

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1161
ANSWERED ON 11TH DECEMBER, 2023

Women Participation Rate in STEM Courses

1161. SHRI PRADEEP KUMAR SINGH:
DR. (PROF.) KIRIT PREMJBHAI SOLANKI:
SHRI SATYADEV PACHAURI:
SHRI JAYANT SINHA:
SHRI NAYAB SINGH:
SHRIMATI KESHARI DEVI PATEL:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the factors responsible for furthering the participation rate of women in STEM courses in the country; and
- (b) the rate of women participation in STEM courses in comparison to that of developed countries?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
(DR. SUBHAS SARKAR)

(a) & (b): To promote female students to pursue higher education and research, All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has introduced Pragati Scholarship and TechSaksham Program (TSP) for women. The Pragati Scholarship was started in the year 2014 to award scholarship to meritorious girl students to encourage them to pursue higher education. AICTE is awarding 10000 scholarships (Pragati) to the girls entering in the technical education. TechSaksham Program is a top-up program that uses experiential learning to develop employability skills amongst underserved female students pursuing higher education.

With a view to improve female enrolment in the Undergraduate Programmes in Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs), supernumerary seats were created which increased the female enrolment from 8% in 2018-19 to 20% in 2020-21. As per All India Survey on Higher Education (AISHE), the Female Enrolment in STEM Courses has increased from 38.4% in 2014-15 to 42.6% in 2021-22 (Provisional). As per World Bank Gender Data accessed in 2023, female share of graduates from STEM as percentage of tertiary education in India (2018) is 42.7%, in US (2016) is 34%, in UK (2016) is 38.1%, in Australia (2017) is 32.1% and in Germany (2017) is 27.6%.
