

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 2787
ANSWERED ON 12/03/2021**

IMPLEMENTATION OF VIGYAN JYOTI PROGRAMME

**2787. SHRI GAJANAN KIRTIKAR:
SHRI REBATI TRIPURA:
SHRI FEROZE VARUN GANDHI:
SHRI ANURAG SHARMA:
SHRI SELVAM G.:
SHRI GAUTHAM SIGAMANI PON:
SHRI C.N. ANNADURAI:
SHRI VIJAY KUMAR DUBEY:
SHRI ARVIND GANPAT SAWANT:
SHRI DHANUSH M. KUMAR:**

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

- (a) whether his Ministry is implementing Vigyan Jyoti Programme to encourage girls to choose Science and Technology as career;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the challenges faced and the success achieved since inception of this programme;**
- (c) the number of Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas (JNV) in which the programme is being run, State/UT wise;**
- (d) whether the Government is planning to expand the programme to more JNVs and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;**
- (e) whether the Government has also started the second phase of Vigyan Jyoti programme and if so, the details thereof and aims and objective behind the move; and**

(f) the other steps taken by the Government to encourage and empower girls to pursue STEM courses?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE; MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY; AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES

(DR. HARSH VARDHAN)

स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्री, विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्री और पृथ्वी विज्ञान मंत्री
(डॉ. हर्ष वर्धन)

(a) & (b) Yes Sir. The Department of Science and Technology (DST) has started a new programme “Vigyan Jyoti” for girl students of Class 9-12 to encourage them to pursue education and career in science and technology particularly in the areas where women are underrepresented. During 2019-20, Vigyan Jyoti programme was launched in 50 Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas (JNVs) in different parts of the country and around 2,500 girls were benefitted. During the year 2020-21, around 739 online special classes/lectures were conducted covering basic and complex concepts of Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics and Biology which are important to qualify entrance examinations for admission into premier institutions. More than 150 lectures by eminent scientists/role models were also organized. Further, four (4) science camps, twenty two (22) visits to Knowledge Partners/Industry/Lab, seven (7) Atal Tinkering Labs (ATL) workshops and fifty eight (58) student-parent counselling sessions were organized. Despite the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, all Vigyan Jyoti students were being connected through distinctive e-learning modules.

(c) to (e): Vigyan Jyoti Programme is being implemented in one hundred districts of the country in partnership with Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas (JNVs). The States/UTs and Districts wise list of fifty JNVs where programme was implemented in first phase (2019-20) is given below:

Sl.No.	States/UTs	Number of Districts	District wise JNVs
1.	Chhattisgarh	2	Raipur, Dhamtari
2.	Odisha	2	Cuttack, Sambhalpur
3.	Madhya Pradesh	2	Indore, Vidisha
4.	Chandigarh	1	Chandigarh

5.	Himachal Pradesh	2	Mandi, Hamirpur
6.	Karnataka	3	Banglore Urban, Chitradurga, Mangalore
7.	Kerala	2	Kottayam, Palakkad
8.	Telangana	2	Rangareddy, Warrangal
9.	Delhi	1	Jaffarpurkalan
10.	Haryana	1	Gurgaon
11.	Rajasthan	4	Barmer, Dausa, Jaipur, Jodhpur
12.	Uttar Pradesh	4	Allahabad, Kanpur Nagar, Lucknow, Saharanpur
13.	Uttarakhand	3	Almora, Dehradun, Haridwar
14.	Bihar	3	Nalanda, Patna, Vaishali
15.	Jharkhand	3	Hazaribagh, Ranchi
16.	West Bengal	3	East Medinipur, West Medinipur, Nadia
17.	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	1	Silvasa
18.	Goa	1	Canacona
19.	Gujarat	1	Gandhinagar
20.	Maharashtra	3	Nagpur, Pune, Sangli
21.	Arunachal Pradesh	1	Lohit
22.	Assam	2	Kamrup, Nalbari, West Imphal
23.	Meghalaya	1	East Khasi Hills
24.	Nagaland	1	Kohima
25.	Sikkim	1	North Sikkim
	TOTAL	50	

The Vigyan Jyoti programme has been extended in second phase to cover 100 districts in partnership with JNVs with inclusion of Class IX-X during 2020-21 with aim to encourage and motivate more girls towards Science & Technology at early stage. The goal of Vigyan Jyoti is to bring gender parity in STEM fields where women participation is under represented. The States/UTs and Districts wise list of newly added JNVs is given below:

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Number of Districts	District wise JNVs
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3	Ananthapur, West Godavary, Vizag
2.	Andaman and	1	Middle Andaman

	Nicobar		
3.	Assam	2	Jorhat, Golaghat
4.	Bihar	2	Katihar, Muzaffarpur
5.	Chhattisgarh	2	Bilaspur, Kanker
6.	Diu	1	Diu
7.	Gujarat	3	Bhavnagar, Vadodara, Tapi
8.	Haryana	2	Hisar, Kurukshetra
9.	Himachal Pradesh	2	Solan, Shimla
10.	J&K	2	Udhampur, Ganderbal
11.	Jharkhand	2	Dhanbad, West Singhbhum
12.	Karnataka	2	Shimoga, Mysore
13.	Kerela	1	Ernakulam
14.	Laddakh	1	Leh
15.	Madhya Pradesh	3	Jabalpur, Mandla, Dhar
16.	Maharashtra	2	Nanded, Aurangabad
17.	Manipur	1	Chandel
18.	Meghalaya	1	Ri Bhoi
19.	Odisha	2	Khordha, Sundergarh
20.	Punjab	4	Ludhiana, Amritsar, Mansa, Faridkot
21.	Puducherry	1	Puducherry
22.	Rajasthan	2	Kota, Dungarpur
23.	Tripura	1	Khowai
24.	Uttar Pradesh	4	Varanasi, Bareilly, Gorakhpur, Jhansi
25.	Uttarakhand	2	Nainital, Pauri Garhwal
26.	West Bengal	1	Bardhaman
	TOTAL	50	

(f) In addition to several gender neutral programmes, the Ministry of Science and Technology is implementing different fellowship programmes which are exclusively for women to encourage and empower women in STEM. Women Scientists Scheme (WOS-A, WOS-B and WOS-C) and Indo-US Fellowship for Women in STEMM (WISTEMM) under the DST and BioCARE under the Department of Biotechnology (DBT) are major fellowship programmes to encourage women for pursue research in STEM domain.
