

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS

RAJYA SABHA
UN-STARRED QUESTION NO. 2445
ANSWERED ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2024

GENDER EQUALITY IN CORPORATE LEADERSHIP

QUESTION

2445. SHRI RAVI CHANDRA VADDIRAJU:

Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS
be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry has noted that only 32 per cent of new Director Identification Numbers registered in September, 2024 (as per MCA monthly information bulletin report) belonged to women;
- (b) if so, the steps being taken to promote gender equality in corporate leadership; and
- (c) whether any specific initiatives are planned to increase women's participation in corporate boards and management, if so, the details therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS AND MINISTER
OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD, TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

[SHRI HARSH MALHOTRA]

(a):- Yes, However, the cumulative number of women directors in listed companies, un-listed public companies and private companies as on 30 November 2024 are as follows; -

Category	Count of women directors associated
Listed Public companies	8,672
Unlisted public companies	46,939
Private companies (including OPCs)	11,11,040

(b) & (c): - The Ministry of Corporate Affairs, with a view to encourage women participation in decision making at various levels in companies, has included the following provisions in the Companies Act, 2013,

- Second proviso to sub-section (1) of section 149 of the Companies Act, 2013 (Act) provides that prescribed class of companies shall have at least one woman director.
- Further, as per Rule 3 of Companies (Appointment and Qualification of Directors) Rules, 2024, every listed company and every other public company having paid up share capital of Rs. 100 crore or more or having turnover of Rs. 300 crore or more, is required to appoint at least one woman director.
- If a company makes default in complying with this provision of the Act, the company and every officer of the company who is in default, is liable for penalty provided under section 172 of the Companies Act, 2013.

There is no further specific initiative under consideration.
