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Article on Nari Shakti Vandhan Abhiyan 2023

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ABSTRACT

The Women's booking bill has for a long time moped in the corridors of India's Parliament. Presently at last, after it has been passed in 2023, there is a need to concentrate on what this bill involves and how powerful will the bill be.

As of late, both the places of Parliament have passed Nari Shakti Vandhan Adhiniyan, prominently known as the Women Reservation Bill, 2023 by the method of 106th Protected Change. It has been a long movement in the parliament starting around 1996 and has confronted many obstacles to date. The demonstration plans to give a better portrayal of ladies in the Indian Nation thinking about their deficient portrayal in the ongoing political situation.

Keywords: *Insertion, Reservation, Implementation.*

I. INTRODUCTION

Women's representation in Indian politics has been very low. At present there are 82 women MPs in the Lok Sabha i.e. 15.2% of the total number and there are 31 women MPs in the Rajya Sabha which is 13% of the total number. However, the representation has been better compared to the first Lok Sabha meeting in which the number of women members was only 5%.

The discussion on reservation for women in Parliament was first introduced almost 27 years ago in 1996. The government of late Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee was the first to put forward this idea. In fact this bill managed to be passed in the Rajya Sabha in 2010 under the UPA government, but due to lack of consensus it could not become an Act. It has since been introduced on several occasions, but failed to gain majority consent until recently.

According to the report published by UN Women data, the top three countries in the list Rwanda, Cuba, Nicaragua have female representation of 61%, 53% and 52% respectively. Even countries like Bangladesh and Pakistan which are comparatively underdeveloped compared to India are far ahead in representing their women and represent 21% and 20% women respectively.

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(A) Objective of the bill

The purpose of this bill is to provide 33% reservation in Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies to improve and uplift the status of women in Indian politics. It also takes steps to ensure reservation for women in the National Capital Territory of Delhi.

(B) Key features

- This law provides for the insertion of Article 330A in the Constitution, which derives its power from Article 330 which further provides for reservation of seats for SCs and STs in the Lok Sabha.
- It provides for reserving one-third of the seats for women on a rotational basis after every delimitation exercise determined by Parliament in accordance with law.
- It competes to provide horizontal reservation for SC and ST under women quota.
- The bill has a sunset clause which will be reviewed after 15 years of its implementation.

(C) Arguments against the bill

- Critics believe that there are many inconsistencies in the bill, which may hinder its implementation.
- The bill does not provide reservation for women in the Rajya Sabha. Representation should ideally be reflected in both Houses of Parliament.
- Horizontal reservation has been given to SC and ST, but it has not been considered for OBCs of the society.
- The Bill declares that it will be implemented after the census and delimitation, which is predicted to happen not earlier than 2026. It has been argued that census and delimitation should be done as soon as possible for its immediate implementation.
- It also does not specify the election cycle from which the provisions will be implemented. This throws us all into uncertainty again.

II. CONCLUSION

The bill has come a long way since its introduction in 1996. Over the last 27 years, many governments have attempted to bring a law that provides reservation to women in the political field but failed to achieve that goal. Implementation is still postponed for the unforeseeable future. A PIL has been filed in the apex court by the opposition seeking directions to the government to speed up the implementation process. Any further delay in bringing the Act into effect would be a grave injustice to Indian women. This can happen only if appropriate steps

are taken by the government for the long pending census and delimitation exercise.
