

On The First Day Of The New Year, Prime Minister Modi Makes His Mann Ki Baat Clear, From Sabarimala To Sohrabuddin

'Triple talaq issue of gender equality, Sabari of tradition'

PM Denies Any Dichotomy In BJP's Stand

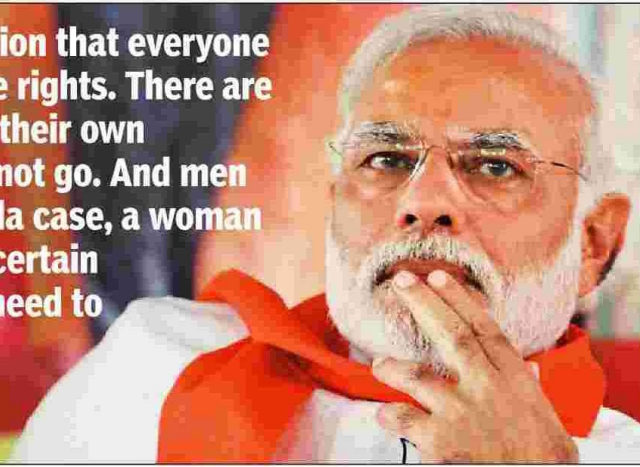
TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi has denied any dichotomy in BJP's stand favouring punishment for those practising triple talaq even after it has been outlawed, and opposing entry of women of a particular age into the Sabarimala shrine in disregard of a Supreme Court judgment.

"These are two separate things. You are not seeing this properly," the PM said in an interview to ANI on Tuesday, asserting that while his government's move to criminalise the persistence of triple talaq was influenced by con-

“ India is of one opinion that everyone should get their due rights. There are some temples which have their own traditions, where men cannot go. And men don't go... In the Sabarimala case, a woman judge in the SC has made certain observations. There is no need to attribute those to any political party

—Narendra Modi | PM



siderations of social justice, BJP's support for the status quo at Sabarimala shrine was derived from its respect for tradition and was in consonance with the views of SC judge Indu Malhotra who gave a dissenting judgment.

He emphasised that many Islamic countries, Pakistan included, have banned triple

talaq and contended: "So it is an issue of gender equality, matter of social justice. It is not an issue of faith. So keep the two separate."

Defending his party's stand on Sabarimala, Modi said: "India is of one opinion that everyone should get their due rights. There are some temples which have their own

traditions, where men cannot go. And men don't go... In this, Sabarimala, a woman judge in the SC has made certain observations. It needs to be read minutely. There is no need to attribute those to any political party. As a woman too, she has made some suggestions. There should be a debate on that as well sometimes."