

an>

Title : Need to provide 'Sthree Shakti Bhawans' in each village to empower the Indian women folk.

SHRIMATI TEJASWINI SEERAMESH (KANAKAPURA): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the need to build countrywide `Sthree Shakti Bhawans' in each village at the cost of Rs. 5 lakh to empower the Indian women folk including my State Karnataka.

I know that the women empowerment is the priority agenda in this UPA Government. It is our duty to provide basic infrastructure like an office building to the Self Help Groups in this country. Self Help Groups are doing silent revolution in the rural economy through their honest and disciplined economic, social and developmental activities[\[c95\]](#).

In my State of Karnataka, these Self Help Groups saved more than Rs.400 crore. They also prevent the middlemen from exploiting the rural farmers who are charging heavy interest while lending money. They are also fighting against the social problem like liquor menace. So, we would like to strengthen the Self Help Groups with proper care.

Presently, they are suffering from lack of their own office to sit and organise their activities. Many times, they are depending on schools, Anganwadi and Panchayat buildings to conduct their meetings. Many times, they are unavailable due to the own activities of the schools and the Anganwadis. So, I urge upon the Government to build a full-fledged office with all the facilities called Sthree Shakti Bhavan at the cost of Rs.5 lakh in each village, country-wide which will boost their self respect and morale in the public life. There is an urgent need to do this. So, I hope my hon. Prime Minister will consider this request. If it is done, the whole country, particularly, the rural women will remember this Government for ever. They will also pay their respectful thanks to our leader Shrimati Sonia Gandhi.