

Project: Women Empowerment Atlas of India: Science and Technology Perspective

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The empowerment and self-sufficiency of women and the improvement of their social, economic and health status is a highly important end in itself. Today, women scientists are not only involved in strategic research in the field of science and technology, but they are also engaged in developing technology for rural areas. However, their limited or limited presence, particularly at senior levels has become a serious concern today. Considering this issue, the project '**Women Empowerment Atlas of India: Science and Technology Perspective**' has been sanctioned to Professor Seema Mehra Parihar, Kirori Mal College, University of Delhi and Dr Tapati Banerjee, National Atlas & Thematic Mapping Organisation, Kolkata. The project aimed to highlight the areas of women's participation in different domains of science and technology and to earmark the gap areas where women are lagging behind and the reasons for this.

The general scenario revealed that different Government agencies empower women in the Science and Technology sector. The major funding agencies include the Department of Science and Technology (DST), Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), University Grants Commission (UGC), Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), Indian Council of medical research (ICMR), Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) etc. As observed in the last five years, the major fund outlay was spent on the Technology and Innovation, Health and Nutrition and Livelihood sectors. The majority of funding was allowed mainly to Private and Government institutes, Non- government organorganisationsAutonomous Institutes. The major funding support to women for Research and Development (R & D) projects has been given to Engineering and technology and biological sciences followed by Chemical scienSciencessical Sciences, Medical Sciences Earth Sciences and Agricultural Sciences .

The project revolved around nine themes and the thematic indexes prepared for each theme and the integrated index revolving around different locations and subsequent visualisation. The success of the project could be gauged by its first deliverable being selected to be launched by SEED DIVISION of the Department of Science & Technology on the Womens Day 2022 and the project getting an extension till December 2022 (annexe 1). The biggest achievement of the ongoing project is its following two deliverables launched by Hon'ble Minister Dr Jitendra Singh Jee on 08 March 2022 (Picture 1a & 1b) and a documentary depicting the utility of the Atlas as a decision-making tool for women empowerment (<https://filmfreeway.com/ATLAS240>).

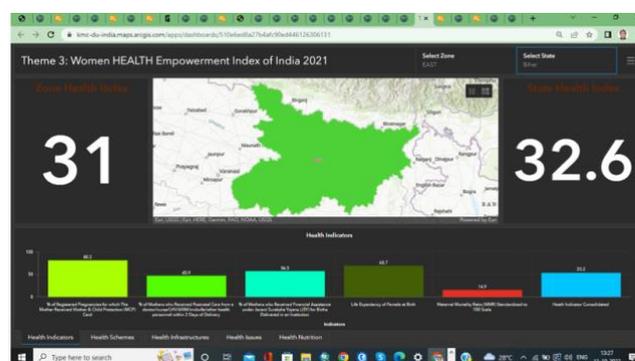


Picture 1a: Launch of First “Women Empowerment Atlas of India: Science and Technology Perspective” by Hon'ble Minister Dr Jitendra Singh Jee, Minister of Science and Technology and seen with a copy is Principal Investigator Seema Mehra Parihr on 08 March 2022 .



Picture 1b: Cover Page of the Project’s First deliverable:“ Women Empowerment Atlas of India: Science and Technology Perspective”, launched by Hon'ble Minister Dr Jitendra Singh Jee on 08 March 2022.

Currently, dashboards of the project around nine themes (Picture 2) and one integrated theme are being prepared to be used by the Policy Makers, Industry, Academia, NGOs, and researchers as a decision-making tool for visualisation and women’s empowerment in India.



Picture 2: GLIMPSE OF one of the thematic dashboards of the “ Women Empowerment Atlas of India: Science and Technology Perspective

