Women participation in extramural R&D projects has increased significantly to 24% in 2016-17 from 13% in 2000-01 due to various initiatives undertaken by the Government in S&T sector. In absolute terms, 941 women Principal Investigators (PIs) during 2016-17 availed extramural R&D support as against 232 in 2000-01.

As on 1st April 2018, nearly 5.52 lakh personnel were employed in the R&D establishments in the country including in-house R&D units of public and private sector industries. Out of which, 3.42 lakh (61.8%) were performing R&D activities while 0.98 lakh (17.9%) and 1.12 lakh (20.3%) personnel were engaged in auxiliary and administrative / non-technical support activities.

As on 1st April 2018, there were 56,747 (16.6%) women out of total 3.42 lakh R&D personnel directly engaged in R&D activities.