

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1729
ANSWERED ON:04.08.2010
WOMEN IN SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH
Owaisi Shri Asaduddin;Venugopal Shri K. C.

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to induct more women talent in the Scientific Research in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken in this regard;
- (c) whether the Government has approved and finalized the report submitted by the Task Force on Women in Science; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY; MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF EARTH SCIENCES; MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE; MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS; AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN)

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. The Government is implementing a scheme titled 'Women Scientists Scholarship Scheme- 'A' (Research in Basic and Applied Sciences) under the Department of Science and Technology, which is specifically aimed at providing opportunities to women scientists and technologists for pursuing research in frontier areas of Science and Engineering. This scheme especially encourages women scientists who have had breaks in their careers. It provides a launch pad for them to return to mainstream of Science and work as bench-level scientists in various fields of Science and Technology. About 850 women scientists have been able to re-enter mainstream science as a result of implementation of this scheme.

(c) & (d): A Standing Committee constituted by the Department of Science and Technology to review the recommendations of the National Task Force for Women in Science and (i) recommend special measures to ensure growth of women scientists in their professional career and (ii) to monitor recommendations of government for facilitating appointment, working and promotion of women scientists in Science and Technology organizations as well as other general recommendations. Meanwhile, based on recommendation of the Task Force, all Aided Institutions of Department of Science and Technology have been advised to give suitable proposals to establish a state-of-art crÃ“che facility and to build women residential block in institutions having more than 20 women scientists.