

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5418
ANSWERED ON 25/03/2026**

SCHEME FOR ENCOURAGING SCIENCE TO GIRL STUDENTS

5418. SHRI BASAVARAJ BOMMAI:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether any scheme is being implemented by the Government to increase the interest and inclination of girls towards science;**
- (b) If so, the details thereof; and**
- (c) State-wise details of girl students who have been encouraged during the last three years?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND EARTH SCIENCES
(DR. JITENDRA SINGH)**

(a) to (b): The Department of Science and Technology (DST) has been implementing the Vigyan Jyoti programme since 2019-20 to encourage meritorious girls to pursue higher education and careers in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) fields. The programme aims to promote gender parity in STEM by sustaining the talent pool in science and technology through various year-round activities, such as hands-on experiential learning sessions, interactions with scientific role models, visits to R&D and industrial laboratories, career guidance workshops, and student-parent counselling sessions. These initiatives provide exposure and help increase girls' interest and inclination towards science. Since its inception, the Vigyan Jyoti programme has benefited 1,12,600 high-achieving girls from 300 districts across 34 States and Union Territories. To strengthen its impact, the Department of Science and Technology (DST) has engaged with over 250 premier national institutions, including universities, science and technology institutes, CSIR laboratories, and other reputed organizations. These institutions serve as knowledge partners and contribute significantly to the programme's mission of fostering greater participation of girls in STEM.

(c) The details of girl students encouraged to pursue science during the last three years, state-wise is given below:

State/UTs	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26 (as on 19.03.2026)	Total
Andaman and Nicobar	100	115	100	315
Andhra Pradesh	880	889	900	2669
Arunachal Pradesh	233	347	394	974
Assam	970	1276	1398	3644
Bihar	912	1243	1197	3352
Chandigarh	100	103	100	303
Chhattisgarh	1066	1397	1398	3861
Dadar, Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu	200	188	200	588
Delhi	195	200	200	595
Goa	98	100	106	304
Gujarat	1703	1567	1618	4888
Haryana	891	1580	1604	4075
Himachal Pradesh	856	972	876	2704
Jammu and Kashmir	589	939	897	2425
Jharkhand	1017	1265	1287	3569
Karnataka	1030	1278	1300	3608
Kerala	810	975	1005	2790
Ladakh	99	200	200	499
Madhya Pradesh	1273	1385	1398	4056
Maharashtra	1496	1709	1803	5008
Manipur	289	463	468	1220
Meghalaya	300	394	399	1093
Mizoram	90	87	82	259
Nagaland	104	97	100	301
Odisha	1082	1280	1300	3662
Puducherry	399	396	400	1195
Punjab	1091	1480	1501	4072
Rajasthan	1263	1712	1798	4773
Sikkim	167	187	100	454
Telangana	745	771	899	2415
Tripura	233	299	300	832
Uttarakhand	861	900	900	2661
Uttar Pradesh	1502	2566	2604	6672
West Bengal	998	1083	1100	3181
