

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2512

ANSWERED ON:28.03.2012

RIGHT OF WOMEN TO PROPERTY

Hazari Shri Maheshwar ;Saroj Smt. Sushila;Verma Smt. Usha

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission is considering a proposal regarding the right of women to property sent by a working group called Women's Agency and Empowerment with a view to bringing changes in the socio-economic status of women;

(b) if so, the details thereof?

(c) whether the husband and the wife will have equal rights in the property as per the said proposal; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR PLANNING, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AND EARTH SCIENCES (DR. ASHWANI KUMAR)

(a) to (d): A Working Group on Women's Agency & Empowerment was constituted by the Planning Commission with the basic objective to contextualize women's empowerment and define what the Twelfth Plan seeks to achieve and to carry out a review, analysis and evaluation of the existing provisions/programmes for women and make recommendations for the 12th Five Year Plan (2012-17).

The Working Group on Women's Agency & Empowerment has inter-alia pointed out the need for reform in Family Law in para 3.3.5 of its Report to recognize a woman as an equal partner with the husband and recommended that a comprehensive "Right to Marital Property Act" applicable to all communities be enacted. The proposed law, it is recommended should treat all the movable and immovable assets that a married couple or a couple living together have acquired, as joint property, which can be divided at the time of separation / desertion regardless of who has bought the property.