

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 3648**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 10.08.2023**

**WOMEN-LED ENTERPRISES**

3648. SHRI THOMAS CHAZHIKADAN:

Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

- (a) the percentage of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) businesses owned by women in the country;
- (b) the challenges being faced by women-led enterprises in the market place;
- (c) the steps taken to improve women's education and skill levels, access to critical resources such as credit, marketing and distribution networks and the technical and managerial knowledge; and
- (d) the policy initiatives to help women-owned MSMEs in capacity training programmes?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES  
(SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH VERMA)

(a): As on 06.08.2023, as per Udyam Registration Portal, the percentage of women owned Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises registered since inception (01.07.2020) to 06.08.2023 in all India was 19.5%.

(b) to (d): Ministry of MSME has launched "SAMARTH 2.0" on 08.03.2023 to support women-owned MSMEs. Under SAMARTH, the following benefits are available to aspiring and existing women entrepreneurs:

- i. 20% Seats in free Skill Development Programmes organized by the Ministry of MSME has been allocated for Women.
- ii. 20% of MSME Business Delegations sent to domestic & international exhibitions under the schemes for Marketing Assistance implemented by Ministry has been dedicated to women owned MSMEs.
- iii. 20% Discount on annual processing fee on NSIC's Commercial Schemes.
- iv. Special Drive for registration of women-owned MSMEs under Udyam Registration

The Government has taken a number of initiatives to support women owned MSMEs in the country, which includes:

- i. Ministry of MSME implements Entrepreneurship and Skill Development Programme (ESDP) to motivate youth, representing different sections of the society including women, to consider self-employment or entrepreneurship as one of the career options. The scheme mandates 40% participation from weaker sections of the society including women and no fee will be charged for participation.
- ii. To encourage entrepreneurship among women, Ministry of MSME implements 'Skill Upgradation & Mahila Coir Yojana' under Coir Vikas Yojana, which is an exclusive training program aimed at skill development of women artisans engaged in the Coir sector.

- iii. The Ministry also implements Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP), which is a major credit-linked subsidy programme aimed at generating self-employment opportunities through establishment of micro enterprises in the non-farm sector by helping traditional artisans and rural/urban unemployed youth. Under the scheme, women are provided higher subsidy (up to 35%) vis-a-vis non-special category (up to 25%).
- iv. To support Women Entrepreneurs under Credit Guarantee Scheme for Micro & Small Enterprises, two provisions have been introduced for women entrepreneurs' w.e.f. 01.12.2022. These are:
  - a. 10% concession in annual Guarantee fees; and
  - b. 10 % additional Guarantee coverage of up to 85%, as against the 75 % for other entrepreneurs.
- v. To benefit women entrepreneurs, the Public Procurement Policy was amended in 2018 mandating Central Ministries/Departments/ Undertakings to procure at least 3% of their annual procurement from women entrepreneurs.
- vi. Participation of women entrepreneurs in trade fairs under Procurement & Marketing Support Scheme is subsidized 100% vis-a-vis 80% for other entrepreneurs.

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