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## Todays Chanakya™ Poll: Women's Reservation Bill : the History of Indian Democracy ?

**New Delhi, Delhi, India -- (Business Wire India) -- Monday, March 29, 2010 12:46:11**  
To bring about gender equality in parliament and state assemblies, the reservation bill was considered. Since 63 years of independence, the percentage of women in the LS has hovered between 7- 11%. In assemblies too the percentage of women is low. Therefore extraordinary measure taken through this bill will be historic as per the research done by **Today's Chanakya**.

Today's Chanakya interviewed a random sample of 6443 adult people on 24th March 2010. Interviews were conducted across the country in different languages. Data were collected to the profile of all adults age 21 + including Sex, Social class, household, work status, literacy level, etc.

As per opinion of the public, the Women's Reservation Bill will change the rule in India. But it is a doubt and fear that it will empower women who will certainly bring about radical changes in the way, the Indian democracy will run.

The reservation in Panchayat and local bodies were found encouraging in the research samples. The ideal way to increase women's representation in the LS would be to have quota for women & both reservation and quota system. The bill does cross the Lok Sabha, of which the people across India are doing. This will be historic in Indian democracy.

At present there is no cap on political parties giving tickets to women other than reserving seat for them but the often repeated reason is that they cannot defeat established male- opponents. But also there is a fear that the reservation ticket is no guarantee that a significant number of women would get elected.

Increase of strength of parliament and the assemblies is a solution of the fear of losing the representation of men. But there is again a constituent problem of increasing the strength of Lok Sabha till 2020 and huge space problem of government expenditure on these extra-elected representatives. If such a bill gets accepted a new delimitation would have to be taken as per our experience. However if this is set out then it could well change the rules of Indian democracy. The finding of this research.

### Among many factors the women's reservation bill if it passes in the LS will indeed be a historic?

Yes (79%); No (14%); Can't say (6%)

### Whether the women's reservation bill will bring about real political empowerment of women?

Yes (59%); No (31%); Can't say (10%)

**Do you feel that women's reservation bill could bring about radical change in the way the Indian Democracy functions?**

Yes (64%); No (30%); Can't say (6%)

**According to the bill 1/3 rd of the seats in Lok Sabha and State Assemblies which will be reserved for women, will become general seats if reserved seats are abolished. Is this a good pattern for reservation?**

Excellent (43%); Good (33%); Bad (20%); Can't say (4%)

**As per provision in the bill, 1/3rd of the seat incumbents, whether male or female, will have to sit out once in three elections. Is that such a good thing?**

Bad thing (23%); Good thing (72%); Can't say (5%)

**As per provision in the bill, when there is no guarantee that political parties will be allowed to run again in the next election, will it result in increased accountability?**

Yes (19%); No (28%); Already they are unaccountable(48%); Can't say (5%)

**Do you feel that the political parties are benefited by 1/3 rd reservation more than individual?**

Yes (49%); No (41%); Can't say (10%)

**Which is the ideal method to increase women's reservation in political parties?**

- Quotas by political parties- (40%)
- As per 1/3rd provision in bill- (35%)
- Both partially- (25%)

**Do you feel that the experience and lessons from reservation in panchayat & local bodies are encouraging and good?**

Yes (64%); No (29%); Can't say (7%)

**What stops political parties from nominating more OBC women in reserved constituencies?**

- Individual male supremacy-(40%)
- Empowering women than men-(30%)
- Both - (26%)
- Can't say- (4%)

**Do you feel & fear that finally this women bill will be held back for years more as per circumstances created by some small regional parties?**

Yes (81%); No (13%); Can't say (6%)

**Do you know what is women's reservation bill and its provisions?**

Yes (57%); No (36%); Can't say (7%)

**About TODAY'S CHANAKYA**

Today's Chanakya is the registered TradeMark of RNB Research. We were in India who predicted Congress victory for 200+ seats in Lok Sabha 2009 was covered in Electronic as well as print media during Lok Sabha 2009

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To view the Women's Reservation Bill, please click on the link given below

[Women's Reservation Bill](#)

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