the smooth running of the project.
- d) The data generated and the results obtained out of the Project may be incorporated by the Project Fellow in his/her thesis with the concurrence of the PI.
- e) The mid-term evaluation for ongoing projects will be carried out by the reviewers after completion of about one and half years of duration of the project. The PI has to submit the Progress Report online through UGC Portal.
- f) The Commission would decide the continuance of the project on the recommendations of the reviewers of the mid-term evaluation. If PI fails to submit mid-term progress report, the commission may discontinue/cancel the project in normal circumstances and entire amount to be refunded by the Principal Investigator to the UGC.
- g) After the completion of project tenure of 3 years, the parent institution of PI's should arrange to make the final assessment/evaluation of the project by two external experts at the institution level. Then the final report in the prescribed proforma should be forwarded to the UGC along with the expert committee report. However, the UGC expert committee will evaluate the final report of the project.
- h) PI should publish the results of the study on the project acknowledging the contribution made by the staff appointed for the project and the support received from the UGC.
- i) If a PI fails to complete the project, he/she has to refund the entire amount sanctioned with interest.
- j) No extension in tenure is permissible in any circumstances.

# ANNEXURE 1

## Representative list of important National Missions:







**8. Whether the teacher has received support for the research project from the UGC under Major/Minor scheme of support for research or from any agency? If so,**

(a) Details of the project/scheme completed or ongoing with the P.I

Name of the Agency	Year		Total	Equipment/Infrastructure Created
	Started	Completed		

9. Institutional and Departmental facilities available for the proposed work:

- a) Equipment                      b) Other Infrastructure

10. Any other information which the Principal Investigator may like to give in support of this project proposal which may be helpful in evaluating:

**PART – B**

**(Proposed Research Work for UGC-STRIDE – Component - 2)**

**1. Project Details:**

- 1) Broad Area of Research
- 2) Statement of Purpose 500 – 800 words
- 3) Project Title
- 4) Introduction
  - a. Origin of the research problem
  - b. Trans-disciplinary relevance
  - c. Societal Relevance
  - d. Relevance to National Missions / Priorities
  - e. Review of Research and Development in the Subject:
    - i. International status
    - ii. National Status
    - iii. Significance of the study
- 5) Objectives
- 6) Methodology

- 7) Year wise Plan of work and targets to be achieved.
- 8) Details of Collaboration with Government/ Industry/NGOs, if any intended
- 9) Expected Output and Outcomes

**2. Financial Assistance required Item Estimated Expenditure:**

- a) Project Fellow
- b) Hiring Services
- c) Field Work and Travel
- d) Contingency (including special needs)
- e) Honorarium
- f) Books and Journals
- g) Equipment, if needed (please specify name and approx. cost)

Total:

**3. Any other information which the investigator may like to give in support of project proposal which may be helpful in evaluating:**

To certify that:

1. The University/College/Institute is approved under Section 2(f) and 12 B of the UGC Act and is fit to receive grants from the UGC.
2. General Physical Facilities (furniture/space etc.) are available in the Department/College.
3. I/we shall abide by the rules governing the scheme in case assistance is provided to me/us from the UGC for the above project.
4. I/we shall complete the project within the stipulated period. If I/we fail to do so and if the UGC is not satisfied with the progress of the research project, the Commission may terminate the project immediately and ask for the refund of the amount received by me/us.
5. The above Research Project is not funded by any other agency.

