

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1714
ANSWERED ON- 03.08.2026

WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT THROUGH NAI ROSHNI SCHEME

1714. SMT. GEETA ALIAS CHANDRAPRABHA

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government's Nai Roshni scheme has played a significant role in empowering minority women across the country through leadership training and social awareness programmes;
- (b) the total number of women trained under this scheme nationwide since its inception and the share of beneficiaries belonging to the State of Uttar Pradesh;
- (c) the number of districts in Uttar Pradesh currently covered under this Scheme and whether any plans to expand the programme to uncovered or aspirational districts; and
- (d) the extent of convergence of Nai Roshni scheme with other schemes of women's empowerment, digital literacy and livelihood generation in the State?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS

(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)

(a) to (d): Nai Roshni, a Central Sector Scheme, was launched in 2012-13 to empower and enhance confidence among minority women by generating awareness about women rights and interventions for 'Leadership Development'. The training modules covered areas related to programmes for women such as Health and Hygiene, Legal Rights of Women, Financial Literacy, Digital Literacy, Swachh Bharat, Life Skills, and Advocacy for Social and Behavioural changes. Since inception about 4.35 lakh minority women were trained under the scheme including 2.37 lakh from Uttar Pradesh. The Nai Roshni scheme has been subsumed under an integrated scheme Pradhan Mantri Virasat Ka Samvardhan (PM VIKAS) in 2022-23 which converges five erstwhile skilling and empowerment schemes of the Ministry and inter alia lays emphasis on community-level aspirations and challenges, mainstreaming them and improving the socio-economic conditions through exposure to relevant modern skills. The Leadership and Entrepreneurship sub-component of the PM VIKAS scheme focuses on imparting skill training to minority women for providing them sustainable economic livelihood opportunities and setting up enterprises/ self-employment ventures through inter-alia establishing linkages with financial institutions such as NMDFC, Banks, NBFCs.
