F. No. 223/90/2017 - R&D

भारत सरकार/ Government of India

नवीन और नवीकरणीय ऊर्जामंत्रालय / Ministry of New & Renewable Energy

(अनुसंधान और विकास प्रभाग / (R&D Division)

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Atal Akshay Urja Bhawan
Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003
Dated:17th July, 2026

ORDER

Subject: Administrative approval for continuation of Renewable Energy Research and Technology Development Programme (RE-RTD) in the 16th Finance Cycle (FC) period from 2026–27 to 2030–31.

Sanction of the President of India is hereby accorded for Administrative approval for continuation of Renewable Energy Research and Technology Development Programme (RE-RTD) **in the 16th Finance Cycle (FC)** period from 2026–27 to 2030–31 at a total cost of Rs. 436.93 crore.

The scheme aims at scaling up R&D effort for "**Renewable Energy Research and Technology Development** "during the said period for promoting indigenous technology development and manufacture for wide spread applications of new and renewable energy in efficient and cost-effective manner across the country. The programme will strengthen research and innovation capacity of the country and will be implemented in accordance with the policy and guidelines issued from time to time and thrust areas identified by MNRE.

The details of the scheme are as follows;

1. Objectives

The objective of the scheme is to support the R&D projects for relevant research and development, early TRL support for innovative technologies, technology development and demonstration in various areas of new and renewable energy with the ultimate aim of increasing share of renewables in the energy mix in the country. The following are objectives of RE-RTD Programme;

i. Support relevant research, design, technology development, and demonstration (RD&D), pre commercialization for renewable energy systems, components, and materials.

ii. Promote cost-effective, efficient approach, and reliable RE technologies for large-scale deployment.

iii. Strengthen linkages between academia, R&D institutions, start-ups, and industry to accelerate commercialization.

iv. Enhance India's indigenous manufacturing capabilities for solar, wind, bioenergy, geothermal, storage, hybrid systems and other new RE Technologies.

v. Foster innovation / prototype development through competitions, workshops, studies, and international collaborations.

vi. Promote recycling, reuse, and circular economy solutions for end-of-life renewable energy systems, components, and materials.

2. Components

The details of the components of the scheme are given in table below:

Components	Year 1 (2026-27)	Year 2 (2027-28)	Year 3 (2028-2029)	Year 4 (2029-2030)	Year 5 (2030-2031)	Total
	Physical	**Physical**	**Physical**	**Physical**	**Physical**	**Physical**
1. Support for R&D for Research / Design / Technology /Development /Pilot/ Demonstration/international collaboration / resource assessment / Centre of Excellence in RE / test labs, etc.	(i) 10 Nos. (ii) 2 Support for new test labs / centres.	(i) 18 Nos. (ii) 2 Support for new test labs / centres.	(i) 15 Nos. (ii) 2 Support for new test labs / centres.	(i) 5 Nos. (ii) 2 Support for new test labs / centres.	(i) 2 Nos. (ii) 2 Support for new test labs / centres.	Number (Total: 50 nos) (10 labs)
2. Perovskite PV Manufacturing Pilot Line and allied projects	–	Pilot Line commissioning	Scale-up & process improvement	Advanced characterisation & AI/robotics	O&M support & standards	Perovskite Manufacturing SOPs, R&D to Industry
3. Support for Incubation Centers	Support to 2-3 Incubation Centre	Support to 2-3 Incubation Centre	Support to 2-3 Incubation Centre	Support to 2-3 Incubation Centre	Support to 2-3 Incubation Centre	Number (total 10 to 15 nos)
4. Studies / meetings / conclaves / workshops / monitoring (PMU)	Studies on policy research and field evaluation, sharing technology development achievements and monitoring.					