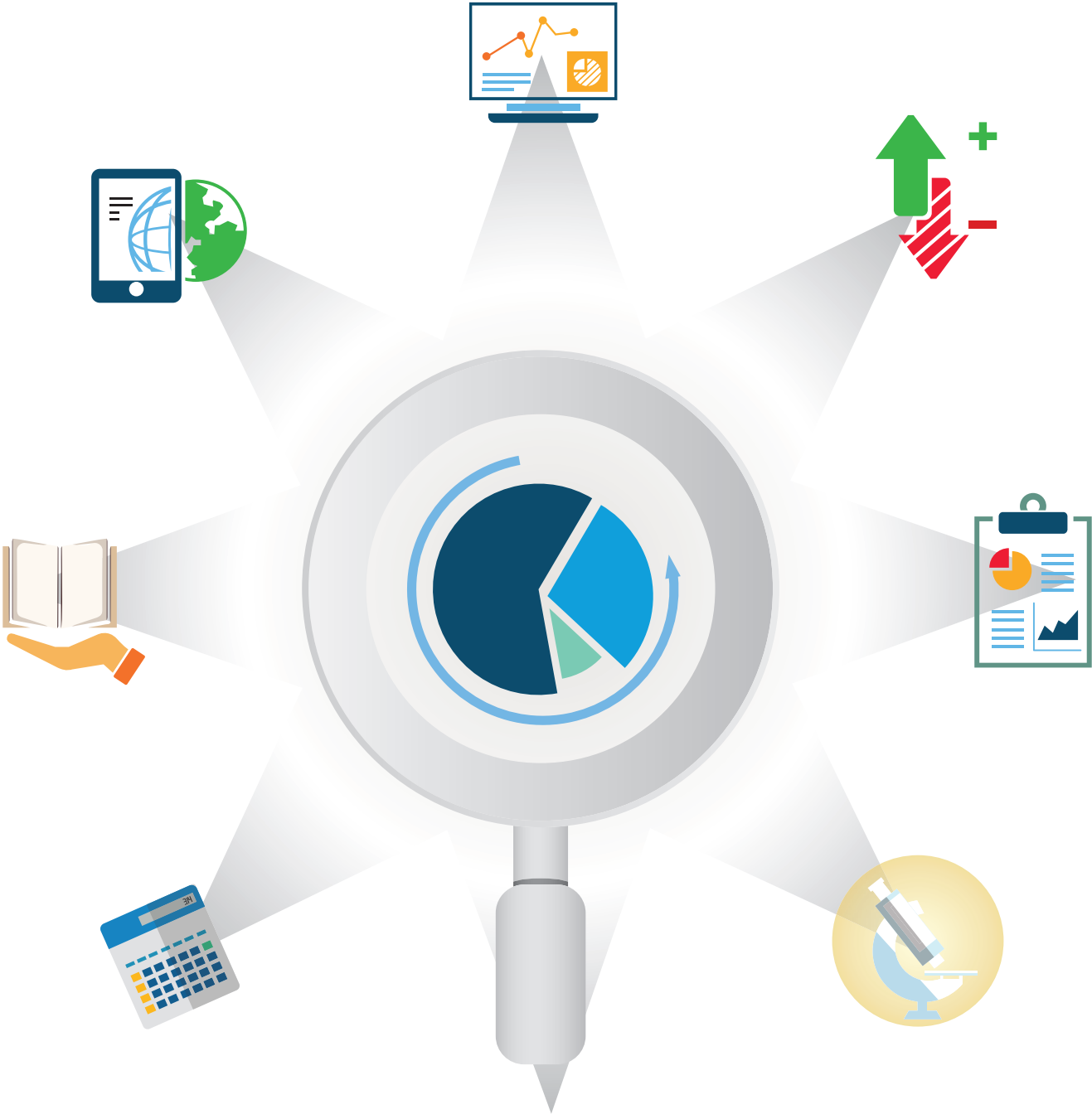
**Signature:**

**Name:**

**(a) Principal Investigator**

**(b) Co- Investigator**

**(c) Registrar/Principal  
(Signature with Seal)**



## UNIVERSITY GRANTS COMMISSION

# Scheme for Trans-disciplinary Research for India's Developing Economy (STRIDE)

## COMPONENT-3

### Introduction:

Scheme for Trans-disciplinary Research for India's Developing Economy (STRIDE) aims to promote innovative culture for trans-disciplinary research especially in Universities and Colleges. The main objectives of STRIDE are to identify young talent, strengthen research culture, build capacity, promote innovation and support trans-disciplinary research relevant to national development and to fund high impact multi institutional network projects in the identified thrust areas in humanities and human sciences and Indian knowledge system. STRIDE through its three components supports the initiatives and research projects that are socially relevant, local need-based, nationally important and globally significant to accomplish Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and wellbeing of society.

