

## **Regarding alleged derogatory statement made against a woman legislator in Andhra Pradesh**

**DR. BYREDDY SHABARI (NANDYAL):** Thank You Madam Chairperson. Today, I would like to draw the attention of the House to the denigrating remarks made by our YSRCP leaders against the modesty and dignity of women leaders belonging to Telugu Desam Party in the State of Andhra Pradesh. The Father of Nation Mahatma Gandhi had said, 'to call a woman the weaker sex is a libel; It is man's injustice to woman.' In terms of brute strength, we might be less brute but in terms of moral strength, we are far better than men.

Today, these remarks have been made when the nation talks about 33 per cent women reservation, when nation no more talks about women development but women-led development under our Hon. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi Ji and our Hon. Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu. As we can see, the first AIIMS is given by a woman. Our languages which are put into the court has been given by a woman and what our Constitution is today, is because of our great women and so is the Judiciary and the Executive. Our nation has been led by a woman and also every woman in this nation is playing a role in strengthening our democracy. Why do you think that women perform better than men? This is because we care. We women are wise, outstanding, marvellous and educated, and we are nation builders.

Madam Chairperson, we are not in politics just for the sake of hearing a male chauvinist speak about our character or judge our character. We are here to build the nation's character. Also, our public life should never become a punishment to us. Chairperson, today, these remarks are not just verbal abuses. This verbal abuse is equally offensive as sexual abuse. Today, I am not speaking as a woman representative, but I am speaking here as a daughter, as a sister, as a wife who cannot be silenced with their abuse and who cannot be silenced at all in the future.

Madam Chairperson, I would like to request you to bring in a Resolution and pass it today and also bring in a law that would protect the modesty and dignity of women of our country, especially women in public services.

Today, we are in politics and let us spread a word that abuse can no longer be tolerated, it cannot be normalised and also, the justice should not be delayed. Thank You Madam.