

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No.1560
TO BE ANSWERED ON 1/1/2018

ENHANCEMENT OF WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION IN S&T

†1560. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is seriously considering to enhance the participation of women in the Science and Technology sector;
- (b) if so, whether Government has taken any step in this regard; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER
OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES
(SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY)

- (a) Yes, Sir.
- (b) &(c): In the year 2014-15, Department of Science and Technology (DST) started Knowledge Involvement Research Advancement through Nurturing (KIRAN) Scheme to provide various career opportunities to women scientists. It is primarily aimed at gender parity in Science & Technology sector by inducting more women talent in the research & development domain through various programs, namely, Fellowship Schemes for break-in career women scientists [i.e. Women Scientist Scheme-A (WOS-A), Women Scientist Scheme-B(WOS-B) and Women Scientist Scheme-C (WOS-C)], Institutional support through Consolidation of University Research through Innovation and Excellence in Women Universities (CURIE)program and Women Technology Parks (WTPs). In 2016-17, 'Mobility' component has been introduced under KIRAN to address relocation issue of working Women Scientists. In 2017-18, DST launched new program 'Indo-US Fellowship for Women in STEM' to provide international exposure to women scientists. Department of Biotechnology (DBT) is also implementing 'Biotechnology Career Advancement and Re-orientation Programme (BioCARE)' to enhance the participation of Women Scientists in Biotechnology research. Further, Women Scientists & Technologists are also encouraged to avail capacity building programs related with research & development, entrepreneurship, managerial skills and leadership under 'National Program for Training of Women Scientists & Technologists working in Government Sector' of DST. Department of Science & Technology has also constituted 'Standing Committee for Promoting Women in Science' in May, 2016 in order to enhance participation of women in Science & Technology Sector.