### **Scheme for High Impact Trans-Disciplinary Research in Humanities and Human Sciences**

STRIDE component-3 is focused on Humanities and Human sciences to support high impact projects with help of multi institutional network of eminent researchers in various thrust areas. Such network of researchers will be developed by involving best Indian faculty from universities, colleges, institutions, national academies, national councils, industries

and voluntary organizations of repute. Studies have indicated the deficiencies in the present state of research in Humanities and Human Sciences that are carried out in universities and colleges in India, though with notable exceptions. These deficiencies include lack of methodological rigour in identifying and analysing issues with proper reasoning, lack of trans-disciplinarily and even inter-disciplinarily, and lack of language skills for articulation and communication. One of the reasons for these deficiencies is to ignore the demand for a holistic understanding of the human condition that is imposed upon a research undertaken within the domain of humanities and human sciences. Due to these deficiencies most researches are not able to make desired impact at the national and global levels.

The goal of Humanities and Human Sciences is to conduct a systematic inquiry into the ever-expanding frontiers of knowledge of human mind and of social reality. Such inquiry provides the basis to formulate policies to enhance quality of human life which is an end in itself. Thus, it will play a significant role in understanding the conditions in which humans find themselves. For this reason, an overarching policy framework is required to facilitate research and creative engagement with human sensitivity and nature in its historical, literary, cultural, social, linguistic, artistic, and spiritual dimension. The importance of Humanities and Human Sciences towards a holistic understanding of human behaviour is undeniable since they cultivate young minds to value democracy and human development and imparts skills to collaborate across disciplinary boundaries to develop a better understanding towards local as well as global problems.

Thrust areas in identified disciplines of Humanities and Human Sciences include (but not limited to) philosophy, anthropology, archaeology, psychology, behavioural and cognitive sciences, literature and linguistics, digital humanities, liberal arts, Indian languages, culture and Indian Knowledge Systems, law, education, journalism and mass communication, commerce, management and environment and sustainable development.

UGC will appoint Search-cum-Selection Committee (SSC) to invite/ consider, evaluate and to recommend projects received under STRIDE. The Principal Investigator (PI) must network with Co-Investigators (CI) from participating institutions in conceiving the proposal in trans-disciplinary areas.

### **Objectives:**

This component of the scheme is to conceive, construct, commission, implement and monitor high impact innovative projects by identifying best talent to work as team by creating a network of multiple institutions. It intends to reach out to experts of high repute and performing highest standing quality research in relevant disciplines of humanities and human sciences.

### **Following are the specific objectives of this component of the scheme:**

- ❖ To develop high impact projects and promulgate trans-disciplinary research in the identified thrust areas which have direct implications for creation of new knowledge, advancement of disciplines along with global leadership and progress of the country.
- ❖ To identify individual faculty/researchers with proven track record of quality teaching and research in Humanities and Human Sciences and support them for trans-disciplinary areas through post-doctoral fellowships, emeritus professorships, etc.
- ❖ To make research as a catalyst for innovative teaching relating to identified thrust areas.
- ❖ To identify, support and create quality human resources in thrust areas of humanities and human sciences and also to produce and publish world class research output.
- ❖ To create a network of researchers of eminence across disciplines to form a team that can deliver high impact research outcomes in trans-disciplinary areas.
- ❖ To create high impact at global level through scholarly reports, thought leadership articles, critical reviews and high-quality research publications in reputed journals.

### **Eligibility to receive funding:**

Any researcher working in the University/Institution/College, which qualifies under Section 2 (f) and 12 B of the UGC Act, 1956 with proven track record to undertake trans-disciplinary research in the fields of Humanities and Human Sciences, can submit project proposal for funding up to Rs. 5 Crores, with a national network of co-investigators from a minimum of 2-4 institutions / organizations. The Principal Investigator (PI) should have sufficient expertise and support systems such as administrative, financial and research to carry out the trans-disciplinary research in the identified thrust areas. In addition to research network of Indian HEIs, reputed international institutions may be involved if well justified with approval of the UGC.

