
P R E F A C E

Women and Politics: A Study on Indian Women Parliamentarians from 1952 to 1995-96, have been considered to be of some special importance, because the women who constitute the 50% of its total population may not know the real percentage of their representation and the real performance too, performed by the women representatives at the highest law making body of India.

Through out the history, it was found that women's status in society have had been ever changing and changes contributed by men. In course of time, Internationally, a movement known as **Feminist Movement** has emerged and consequently women were gradually been recognised by society. Justice is one of the fundamental ingredients of Democracy, but social and economic justice alone could not bring success to democracy until there is political justice, and political justice only can come where mass participation takes place significantly, women constitute the 50 percent of that mass.

Government of India has been taking steps from time to time to change the status of women and for that purpose Government of India had appointed a Committee on the Status of Women in India (CSWI) in 1971. The committee had submitted its report on 31st December in 1974. In 1985, Prime Minister **Sri Rajiv Gandhi** had open a new Department of Women and Child Welfare under the Ministry of Human Resource Development. In 1988 a National Perspective Plan for Women was prepared by the above department under the Ministry of Smt. Margaret Alva to fulfil the desire and aspiration of women between 1988 to 2000 A.D. Indian Council of Social Science Research has also conducted different type of studies. Recently the U.N.O. celebrated the Women Decade and more recently in September 1995, World Women Conference was held in Beijing in China. Almost all of our Women Parliamentarians had attended the conference.

The **THESIS PAPER** has been divided into eight chapters. The First Chapter is headlined as Introduction, which have highlighted the different movement on Women, and Women's entrance into Modern Politics. The chapter also reflects various objectives and significance of the study too. Second Chapter, discloses the Methodology that has been followed to complete the Study.

Third Chapter is concerned with the Traditional Status of Women in India and their gradual development, changes and entrance into Parliament. The chapter has made an extensive study on the role played by the Women Members in Parliament (significantly in Lok Sabha). The chapter discloses the tendency and their inclination of participation, different Bills and Questions related to socio - economic and political factors that they have had introduced and placed on the floor of the House. While studying on the above subjects, the socio - economic and political background of the Women Parliamentarians have also been taken into consideration.

Fourth Chapter reveals different purpose, process and factors of women exploitation and oppression. The chapter also discussed different upliftment programmes taken by the Government for women's benefit, such as CSWI, NPP, HRD, DWCD etc. So far, it was expected that women representatives must be concerned about women problem, therefore, the chapter consists of different Bills and questions that have been placed by them on Women.

When the study began, few Hypothesis were made, Chapter fifth gives the detail of the validity of the hypothesis, and Chapter Sixth is the Concluding Chapter that includes different opinion of Women Parliamentarians.

While collecting informations, materials, datas, I had to face few trouble, such as the Library of N.B.U. could not provide all the Debates of Lok Sabha and of Rajya Sabha except extremely few. Therefore, I had to Pay visit to Delhi very frequently. Inspite of that proper information of sixth (1977-80) Lok Sabha were not available and materials of 10th Lok Sabha were available till 1994 only. Information of first to third Lok Sabha were also available upto a limited extent. I should ask for apology in anticipation to those Women

Parliamentarians who perhaps had performed some special performance, but I could not mention that, just because of limited materials and information, though the book written by J.K. Chopra has helped me to get the detail of few Bills.

However, even of the limitation, hurdles, problems faced during interview with Women Parliamentarians, attempt has been made to take into account the role of women in the Parliament at the best way.

For any shortcomings the responsibility is mine.

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