3. **Funding Pattern**: -

i. The Ministry encourages research and technology development proposals and provides upto 100% financial support to Government/non-profit research organizations/academic institutions/ research institutions and upto 50% to Industry/Start-ups/Private Institutes/Entrepreneurs.

ii. Ministry may also provide financial support up to 70% of the project cost to Industry/ Private Institutes/ Research Organization/Start-ups for upgrading the technology from Low Technology Readiness Level (TRL-3 to 4) to High TRL (6 to 9) or for emerging RE technologies with special requirements after the endorsement of R&D Project Appraisal Committee (RDPAC).

iii. A lump sum yearly budget will be provided to Anusandhan National Research Foundation for implementation of Mission for Advancement in High-impact Areas in Renewable Energy (MAHA-RE), in collaboration with the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy and Anusandhan National Research Foundation.

iv. Start-up recognized by DPIIT shall be supported either through Incubation Centres or directly to scale-ups in RE technology areas as per extended guideline/scheme of DPIIT. The financial support extended by MNRE, shall be against the issuance of Compulsorily Convertible Preference Shares (CCPS) by the Startup.

v. DST is also providing a dedicated RDI Fund to support research and innovation in energy security, energy transition, and climate action—identified as key sunrise sectors—which may be leveraged, as and when required.

4. **Outcomes:**

i. The scheme will lead to research, design, technology development & demonstration in New & Renewable Energy which will be measured in terms of improvement of process/efficiency, enhance indigenous manufacturing capability, cost reduction and technology validation for scaling up for demonstration and commercialization.

ii. The outcome for R&D Projects will be measured in terms of product/ process/technology development, patents, publications, test labs for performance and reliability testing, policy research reports, scaling up for demonstration projects etc.

iii. In addition, the scheme will lead to strengthening expertise of R&D/academic institutions in specific advance areas for technology development and demonstration.

5. **Implementation:**

MNRE has been funding R&D projects during the 14th and 15th Finance Cycles through R&D policies issued *vide* OM No. 223/90/2017-R&D dated 21.02.2019 and 09.12.2021. The implementation mechanism of the programme would be as follows: -

(i) The scheme will be implemented by the following: -

a. National bodies such as Anusandhan National Research Foundation for co-funded and co-implemented initiatives for MAHA-RE

b. R & D / Academic Institutions including Engineering Colleges (both Public & Private duly accredited by Government bodies),

c. Public/Private Industries,

d. Societies registered under the Societies Registration Act 1860,

e. Trusts registered under the Indian Trusts Act 1882,

f. NGOs,

g. Start Ups duly recognized by Department for Promotion and Internal Trade (DPIIT),

h. Organizations engaged in Research & Development for promotion of new & renewable energy, and

i. Section 8 Companies registered under the Companies Act 2013.

(ii) The RE-RTD Programme will be implemented as per policy and thrust areas identified by MNRE. The Mission for Advancement in High-Impact Areas in Renewable Energy (MAHA-RE) shall be implemented in collaboration with the Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF), with co-funding support from the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE), in accordance with the separate detailed operational guidelines of ANRF.

6. Project Proposals

Proposals may be submitted through any of the following four routes for consideration by the Ministry:-

i. MNRE will, on a periodic basis, notify "**Call for Proposals**" for Research and Technology Development projects through advertisement in scientific / technological journals and R&D portal/the MNRE website. Proposals will be invited against identified challenges, research problems / topics in new and renewable energy as per Renewable Energy Research and Development Priorities enclosed at ***APPENDIX-1***.

ii. Interested institutions/ individuals may also submit proposals in relevant areas of research aside from the Calls for Proposals at any time to this Ministry. Such proposals will be evaluated for financial support on a case-to-case basis according to their relevance to the Ministry's research priorities and suitability for financial support;

iii. Based on the need, Ministry may also consider soliciting proposals from identified experts, institutions and industry capable of implementing technology development activities in relevant areas, and

iv. Funding support under MAHA-RE shall be provided through (i) Open Calls issued jointly by ANRF and MNRE for thematic, challenge-based, translational, and strategic research proposals, and (ii) Limited Calls in consortium mode to MNRE-recognized Centres of Excellence and autonomous institutions for collaborative R&D, demonstration, and capacity-building activities.

7. Proposal Appraisal

i. Research and Development Division, MNRE will serve as the Secretariat and will be responsible for appraisal of the Proposals. The steps followed for appraisal of proposals would be:

Proposal received	Proposals are received through R&D portal or mnre website or ANRF platform.
Initial Screening	R&D Division in consultation with the concerned technology group shall assess the relevance of the proposal received under Call for proposal (if required);
Expert Evaluation	Eligible proposals shall be evaluated by at least three experts for projects up to ₹1 crore and five experts for projects above ₹1 crore. Proposals securing support from at least two experts (up to ₹1 crore) or three experts (above ₹1 crore), with an overall score of 60% or more and a minimum of 50% marks in each evaluation criterion, shall be considered for further appraisal.
Approval of the R&D Project Appraisal Committee (RDPAC)	The RDPAC will be chaired by Secretary, MNRE, co-chaired by Additional Secretary MNRE along with an eminent scientist and comprise of experts from various new and renewable energy areas and other relevant S&T departments

ii. The Evaluation criteria to be considered by experts and the RDPAC would include:

a. Relevance and quality of the proposal;

b. Availability of clear statement of quantified objectives and deliverables;

c. Technical feasibility at the end of development

d. Technology Readiness Level of the proposed proposal/project.