### **Duration of the Scheme:**

The tenure of the scheme will be up to five years. The effective date of implementation of the approved tenure will be from the date of receipt of first instalment of the approved grant.

### **Ceiling of Assistance:**

The maximum limit of financial assistance will be upto Rs. 5 Crores for a period of five years for multi institutional network project. The maximum limit for individual investigators within an institution among different departments/disciplines in identified thrust areas will be upto Rs. 1 Crore. The financial assistance will be provided for recurring as well as non-recurring items of expenditure.

### **Procedure for Application:**

The PIs/ CIs from eligible institutions may apply in prescribed format along with detailed project report. The application should be forwarded through the Head of the PI institution duly certified that (i) the core facilities are available and will be provided to the investigator(s) to work on the proposed scheme, and (ii) the department/ institute will discharge all its obligations, particularly in respect of management of the grants given.

In addition to such applications, the SSC on its own may also identify eminent scholars, multi institutional network collaborators and commission the project by invitation.

All project proposals submitted must be original in ideation and content, free from any form of plagiarism. All submitted proposals would be subjected to a third-party similarity check and proposal is liable to be rejected if found plagiarised. Applicants are requested to pre-check their proposals for plagiarism as per UGC policy before uploading on the UGC web-portal.

### **Pre-proposal option:**

Applicants may choose to submit a pre-proposal briefly explaining concept, objectives, methodology and outcomes. The pre-proposals will be screened by Search and Selection Committee (SSC) of the UGC. Successful pre-proposal applicants will be invited to develop detailed project report (DPR). In such cases, the UGC may extend the financial assistance to the extent of Rs. 2 Lakhs for organizing workshops / meetings, if necessary, for developing DPR. In such cases, PIs should give submit Letter of Intent in prescribed format and undertaking to submit a detailed proposal (DPR) within a period of two months via UGC-STRIDE online application portal.

### **Procedure for Selection Process:**

The detailed project report in identified thrust areas will be peer reviewed by the experts. PIs and CIs of shortlisted projects may be invited to defend the project before the SSC. The SSC will critically evaluate the project proposals based on presentation / interactions with the network PI and CIs and submit recommendations to the UGC. The UGC communicate the sanction letter after approval in the commission.

### **Post Approval Process:**

Once the approval letter and initial grant is released, the Vice-Chancellor / Registrar / Principal must ensure that the University / College accepts terms and conditions and implement the Scheme within three months from the date of approval letter. Otherwise the UGC may cancel the approval of the Project.

### **Procedure for Monitoring and Progress of the Project:**

Once the approval letter and First Instalment of the grant released, the respective institutions

set up modalities for accounting and monitoring of the project progress. All advances must be settled within defined period (financial year) and further advance cannot be released until the advance already taken settled. However, the responsibility of project execution and progress rests with the Principal and Co-Investigators and project monitoring rests with the institution and the institution need to constitute a project monitoring committee for periodic monitoring and review as per the norms of the UGC scheme.

Ensure that resources required for a particular project are planned in advance and optimally utilised so as to avoid adverse impact on outcome of project.

The UGC assistance for the payment of consolidated emoluments of Post-Doctoral Fellow and Emeritus Fellow will be as per the conditions of appointment during the project duration. The UGC will not be responsible either legally or financially for continuation of the services of personnel appointed under the project after completion of the duration.

If, PI could not appoint/recruit approved sanctioned positions under the Project, on the date of completion of the duration of the project, it will automatically stand lapsed.

The rules and regulations of respective HEIs along with stipulations by the UGC will be followed. In case of any difficulty, the matter may be referred to SSC. The UGC will consider recommendation of the SSC and take appropriate decision, which shall be final.

Good practices in project implementation, monitoring and accounting will be shared with all the participating universities / institutions. Often some of the administrative process in certain institutions may be time consuming thereby delaying the project progress. Such cases must be identified early in the process and the participating institution should be supported to develop and put in place better methods of project administration without losing much time.

