

Women's Reservation Bill

1924. SHRI D. RAJA:

SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to enact the Bill seeking one-third reservation of seats for women in Parliament and State Assemblies; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when it is going to be passed in the Parliament?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD):

(a) and (b) It has been the endeavour of the Government to provide for reservation of one-third seats for women in the House of the People and the State Legislative Assemblies. The issue involved needs deep study and careful consideration on the basis of consensus among all political parties before a Bill for amendment in the Constitution is brought before the Parliament.

Prison inmates not having access to legal aid

1925. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of prison inmates of the country do not have access to legal aid despite implementation of the National Legal Services Authorities Act;

(b) if so, the number of prisoners who do not have access to legal aid, State-wise;

(c) the number of prisons covered by the service of 'duty counsels', State-wise;

(d) whether Government has any plan under consideration to increase the access to lawyers and justice of prisoners who are below poverty line; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD):

(a) and (b) No, Sir. All the prison inmates have access to legal aid as they are eligible for legal aid under section 12 of the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987.

(c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.