



Dear *Y.S. Sharmila Reddy ji,*

I hope this letter finds you in good health and high spirits. I write to you today with a deep sense of urgency and an unwavering commitment to the ideals of equality and representation of women in our great nation. The upcoming special session of Parliament presents a unique opportunity for us, as representatives of the people, to take a historic step forward. It is my sincere hope that all political parties in India will rise above partisan interests and unite in support of the Women's Reservation Bill, which has languished in legislative limbo for far too long.

The significance of women in the Indian discourse cannot be overstated. Women constitute approximately 50% of our population and play a pivotal role in every aspect of our society. Yet, when it comes to legislative representation in State Assemblies and in our National Parliament, their presence remains woefully inadequate. This glaring disparity hampers our nation's progress and undermines the principles of democracy upon which our great country is built.

The representation of women in legislative discourse is of utmost importance for several reasons:

Inclusivity: A diverse legislature that reflects the demographics of our nation is essential for ensuring that the concerns, aspirations, and needs of all citizens, regardless of gender, are adequately addressed. The absence of women in legislative bodies leads to an incomplete and biased representation of our society.

Empowerment: Increased representation of women in politics not only empowers them but also serves as an inspiration for millions of young girls across the country. It sends a powerful message that no dream is too big, and no obstacle is insurmountable.

Policy Impact: Women often bring unique perspectives and priorities to the table. Their participation in legislative discussions leads to a more holistic and balanced approach to policymaking. This, in turn, benefits our society as a whole.

Proof of Concept: Around 14 lakh elected women representatives are already active in public life, demonstrating their ability to lead and



govern effectively. It is high time we recognize this and provide them with the opportunity to excel on a larger stage.

Regrettably, there has been a conspicuous lack of sincerity among various stakeholders to make space for women in our legislative bodies. The Women's Reservation Bill, which seeks to reserve 33% of seats for women in the Lok Sabha and state legislative assemblies, has been pending for far too long. This delay is a disheartening testament to the unwillingness of our political establishment to address this issue adequately.

In this context, I humbly request that your party lends its unwavering support to the passage of the Women's Reservation Bill in the upcoming special session of Parliament. I implore you to throw your weight behind this crucial legislation, not as a matter of exclusivity but as a step towards building a more inclusive and equitable democracy.

My appeal is not limited to any particular party but extends to all registered and recognised political parties in India. Let us, for once, set aside our differences and come together in the interest of our nation and its future. Let us take this historic step towards gender equality and a more representative democracy.

In conclusion, I sincerely hope that you will consider this urgent matter with the gravity it deserves and take action to support the Women's Reservation Bill. The time for change is now, and I believe that together, we can make India a shining example of democracy that truly represents all its citizens.

Thank you for your attention to this critical issue.

Sincerely,

Kalvakuntla Kavitha,
MLC – Nizamabad, Telangana.