Initially, 100% Non-Recurring (NR) Grant and 50% of the Recurring Grant of total approved allocation will be released to the institution as a part of first instalment. The remaining grant shall be released after the receipt of the Utilization Certificate of first instalment and also fulfillment of other conditions of the UGC. If the NR Grant expenditure is not incurred as per UGC norms, before mid-term evaluation and the progress report is not satisfactory, the project stands cancelled and the grant released to be refunded with 10% of interest.

**Second and subsequent instalment of grants will be sanctioned only on receipt of the following documents:**

- a) Year-wise consolidated budget-head wise statement of actual expenditure and utilization certificate incurred against the grant paid for the previous year in the prescribed proforma, duly audited and signed by the Registrar, Finance Officer and Principal Investigator.
- b) The PI must submit an Annual Progress Report in the prescribed format, highlighting



the specific observations/ comments of the project monitoring committee.

- c) A mid-term evaluation after two years has to be carried out by the UGC on progress of the project scheme subject to satisfactory report.
- d) The UGC shall ensure a formal impact assessment of project by involving eminent experts or third-party evaluation at the end of the project.

### **Expected Outcome:**

- Innovations in humanities and human sciences
- Scholarship and thought leadership
- Scientific exploration of Indian knowledge systems
- High quality, high impact publications
- Inter and intra institutional collaboration
- Human resources development

### **GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

1. The Institution assumes financial and other administrative responsibilities of the project from which PI belongs.
2. In case of network project, formal agreement from the collaborating individuals through institutions should support the proposal.
3. International travel may be permissible under the project as approved by the SSC.
4. The manpower recruited for the project should be paid as per the rules of the UGC.
5. The proposals will be considered for approval/rejection by the committee constituted for the purpose.
6. It is the policy of UGC to maximize the use of expertise. In this light, Investigator shall permit the use of spare or idle capacities of equipment procured or facilities created under the project by Bonafide users (research workers in other UGC funded projects or other projects of the institute/networking institutions).

### **Cancellation Policy:**

The project can be withdrawn at any point of time if it is found that the university/institution/college is ineligible or grant is not utilised for the purpose which it has been given or UGC rules have not been followed for utilising the funds.

### **DOCUMENTS/ENCLOSURES REQUIRED WITH THE PROJECT PROPOSAL:**

- a) Certificate from Investigator(s) and endorsement from Head of the Institutions on letter head

- b) Details of the proposals to be submitted online in the prescribed format
- c) MoU among the Participating Institutions
- d) Name and address of at least five experts/Institutions who may be interested in the subject/ outcome of the project (list).
- e) Registration Certificate, Memorandum of Association and Rules and Regulation of the Institution run by NGO/Non-Profit Organization/Agencies.
- f) Audited Statement of annual accounts and report (pertaining to the last 2 financial years).
- g) Procurement Policy of the Participating Institutions
- h) Institutional Ethical Clearance for the proposed networking project

The Pre-proposals should be restricted to 4-5 pages defining (a) clear cut objectives, (b) work plan (c) expected outcome (d) Bio-data of the investigator/s giving details regarding the expertise along-with the list of research papers in the proposed research area and (e) tentative budget estimates. The Pre-proposals will be examined by expert committee and PI's of the shortlisted concepts will be asked to submit their detailed proposals for further consideration.

### **Eligibility for Application:**

- 1) Collaborative Research: The partners should identify domains within which their research project proposal will be developed. For each domain, there should be a description on why the domain is prioritized, overall program direction and approach to identifying the key questions. Details should be provided for the contribution, expertise and research experience of each partner.
- 2) Each partner should have a proven interest in the area of collaborative research as evidenced by publications and acknowledged expertise.
- 3) The project proposal should have a clearly defined long-term R&D strategy.



