GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION No. *64
TO BE ANSWERED ON 07/02/2024

WISE-KIRAN Scheme

*64. SHRI THOMAS CHAZHIKADAN:

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

(a) whether the Women in Science and Engineering-KIRAN (WISE-KIRAN) scheme, that aims to encourage women in the field of Science and Technology (S&T) through gender enabling programmes is fulfilling its unique objective of providing opportunities to women scientists and technologists, especially those who had a break in career;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise along with the relevant details of rural and urban women beneficiaries under the said scheme in the last five financial years, year-wise;

(c) the details of the amount spent on the WISE-KIRAN scheme since its inception in the State of Kerala, year-wise; and

(d) whether the Government proposes to implement any new activities or projects under the said scheme and if so, the details thereof?

A N S W E R
MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY
(DR JITENDRA SINGH)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.
Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (b) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No.*64 for answer on 07.02.2024

(a) Yes Sir, the Women in Science and Engineering-KIRAN (WISE-KIRAN) scheme of the Department of Science and Technology (DST) is fulfilling its unique objectives of providing opportunities to women scientists and technologists including those who had a career break. The scheme promotes girls, women researchers and women institutions in the field of Science & Technology (S&T) through different programmes.

(b) One of the flagship programmes ‘Women Scientist Scheme (WOS)’ under the WISE-KIRAN Scheme provides different opportunities to unemployed women scientists and technologists, especially those who had break in their careers, to pursue research in frontier areas of Science and Engineering. There are three major components of WOS, namely, i) Women Scientists Scheme-A (WOS-A) that supports women for conducting research in Basic & Applied Sciences, ii) Women Scientists Scheme-B (WOS-B) encourages them to carry out research that entails S&T interventions for societal benefit and iii) Women Scientists Scheme-C (WOS-C) enables them to become Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) professionals after one year of training. Approximately 2153 women scientists have benefitted under the WISE-KIRAN Scheme in the last five years and the current year. Different programmes under the WISE-KIRAN scheme have pan India spread and do not differentiate between rural and urban beneficiaries. However, another unique programme ‘Vigyan Jyoti’ that aims to encourage meritorious girls to pursue higher education and careers in STEM (Science Technology Engineering Mathematics) caters girls mostly from rural set-ups. The State/UT-wise details of women and girls beneficiaries under the
WISE-KIRAN Scheme since the financial year 2018-19 are mentioned below. The detailed list (state/UT-wise and financial year-wise) of women and girls benefitted is placed at Annexure-I.

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<th>Sl. No.</th>
<th>States/UTs</th>
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<th>Girls benefitted under Vigyan Jyoti</th>
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(c) The year-wise details of the amount sanctioned under the WISE-KIRAN scheme in the state of Kerala since FY 2018-19 are as follows:

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(d) The Department of Science and Technology started some new programmes under the WISE-KIRAN Scheme during 2023-24. A new programme ‘WISE Fellowship for Ph.D. (WISE-PhD)’ is started to support women researchers to pursue Ph.D. in Basic and Applied Sciences. On the other hand, the WISE Post-Doctoral Fellowship (WISE-PDF) programme promotes women scientists to carry out Post-Doctoral research in Sciences & Engineering. Another programme ‘WISE-SCOPE’ allows women scientists to address societal challenges through S&T interventions in 5
thematic areas of societal relevance. Further, the WIDUSHI Programme extends support to senior women scientists to harness their potential for the betterment of science and society. In addition, the WISE Internship in Intellectual Property Rights (WISE-IPR) programme provides training to young women in the field of Intellectual Property Rights. These new programmes under the WISE-KIRAN Scheme aim to bring gender parity across the STEM fields.
## Number of women benefitted under WISE-KIRAN Scheme

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