

The remaining unutilized amount of Rs. 378.73 crore in the above projects / schemes has been returned to the Consolidated Fund of India.

(d) No new major committees have been constituted in the last two years although a few project based expert committees have been constituted to review and monitor the new as well as the ongoing projects.

Women Scientist Scheme

1778. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has initiated 'Women Scientist Scheme';
- (b) if so, the details of the women scientists enrolled under this scheme from the State of Tamil Nadu; and
- (c) the details of their area of research activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. The Department of Science and Technology has started Women Scientist Scheme for unemployed women in the year 2002 to provide opportunities to women scientists and technologists having break-in-career.

(b) and (c) As per the latest Official Statistics available (01.04.2014), the details of Women Scientists from Tamil Nadu enrolled under the scheme in last five years are as follows:

Sl. No.	Year	No. of Women Scientists from Tamil Nadu	Areas of Research
1.	2009-10	25	Life Sciences, Physical and Mathematical Sciences,
2.	2010-11	16	Chemical Sciences,
3.	2011-12	31	Engineering Sciences, Earth and
4.	2012-13	21	Atmospheric Sciences
5.	2013-14	34	

Shortage of qualified scientists

1779. SHRI A.W. RABI BERNARD: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is shortage of qualified scientists for undertaking research and