## FORMAT FOR INVITING PROJECT PROPOSAL

### UGC – STRIDE COMPONENT-3 Part – A (Institutional and Investigator Profile)

**Project proposal may be submitted online as & when public notice is given for the same**

1. Name and Address of the Institution:
2. Year of Establishment:
3. AISHE Code:
4. NAAC Accreditation Status:
5. NIRF Ranking (If any):
6. Name and Address of the Registrar/Principal:
7. Name, Address and Profile of the Principal Investigator:
8. Other Participants (Name, Address and Profile each of the Co-Investigators):
9. Capability of the Institution/Organisation in the Thrust Area:
  - 1) Expertise available in the identified thrust area:
  - 2) Research and Collaborative Projects completed by the Institution during last 5 years.
  - 3) Details of Collaborative Programme (Teaching, Research and Extension Activities)
  - 4) Details of Seminars, Conferences etc. Organized during last 5 years:
  - 5) Financial assistance received/generated by the University / College from other sources during the last 5 years.
  - 6) Major ongoing areas where linkages with industries/NGOs have been established.
  - 7) Major Research, Technology and Policy developed by the University/College and output which has been used by user Departments/ Organizations/ Industries in the form of patents/copyrights, application and use for knowledge dissemination/ development in teaching and delivery of services through public policy framework.
  - 8) Institutional Structures, Mechanisms and Policies
    - a) Institutional Research Board
    - b) Procurement Mechanism
    - c) Plagiarism Policy
    - d) Consultancy Policy
  - 9) Availability of infrastructural facilities for research:

- a) Physical
  - b) Academic and Research
10. Any other information:

## **Part – B**

### **(Detailed Project Report for UGC-STRIDE Component - 3)**

- 1) Title of the Project:
- 2) Statement of Purpose (500-800 words)
- 3) Aims and Significance of the Project: (Include the current status of work in identified thrust area, both in India and abroad, with appropriate reference list at the end; identify lacunae, define question to be investigated).
- 4) Objectives: (list briefly specific objectives of investigation)
- 5) Newness/Novelty/Uniqueness of the project proposal including anticipated impact:
- 6) Plan of work, methods and techniques to be used
- 7) Details of year-wise Time-schedule or milestones proposed to be done to achieve the objectives
- 8) Specific targeted outputs (Apart from reports/papers/patents; or any processes, products, policy systems etc., targets are set realistic picture after assessing the available resources)
- 9) Measurable Deliverables (economical, technological and societal benefits etc., at the end of the project)
- 10) Most essential and critical financial needs/facilities which will be required for successful implementation and to attain the objectives set- forth.
- 11) Justification of Budget (For each position, item of equipment, and contingencies. Quotation for equipment should also be enclosed)
- 12) Furnish the Project Implementation Strategy:
  - a. Action Plan (Strategy and Implementation – Roles and Responsibilities)
  - b. Procurement Plan (Procurement Policy – Procurement Committee – Timelines)
  - c. Recruitment Plan (Recruitment Policy – Recruitment Committee – Timelines)
  - d. Financial Management Plan (Financial Policy – Adherence to GFR-2017)
  - e. Project Monitoring Plan (Project Monitoring Committee – Appraisal Method)

- 13) If the project has any social relevance/industrial significance, give names and addresses of 3 NGOs/Industries that may be interested in the project.

Signature of Principal Investigator

Signature of the Registrar/Principal  
With Seal

Signature of Vice-Chancellor  
With Seal

## **Thrust Areas of Research under Scheme**

**Following disciplines are included for support under scheme:**

- 1. Philosophy**
- 2. History, Archaeology and Anthropology**
- 3. Psychology, Behavioural and Cognitive Sciences**
- 4. Literature, Linguistics and Digital Humanities**
- 5. Indology, Indian Languages**
- 6. Indian Knowledge Systems**
- 7. Liberal Arts, Cultural Studies, Religious Studies**
- 8. Law**
- 9. Education, Continuing Education, Technology-enabled Education**
- 10. Journalism and Mass Communication**
- 11. Management and Commerce**
- 12. Environment and Sustainable Development**

The ten grand challenges facing the humanities in India described in report to MHRD are also deemed to be part of thrust areas (Grand challenges for Humanities in India, A Report to MHRD by Menon and Ramaswamy, 15 June 2019).