e. Scalability and commercial potential and

f. reasonability of the project cost (cost of equipment, consumables etc).

iii. The experts are not involved to evaluate those projects which pertain to their Institute.

iv. The projects recommended by the committee will be sanctioned as per MNRE Policy & Guidelines and Projects under the ANRF MAHA-RE programme shall be evaluated and sanctioned exclusively through ANRF's mechanism.

8. Project Approval

Proposals recommended by the RDPAC will be put up for the standard financial approval process as per Government of India's General Financial Rules (GFR) by the R&D Division. Upon obtaining Financial concurrence and Administrative approvals as per procedure, the project will be sanctioned. The sanction letter will contain clearly approved objectives, head-wise budget with yearly break-up, duration, terms and conditions, deliverables/output and other conditions of Grant as per GFR; and the project grant shall be utilized as per the "General Terms & Conditions of the grant for Research and Technology Development projects" as enclosed at ***APPENDIX-2.***

9. Sanction and Release of Funds

Funds will be sanctioned/ released to the institutes/implementing agencies through Central Nodal Agency (National Institute of Solar Energy), which will be operated by the administrative set up already existing in those institutes. Funding pattern and central contribution in individual projects, including administrative/overhead charges for implementing agencies will be regulated as per the policy and guidelines of R & D Programme. The Pattern of release is as below: -.

i. The Pattern of release of CFA will be on milestone basis. In order to facilitate procurement of equipment early, upto 50% of the total assistance of GCCA fund would be released initially along with the sanction depending on the requirements of equipment in the project and the release of funds in GIA fund will be based on year wise requirement. For projects where equipment cost exceeds 50% of the project cost, higher initial release may be considered by the Ministry.

ii. The balance assistance would be sanctioned as per the annual allocation based on the progress/milestone achieved in the project. Grant will be released after full utilization of previous release and submission of required documents etc.

iii. The institutional overheads would be released annually as per requirement and final year overhead would be release only after successful completion of the project and review by a Project Monitoring Committee and on receipt of the project completion report and financial due diligence as per GFR.

iv. The release of budget by MNRE to Mission for Advancement in High-impact Areas in Renewable Energy (MAHA-RE) shall be regulated as per separate detailed guidelines issued by the Ministry.

10. Centre of Excellence

Centre of Excellence will be supported/ created in project form for pursuing research in advanced areas with clear-cut goals and deliverables. Centers of Excellence will also be supported in consortia of institutions and industry for advanced research with clear cut long terms goals.

i. CoEs may be recognized based on an evaluation and site visit by the Ministry/Committee, with or without financial support under the Programme.

ii. The initial recognition/support period for a CoE shall be three years, which may be extended based on performance and outcome of the periodic review.

iii. The Centre of Excellence are assessed based on (a) R&D outputs including patents and publications, (b) quality of scientific manpower, (c) state-of-the-art infrastructure and pilot facilities, (d) industry partnerships and technology transfer, (e) contribution to MNRE thrust areas, (f) TRL advancement and commercialization potential, and (g) capacity building and national/international collaboration.

11. Testing and standardization

Testing and standardization is a key component for the growth of RE sector, and therefore test labs would be strengthened and expanded at par with international practice for quality assurance of renewable energy supply in the country. Necessary support will be provided for setting-up Labs. These labs will be supported in partnership and on self-sustaining basis.

12. The international cooperation

The international cooperation for taking up joint research, design and development activities in advanced areas of new and renewable energy will be supported. Collaboration with institutions of ISA Member countries will also be supported in mutually identified areas. A suitable MoU for implementation will be signed between the participating organizations/agencies as per requirements of collaboration.

