

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.706
TO BE ANSWERED ON 7/2/2018**

WOMEN RESEARCHERS

706. SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY *विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्री* pleased to state:

- (a) whether less than two out of every 10 scientific researchers in India are women; and
- (b) if so, whether the Ministry is taking steps to encourage women professionals in STEM fields?

ANSWER

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

विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री और पृथ्वी विज्ञान मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री

(श्री वाई. एस. चौधरी)

(a) & (b): Yes Madam. As per available statistics, India has less than two women researchers out of every 10 scientific researchers in the country. To encourage women professionals in the field of Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics and Medicine (STEMM), the Ministry has taken various steps to enhance their research capacities and capabilities like launching a Indo-US fellowship for women in STEMM field to undertake international collaborative research in premier institutions in U.S.A, Women centric schemes and programs under the ambit of Knowledge Involvement in Research Advancement through Nurturing (KIRAN) initiative, Bio-technology Career Advancement and Re-orientation (Bio-Care) for career development of employed / unemployed women scientists; apart from providing relaxation of 5 years in terms of upper age limit to women candidate to be eligible for all the fellowships(JRF/SRF)/research associate-ships awarded by CSIR for perusing doctoral and post doctoral research.
