

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2990

ANSWERED ON:11.05.2016

Women in Science and Technology

Adsul Shri Anandrao ;Shewale Shri Rahul Ramesh;Shinde Dr. Shrikant Eknath;Shrirang Shri Chandu Barne;Yadav Shri Dharmendra

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

- (a) whether low representation of women in Science and Technology in planning and policy making is a matter of concern and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has set up a standing committee for promoting women in Science and Technology;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the aforesaid committee is likely to submit its report along with the present status thereof;
- (d) whether the women are facing certain issues which lower their representation in science and technology sector; and
- (e) if so, whether the Government has identified these issues and if so, the steps taken by the Government to address them to bring greater representation of women in science?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES
(SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY)

(a) Yes, Madam.

(b) & (c): Government of India has set up a Standing Committee for Promoting Women in Science on 11th March, 2016. The first meeting of this Standing Committee is scheduled to be held on 16 May 2016 at Bangalore. No time limit has been fixed for the Committee to submit its Report.

(d) & (e): Women face certain issues which may lead to their lower representation in Science & Technology sector and Department of Science & Technology is addressing these issues through its KIRAN programme. One such issues that women working in science & technology in the government sector domain face is the mobility from one location in the country to another, primarily due to familial issues like marriage, education of children, looking after ailing parents, and so on. This sometimes leads to their prolonged absence from place of work or even leaving their job. To address this issue, Department of Science & Technology has recently initiated Mobility programme. The first call for proposals under Mobility has been made on 29 April 2016.
