



*COMMITTEE ON
EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN*



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On the occasion of the International Women's Day on 8 March, 1996, two identical Resolutions for constituting a Standing Committee of both the Houses of Parliament for improving the status of women were moved in the Rajya Sabha and the Lok Sabha.

In pursuance of these Resolutions, the matter was considered by the Rules Committee (Eleventh Lok Sabha). The Rules Committee, in their Second Report laid on the Table of the House on 6 March, 1997, recommended that a Committee for the purpose may be constituted. Accordingly, the Committee on Empowerment of Women was constituted for the first time on 29 April, 1997.

The Committee consists of 30 Members; 20 are nominated by the Speaker from amongst the Members of Lok Sabha and 10 are nominated by the Chairman, Rajya Sabha, from amongst the Members of Rajya Sabha.

The Chairperson of the Committee is appointed by the Speaker from amongst its Members. A Minister cannot be nominated a Member of the Committee and if a Member, after her/his nomination to the Committee is appointed a Minister, she/he ceases to be a Member of the Committee from the date of such appointment.

Term of Office

The term of the Committee does not exceed one year.

Functions of the Committee

The functions of the Committee on Empowerment of Women are as under:

- to consider the reports submitted by the National Commission for Women and to report on the measures that should be taken by the Union Government for improving the status/conditions of women in respect of matters within the purview of the Union Government, including the Administrations of the Union territories;
- to examine the measures taken by the Union Government to secure for women equality, status and dignity in all matters;
- to examine the measures taken by the Union Government for comprehensive education and adequate representation of women in Legislative Bodies/services and other fields;
- to report on the working of the welfare programmes for women;
- to report on the action taken by the Union Government and Administrations of the Union territories on the measures proposed by the Committee; and

- to examine such other matters as may deem fit to the Committee or are specifically referred to it by the Lok Sabha or the Speaker and the Rajya Sabha or the Chairman, Rajya Sabha.

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI
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