

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3022
ANSWERED ON:29.08.2013
WOMEN SCIENTISTS SCHEME
Tandon Annu

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

- (a) whether the Government is considering a special mission to encourage and promote women scientists;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to incentivise scientific research as a career among women, minorities and weaker sections?

Answer

MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (S. JAIPAL REDDY)

(a) Yes Madam.

(b)& (c): The Government has formulated a scheme Disha to encourage and promote women scientists 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. The Department of Science and Technology is implementing Women Scientists Scholarship Scheme which is specifically aimed at providing opportunities to women scientists and technologists for pursuing research in frontier areas of Science and Engineering. The Department of Biotechnology under the Bio-CARe scheme provides support for women scientists, both employed and unemployed to build capacities so as to help them undertake independent Research and Development (R&D) projects. The Ministry of Science and Technology proactively holds sensitization and project formulation workshops in various parts of the country to motivate more and more women, minorities and weaker sections to take up scientific research as a career.