



## THE WOMEN RESERVATION (IN SERVICES) BILL, 2016 AND WOMEN EMPOWERMENT IN INDIA

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Before independence, different social reformers like raja Ram Mohan Roy, Ishwarchand Vidyasagar, Annie Basant, Mahatma Gandhi etc., tried to empower the women in different ways. But after independence, empowerment of women became a political issue. In Indian constitution the word women empowerment refers to. empower Social status, Educational status, Economic status women in India. The **Women's Reservation Bill** or **The Constitution (108<sup>th</sup> Amendment) Bill, 2008**, is a lapsed bill in the Parliament of India which proposed to amend the Constitution of India to reserve 33% of all seats in the Lower house of Parliament of India, the Lok Sabha, and in all state legislative assemblies for women. The seats were proposed to be reserved in rotation and would have been determined by draw of lots in such a way that a seat would be reserved only once in three consecutive general elections.

The Rajya Sabha passed the bill on 9 March 2010. However, the Lok Sabha never voted on the bill. The bill lapsed after the dissolution of the 15th Lok Sabha in 2014.

In 1993, a constitutional amendment was passed in India that called for a random one third of village council leader, or pradhan, positions in gram panchayat to be reserved for women.

There is a long-term plan to extend this reservation to parliament and legislative assemblies. Its opponents consider this preferential treatment of women in India as discrimination against them in admissions to schools, colleges, and universities.

Indian government is running various development programs to enhance the position of weaker sections. But due to the corruption and failure of the system, we are still unable to achieve the goal.<sup>5</sup>

The Indian constitution provides the reservation for women. The Equal Remuneration Act, 1976, The Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961, The Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956., The Maternity Benefit Act, 1961., The Medical termination of Pregnancy Act, 1971, The Commission of Sati (Prevention) Act, 1987, The Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006, The Pre-Conception & Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (Regulation and Prevention of

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Misuse) Act, 1994 , The Sexual Harassment of Women at Work Place (Prevention, Protection and) Act, 2013.

**OBJECTIVES:**

1. To study if the reservation policies are the need of the day.
2. To find that the selection of weaker sections is correct , which is recommended by different commissions.
3. To study if the reservation policies are free of political benefits.

**METHODOLOGY:**

1. Regarding to the nature of the study DIGNOSTIC research design is opted for the purpose.
2. 60 IndianFemale citizens from district Mathura (UP) are selected purposively.
3. Principles ofStatistics and *probability*<sup>3</sup> are used to check the hypothesis.

**HYPOTHESIS:**

1. The selection of Beneficiaries is induced of political benefits.
2. The basis of selection of Beneficiaries, is caste ,not the social, economic or educational status.
3. Reservation policies are responsible for women empowerment.

**STATISTICAL ANALYSIS & INTERPRETATION OF PRIMARY DATA:**

**Table (1): Socio-economic status of respondents**

S. no.	Variables	Frequencies and percentage			Total
1.	Caste(Category)	General 20(33.3%)	O.B.C. 20(33.3%)	S.C./S.T. 20(33.3%)	60(100%)
2.	Educational status	Highly edu. 15(25%)	Edu. 45(75%)	Un-Edu. --(0.00)	60(100%)
3.	Age of respondents (in years)	18+ 30(50%)	36+ 15(25%0)	54+ 15 (25%)	60(100%)
4.	Urban/rural	Rural 60(100%)	Urban _(0.00%)		60(100%)
5.	sex	Male 60(100%)	Female --(0.00)		60(100%)

**Table (02) Views of respondents “Basis of reservation is caste and general categories also have weakens.”**

S no	category	Responses& percentage			Total
		yes	no	Un-answered	
1.	general	20(33.3)	--(0.00)	--(0.00)	20(33.3)
2.	O.B.C.	20(33.3)	--(0.00)	--(0.00)	20(33.3)
3	S.C./S.T.	20(33.3)	--(0.00)	--(0.00)	20(33.3)
	Total	60(100)	--(0.00)	--(0.00)	60(100.0)

**Table (03): “the selection of Beneficiaries must be on the basis of social, educational, economic status ,not caste and political benefits”**

S no	category	Responses& percentage			Total
		yes	no	Un-answered /neutral	
1.	SC/ST	6(10.00)	4(6.67)	10(16.67)	20(33.33)
2	OBC	12(20.000)	2(3.33)	6(10.00)	20(33.33)
3	General	20(33.33)	--(0.00)	--(0.00)	20(33.33)
	total	38(63.33)	6(10.00)	16(26,67)	60(100.0)

**Table (04): “Reservation policies are responsible for Empowerment of Women.”**

S no	category	Responses& percentage			Total
		yes	no	Un-answered/ Neutral	
1.	SC/ST	15(25.00)	--(0.00)	05(8.33)	20(33.33)
2.	OBC	20(33.33)	--(0.00)	--(0.00)	20(33.33)
3.	General	20(33.33)	--(0.00)	--(0.00)	20(33.33)
	total	55(91.67)	--(0.00)	05(8.33)	60(100.0)

### CONCLUSSIONS:

By the analysis of primary data , we find that 60respondents are selected purposively for the study, in which 20(33.33%)belongs toSC/STcategory,20(33.33%)toOBC and20(33.33)to general category.

100% respondents accepted that the selection of weakens is caste based while it must be on the basis of social, economic and educational status.

38(63.33%) respondents accepted that general categories also have weakens.

55(91.67%)respondents realized that reservation policies are responsible for empowerment of women in India..

Co-efficient of probability from table 2,3and 4are calculated 0.6; 0.63 and 0.92.The average value of the co-efficient is calculated 0.71, which verifies correctness of hypothesis. These results are also verified by Singh N.S. <sup>4</sup>

### **SUGGESTIONS:**

- Only reservation of some castes is not the way to empower the weakens.
- The selection of weakens must be impartial and free of political benefits
- Weakens should be helped for education, economically to be self dependent. But reservation should not be applied in services and promotions to stop brain drain.

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