13. Study on Policy Research

Study on policy research and analysis of implementation of various programmes of MNRE, including impact of technology development support and field implementation of projects/programmes will be supported for drawing conclusion for improvement in technology/systems/components/process/schemes. This may include study on impact of systems design, integration, resource assessment, optimum utilization of resources and systems, quality control, regulatory mechanism and socio-economic impact of renewables. The proposals will be approved by the concerned RDPAC.

14. Monitoring & Evaluation

Monitoring and evaluation of the research and technology development activities will be undertaken though Project Monitoring Committees (PMCs) of the respective renewable energy technology area. PMCs will comprise of subject area experts and will be chaired by an eminent Scientist in the relevant area. IFD representative may also be included in the PMC, if required. The PMCs will be responsible for: -

i. Continuously monitoring project implementation;

ii. Recommending next release, mid-course corrections, budget revisions, realigning of objectives to enable delivery of the envisaged project outcomes in a timely manner;

iii. Assessing the performance of the supported projects, and appraising the annual work plan for the current year on the basis of the deliverables/outcomes; and

iv. Evaluate the achievements of completed projects and give recommendations for corrections and further work, if any.

v. ANRF shall monitor the Mission for Advancement in High-impact Areas (MAHA) in Renewable Energy as per ANRF's regulations and the governance framework. Overall MAHA-RE programme progress for review by Apex Committee under the Co-Chairmanship of Additional Secretary MNRE and CEO ANRF.

14.1 PIs and Co-PIs cannot be the members of PMC

14.2 Panel of Experts from lead R&D/academic institutions will be constituted for independent evaluation at the end of the programme period.

15. Project Management Unit (PMU)

MNRE shall establish a dedicated Project Management Unit (PMU) in the Ministry to support implementation, monitoring, evaluation, coordination, and policy inputs under the RE-RTD Programme and MAHA-RE initiative. An amount of Rs. 75 lakh per year has been earmarked for this activity. The major roles and responsibilities of the PMU shall include:

- Monitoring progress of R&D projects, pilot plants, incubation centres, Centres of Excellence, and demonstration activities supported under the programme;
- Tracking achievement of project milestones, deliverables, technology readiness levels (TRLs), commercialization outcomes, and indigenous technology development;
- Developing and maintaining a centralized MIS/dashboard for project monitoring, fund utilization, outputs, patents, publications, technology transfer, and sectoral impact assessment;
- Supporting appraisal, monitoring, third-party evaluation, impact assessment, and outcome validation of projects and programme components;

- Preparing analytical reports, policy briefs, presentations, and review notes for RDPAC, Steering Committee, and other review meetings;
- Coordinating with ANRF, academic institutions, R&D organizations, industries, start-ups, incubators, test labs, and other Ministries/agencies for effective programme implementation;
- Organizing review meetings, workshops, R&D conclaves, stakeholder consultations, capacity-building programmes, and dissemination activities;
- Any other work assigned by MNRE from time to time in connection with implementation of the RE-RTD Programme and MAHA-RE initiative.

The PMU shall be selected through an appropriate tendering process, such as through the GeM Portal, including the Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS) method.

16. Extension and Project Completion Process

All efforts to be made to complete the projects in time through rigorous monitoring and feedback.

i. Extension of the duration with or without additional financial assistance will be considered on recommendation of PMC and the approval of Secretary, MNRE. In both the cases, the approval will be granted subject to justification for the same;

ii. All projects on completion will be presented by the respective PIs before the PMC and project completion report along with consolidated UCs and SoE after satisfactory review by the PMC and after being approved by competent authority shall be posted on MNRE website.

iii. Any renewable energy (RE) technology developed in the country, with or without support from the Government of India, shall be posted on the R&D portal for commercialization after validation by a third-party agency.

17. R&D Conclaves/Workshops

In addition, interactive meets, R&D Conclaves/Workshops will be organized annually to share the achievements with researchers, experts from R&D/academic institutions/industries, and other related stakeholders for taking corrective steps for improvement in implementation of projects. Workshop proposal shall be recommended by an internal committee and approval of Secretary MNRE.

18. Budget

(i) The budget includes funding for R&D projects, Pilot Line, incubation centres, test labs, innovation prizes, policy research, monitoring, meetings, conclave, committed liabilities from XV FCC etc. The R&D project cost would involve project manpower, equipment, instrumentation, fabrication and installation, travel, contingency, overhead charges for the implementing institutions, etc. as per policy and guidelines of MNRE. Projects in partnership with industry will involve cost sharing with them.

