

RAJYA SABHA

Parliamentary Bulletin

PART - I

(TWO HUNDRED AND FORTY FIFTH SESSION)

No. 5379]

THURSDAY, MARCH 8, 2018

Brief Record of the Proceedings of the Meeting of the Rajya Sabha held on the 8th March, 2018

11-00 a.m.

1. Reference by the Chair

The Chairman made the following reference on the occasion of the International Women's Day:—

"Hon'ble Members, today, March 8th 2018, is the International Women's Day, a day to celebrate and honor the untiring commitment and determination of ordinary women in India and throughout the world to achieve equality, justice and economic development.

The famous words of Mahatma Gandhi ji --'Be the change you want to see in the world' are probably more relevant today than ever before.

Many issues concerning women get highlighted today. But two things which I feel should receive renewed focus are gender equality and safety of women. We all have to act collectively to raise awareness against discrimination of the girl child.

Every household, neighborhood, school, institutions and community should start gender-sensitization. The mindset to respect girls and women should be promoted at home and in schools, public areas, public transport and at every place and every stage.

The change should begin at home first. Parents should ensure that there is no discrimination between a boy and girl. Boys should be made to treat girls with respect and affection, while girls should not be made to feel inferior in any way. There cannot be two opinions on the need to eliminate even the remotest possibility of discrimination against the girl child.

In fact various campaigns and laws are definitely making a difference. Recently, the UNICEF has stated that 25 million child marriages were prevented worldwide in the last decade with South Asia witnessing the largest decline largely due to progress in India. It was stated that in the current trend, 27 per cent of girls get married before they turn 18 years—~~steep~~ decline from 47 per cent a decade ago.

An important area of concern is lower female literacy rate when compared to male literacy. This problem has to be addressed on a war footing to educate and empower women.

As far as curbing crimes against women is concerned, visible policing and patrolling has to be increased, particularly in desolate areas and during nights. Visible policing will not only provide reassurance to people but will also be a deterrent to trouble-makers.

From times immemorial, we have the tradition of respecting women. In fact, no religion denigrates the status of women. Aberrations have crept into our ways of living in modern times and they have to be eliminated. Ancient Indian thought and vision were idealistic. Unfortunately, there seems to be a big hiatus between ancient Indian thought and harsh contemporary realities.

Time and again women have proved that they are not only second to none in any field, but better than men in multi-tasking. Women have made outstanding contributions in various fields in the country from building rockets to wielding a cricket bat. Be it politics, poetry, sports or business, women have excelled whenever they had an opportunity.

The architect of the Indian Constitution, Dr. B. R. Ambedkar had said 'I measure the progress of community by the degree of the progress which women have achieved'. With women constituting about 50 per cent of our population, social, economic and political empowerment of women, including providing reservation in the Parliament and State Legislatures, has to be accorded top priority for the country to achieve rapid progress.

I wish all the Hon'ble Members, especially women Members and through them all citizens of the country all the best."

*The following Members spoke on the occasion:—

1. Shrimati Ambika Soni
2. Shrimati Renuka Chowdhury
3. Kumari Selja
4. Shrimati Rajani Patil
5. Shrimati Sampatiya Uikey
6. Shrimati Chhaya Verma
7. Shrimati Wansuk Syiem
8. Shrimati Viplove Thakur
9. Shrimati Kanimozhi
10. Shrimati Thota Seetharama Lakshmi
11. Ms. Anu Aga
12. Shrimati Roopa Ganguly
13. Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad, *Leader of the Opposition*
14. Shri Derek O' Brien
15. Shri D. Raja
16. Dr. V. Maitreyan
17. Shri T.K. Rangarajan
18. Shri Satish Chandra Misra
19. Shri Majeed Memon
20. Dr. Subramanian Swamy
21. Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy
22. Shri K.T.S. Tulsi
23. Shri Tiruchi Siva
24. Shri Dilip Kumar Tirkey
25. Shri Dharmapuri Srinivas
26. Shri Sanjay Singh
27. Shri Hariवंश
28. Shrimati Sushma Swaraj, *Minister of External Affairs*
29. Shri Vijay Goel, *Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation*

* At 11-08 a.m.

