

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. – 1568**  
ANSWERED ON 12/03/2025

**SWAVALAMBINI PROGRAMME FOR THE NORTH EASTERN REGION**

1568. SHRI MITHLESH KUMAR:

Will the Minister of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship be pleased to state:

- (a) the manner in which Swavalambini Programme would ensure that female students from the North Eastern States have equitable access to resources, guidance and funding opportunities;
- (b) the role played by the industry leaders, successful entrepreneurs and other key stakeholders in guiding the women entrepreneurs participating in the programme; and
- (c) the steps being taken to ensure that the faculty development component of the programme is effective in training instructors to guide students in entrepreneurship?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

(SHRI JAYANT CHAUDHARY)

(a) to (c) The Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) in collaboration with the Women Entrepreneurship Platform of NITI Aayog as knowledge partner, launched the Swavalambini - a Women Entrepreneurship Programme on 07.02.2025 in the selected Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) of North Eastern States of Assam, Meghalaya and Mizoram and in Uttar Pradesh and Telangana on 01.03.2025. The Ministry is implementing the programme through its autonomous institutes, namely, National Institute for Entrepreneurship and Small Business Development (NIESBUD), NOIDA and Indian Institute of Entrepreneurship (IIE), Guwahati.

Swavalambini programme introduces a structured, multi-stage training approach to help young women transition from ideation to successful enterprise creation. The project includes different components such as Faculty Development Programme (FDP) for training faculty members from the selected HEIs; introductory programme to create entrepreneurial awareness among 1200 female students through Entrepreneurship Awareness Programmes (EAPs), followed by Entrepreneurship Development Programme (EDP) to 600 students selected from EAP participants. This will be followed by 21 weeks of Mentoring and Handholding support.

The capacity-building training for female students from colleges will focus on six key areas as entrepreneurial skills, access to finance, market linkages, compliance and legal requirements, mentoring and networking, and business development services to prepare these students for a career as an entrepreneur. MSDE will oversee the execution, supervision, and monitoring of the programme, while NITI Aayog will organize workshops, provide mentoring support, facilitate seed funding, and recognize successful entrepreneurs through the Award To Reward (ATR) initiative.

During the mentoring and handholding support, industry leaders and successful entrepreneurs will guide the participants by providing mentorship and hands-on support. Successful entrepreneurs will be invited to share their experiences, highlighting the challenges they overcame and the strategies they used to establish their businesses.

To ensure long-term impact, the programme also includes a Faculty Development Programme (FDP), where faculty members from participating HEIs shall undergo a five-day training session. This initiative will equip educators with the necessary skills to mentor and guide aspiring women entrepreneurs within their institutions.

\*\*\*\*\*