

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 574  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06/02/2019**

**Nai Roshni**

†574. SHRIMATI POONAM MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Nai Roshni Scheme is implemented in the State of Maharashtra;
- (b) if so, the details there of including the number of beneficiaries who availed the benefits of the scheme since its inception in the State of Maharashtra, year-wise and community-wise;
- (c) the number of projects that have been implemented in the State of Maharashtra, year-wise; and
- (d) whether the scheme significantly empowered women and reduced gender discrimination in the State of Maharashtra and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS  
(SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI)**

(a) to (c): Yes Madam, Nai Roshni" a scheme for Leadership Development of Minority Women is being implemented in the state of Maharashtra with an aim to empower and instill confidence in women by providing knowledge, tools and techniques for interacting with Government systems, banks and intermediaries at all levels. This includes economic empowerment of the trainee women so that they ultimately become independent and confident members of the society. The scheme provides one week training programmes followed by handholding for a period of one year. The training is provided on various pre-designed Training modules covering issues relating to women viz. Leadership of Women through participation in decision making, Educational Programmes for women, Health and Hygiene, Legal rights of women, Financial Literacy, Digital Literacy, Swachh Bharat, Life Skills, and Advocacy for Social and Behavioural change. The number of beneficiaries availed the benefits of the scheme since inception, community wise and state wise and the number of projects that have been implemented in

the state of Maharashtra, year wise is as below:

NUMBER OF BENEFICIARIES AND PROJECT WHO AVAILED THE BENEFIT OF THE SCHEME SINCE INCEPTION UNDER THE SCHEME OF "NAI ROSHNI", THE SCHEME FOR 'LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT OF MINORITY WOMEN IN THE STATE OF MAHARASHTRA SINCE INCEPTION									
Year	Number of beneficiaries benefited	Community -Wise Detail							No. of projects implemented
		Muslim	Christians	Parsis	Buddhist	Sikh	Jain	Others	
2012-13	500	390	-	-	-	-	103	7	2
2013-14	2000	1975	15	-	-	-	-	10	16
2014-15	1950	1445	60	10	370	15	-	50	10
2015-16	550	549	-	-	-	-	-	1	2
2016-17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2017-18	425	291	0	0	117	5	1	11	3
2018-19	1300	yet to receive from PIAs							10

(d) Since the objective the scheme is Empowerment of women from the minority communities and emboldening them to move out of the confines of their home and community and assume leadership roles and assert their rights, collectively or individually, in accessing services, facilities, skills and opportunities besides claiming their due share of development benefits of the Government for improving their lives and living conditions, an evaluation study was done by NITI Aayog during the year 2015-16 and submitted the report in June, 2016. According to NITI Aayog, majority of the findings of the study indicate that the programme has been appreciated by most of the segments of the population of the society and it has assisted in creating confidence among minority women and developing leadership spirit in them. Moreover, the trained women are also utilizing their enriched knowledge within their surroundings and thereby helping their families as well as neighbours in raising their essential demands and claims from various Government authorities.

\*\*\*\*\*