### **1. PHILOSOPHY**

- Philosophers and philosophical traditions in different historical periods: Indian, Chinese, and Western
- Logic, Epistemology, Metaphysics, Axiology, Ethics, and Aesthetics
- Philosophy of Science and Technology
- Philosophy of Social Science
- Experimental Philosophy
- Philosophy of Mind, Cognitive Science and Artificial Intelligence
- Modern Indian Philosophy and Philosophers
- Intercultural Philosophy / Comparative Philosophy
- Applied Ethics (Environmental Ethics, Bio-Ethics, Neuro-Ethics, Business Ethics)
- Social Philosophy in Contemporary India
- Philosophy and Humanistic Disciplines: History, Sociology, Literature, Popular Culture
- Analytic Philosophy, Phenomenology and Existentialism, Hermeneutics and De-construction
- Perspectives on Democracy and Nationalism
- Philosophy and Gender
- Philosophy, Spirituality and Saint Tradition in India
- Philosophy and/of Religion

### **2. HISTORY, ARCHAEOLOGY, AND ANTHROPOLOGY**

- Indian Knowledge Systems/ Networks of knowledge
- Ancient, Medieval and Contemporary Indian History
- Historiography – Indian and Western
- Pre-history and Proto-history
- Indian History and Connected Histories
- Historical Geography

- History of Science, Technology and Medicine: Indian and Western
- History of Indian Freedom Struggle
- History of Ideas/Intellectual History
- Migration Studies
- Maritime History: Indian and Asian
- Indian Military History
- Art and Cultural History
- History of Gender
- Art and Archaeology of Religions
- Archaeological and Textual studies
- Ethnography and Archaeology
- Urban History, Nationalism and the Modern World
- Biological Archaeology
- Socio-cultural Anthropology
- Linguistic Anthropology
- Biological Anthropology
- Medical Anthropology
- Political and Economic Anthropology
- Heritage Management, Scientific Conservation, Museology

### **3. PSYCHOLOGY, BEHAVIOURAL AND COGNITIVE SCIENCES**

- Clinical Psychology and Counselling
- Behavioural Psychology
- Developmental Psychology
- Social Psychology, Biological Psychology
- Cognitive Psychology, Neuropsychology
- Child Psychology, and Education

### **4. LITERATURE, LINGUISTICS AND DIGITAL HUMANITY**

- Literature in all Scheduled Indian Languages
- Literature on Tribal Languages
- Literature in Foreign Languages
- Imagery in Literature and Poetry
- Poetics and Aesthetics
- Scientism in Literature
- Culture and Nationalism in Literary writings in India
- Comparative Literature, Dalit literature, Gender and Literature
- Literature and Diaspora, Literature and Social Change
- Structural Linguistics
- Diachronic Linguistics
- Computational Linguistics
- Digital Archiving
- Digital Pedagogy
- Digital Spaces and Cultures
- Indian Digital Humanities

### **5. INDIAN CLASSICAL LANGUAGES, INDOLOGY**

- Critical Editions with Translation of Knowledge Texts in Indian Tradition
- Ancient Tamil Literature; Dravidian family of Languages



- Comparative studies involving Classical Languages, Literature and Literary models.
- Medieval and Contemporary literature in Indian Classical Languages
- Textual Mapping, Manuscript Culture and Inscriptions
- Palaeography of ancient Indian texts and Calligraphy
- Production of Research Material
- Preservation and Data Bases
- Lexicography
- Chronology and Genealogy in Puranas and chronicles in Classical Indian Languages
- Asia and Pan-Indian Classical Languages: Influence and Adaptation
- Computer tools for analysing verses in ancient Indian texts
- E-dictionaries based on ancient dictionaries
- Machine translations
- Development of OCRs and other required software & Apps

## 6. INDIAN KNOWLEDGE SYSTEMS

- Ancient Indian Traditions and Sciences
- Darsana-sastra, Manasa-sastra,
- Ayurveda, Siddha, Sowa Rigpa, Unani, Nature cure
- Yoga, Meditation, Consciousness
- Arthasastra, Rajyasastra, Nyayasastra
- Ecological, environmental & nature studies
- Ancient and Medieval Indian Astronomy and Mathematics
- Architecture & Vastusastra
- Ancient Indian Botany, Agricultural Practices
- Dakargala Shastra, Dhatuvada