The year-wise budget of the programme is given in table below:

Components	**Year 1 (2026-27)**	**Year 2 (2027-28)**	**Year 3 (2028-29)**	**Year 4 (2029-30)**	**Year 5 (2030-31)**	**Total**
	Amount in crores					
1. Support for Research, Design, Technology Development, Demonstration, resource assessment, Centre of Excellence in RE, Pilot & Demonstration Plant, International collaborative R&D Projects, test labs, etc.						
a. Non-recurring	17.0	19.0	19.0	21.0	17.0	93.0
b. Recurring	7.0	7.0	6.0	8.0	8.0	36.0
2. Support for incubation centres in the area of Renewable energy	3.0	3.0	4.0	3.0	3.0	16.0
3.Innovation competition / studies / meetings / conclaves /Workshops/ monitoring	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	5.0
4. Perovskite PV Manufacturing Pilot Line and allied projects	-	90.0	60.0	40.0	10.0	200.0
5. Committed Liabilities from XV Finance Commission Cycle	18.0	37.73	24.74	6.46	-	86.93
Total	**46.0**	**157.73**	**114.74**	**79.46**	**39.0**	**436.93**

Note: The item-wise/year-wise figures (Sl. no 1,2 & 3) are indicative and interchangeable as per actuals within the overall approved budget limit of Rs. 150 crore (fungible within its sub-components/programmes with the prior approval of Secretary, MNRE) out of overall budget of Rs. 436.93 crore having Rs. 200 crore for Perovskite PV Manufacturing Pilot Line and allied projects and Rs. 86.93 crore as committed liability.

(ii) The budget will be spent on the basis of projects received in respective subjects/sub-heads and recommended by the respective Appraisal Committees. Accordingly, the budget will be allocated depending on projects. A separate budget upto Rs. 200 crores will be allocated to ANRF for implementing the Mission for Advancement in High-impact Areas (MAHA) in Renewable Energy, with a matching contribution from ANRF, making it a jointly funded programme. This amount may be increased with mutual consent, including third party contribution.

The total expenditure on the Perovskite PV Manufacturing Pilot Plant Line and allied projects shall not exceed the overall allocated budget of ₹200 crore. Projects falling under this area shall be supported by either the Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF) or the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE), depending on the proposals received and approved by the respective organizations.

(iii) The grantee institutions/organizations/industry, etc. will submit the progress report, audited statement of accounts and Utilization Certificate for the grant released/utilized annually. The UC will be furnished as per GFR 12-A (2017) as uploaded on MNRE website.

(iv) The projects are subjected to audit as per GOI policy for audit of projects in Scientific Departments.

19. Intellectual Property Rights (IPR)

Matters pertaining to IPR shall be dealt in accordance with the guidelines contained in the DST circular issued with the concurrence of Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure *and* subsequent circulars which may be issued by DST/ MOF on the subject.

20. Control Period

The Guidelines shall come into effect from the date of notification and shall remain effective till 31st March 2031 unless notified otherwise.

21. Review and Amendment

These guidelines shall be reviewed as and when required. Any modifications, if necessary, shall be carried out in consonance with EFC recommendations as per the minutes, with the approval of Hon'ble Minister in-charge.

22. This issues with the approval of Hon'ble Minister for New and Renewable Energy.

22. This issues in exercise of delegated powers of this Ministry and with the concurrence of IFD *vide* Dy. No. 186 dated 16.07.2026.

Yours Faithfully

(Dr. Anil Kumar)
Scientist E

To,

Pay and Accounts Officer
Ministry of New and Renewable Energy
Atal Akshay Urja Bhawan, Lodi Road
New Delhi-110003.

Copy for information to:

1. Secretary, MNRE
2. Additional Secretary, MNRE
3. JS&FA, MNRE
4. Joint Secretaries/ Advisers/Scientist-G, /Economic Advisers
5. PS to Minister (NRE)
6. CEO, Anusandhan National Research Foundation
7. Sr. PPS to Secretary (MNRE)
8. All State Nodal Agencies.
9. Additional Secretary (Energy), NITI Aayog, New Delhi.
10. Director (PF-II), Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure, North Block, New Delhi -110 001.
11. Director Generals, NISE, Gurgaon, NIRE, Kapurthala, NIWE, Chennai.
12. Managing Director, IREDA, New Delhi.
13. Managing Director, Solar Energy Corporation of India, New Delhi
14. NIC Cell (for publishing on the Ministry's website)

