

## **COMMITTEE ON EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN**

### **Introduction**

The Committee on Empowerment of Women was constituted for the first time on 29<sup>th</sup> April, 1997 during the 11<sup>th</sup> Lok Sabha in pursuance of two identical resolutions moved in both the Houses of Parliament on 8<sup>th</sup> March, 1996 for improving the status of women.

### **Composition**

The Committee consist of 30 Members; 20 nominated by the Speaker from amongst the Members of Lok Sabha and 10 nominated by the Chairman, Rajya Sabha from amongst the Members of the Rajya Sabha. The term of the Committee does not exceed one year and it is re-constituted year after year. The Members of the Committee are expected to work together for the empowerment of women cutting across the party affiliations.

### **Functions of the Committee**

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

1. 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;
2. To examine the measures taken by the Union Government to secure for women equality, status and dignity in all matters;
3. To examine the measures taken by the Union Government for comprehensive education and adequate representation of women in Legislative bodies/services and other fields;
4. To report on the working of the welfare programmes for the women;
5. To report on the action taken by the Union Government and Administrations of the Union Territories on the measures proposed by the Committee; and
6. To examine such other matters as may deem fit to the Committee or are specifically referred to it by the House or the Speaker and the Rajya Sabha or the Chairman, Rajya Sabha.

## Chairperson

The Chairperson of the Committee is appointed by the Speaker from amongst its Members. A list of Members who had Chaired the Committee since its inception is given below:-

1.	Smt. Najma Heptulla	1997-98 (11 <sup>th</sup> LS) 1998-99 (12 <sup>th</sup> LS)
2.	Smt. Margaret Alva	2000-2001 (13 <sup>th</sup> LS) 2001-2002 (-do-) 2002-2003 (-do-) 2003-2004 (-do-)
3.	Smt. Krishna Tirath	2004-2005 (14 <sup>th</sup> LS) 2005-2006 (-do-) 2006-2007 (-do-) 2007-2008 (-do-)
4.	Smt. Chandresh Kumari	2009-2010 (15 <sup>th</sup> LS) 2010-2011 (-do-) 2011-2012 (-do-)
5.	Rajkumari Ratna Singh	2012-2013 (15 <sup>th</sup> LS) 2013-2014 (-do-)
6.	Smt. Bijoya Chakravarty	2014-2015 (16 <sup>th</sup> LS) 2015-2016 (-do-) 2016-2017 (-do-) 2017-2018 (-do-)
7.	Dr. Heena Vijaykumar Gavit	2019-2020 (17 <sup>th</sup> LS) 2020-2021(-do-) 2021-2022 (-do-)