GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 845

TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, 20TH DECEMBER, 2017

WOMEN RESERVATION BILL

845. SHRI KIRTI AZAD:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India ranks 109 amongst 193 global nations in terms of women Parliamentarians which is just 12 per cent against global-average of 22.7 per cent;
- (b) if so, whether the Government proposes to table and pass the Women Reservation Bill;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to put the bill to test of numbers rather than seeking consensus and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether some political parties are deliberately stalling this Bill by invoking religion and caste criteria;
- (e) if so, whether the Government proposes to bring in a uniform 33 per cent reservation for women at all stages from civic bodies to Parliament rather than having 50 per cent at lower levels;
- (f) if so, whether the Government proposes to adopt Election Commission's formula to make it compulsory for every political party to give at least 33 per cent party tickets to women; and (g) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LAW AND JUSTICE AND CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI P.P.CHAUDHARY)

- (a): The Government does not have any empirical data in this regard.
- (b) to (e): It has been the endeavour of the Government to provide for reservation of one-third seats for women in the House of the People and the State Legislative Assemblies. The issue needs careful consideration on the basis of the consensus among all political parties before a Bill for amendment in the Constitution is brought before Parliament.