(Dr. Anil Kumar)
Scientist E

APPENDIX-1

Renewable Energy Research and Development Priorities

Sector	Priority Research Areas
Solar PV	Indigenous PV manufacturing, Perovskite/Tandem cells, advanced materials & equipment, storage-integrated PV, BIPV/Agri-PV/Floating PV, smart inverters, recycling & AI-based O&M etc.
Solar Thermal	CSP with thermal storage, PV-CSP hybrids, supercritical CO_2 cycles, PCM-based storage, industrial process heat, coal-CSP hybridization, indigenous reflector materials etc.
Wind Energy	Offshore wind systems, indigenous turbines/components, AI/ML forecasting, LiDAR-based resource assessment, digital twins, predictive maintenance, grid integration etc.
Energy Storage, Inverters & Power Electronics	Research, development, and demonstration of advanced energy storage technologies, including long-duration energy storage, solid-state batteries, sodium-ion batteries, flow batteries, thermal energy storage, gravity-based storage, and integrated storage solutions for enhancing grid flexibility, reliability, and renewable energy integration etc.
Small Hydro	Modular turbines, hydrokinetic systems, fish-friendly designs, sediment management, micro-hydro for rural electrification, hybrid hydro-battery systems etc.
Biogas & Bioenergy	CBG technologies, biomass supply chains, advanced digesters, AI-based process control, gasification, co-digestion, clean cooking applications etc.
Emerging Technologies *(Geothermal, Wave, Tidal, OTEC, Salinity Gradient etc.)*	Pilot projects, advanced turbines, geothermal heating/cooling, Natural Hydrogen, offshore energy systems, OTEC integration, salinity gradient power, pumped storage roadmap, reliability & techno-economic studies etc.

Cross-Cutting Themes: Indigenous manufacturing, cost reduction, AI/ML integration, energy storage, grid integration, standards & testing infrastructure, pilot demonstrations, and commercialization support.

GENERAL TERMS & CONDITIONS OF THE GRANT FOR R&D TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

Section 1 — Manpower, Personnel & Experts

1. For implementation of the project, temporary manpower i.e. SRF, JRF and RA etc. shall be hired in the R&D project based on their qualification in RE field depending upon availability as per DST norms. The hiring of manpower will be purely on temporary basis with a condition that there will be no liability of such staff for confirmation by government. The staff services shall discontinue immediately after the project duration expires.

2. All the personnel including Research personnel appointed under the project, for the full/ part duration of the project, are to be treated as project personnel on contract to the organization and will be governed by the Administrative rules/ service conditions (for leave, TA/DA etc.) of the implementing Institute. They are not to be treated as employees of the Government of India under any circumstances and the MNRE will have no liability, whatsoever, for the project personnel after completion of the project duration.

3. Honorarium, sitting fees and TA/DA to the members/experts will be applicable as per direction of Ministry of Finance, updated from time to time.

4. The projects as such do not involve hiring of consultants as the projects are implemented by experts in the respective areas, hence hiring of consultants under the project will not be allowed.

Section 2 — Project Administrative Structure (PI / Co-PI)

5. The project administrative structure comprises of Principal Investigator and Co-Principal Investigators from the Implementing Institutions. In the case of collaborative projects, a Co-PI will be designated by such institutions.

6. The grantee organization shall associate a co-PI with the project, if not already part of the project team. The co-PI shall function as PI in the absence of PI and should be totally in knowledge of the activities of the project to avoid loss to the project in case PI leaves the project / organization.

7. If the PI to whom a grant for a project has been sanctioned wishes to leave the grantee organization where the project is sanctioned, the grantee organization/ PI will inform the same to the Ministry and in consultation with MNRE, evolve steps to ensure successful completion of the project through co-PI, before relieving the PI or appoint another Scientist as PI.

Section 3 — Financial Support, Budget & Overheads

8. The project proponents of the approved projects will receive financial support as per the standard financial norms and upon submitting necessary documentation as per GFR-2017;

9. In a collaborative project, only one entity can apply for funding and the eligibility criteria will only apply to the applicant entity, i.e. the lead applicant. If the application is successful, only the applicant will enter into a funding agreement. The lead applicant will be responsible for the performance of the project;

10. No re-appropriation of funds shall be permitted between Grant for Capital Assets (GCCA) and Grant-in-Aid (GIA) heads. Any unutilized funds under these heads shall be refunded to the Ministry at the end of the financial year.

