

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1027  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 8.2.2023**

**PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN IN RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT**

**1027. COL. RAJYAVARDHAN RATHORE:**

Will the Minister of **SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY** विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the Schemes/initiatives/fellowships by the Government to increase participation of women in research and development fields;**
- (b) the details of the funds allocated for the above-mentioned schemes in the last three years;**
- (c) whether these schemes have drawn interest of women towards science and technology and if so, the details thereof; and**
- (d) the details of the impact of these schemes in enhancing women's inclusion in research and development sector, and science and technology fields, in absolute numbers as well as percentage increase of women working in these fields?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR THE  
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND EARTH SCIENCES  
(DR. JITENDRA SINGH)**

विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी तथा पृथ्वी विज्ञान मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (स्वतंत्र प्रभार)  
(डॉ. जितेंद्र सिंह)

- (a) The Department of Science and Technology is implementing an umbrella scheme, exclusively for women 'Women in Science and Engineering-KIRAN (WISE-KIRAN)' which has various programmes to encourage and promote women in Research & Development (R&D) in Science & Technology (S&T) domain. The 'Women Scientist Scheme' under WISE-KIRAN provides opportunities to women scientists and technologists, especially those who had a break in career under its three components namely, i) Women Scientists Scheme-A (WOS-A) for conducting research in Basic & Applied Sciences, ii) Women Scientists Scheme-B (WOS-B) for research that entail S&T interventions for societal benefit, and iii) Women Scientists Scheme-C (WOS-C) for internship in Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs). Further, 'Indo-US Fellowship for Women in STEMM' (Science, Technology,**

**Engineering, Mathematics & Medicine) programme provides opportunities to women scientists & technologists to undertake International collaborative research in premier institutions in the USA for 3-6 months. In the year 2023, a new programme 'WISE-Post Doctoral Fellowship (WISE-PDF)' has also been started for women to conduct Post-Doctoral Research in Basic and Applied Sciences.**

**Besides the fellowship programmes, the Department is also providing institutional support through 'Consolidation of University Research through Innovation and Excellence (CURIE)' Programme for development of research infrastructure and facilities in women institutions in order to encourage women's participation in R&D activities. In addition to this, Vigyan Jyoti is another unique initiative of DST that encourage meritorious girls of Class IX-XII to pursue higher education and career in STEM (Science Technology Engineering Mathematics) especially in the areas where women are underrepresented. Moreover, DST is also implementing 'Gender Advancement for Transforming Institutions (GATI)' programme which aims to transform institutions for more gender sensitive approach and inclusiveness with ultimate goal to improve the gender equality in STEMM (Science Technology Engineering Mathematics and Medicine).**

**(b) The budget allocation for WISE-KIRAN Scheme is Rs.95 Crore in 2020-21, Rs. 100 Crore in 2021-22 and Rs.125 Crore in 2022-23.**

**(c) Yes, these schemes are highly popular among women scientists. More than 7000 proposals/applications received under different programmes of WISE-KIRAN Scheme.**

**(d) The programmes under WISE-KIRAN scheme have significant impact in enhancing women's inclusion in research and development sector in S&T fields. Since the inception in 2014, around 2900 women supported under WISE-KIRAN Scheme for R&D activities. More than 30000 girls of Class IX-XII from 200 districts have been benefitted by various interventions under Vigyan Jyoti Programme. State-of the art research facilities have been established in 25 Women PG Colleges and 9 Women Universities under CURIE programme which has impacted thousands of girls through quality education and research. In GATI programme, 30 institutions have been selected for implementation of GATI charter in pilot mode. As per the statistics available with the Department of Science and Technology, 16.6% women are directly engaged in R&D activities in 2018-19 as compared to 14.3 % in 2011-12.**

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