



Standing Committee Report Summary

The Constitution (One Hundred and Twelfth Amendment) Bill, 2009

- The Standing Committee on Urban Development (Chairperson: Shri Sharad Yadav) tabled its 8th Report on 'The Constitution (One Hundred and Twelfth Amendment) Bill, 2009' on August 9, 2010. The Bill was introduced in the Lok Sabha on November 24, 2009.
- Article 243T of the Constitution provides that a minimum of one-third of the total number of seats filled by direct elections in every Municipality shall be reserved for women. The seats may be allotted by rotation to different constituencies in a Municipality. The Bill seeks to amend the article to enhance the quantum of reservation for women from one-third to one-half of the total seats in a Municipality. This is also applicable to offices of Chairpersons and seats reserved for SC/STs.
- The Committee observed that Article 243T(1) and the Bill have two separate set of rules for election of councillors of a municipality (reservation of seats based on proportion of SC/ST population of the area) and Chairpersons (to be reserved for SC/STs). It recommended that the total number of seats reserved for the post of the Chairperson should be based on the total urban population of SC/STs in the state.
- The Committee recommended that rotation cycle of seats reserved for women candidates may be extended to two terms in order to ensure that the candidates do not neglect local issues. It also suggested that there should be uniformity across states in the cycle of reservation.
- The Committee urged the government to ensure adequate funds and proper training to women councillors for capacity building, particularly SC/ST and backward classes so that the objectives of the Bill could be achieved in letter and spirit.

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