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Title: Issue regarding 33 percent reservation for women in the Women Reservation Bill.

SHRIMATI P.K. SHREEMATHI TEACHER (KANNUR): Thanks a lot, Madam Speaker, for allowing me to speak a few words on the Women's Reservation Bill. ... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: I will allow you, but coming and standing in the Well of the House is not proper.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI P.K. SHREEMATHI TEACHER: Madam, it is with a sense of deep disappointment that we bring to your attention, yet again, the lackadaisical attitude of the Government towards bringing 33 per cent reservation for women in the Women's Reservation Bill into the agenda of Parliament.

We would like to point out that the BJP had made a solemn promise to the women of this country in their election manifesto, expressing their commitment to the passage of this Bill. It is now almost four and a half years since it came to power with a massive majority, under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi. Though public statements of noble intentions for empowerment of women and girls have been made by the Ministers and the party leadership quite frequently over the years, this has not been translated into action with regard to the Women's Bill, as a result, women's presence in Lok Sabha remains at 11.7 per cent and in the Rajya Sabha at 11.4 per cent. The State Legislative Assemblies also display a similar gender imbalance.

Madam, as the Speaker of the 16<sup>th</sup> Lok Sabha, you have often spoken out in defence of women's rights, including their right to minimum representation in the highest decision making bodies. Hence, we make an appeal for your intervention on this issue that has been pending now, as you know, for over 20-25 years. We request you to intercede with the ruling NDA Government and ensure that 33 per cent reservation is given to women in the Women's Reservation Bill, which has already gone through a long process of consultation at all levels, is brought to Parliament and State Assemblies, and passed without any further delay.

On 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2019, we are convening Women Wall in Kerala to raise slogans on women empowerment and highlight about women's rights. Hence, I would request that in Parliament, in this Session itself, the Government should pass the Women's Reservation Bill.

HON. SPEAKER:

Shri Md. Badaruddoza Khan,

Shri Sankar Prasad Datta,

Shri Rabindra Kumar Jena,

Dr. P.K. Biju,

Dr. P. Venugopal,

Shri Rajeev Satav,

Dr. Prabhas Kumar Singh,

Shri Dharam Vira Gandhi,

Dr. Shashi Tharoor,

Shri N.K. Premachandran,

Shri Gopal Shetty,

Shrimati Rita Tarai,

Prof. (Dr.) Prasanna Kumar Patasani,

Shrimati Supriya Sule and

Shri Jai Prakash Narayan Yadav are allowed to be associated with the issue raised by Shrimati Shreemati Teacher.

आप सभी लोग इस तरह से खड़े होंगे तो मुझे कुछ भी समझ में नहीं आयेगा। आप सभी लोग इस विषय पर सपोर्ट करना चाहेंगे। हर कोई इस विषय पर नहीं बोल सकता है। सभी लोग इसे सपोर्ट कर रहे हैं।

...(व्यवधान)

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB (CUTTACK): ...(*Interruptions*)  
Regarding motion on one-third reservation for women in Parliament and State Assemblies, our Chief Minister had written letters to all party presidents. Some 24-27 party presidents. Also met the Chief Minister....  
(*Interruptions*) I support what Ms. Teacher has said and I would request you to find time to have a discussion on this 33 per cent or one-third reservation for women in this Session....(*Interruptions*)

**माननीय अध्यक्ष :** आप सभी इसके सपोर्ट में रहिए। आप सभी स्लिप पर नाम लिखकर दे दीजिए। सभी लोग इस पर नहीं बोल सकते हैं।

...(व्यवधान)

SHRI A.P. JITHENDER REDDY (MAHABUBNAGAR): The Rajya Sabha has passed the Bill regarding the 33 per cent reservation for women and I associate with Ms. Teacher and I request the Government to immediately take it on the agenda.

HON. SPEAKER: All of you, those who want to associate can associate. That is all. I am sorry.

... (*Interruptions*)