11. The overhead charges will be restricted up to 8% of the project cost for the projects costing up to Rs. 1 crore. In case of the projects costing Rs. 1-5 crores the overhead charges will be 8 % of the project cost or Rs. 15 lacs whichever is less. For projects exceeding ₹5 crore, the structure is as follows:

    - Above ₹5 crore and up to ₹10 crore: ₹15 lakh + 2% of the amount exceeding ₹5 crore
    - Above ₹10 crore and up to ₹20 crore: ₹25 lakh + 1.5% of the amount exceeding ₹10 crore
    - Above ₹20 crore: ₹40 lakh + 1% of the amount exceeding ₹20 crore

13. Approval of the R&D/ technology development project and the grant being released is for the specific project sanctioned and should be exclusively spent on the project within the approved time duration. The grantee organization is not permitted to seek or utilize funds from any other organization (government, semi-government, autonomous and private bodies) for this research project, unless specifically approved for joint funding. Any un-spent balance out of the amount sanctioned must be surrendered to the Government of India through Central Nodal Agency (National Institute of Solar Energy).

14. For pilot and demonstration projects having the potential to generate revenue, the revenue earned may be utilized for the operation and maintenance (O&M) of the demonstration project and over and above will deposited in Consolidated Fund of India in terms of GFRs provision under Rule 230(8).

15. For support to Start-ups under the RE-RTD Programme, the following are the Government Equity Participation

    i. To safeguard public investment and enable long-term value realization, CFA support shall carry an equity participation component in favour of Government of India.
    ii. The equity shall be held though a Government nominated entity and formalized through appropriate agreement prior to fund release.

iii. The Government may exit at an appropriate stage upon commercialization. The equity participation shall not result in Government management control of the startup.

Section 4 — Infrastructure & Assets

16. Full infrastructure facilities by way of accommodation, water, electricity, communication etc. for smooth implementation of the project shall be given by the grantee organization(s) at their cost.

17. For permanent, semi-permanent assets acquired solely or mainly out of the project grants, an audited record in the form of a register. The term "Assets" include (a) the immovable property acquired out of the grant; and (b) movable property of capital nature where the value exceeds Rs. 50,000/-. The grantee organization is required to send to the MNRE a list of assets acquired from the grant. The grant shall not be utilized for construction of any building unless specific provision is made for that purpose.

18. Assets acquired in the project shall be shared proportionately between Government of India and grantee organization(s) in accordance with the cost sharing pattern of the project. The assets should not be disposed off or encumbered or utilized for purpose other than those for which the grant had been sanctioned, without the prior permission of this Ministry.

19. On conclusion/ termination of a project, the Government of India will be free to sell or otherwise dispose off its share of the assets, which are the property of the government. The grantee organization shall render to the Government of India necessary facilities for arranging the sale of these assets. The Government of India has the discretion to gift its share of assets to the grantee organization or transfer them to any other organization if it is considered appropriate.

Section 5 — Reporting, Monitoring & Audit

20. The grantee organization/ PI will furnish Progress Report of the work carried out under the project on half yearly basis during the project implementation period in a prescribed format given at 'R&D Formats' on home page of www.mnre.gov.in.

21. Officer(s) of MNRE and MNRE designated Scientist/ Specialist/ Expert Panel/Committee may visit the organization periodically to review the progress of the work being carried out and to suggest suitable measures to ensure realization of the objectives of the project. During implementation of the project, the grantee organization will provide facilities to such visitors in the form of accommodation, site visits, etc.

22. On completion of the project, final consolidated 'Project Completion Report' on the work done on the project will be prepared after incorporating suggestions, if any, from the reviewers of the project and 5 copies of the same will be submitted to the MNRE in the prescribed format given at 'R&D Formats' on home page of www.mnre.gov.in, in physical as well as electronic forms.

23. The 'Project Completion Report' must include all relevant technical details/specifications, working drawings for designing of the systems/equipment, and an inventory of materials required, etc.

