

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION- NO. 4337

ANSWERED ON 27.03.2023

ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN

4337: SHRI NAMA NAGESWARA RAO:

Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken any effective steps for women under 'Economic Empowerment of Women Entrepreneurs and Startups by Women' (WEE), if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the number of women have been benefitted under this programme including both incubation and acceleration support programmes so far across the country; and
- (c) whether the Government is planning more specialised long-term and short-term courses programmes for women in the rural areas, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

(SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN)

(a) & (b) **Economic Empowerment of Women Entrepreneurs and Start-ups by Women' (WEE)** project was supported by Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH on behalf of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) in partnership with the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) to improve the framework conditions for women-led enterprises in India. WEE project was launched by the MSDE in 2018, initially for a duration of 3 years (2018-21) in collaboration with GIZ, Government of Germany, which was further extended for one year to July, 2022. The project aimed to pilot incubation and acceleration programmes for women micro- entrepreneurs, enabling them to start new businesses and scale up existing enterprises in the States of Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh and eight North Eastern States of the Country. Under the title of 'Her & Now', the WEE project has streamed a film and media campaign to share the stories of successful women entrepreneurs and to foster a positive mindset change on gender roles and norms in society. Till now, 908 women entrepreneurs have been supported in the project under both incubation and acceleration support programmes.

Region-wise data for number of women entrepreneurs as part of the incubation and acceleration support programmes in the WEE project since 2018 are as follows:

Region	Partner	Total per State
NER – 8 States	Dhriiti – The Courage Within	233
Rajasthan – 9 districts	Startup Oasis	105
Telangana – 26 districts	WE Hub	109
Maharashtra – 3 districts	Mann Deshi Foundation	120
Uttar Pradesh – 4 districts	Empower Foundation	341
Total		908

(c) Under Skill India Mission, MSDE delivers skill training (long-term and short-term) to all the sections of the society including women. Training is imparted through a comprehensive network of skill development Centres/Institutes across the country under various Schemes viz. Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY), Jan Shikshan Sansthan (JSS), National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS), Craftsman Training Scheme (CTS) through Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs). Also, various Entrepreneurship Development Programmes (EDP) and Entrepreneurship cum Skill Development Programmes (ESDP) are being imparted by National Institute for Entrepreneurship and Small Business Development (NIESBUD), Noida and Indian Institute of Entrepreneurship (IIE), Guwahati.