11-05 a.m.

2. Papers Laid on the Table

The following papers were laid on the Table:—

1. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Notification No. A-12011/1/2017-Estt. (Vol-I), dated the 24th January, 2018, publishing the National Capital Region Planning Board Recruitment & Promotion (Amendment) Regulations, 2017, under Section 38 of the National Capital Region Planning Board Act, 1985.

2. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

- (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the India Centre for Migration, New Delhi, for the years 2011-12, 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Centre.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above.

3. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

- (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Jammu and Kashmir Noor Society implementing the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan, (RMSA), Jammu and Kashmir, for the year 2016-17, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above.

4.(1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (1) of Section 19 and sub-section (2) of Section 20 of the Jawaharlal Nehru University Act, 1966:—

- (a) Forty-seventh Annual Report of the Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi, for the year 2016-17.
- (b) Annual Accounts of the Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, for the year 2016-17, and the Audit Report thereon.
- (c) Review by Government on the working of the above University.

(2) Statement (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

5.(1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under Section 38 of the Delhi University Act, 1922:—

- (a) Ninety-fourth Annual Report (Part I and II) of the University of Delhi, Delhi, for the year 2016-17.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above University.

(2) Statement (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

6.(1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (3) of Section 30 and sub-section (4) of Section 31 of the Central Universities Act, 2009:—

- (a) Annual Report of the Hemvati Nandan Bahuguna Garhwal University, Srinagar-Garhwal, Uttarakhand, for the year 2016-17.
- (b) Annual Accounts of the Hemvati Nandan Bahuguna Garhwal University, Srinagar-Garhwal, Uttarakhand, for the year 2016-17, and the Audit Report thereon.
- (c) Review by Government on the working of the above University.

(2) Statements (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

7.(1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under, sub-section (3) of Section 32 and sub-section (4) of Section 33 of the Sikkim University Act, 2006:—

- (a) Tenth Annual Report of the Sikkim University, Gangtok, for the year 2016-17.
- (b) Annual Accounts of the Sikkim University, Gangtok, for the year 2016-17, and the Audit Report thereon.
- (c) Review by Government on the working of the above University.

(2) Statement (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

8. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

- (i) (a) Annual Accounts of the North-Eastern Hill University (NEHU), Shillong, for the year 2016-17, and the Audit Report thereon, under sub-section (4) of Section 29 of the North-Eastern Hill University Act, 1973.
 - (b) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the paper mentioned at (i) (a) above.
- (ii) (a) Annual Accounts of the Dr. Harisingh Gour Vishwavidyalaya, Sagar, Madhya Pradesh, for the year 2016-17, and the Audit Report thereon, under sub-section (4) of Section 31 of the Central Universities Act, 2009.
 - (b) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the paper mentioned at (ii) (a) above.
- (iii) (a) Annual Accounts of the Manipur University, Canchipur, Imphal, for the year 2016-17, and the Audit Report thereon, under sub-section (3) of Section 33 of the Manipur University Act, 2005.
 - (b) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the paper mentioned at (iii) (a) above.
- (iv) (a) Annual Accounts of the University of Allahabad, Allahabad, Uttar Pradesh, for the year 2016-17, and the Audit Report thereon, under sub-section (4) of Section 32 of the University of Allahabad Act, 2005.
 - (b) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the paper mentioned at (iv) (a) above.
- (v) (a) Annual Accounts of the Aligarh Muslim University (AMU), Aligarh, for the year 2016-17, and the Audit Report thereon, under sub-section (4) of Section 35 of the Aligarh Muslim University (Amendment) Act, 1981.
 - (b) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the paper mentioned at (v) (a) above.

