

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1220  
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2003  
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY PROGRAMME FOR WOMEN  
P.R. KHUTE;PUNNULAL MOHALE

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

- (a) whether the Government has launched any programme for the benefit of women in the country based on science and technology;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT)

(a) to (c) The Department of Science and Technology has been implementing the scheme `S&T for Women` with a view to empowering women with inputs of science and technology for about two decades now. The broad objectives of this scheme are to promote development and adaptation of appropriate technology, transfer proven technologies and demonstration of live technology models to benefit women. This programme has made a distinct impact due to its unconventional approach, gender sensitivity and involvement of S&T based voluntary organizations having strong linkages at the grass roots.

To encourage women scientists, the Department of Science & Technology has launched a Scholarship Scheme for Women Scientists in the year 2002. Under this scheme 100 Scholarships are awarded every year to outstanding women scientists in the following categories:

Basic and applied sciences, application of S&T for problems of the weaker sections and application of S&T in IPR related self employed opportunities. The Department of Biotechnology implements a Scheme: `Biotechnology based rural and women development programme` for skill development and capacity building of women through the application of biotechnology. National Women Bio Scientist Award (Senior and Young) are announced every year since 1999 to recognize the work of and encourage women bio-scientists.