

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
LAW AND JUSTICE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:980  
ANSWERED ON:16.08.2012  
RESERVATION TO WOMEN  
Rawat Shri Ashok Kumar

**Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government proposes to make a law in order to provide reservation to the women in the Parliament and Legislative Assemblies;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the status of the efforts being made by the Government to provide legal assistance for upgrading social, economic and political condition of women in the country?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID)

(a) to (c) : During the years several steps have been taken for empowerment of women and one such step was to provide reservation for women in Lok Sabha and Legislative Assemblies. The Government put a step forward and introduced a Bill, namely, the Constitution (One Hundred Eighth Amendment) Bill, 2008 in the Rajya Sabha on the 6th May, 2008 to provide inter alia for, as nearly as may be, one-third (including the number of seats reserved for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes) of the total number of seats to be filled by direct election to the House of People and to the State Legislative Assemblies and the Legislative Assembly of National Capital Territory of Delhi shall be reserved for the women. Afterwards, the Chairman, Rajya Sabha on the 8th May, 2008 referred the Bill to the Departmental Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, and Law and Justice for examination and report. The Hon'ble Committee presented its 36th Report on the bill to the Rajya Sabha/laid in the Lok Sabha on the 17th December, 2009. The Rajya Sabha passed the Bill on 9th March, 2010. The Bill is to be passed by the Lok Sabha and is also required to be ratified by the Legislatures of not less than one-half of the States by resolution.