## 7. LIBERAL ARTS, CULTURAL STUDIES, RELIGIOUS STUDIES

### (A) Liberal Arts:

- Performing Arts: Dance, Theatre, Music
- Traditional Folk Performing Arts: Kathakali, Noutanki, Tamasha, Ankiya Nat, Bhavai, Dashavtara, Yakshgana, etc.
- Visual Arts: Painting, Sculpture, Film, Digital Images etc.
- Applied Arts: Graphics, Animation, VFX technology, etc

### (B) Cultural Studies:

- Cultural Traditions: Classical and Vernacular Literary Traditions, Oral and Folk traditions
- Cultural Histories: Writing histories of dance, music and theatre cultures--Indian and regional Film cultures
- Culture Industries: Studies of Indian film industries, Music industry, Social media Popular culture in digital format
- Visual Cultures: Indian Art, Photography, Paintings--Urban planning and Design
- Cultural Policy: Literary, cultural and music academies of the Central and state governments, Museums, Language Policy--Cyber Laws on literary and cultural expression
- Subaltern Cultures: Women's cultural movements, --Dalit and Adivasi cultural life and Subaltern religious movements, Dalit and Adivasi literatures, Minority cultures
- Conceptual histories: Writing conceptual histories of categories such as Tradition, Modernity, Democracy, Nationalism and Culture. Teacher feedback on learner uptake of form and syntactic complexity.
- Tribal cultures and ways of documenting and protecting them for the future.
- Demographic change in the context of northern and southern kinship systems and its implications to finance commission work.

### (C) Religious Studies

- Current debates in religious studies
- Religion for Inclusion and Cohesion
- Religions in the Modern World
- The ritualistic aspect of religion and its evaluation.
- Scientific inquiry into religious traditions
- Religious reforms, Inter-religion dialogue
- Religion and Spirituality in the contemporary World
- Faith Conversions: Determinants and Debates
- Divinity and Religion
- Religious monuments, scriptures, symbols, rituals etc.
- Comparative Religion and World Religion

## **8. LAW**

- Constitutional Law
- Civil and Criminal Law
- Human Rights
- Consumer Law
- Company Law
- International Law
- Environmental Law

## **9. EDUCATION, CONTINUING EDUCATION, TECHNOLOGY-ENABLED EDUCATION**

- Pedagogy Research
- Innovative methods in teaching and learning
- Technology-enabled Education
- MOOCs
- Design Thinking, Critical thinking
- Problem-based Learning
- Flipped Classroom approach
- Primary and Secondary Education Reforms
- Higher Education reforms
- Adult and continuing education
- Professional and Technical Education

## **10. JOURNALISM AND MASS COMMUNICATION**

- Media and Technology
- Media and Civil Rights
- Public Relations
- Political Communication
- Visual Communications
- Broadcasting and press policies
- Social Media
- Social justice and empowerment
- Science and Health Communication
- Public health and behaviour and social change
- Political elections multimedia campaigns
- Non-conventional energy, out-migration, film censorship

## **11. MANAGEMENT AND COMMERCE**

- Organizational Behaviour and Human Resource Management
- Marketing
- Information Communication Technology (ICT) and Business
- Finance & Accounting
- Strategy and Operations
- Organizational Development
- Sustainability & Corporate Social Responsibility
- Rural Economic Development and Management
- Innovation, Intrapreneurship and Corporate Entrepreneurship

## **12. ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

- Development and Sustainability
- The SDG framework and Agenda 2030
- Environment, Climate Change, Biodiversity
- Water, Energy, Natural resources
- Rural Development
- Rural Technologies (Product / Process Development and Value Addition)
- Agriculture (Integrated Farming, Food Security, Animal husbandry, Dairy & Fisheries)
- Health, Hygiene and Sanitation
- Education and Development
- Development beyond anthropocentrism
- Urbanization, Industrialization
- Poverty and Wealth
- Gender and Development
- The de-growth and transition movements





**SCHEME FOR TRANS-DISCIPLINARY RESEARCH  
FOR INDIA'S DEVELOPING ECONOMY**

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