

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 4062
ANSWERED ON 19/03/2021
KIRAN PROGRAMME FOR WOMEN**

4062. SHRI DHARMENDRA KASHYAP:

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

(a) whether the Government has launched Knowledge Involvement in Research Advancement through Nurturing (KIRAN) programme for encouraging women in the field of science;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the funds allotted for said programme in current financial year?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE; MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY; AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES
(DR. HARSH VARDHAN)**

स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्री, विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्री और पृथ्वी विज्ञान मंत्री
(डॉ. हर्ष वर्धन)

(a) & (b) Yes, the Department of Science and Technology (DST) has started 'Knowledge Involvement Research Advancement through Nurturing (KIRAN)' Scheme in 2014-15 to encourage women in the field of Science and Technology(S&T) through gender enabling programs. 'Women Scientist Scheme' under KIRAN provides career opportunities to unemployed women scientists and technologists, especially those who had a break in career. There are three major components of Women Scientists Scheme namely, i) Women Scientists Scheme-A (WOS-A) for conducting research in Basic & Applied Sciences, ii) Women Scientists Scheme-B (WOS-B) for research projects that entail S&T interventions for societal benefit and iii) Women Scientists Scheme-C (WOS-C) enables them to become Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) professional. The Mobility programme has been introduced under KIRAN to address relocation issue of working Women Scientists. Further, 'Indo-US Fellowship for Women in STEMM' (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics & Medicine) programme provides opportunities to Indian Women Scientists, Engineers & Technologists to undertake International collaborative research in premier institutions in the USA for duration of 3-6 months. Under KIRAN, institutional support is also provided through 'Consolidation of University Research through Innovation and Excellence in Women Universities (CURIE)' Programme in order to enhance women's participation in Research & Development activities in S&T domain. The 'Science & Technology for Women' Scheme is focused on empowering women in livelihood generation through suitable technologies and available natural resources in their native areas, which has led to income generation and creation of livelihood opportunities for them.

The DST has started a new programme "Vigyan Jyoti" for meritorious girl students of Class 9 to 12 in order to increase participation of women in STEM (Science Technology Engineering and mathematics), especially in the fields where women are underrepresented. Another new initiative of DST 'Gender Advancement for Transforming Institutions (GATI)' has been started during 2019-20 which aims to transform institutions for more gender sensitive approach and inclusiveness with ultimate goal to improve the gender equity in S&T domain.

(c) The fund allocated for KIRAN Scheme in current financial year is Rs. 95.00 Crore (Revised Estimate).
