

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2487  
ANSWERED ON 10/12/2024**

**SCIENCE FAIRS IN RURAL AREAS**

**2487. DR. DHARAMVIRA GANDHI:**

**Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) the details of measures taken to promote scientific temper and rational thinking in rural areas, where superstition and unscientific beliefs are more prevalent;**
- (b) whether the Government has established programs to conduct awareness workshops or science fairs in rural areas; and**
- (c) if so, the number of such events held in the last three years and the impact of these initiatives on local communities?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
(SHRI KAMLESH PASWAN)**

**(a) to (c): The primary objective of the Ministry of Rural Development is to ensure socio-economic development of rural areas of the country. Hence, this Ministry has not taken up any specific measures to promote scientific temper, conduction of awareness workshops or science fairs in rural areas. However, Ministry of Science and Technology is to promote science & technology in the country through high- end basic research and development of innovative technologies and providing technological interventions pertaining to societal challenges through development of appropriate skills and technologies. It also disseminates science and technology among public, particularly children/students and teachers through programs like Innovation in Science Pursuit for Inspired Research (INSPIRE)-Million Minds Augmenting National Aspirations and Knowledge (MANAK), VigyanJyoti, National Children's Science Congress, National Science Day, and National Mathematics Day to inculcate critical and lateral thinking in Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics and Medicine (STEMM) areas.**

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