

The programmes of GoI to empower women in the field of  
SAT will usher gender parity by 2047. Critically examine.

The first woman director of CSIR  
Council for Scientific and Industrial Research was  
appointed recently. The concerted measures are being  
taken to increase gender parity in science and  
technology.

### Women in STEM in India

There are 43% of women graduates in STEM  
science, Technology, Engineering and maths. Yet only  
14% are in research positions, global average  
being 30%. Developing countries such as  
South Africa and Egypt have 45% and Cuba  
has 49% of women researchers.  
Only 15% of faculty positions are  
occupied by women and as per University  
Grants Commission the number of women directors  
at IITs, National and State universities are low.

Measures to be taken

① Improve STEM participation - The SERB Science

Engineering and Research Board has launched POWER scheme to reduce gender disparity in research funding. Kirita scheme also encourages women participation in STEM

~~② Improving~~

② Improve infrastructure for women researchers

The CURIE initiative aims to augment infra-structure in labs.

③ Gender equality promotion via the GATI Gender Advancement in Transforming Institutions.

④ The Vigyan Jyoti scheme aims to foster STEM ecosystem for girls in class 9-12

⑤ Extension of childcare leave to male parent to support women researchers.

The R&D expenditure must go upto at least 3% of GDP which can increase women participation and also achieve SDG-5 gender equality