11-06 a.m.

3. Reports of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Health and Family Welfare

Shri Jairam Ramesh presented the following Reports (in English and Hindi) of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Health and Family Welfare:—

- (i) 106th Report on Demands for Grants (2018-19) of the Department of Health and Family Welfare, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare; and
- (ii) 107th Report on Demands for Grants (2018-19) of the Department of Health Research, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

4. Reports of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs

Shri K. Rahman Khan presented the following Reports (in English and Hindi) of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs:—

- (i) 205th Report on Action Taken by Government on the Recommendations/Observations contained in the Two Hundred Third Report on Border Security: Capacity Building and Institutions;
- (ii) 206th Report on Action Taken by Government on the Recommendations/Observations contained in the Two Hundred First Report on Demands for Grants (2017-18) of the Ministry of Home Affairs;
- (iii) 207th Report on Action Taken by Government on the Recommendations/Observations contained in the Two Hundred Second Report on Demands for Grants (2017-18) of the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region; and
- (iv) 208th Report on Action Taken by Government on the Recommendations/Observations contained in the One Hundred Ninety Eighth Report on Disaster in Chennai Caused by Torrential Rainfall and Consequent Flooding.

11-07 a.m.

5. Reports of the Department-related parliamentary Standing committee on Human Resource Development

Dr. Satyanarayan Jatiya presented the following Reports (in English and Hindi) of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Human Resource Development:—

- (i) 302nd Report on Demands for Grants 2018-19 (Demand No. 58) of the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Department of Higher Education; and
- (ii) 303rd Report on Demands for Grants 2018-19 (Demand No. 99) of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.

6. Reports of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment

Shrimati Chhaya Verma laid on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Reports of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment (2017-18):—

- (i) Fiftieth Report on 'Demands for Grants (2018-19)' of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (Department of Social Justice and Empowerment);
- (ii) Fifty-first Report on 'Demands for Grants (2018-19)' of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities);
- (iii) Fifty-second Report on 'Demands for Grants (2018-19)' of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs; and
- (iv) Fifty-third Report on 'Demands for Grants (2018-19)' of the Ministry of Minority Affairs.

*12-00 Noon

The House adjourned and re-assembled at 2-00 p.m.

*From 11-08 a.m. to 11-59 a.m., some Members spoke on the occasion of the International Women's Day (see item at Sl. No. 1) and; From 11-59 a.m. to 12-00 Noon, some points were raised.

7. Starred Questions

Answers to Starred Question Nos. 136 to 150 were laid on the Table.

8. Unstarred Questions

Answers to Unstarred Question Nos. 1441 to 1600 were laid on the Table.

2-00 p.m.

9. Supplementary Demands for Grants 2017-18 (March, 2018)

Shri Radhakrishnan P., Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Shipping, laid on the Table, a statement (in English and Hindi) showing the Supplementary Demands for Grants, 2017-18 (March, 2018).

(Due to gross disorderly conduct in violation of the rules and etiquette of Rajya Sabha by the following Members, who entered the 'Well' of the House, displayed placards, shouted slogans and persistently and willfully obstructed the proceedings of the House, the Chair adjourned the House for the day:—

1. Dr. K.V.P. Ramachandra Rao
2. Shri B.K. Hariprasad
3. Shri Pramod Tiwari
4. Shrimati Chhaya Verma
5. Shri Pradeep Tamta
6. Shri A. Navaneethakrishnan
7. Shri S.R. Balasubramoniyam
8. Shri S. Muthukaruppan
9. Dr. V. Maitreyan
10. Shri C.M. Ramesh
11. Shri Garikapati Mohan Rao
12. Shrimati Thota Seetharama Lakshmi
13. Shri T.G. Venkatesh

2-01 p.m.

The House adjourned till 11-00 a.m. on Friday, the 9th March, 2018.

DESH DEEPAK VERMA,
Secretary-General