

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
LAW AND JUSTICE  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:190  
ANSWERED ON:05.08.2005  
AMENDMENT IN HINDU SUCCESSION ACT, 1956  
Singh Shri Chandra Bhushan

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

- (a) whether the Government is considering to give equal property rights to women;
- (b) if so, whether the Government is considering to make appropriate amendments in Hindu Succession Act, 1956.
- (c) if so, the details and the present status thereof;
- (d) the details of States which introduced enactments to give equal rights to men and women and the States yet to introduce such enactments; and
- (e) the further measures proposed to be taken by the Government to check the discrimination?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ)

(a), (b) and (c): With a view to removing certain gender inequality under the provisions of the Hindu Succession Act, 1956 and based on the 174 Report of the Law Commission of India, the Hindu Succession (Amendment) Bill, 2004 was introduced in Rajya Sabha on 20th December, 2004. The Department-Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice to which the Bill was referred to for examination and report has presented its Seventh Report on the Bill to Rajya Sabha on 13th May, 2005. The Report is under active consideration of the Government and as soon as a decision on the amendments is arrived at, the Government will move for the consideration and passing of the Bill with necessary Official Amendments.

(d) The Governments of the States of Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra and Karnataka have made local amendments in the Hindu Succession Act, 1956 conferring daughters also equal rights in Hindu Mitakshara coparcenary property. By enacting the Kerala Joint Hindu Family System (Abolition) Act, 1975, the State of Kerala has totally abolished the right by birth of males and put an end to the Joint Hindu Family System. As a Parliamentary legislation is under process, it is not necessary for any State to introduce any amending legislation.

(e) No separate measures are being considered.