

AS INTRODUCED IN LOK SABHA

12 SEP 1996

**Bill No. 100 of 1996**

**THE CONSTITUTION (EIGHTY-FIRST AMENDMENT) BILL, 1996**

**BILL**

*further to amend the Constitution of India.*

Be it enacted by Parliament in the Forty-seventh Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

1. (1) This Act may be called the Constitution (Eighty-first Amendment) Act, 1996.
- (2) It shall come into force on such date as the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, appoint.

Short title  
and com-  
mencement.

Insertion of new article 330A.

2. After article 330 of the Constitution, the following article shall be inserted, namely:—

Reservation of seats for women in the House of the People.

"330A. (1) Seats shall be reserved for women in the House of the People.

(2) Not less than one-third of the total number of seats reserved under clause (2) of article 330 shall be reserved for women belonging to the Scheduled Castes or, as the case may be, the Scheduled Tribes: 5

Provided that nothing in this clause shall apply in relation to a State or Union territory so long as the number of seats reserved for Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes, as the case may be, in that State or Union territory, is less than three.

(3) Not less than one-third (including the number of seats reserved for women belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes) of the total number of seats to be filled by direct election to the House of the People in a State or Union territory shall be reserved for women and such seats may be allotted by rotation to different constituencies in that State or Union territory : 10

Provided that nothing in this clause shall apply in relation to a State or Union territory so long as the number of seats allotted to such State or Union territory is less than three." 15

Insertion of new article 332A.

Reservation of seats for women in the Legislative Assemblies of the States.

3. After article 332 of the Constitution, the following article shall be inserted, namely:—

"332A. (1) Seats shall be reserved for women in the Legislative Assembly of every State. 20

(2) Not less than one-third of the total number of seats reserved under clause (3) of article 332 shall be reserved for women belonging to the Scheduled Castes or, as the case may be, the Scheduled Tribes:

Provided that nothing in this clause shall apply in relation to a State so long as the number of seats reserved for Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes, as the case may be, in that State, is less than three. 25

(3) Not less than one-third (including the number of seats reserved for women belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes) of the total number of seats to be filled by direct election in the Legislative Assembly of every State shall be reserved for women and such seats may be allotted by rotation to different constituencies in that State: 30

Provided that nothing in this clause shall apply in relation to a State so long as the number of seats allotted to such State is less than three." 35

Amendments not to affect the representation in the House of the People or Legislative Assembly.

4. The Amendments made to the Constitution, by this Act, shall not affect any representation in the House of the People or in the Legislative Assembly of a State until the dissolution of the House or the Assembly, as the case may be, in existence at the commencement of this Act. 35

### STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

Articles 243D and 243T inserted by the Constitution (Seventy-third Amendment) Act, 1992 and the Constitution (Seventy-fourth Amendment) Act, 1992 respectively provide that not less than one-third of the seats shall be reserved for women in every Panchayat and every Municipality. Further, the said articles provide that, from amongst the seats reserved for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, not less than one-third seats shall be reserved for women belonging to the Scheduled Castes or, as the case may be, the Scheduled Tribes. The said articles also provide that such seats reserved for women may be allotted by rotation to different constituencies.

2. Having provided reservation for women in Panchayats and Municipalities, it is now proposed to provide reservation for women on the same lines in the House of the People and in the Legislative Assemblies of the States by amending the Constitution. The major political parties are in favour of making such reservation for women.

3. The Bill seeks to achieve the aforesaid object.

NEW DELHI;

RAMAKANT D. KHALAP.

*The 4th September, 1996.*

**LOK SABHA**

CLAUSE

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**BILL**

further to amend the Constitution of India.

*(Shri Ramakant D. Khalap, Minister of State in the Ministry of Law and Justice)*