

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3694**  
ANSWERED ON 23.03.2023

**NAI ROSHNI SCHEME**

3694. SHRI DIBYENDU ADHIKARI:

Will the Minister of Minority Affairs be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to facilitate the leadership qualities of women belonging to minority communities under NaiRoshni Scheme;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of the achievements made under the said scheme since its inception; and
- (d) whether the Government also proposes to discontinue the said scheme, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS  
(SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a) to (d): The Ministry of Minority Affairs implemented 'Nai Roshni' scheme for the leadership development of minority women that aimed at empowering women by facilitating leadership training for them on various topics. The main objective of the scheme was to empower and instill confidence among minority women, including their neighbors from other communities living in the same village/locality, by providing knowledge, tools and techniques for interacting with Government systems, banks and other institutions at all levels.

Nai Roshni scheme has now been merged as a component of Pradhan Mantri Virasat Ka Samvardhan (PM VIKAS) scheme w.e.f F.Y. 2022-23, aiming to improve livelihoods of minorities, particularly artisan communities, through skill development, education and leadership training, to support their entrepreneurship interventions.

Total 4.35 lakh women beneficiaries have been trained under the scheme since inception.

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