

नंदिता मिश्रा  
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Economic Adviser



भारत सरकार  
कारपोरेट कार्य मंत्रालय  
नई दिल्ली  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS  
NEW DELHI-110 003  
Phone : 011-24698970, Fax : 24698972

D.O. No. 361/4/2020-R&A

Dated: 29.04.2020

Dear Sir/Ma'am,

Greetings from Ministry of Corporate Affairs. Hope you are all safe in these unprecedented difficult times that the world is seeing now.

Taking matter forward, as you are aware, this Ministry regulates the working of corporates in India by providing the administrative and regulatory framework through administration of the Companies Act, 2013, Insolvency & Bankruptcy Code, 2016, Competition Act, 2002 and other allied Acts, Bills and Rules. In 2006, MCA implemented a holistic, end-to-end e-Governance project named 'MCA-21', marking a new era of responsive, customer-oriented, transparent and efficient governance. It provides an easy, secure and speedy access to all MCA services, with transparency and certainty. In this process, it has emerged as a repository of corporate sector data in India, which when used for research purposes, shall promote evidence-based policy making.

2. With this objective in mind, as per the directions of Secretary (MCA) an Expert Committee (EC) has been constituted under the chairmanship of Chief Economic Adviser (CEA) to identify areas/issues for extensive utilization of MCA-21 database by sponsoring research, studies etc. in areas related, inter alia, to corporate growth in overall macro-economic perspective. The outcome of this research is to provide actionable policy inputs for the Ministry by utilization of the wealth of data available in the MCA-21 database.

3. Thus, "Funding Research and Studies etc. under EC" is conceived and implemented by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs with the primary objective of utilization of the repository of corporate sector data available with the Ministry under the MCA-21 e-governance system, explore and expand the scope of utilization of MCA-21 database, formalize a research agenda and fund such research.

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4. Under “*Funding Research and Studies etc. under EC*”, R & A Division of MCA under the supervision of CEA, will engage outside institutions /organizations /agencies/individuals of excellence and academic repute to conduct research on topics/areas/issues relevant to the Ministry of Corporate Affairs. The details with respect to the approval process, eligibility and quantum of assistance etc. are as enumerated in the guidelines available on the website of MCA at the link <http://www.mca.gov.in/>

Research Proposals are hereby invited on the following indicative topics:

- I. Integration of MCA-21 database with other databases: Integration of MCA-21 database and databases of other departments and regulators will not only aid in avoidance of multiple filing requirements but also strengthen enforcement by establishing a single source of truth.
- II. Data Characterization: An exhaustive coverage of names and definitions of the data fields available in various forms prescribed by MCA for filing shall enable data dissemination and ease of developing algorithms for periodic analysis.
- III. Corporate Governance Index (CGI): Creation of a CGI to measure companies’ performance on the corporate governance benchmark and offer solutions to shortcomings thus identified.
- IV. Network Analytics: An analysis of systemic differences in reporting in different branches of a network could be matched through analytics to identify the gaps.
- V. Related Party Transactions (RPTs): RPTs lie at the heart of the triangle of money laundering, wilful default and tax evasion. These need to be studied to identify the gaps and minimize frauds.
- VI. Bankruptcy Prediction: Use of MCA-21 database to study financial statements of bankrupt firms to develop a model for prediction of bankruptcy in firms.
- VII. Use of AI tools and Machine learning for analysis of topics like insolvency forecast, financial stress analysis in different sectors, etc.

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- VIII. Utilization of XBRL format: MCA mandates certain class of companies to file using XBRL, which enhances usability of financial statement information and enables international comparability. Thus XBRL data can be used to analyse trends in companies' data with respect to coverage of information filed and quality of filings, etc.
- IX. Auditor's role to strengthen the audit independence and accountability.
- X. Accounting Standards and their monitoring with respect to compliance by firms and their congruence with the global financial landscape.

5. The Research Proposals can be submitted online at [Rsrch.EC@mca.gov.in](mailto:Rsrch.EC@mca.gov.in) or in hard copy to Deputy Director (R & A Division), 8<sup>th</sup> Floor, Lok Nayak Bhawan, Khan Market, Delhi-110003.

6. Kindly acknowledge receipt of this mail and try to send the proposal at the earliest please.

*Warm regards,*

*Nandita Mishra*

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To

All Institutes of repute