

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5662

ANSWERED ON:10.05.2012

FUNDINGS SCHOLARSHIPS UNDER WOMEN SCIENTISTS SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME

Tharoor Shri Shashi

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

- (a) the number of women scientists given research fundings/scholarships under the Women Scientists Scholarship Scheme;
- (b) the total amount of funding disbursed under the said scheme since its inception;
- (c) whether it is a fact that funding is available to scientists for only three years;
- (d) if so, the rationale thereof; and
- (e) the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING; MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES (ASHWANI KUMAR)

- (a): 2110 women scientists have been given research fundings/scholarships under the Women Scientists Scholarship Scheme so far.
- (b) Rs. 186.00 crores has been disbursed under the said scheme since its inception.
- (c) & (d): The proposal submitted by the woman scientist for research funding/scholarship is for a period of 3 years. The objectives of such research proposals are achieved within this period. However based on performance review deserving projects are extended for another two years with additional objectives.
- (e): The Government has formulated a scheme `DISHA` to ensure enhanced participation of women in the Science and Technology (S&T) sector by enlarging the scope of gender parity initiatives for greater out reach of existing schemes and adding new components. `DISHA` aims to provide opportunities to women scientists to re-enter and continue working in S&T fields of their expertise and choice as a long term alternate career option to continue till the age of 60 years.