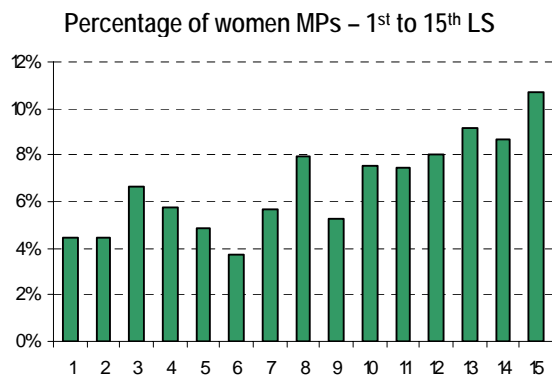


# Vital Stats

## Women MPs in the 15<sup>th</sup> Lok Sabha

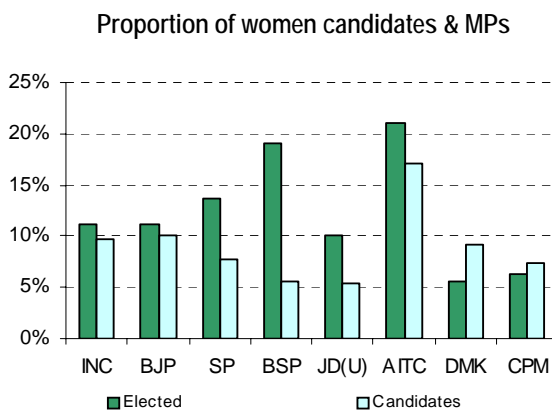
The Women’s Reservation Bill, currently pending in the Rajya Sabha, proposes to reserve one-third of the seats in the Lok Sabha and legislative assemblies for women. The 15<sup>th</sup> Lok Sabha has 58 women MPs – this is the first time their representation has crossed 10%. In this note, we describe the performance of women candidates and profile of women MPs.

### The 15<sup>th</sup> Lok Sabha has the highest ever percentage of women MPs



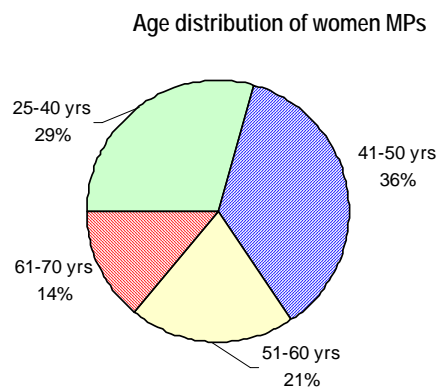
- Women constitute 11% of the newly elected House.
- Of the larger states (having more than 20 seats in the Lok Sabha), Madhya Pradesh has the highest percentage of women MPs (21%), followed by West Bengal (17%) and Uttar Pradesh (15%).
- Until last year, women constituted only 9% of the Lok Sabha, 10% of the Rajya and 7% of state legislative assemblies.

### 9% of the candidates fielded and 12% of those elected, were women



- Women candidates were more successful than men. While 10% of all women candidates won the election, the corresponding figure for men was 6%.
- Of the major political parties (at least 15 seats in the Lok Sabha), the Trinamool Congress fielded the highest percentage of women candidates, and has the highest percentage of women MPs.
- Interestingly, for both the BJP and the Congress, women constitute about 11% of the candidates fielded, and 10% of those elected.

### Women MPs, on an average, are younger than their male counterparts

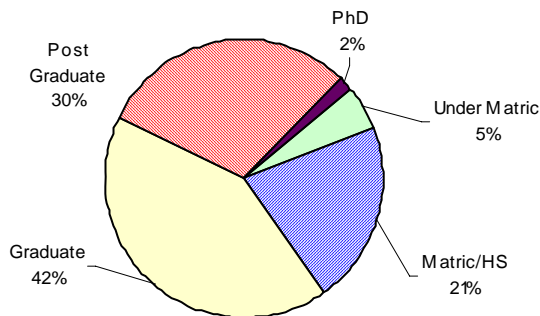


- The average age of women MPs is 47 while the average age of male MPs is 54 years.
- There are no women MPs over 70, while 7% of the men in Parliament are over 70 years old.
- A higher number of women below the age of 40 have been elected to the 15<sup>th</sup> Lok Sabha. While in the 14<sup>th</sup> Lok Sabha only 17% were below the age of 40, in the current Lok Sabha the figure stands at 29%.

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## Education profile of female MPs is similar to male MPs.

Education profiles of the women MPs



- 32% of women MPs have a post graduate or doctoral degree. The corresponding figure for men is 30%.
- While 42% of women MPs have a graduate degree, the number is 46% for men.
- In the 14<sup>th</sup> Lok Sabha, 30% of women had Bachelor's degrees, and 58% had higher degrees.

### Notes:

1. The analysis on 15<sup>th</sup> Lok Sabha is based on candidate information and election results posted on the Election Commission website. The data for earlier Lok Sabha were obtained from the Lok Sabha website.
2. Educational qualifications have been obtained from the candidate affidavits. Data for one woman MP and 44 male MPs were not available.

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