

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO 761
TO BE ANSWERED ON 28/11/2011

REPRESENTATION OF WOMEN IN R&D ESTABLISHMENTS

761. SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE:

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

- (a) how many women are employed in various Research and Development (R&D) establishments of the Department of Science and Technology in the country;
- (b) whether any scholarships have been designed/proposed for women scientists to encourage them in R&D work and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the number of scholarships available, application received and awarded during the last three years?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING; MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES

(ASHWANI KUMAR)

- (a) A total of 1113 women are employed in various R&D establishments of the Department of Science and Technology.
- (b) Yes Sir. The 'Women Scientist Scheme - WOS-A for Research in Basic and Applied Sciences of the Department of Science and Technology, became operational in 2003. This scheme aims at providing opportunities to unemployed women scientists and technologists for pursuing research in frontier areas of Science and Engineering. A special provision has been made under this scheme to encourage those women scientists who have had break in their careers. It provides a launch pad for them to return to mainstream of science and work as bench-level scientists in the field of Science and Technology. The selection of women scientists for award of scholarship is made based on the technical evaluation of the research proposal submitted. There are two categories of women applicants under WOS-A Scheme i.e. i) M.Sc or equivalent and ii) Ph.D or equivalent. The fellowship amount for M.Sc. and Ph.D category applicants are Rs 20,000/- pm and Rs. 35,000/- pm respectively. Besides the fellowship, the total project cost also includes grant for consumables, minor equipments, travel and contingency.
- (c) The number of scholarships offered is not predetermined. During the past three years the Department has received 2272 proposals against which 852 projects have been supported in different disciplines i.e. Life Sciences, Chemical Sciences, Physical and Mathematical Sciences, Engineering Sciences, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences & S&T based societal interventions.
