



सत्यमेव जयते

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Respected Prime Minister,

Congratulations on the passing of the Constitutional amendment for the Women's Reservation Bill. It truly does represent a landmark in the evolution of the Indian democracy.

However, the process of passing of this constitutional amendment has clearly exposed the lack of effort in "consensus building in Parliament" - the presence of which could have made the passing of such an important amendment a finer moment in our Parliamentary history.

I have urged on more than one occasion in speeches in Parliament and outside - for the Government to develop a culture and approach towards consensus building which could help address some of the larger legislative moves that are currently road-blocked by lack of Parliamentary majority with the Government. The ability of a Government to ensure a strong consensus around major issues is a key attribute of good governance, and as a US politician once said **"In politics, everyday you have to get up and destroy your opponents. In governing, everyday you have to get up and learn to be nice to your opponents."**

I hope that after the events of yesterday and earlier in the Nuclear deal, that the government can seriously focus on developing a culture, process and method of consensus building - with consensus building, being an important means to an end - the end here, being the ability to ensure passing of a legislative agenda that is required for the transformation and growth of our country.

Very truly yours,

RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR

Dr. Manmohan Singh
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