

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
UN-STARRED QUESTION NO. 2509
TO BE ANSWERED ON MONDAY, 03rd August, 2026**

Startups and Women Entrepreneurship

2509. Shri Anup Sanjay Dhotre:

Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of women-led companies registered under the Companies Act during each of the last three years, State-wise including Maharashtra;**
- (b) the initiatives undertaken by the Government to encourage women entrepreneurs to establish companies in rural and semi-urban areas;**
- (c) whether the Government has undertaken any awareness or facilitation programmes in Maharashtra, particularly in Akola district, for promoting women-led enterprises, if so, the details thereof;**
- (d) whether any assessment has been made regarding the effectiveness of these initiatives; and**
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the further measures proposed to strengthen women entrepreneurship through the corporate ecosystem?**

ANSWER

Minister of State in the Ministry of Corporate Affairs; Minister of State in the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways;

(Shri Harsh Malhotra)

(a) As per Section 149 of the Companies Act, 2013 (the Act), every company is required to have a Board of Directors. As per the second proviso of sub section (1) of section 149, every listed company, every other public company having paid up share capital of one hundred crore rupees or more; or turn over of three hundred crore rupees or more shall appoint at least one women director. Further, Section 203 of the Act mandates that every listed company and every other public company having a paid-up share capital of Rs.10 crore or more shall appoint whole-time Key Managerial Personnel, including a Managing Director, or Chief Executive Officer or Manager and, in their absence, a Whole-time Director. The term leaders of companies is not mentioned in the Act.

The state-wise details, including those pertaining to Maharashtra of companies registered under the Act having women directors during the last three years are provided in Annexure-A.

(b) No such specific initiative has been undertaken by the Ministry. However, the Ministry of Corporate Affairs has undertaken several measures to promote ease of doing business by simplifying the process of incorporation and compliance. These measures are applicable to all entrepreneurs across the country including women entrepreneurs. The details of these measures are provided in Annexure- B.

(c) No such specific programmes have been organized by this Ministry.

(d) & (e) In view of reply to part (a), (b) & (c) above, such a situation does not arise.

Annexure A

Annexure referred in reply to Part (a) of the unstarred Question No. 2509 for answer in Lok Sabha on 03.08.2026.

The states/UTs-wise details of companies registered under the Companies Act, 2013 having women directors during the last three years:

S. No.	States/UTs	2023-24		2024-25		2025-26		Total Companies	Total Women Directors
		No Companies	Total Women Directors	No of Companies	Total Women Directors	No of Companies	Total Women Directors		
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	48	66	20	22	37	44	105	132
2.	Andhra Pradesh	2190	2757	2406	2980	3791	4667	8387	10404
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	140	251	75	168	94	112	309	531
4.	Assam	1016	1517	766	1016	1083	1310	2865	3843
5.	Bihar	3257	4062	2949	3492	4316	5038	10522	12592
6.	Chandigarh	349	410	257	321	354	434	960	1165
7.	Chhattisgarh	827	1241	778	993	1116	1389	2721	3623
8.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	10	11	14	21	19	22	43	54
9.	Daman and Diu	8	9	19	24	21	30	48	63
10.	Delhi	8649	10332	7815	9407	10299	12421	26763	32160
11.	Goa	345	405	384	465	414	501	1143	1371

S. No	States/ UTs	2023-24		2024-25		2025-26		Total Companies	Total Women Directors
		No Companies	Total Women Directors	No Companies	Total Women Directors	No Companies	Total Women Directors		
12.	Gujarat	4815	5868	4743	5867	6792	8383	16350	20118
13.	Haryana	4938	5935	4943	5928	6686	8100	16567	19963
14.	Himachal Pradesh	415	593	392	564	520	619	1327	1776
15.	Jammu & Kashmir	643	819	561	676	731	856	1935	2351
16.	Jharkhand	1125	1602	1021	1298	1483	1843	3629	4743
17.	Karnataka	8236	10440	7468	9283	9840	12183	25544	31906
18.	Kerala	3110	3810	3030	3631	4237	5153	10377	12594
19.	Lakshadweep	2	3	-	-	6	7	8	10
20.	Madhya Pradesh	2979	3949	2798	3534	3862	4963	9639	12446
21.	Maharashtra	18175	24320	17090	22159	22301	28406	57566	74885
22.	Manipur	135	240	124	165	158	202	417	607
23.	Meghalaya	53	72	43	61	52	67	148	200
24.	Mizoram	42	54	42	48	31	36	115	138
25.	Nagaland	106	165	54	73	50	65	210	303
26.	Odisha	1876	2837	1827	2539	2429	3320	6132	8696
27.	Puducherry	113	150	124	161	145	178	382	489
28.	Punjab	1618	1983	1488	1819	1899	2229	5005	6031

29.	Rajasthan	3586	4489	3721	4535	5935	7340	13242	16364
S. No	States/ UTs	2023-24		2024-25		2025-26		Total Compa nies	Total Wome n Direct ors
		No Compa nies	Total Wome n Direct ors	No Compa nies	Total Wome n Direct ors	No Compa nies	Total Wome n Direct ors		
30.	Tamil Nadu	7505	9423	7486	9281	10125	12573	25116	31277
31.	Telangana	7059	8734	6862	8439	9736	11853	23657	29026
32.	Tripura	100	163	91	128	124	163	315	454
33.	Uttar Pradesh	11140	13734	10200	12467	14559	17789	35899	43990
34.	Uttarakha nd	891	1114	958	1206	1195	1432	3044	3752
35.	West Bengal	4729	5993	4259	5191	5618	6948	14606	18132
Grand Total		100230	127551	94808	117962	130058	160676	325096	406189

Annexure B

Annexure referred in reply to Part (b) of the unstarred Question No. 2509 for answer in Lok Sabha on 03.08.2026

The important measures to promote ease of doing business and simplify the process of incorporation and compliance taken by the Ministry are as follows:

(i) The Ministry, vide Notification No. G.S.R. 880(E) dated 01.12.2025, enhanced the threshold limits for classification of Small Companies by increasing the paid-up share capital limit from ₹4 crore to ₹10 crore and the turnover limit from ₹40 crore to ₹100 crore. This enables a larger number of companies to qualify as Small Companies and avail the benefit of simplified compliance requirements, thereby encouraging formalisation and growth of small businesses.

(ii) Zero filing fee is charged for incorporation of all companies having an authorised share capital up to ₹15 lakh or, in the case of companies not having share capital, with up to 20 members, thereby reducing the cost of setting up a business.

(iii) The Ministry has introduced an integrated web-based incorporation form, SPICe+ along with AGILE-PRO-S, which provides a single-window platform for multiple registrations required for starting a business. Through this integrated system, applicants can obtain the following eleven services simultaneously:

i. A single integrated new web form called SPICe+ along with AGILE PRO-S has been deployed. This form provides eleven services related to 'starting a business' namely (i) Name Reservation, (ii) Incorporation, (iii) Permanent Account Number (PAN), (iv) Tax Deduction Account Number (TAN), (v) Director Identification Number (DIN), (vi) Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) Registration, (vii) Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) Registration, (viii) Goods and Services Tax (GST) number, (ix) Bank Account Number, (x) Profession Tax Registration (Mumbai, Kolkata and Karnataka), (xi) Delhi Shops and Establishment Registration.

These measures have simplified the incorporation process, reduced compliance burden and transaction costs, and facilitated the establishment and operation of businesses across the country, including in rural, semi-urban areas.