ARTICLES FOR GENDER WATCH

‘**Women need more space in Indian politics’**

**Tehelka**

Women’s rights activist Dr. Ranjana Kumari, Director of Centre for Social Research in a recent interview, shares her views regarding the present female representation in the Parliament and the State Assemblies and the possible hypocrisy behind its static growth. She also discusses the Women Reservation Bill and related issues and her plans to push the long pending Bill that she believes is the key solution for establishing equality in opportunity.“ I think equal opportunity includes equal participation — be it in corporate house, educational institutions, health sector or political power. For a long time, accesses and opportunities have not been in equal ratio. In spite of efficiency and competence, women are not being able to get proper and equal access in all sectors, including politics.” she said.

Read More: <http://www.tehelka.com/2017/08/women-need-more-space-in-indian-politics/>

**MP CM Shivraj Singh Chouhan announces 33 pct reservation for women in all state departments excluding forests**

**Outlook**

Madhya Pradesh CM Shivraj Singh announced two major developments in the education sector especially for girls. The developments include 33% of reservation for women in all state departments excluding forests and sponsorship on behalf of the State Government for students who would score more than 75 per cent marks in the intermediate examination citing high dropout rate after 12th standard, Chouhan said “I announce 33% reservation for our daughters in all departments, except forest department”. He also declared that the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) will pay the fees for the students who had scored 75% in 12th or 85% in CBSE, last year or before that and want to pursue medical or engineering. “Students, who had scored 75% in 12th, will pay their fee,” CM Chouhan was quoted as saying by CMO Madhya Pradesh.

Read More: <https://www.outlookindia.com/website/story/madhya-pradesh-cm-announces-33-reservation-for-women-in-all-departments-excludin/300558>

# ‘When a woman uses law, she is accused of misuse; when an Indian woman uses law, she is labelled with bad character’

**Times Of India**

Indira Jaising, former additional solicitor general and senior SC advocate, spoke on why she thinks the Supreme Court’s recent direction stopping arrests or coercive action against accused husbands or their relatives charged in anti-dowry complaints under Section 498A of the Indian Penal Code and setting up family welfare committees in each district to verify such complaints will adversely affect anti-dowry cases. “I agree that strong action must be taken against anyone who abuses law.  I do not support elderly men and women being arrested and roped in for no reason by anyone. No law should be misused by anyone. An allegation by a woman is not enough to make an arrest. The police must investigate the matter and then register a complaint, under the sections they deem fit”, she said.

Read More: <http://blogs.timesofindia.indiatimes.com/the-interviews-blog/when-a-woman-uses-law-she-is-accused-of-misuse-when-an-indian-woman-uses-law-she-is-labelled-with-bad-character/>

# India court bans Islamic instant divorce in huge win for women's rights

**The Guardian**

Controversial practice of ‘triple talaq’, which allows men to dissolve marriages instantly, declared unconstitutional by the Supreme Court of India is been considered to be one of the historic judgments in the history of India. It grants equality to Muslim women and will be a powerful measure towards women empowerment. An Islamic practice that permits men to instantly divorce their wives has been declared unconstitutional by India’s Supreme Court. The “triple talaq” allowed Muslim men to dissolve marriages by pronouncing the word “divorce” three times.

Read More: <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/aug/22/india-supreme-court-bans-islamic-instant-divorce-triple-talaq>

**Statistically, Nearly All the Sexual Violence Indian Women Experience Is Within The Marriage**

**Huffpost**

Both the Government of India and the Supreme Court reiterated that marital rape cannot be considered as a legal offence in India. During the recent criminal law amendment ordinance, the official reason for not making any changes to this marital rape law was that it would weaken the institution of marriage. According to a nationally representative household survey of women, just 2.3% of the sexual violence experienced by women in India was by men other than their husbands. Apart from that, last year, the United Nations Population Fund and the International Centre for Research on Women surveyed more than 9,200 men across seven Indian states. “One-third of them admitted to having [forced a sexual act on their wives](http://www.icrw.org/sites/default/files/publications/Masculinity%20Book_Inside_final_6th%20Nov.pdf), while 60 percent said they’d used some form of violence to assert dominance over their partners”.

Read More: <http://www.huffingtonpost.in/2017/08/10/statistically-nearly-all-the-sexual-violence-indian-women-exper_a_23073165/>

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