

**Bill No. 171 of 2023**

THE GOVERNMENT OF UNION TERRITORIES (AMENDMENT)  
BILL, 2023

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*further to amend the Government of Union Territories Act, 1963.*

BE it enacted by Parliament in the Seventy-fourth Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

1. (1) This Act may be called the Government of Union Territories (Amendment) Act, 2023. Short title and commencement.

5 (2) It shall come into force on such date as the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, appoint.

20 of 1963. 2. In the Government of Union Territories Act, 1963, after section 3, the following sections shall be inserted, namely:— Insertion of new sections 3A and 3B.

10 “3A. (1) Seats shall be reserved for women in the Legislative Assembly of the Union territory of Puducherry. Reservation of seats for women in Legislative Assembly of Union territory of Puducherry.

(2) As nearly as may be, one-third of the seats reserved for the Scheduled Castes in the Legislative Assembly of the Union territory of Puducherry shall be reserved for women.

(3) As nearly as may be, one-third of the total number of seats to be filled by direct election to the Legislative Assembly of the Union territory of Puducherry (including the number of seats reserved for women belonging to the Scheduled Castes) shall be reserved for women in such manner as Parliament may by law determine.

Reservation  
of seats for  
women to  
take effect.

3B. (1) Notwithstanding anything contained in the provisions of this Act, the provisions relating to reservation of seats for women in the Legislative Assembly of the Union territory of Puducherry shall come into effect after an exercise of delimitation is undertaken for this purpose after the relevant figures for the first census taken after the commencement of the Government of Union Territories (Amendment) Act, 2023 have been published and shall cease to have effect on the expiration of a period of fifteen years from such commencement.

(2) Subject to the provisions of section 3A, seats reserved for women in the Legislative Assembly of the Union territory of Puducherry shall continue till such date as Parliament may by law determine.

(3) Rotation of seats reserved for women in the Legislative Assembly of the Union territory of Puducherry shall take effect after such subsequent exercise of delimitation as Parliament may by law determine.

(4) Nothing in section 3A shall affect any representation in the Legislative Assembly of the Union territory of Puducherry until the dissolution of the then existing Legislative Assembly of the Union territory of Puducherry.”.

## STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

Parliament has enacted the Constitution (One Hundred and Sixth Amendment) Act, 2023 to pave way for reservation of one-third of the total number of seats for women in the House of the People; Legislative Assembly of every State; and the Legislative Assembly of the National Capital Territory of Delhi.

2. Consequent to the enactment of the Constitution (One Hundred and Sixth Amendment) Act, 2023, similar provisions for providing reservation for women in the Legislative Assembly of the Union territory of Puducherry are also required to be made by Parliament by amending the Government of Union Territories Act, 1963.

3. In order to enable greater representation and participation of women as public representatives in law making processes of the Legislative Assembly of the Union territory of Puducherry, it is decided to introduce 'The Government of Union Territories (Amendment) Bill, 2023' to provide for as nearly as may be, one-third of total seats in the Legislative Assembly of the Union territory of Puducherry to be reserved for women.

4. The Bill seeks to achieve the above objectives.

NEW DELHI;

AMIT SHAH.

*The 8th December, 2023.*

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further to amend the Government of Union Territories Act, 1963.

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*(Shri Amit Shah, Minister of Home Affairs and Cooperation)*