24. At the time of seeking further installment of grant and closure/ termination of the project, the grantee organization / PI has to furnish the following documents:

    a. Utilization Certificate (U.C) for MNRE grant and 'Statement of Expenditure' (S.O.E.) for the total expenditure for the previous financial year (in original or copy if sent earlier) in enclosed formats given at 'R&D Formats' on home page of www.mnre.gov.in).

    b. Latest authenticated 'Statement of Expenditure' including Committed Expenditure, for the expenditure on the project including cost shared by any other organization since 1st April of that financial year till the previous month; and

    c. Technical Progress Report, if not sent earlier.

25. The Comptroller & Auditor General of India, at his discretion, shall have the right of access to the books and accounts of the grantee organization maintained in respect of the grant received from the Government of India.

Section 6 — Project Continuity, Default & Termination

26. The project becomes operative with immediate effect or within a maximum of one month from the date on which the ECS/ Draft/ Cheque is received by the implementing Institution. This date should be intimated by the grantee authorities/ Principal Investigator to this Ministry.

27. The grantee organization will neither entrust the implementation of the work for which the grant is sanctioned to another institution nor will it divert the grant receipts to other institute as assistance. In case the grantee organization is not in a position to implement or complete the project, it should, forthwith, refund to this Ministry the entire grant or the balance received by it at the earliest.

28. The Ministry reserves the right to terminate the project at any stage if it is convinced that the grant has not been properly utilized or sufficient progress has not been reported under the project or sufficient efforts have not been devoted.

Section 7 — Publication & Intellectual Property Rights (IPR)

29. If the results of research are to be legally protected under IPR, the results should not be published without action being taken to secure legal protection for the research results.

30. Investigator(s) wishing to publish technical/ scientific papers based on the research work done under the project should acknowledge the assistance received from MNRE, indicating

the project sanction no. under which grant has been given to the grantee organization. The PI will submit a copy of the paper to the Ministry as soon as it is published.

31. If the results of the work carried out under the grant require preparation of a technical booklet/ guides/ software/ CD etc. in such cases the grantee organization will publish/ prepare sufficient copies (number of copies to be decided in consultation with MNRE) and keep a portion for their use/ dissemination and submit the remaining copies to the Ministry for their use and distribution.

32. If the result is in the form of a survey report / product performance evaluation or other such activities which have commercial implications, the grantee organization will not publish the results without specific written approval of this Ministry.

33. The grantee institution/ PI should provide a copy of the 'Full Text Document' of the Patent/ PI within one month of its publication.

34. The grantee organization(s)/ Inventor(s) are required to seek protection of Intellectual Property Rights for the results/output of the sanctioned R&D projects and shall share royalty/ proceeds of sale of IPR in accordance with the guidelines given below:

i. The Government shall have a royalty-free license/ marching right for the use of the Intellectual Property for the purposes of the Government of India and this Ministry reserves the right to require the institution and the industry to license others and that anyone exclusively licensed to market the innovation in India, must manufacture the product in India.

ii. In case MNRE files patents (when grantee organization is unable to file a patent) any earnings accruing from transfer and commercialization shall be shared equally by this Ministry with the Institution and the generator of the Intellectual Property. However, wherever the expected earnings are above Rs.10 lakh, the proportion of sharing can be 40% for the institution, 40% for this Ministry and 20% to the generator of Intellectual Property.

iii. The grantee organization(s) is permitted to retain the benefits arising out of the IPR. In case of more than one institution, IPR generated through joint research can be owned jointly by them as may be mutually agreed to by them through a written agreement.

iv. The institution and industry may transfer the technology to another industry for commercialization, on terms and conditions as may be mutually agreed upon, on non-exclusive basis under intimation to MNRE. Any earnings accruing from such a transfer and commercialization shall be shared between the institution and the industry as may be mutually agreed to. The details of the agreement, amounts-received, annual sales turnover of the product shall be intimated periodically to this Ministry.

v. In case of projects supported solely to industry, any earnings arising out of sale/transfer of IPR generated through the MNRE supported project shall be shared between the MNRE and the industry in the ratio of their individual shares of the project cost.

vi. Other terms and conditions regarding IPR issues shall be in accordance with the guidelines contained in the DST circular issued with the concurrence of Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure vide their O.M. No.33 (5)PF- II99, dated 22nd February, 2000 or subsequent circulars which may be issued by DST/ MOF on the subject ('R&D Formats' on home page of the Ministry (www.mnre.gov.in).

29. In case of any dispute the decision of Secretary, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy shall be final.

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