

Title: Reference regarding observance of International Women's Day.

MR. SPEAKER: Whoever disturbs will be proved to be anti-women. Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, today is the International Women's Day, which is observed to endow the women with the sense of honour, dignity and self-respect.

On behalf of this august House and on my own behalf, I wish to congratulate the women of India and of the world for the achievements made by women in various fields over the years. They deserve our admiration and support for their persistent and constructive commitment to achieve equality in all spheres of society.

On this solemn day, we should reaffirm our commitment to improve the condition of women, specially those who are in vulnerable position and empower them to take their rightful place in the society.

The women of India, in spite of several disadvantages, domestic and in the workplace, have achieved milestones in terms of education, health, freedom of choice, liberty and equality in law. We feel proud that our women are today ready to assert their right to life with dignity and self-respect.

On this occasion, we salute the women of our country for their indomitable spirit and ensure support of the entire House to them for achieving their rights and entitlements and to the struggle they are carrying on for eradicating the social evils afflicting them and the nation.

The women are the embodiment of compassion and selflessness and possess indomitable spirit in fighting against exploitation and deprivation and to lead a life of dignity and achievement with adequate participation in our nation-building activities including larger presence in the representative institutions and elected bodies. We recall with pride the great contribution made by the women in rural areas in running successfully our Panchayats and self-governing institutions.

Let us reaffirm our commitment for their complete empowerment to ensure the realization of the goal of the democratic and progressive society where all citizens will be treated with equal respect and authority.

Thank you very much. I am sure, all of you will join me.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU (SRIKAKULAM): On this solemn occasion, on behalf of the House, I demand that the Women's Reservation Bill be brought in this House without any delay. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have already said that those who will disturb will be recognized; they will prove to be anti-women.

I will call some hon. Members today.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seats. Do not dilute its importance.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I thought you are a male.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I will go one by one.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You give nomination to a woman member first and then you shout.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shrimati Sumitra Mahajan.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Although this is Question Hour, yet because of the importance of the day, I have made my reference quite elaborately on behalf of all of you. Kindly cooperate with me. Let us behave in a dignified manner today.

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