

## **RAJYA SABHA**

### **STATISTICAL INFORMATION PERTAINING TO THE 227<sup>TH</sup> SESSION**

**[ 22-11-2012 TO 20-12-2012 ]**

1. The 227<sup>th</sup> Session (Winter Session) commenced on Tuesday, the 22<sup>nd</sup> November, 2012. The Session, as scheduled, comes to an end today, the 20<sup>th</sup> December, 2012.
2. The Session had 20 sittings in all and the House sat for more than 57 hours. During the Session, more than 47 hours were lost on issues like (a) reservation in promotion for SC/STs in Government jobs, (b) Government's decisions on the opening of FDI in Multi-Brand Retail Trading (MBRT), (c) arrest of Muslim youth across the country, (d) alleged irregularities in a gas deal by the Government of Gujarat, (e) reported lobbying by Walmart for entry into India, and (f) incident of gang rape of a paramedical student in New Delhi. The House, however, made up this loss by sitting late for about 11 hours.
3. On the opening day of the Session, Shri Shumsher K. Sheriff, the new Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha was introduced to the House.
4. During the Session, 6 Cabinet Ministers, 2 Ministers of State (Independent Charge) and 13 Ministers of State were introduced to the House by the Prime Minister.
5. The House was informed about the re-constitution of Panel of Vice-Chairmen, Rajya Sabha.
6. The Chairman urged the House to maintain the inviolability of the Question Hour in the light of frequent disruptions and demand to suspend the Question Hour.
7. During the Session, the House made references to the passing away of Shri Bal Thackeray and 11 former Members of the Rajya Sabha *including* Shri Inder Kumar Gujral, former Prime Minister and Pandit Ravi Shankar.
8. The House also made references to the victims of (a) Superstorm Sandy in USA; (b) Cyclone Nilam in Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh; (c) stampede during Chhat Puja in Patna, Bihar; (d) 4<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the terrorist attacks in Mumbai on 26<sup>th</sup> November, 2008; (e) anniversary of Bhopal Gas Tragedy (f) fire in a garment factory in Bangladesh; (g) anniversary of the adoption of Universal Declaration of Human Rights in the year 1948; (h) 11<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the terrorist attack on the Parliament Building; and (i) typhoon in the Philippines.

9. There were 3 *suo motu* Statements by Ministers relating to (a) construction of a befitting Memorial to Bharat Ratna Babasaheb Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar at Mumbai, (b) visit of the Interior Minister of Pakistan to India on 14<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> December, 2012, and (c) action taken by the Government on the incident of gang rape of a paramedical student in South Delhi on the 16<sup>th</sup> December, 2012 on which Members sought clarifications. 29 Statements were also laid in pursuance of the Direction of the Chairman, Rajya Sabha, dated 24-9-2004 on the status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the Reports of various DRPS Committees.
10. There were 108 Special Mentions on Matters of Public Importance which were made/laid during the Session. During the Zero Hour, 30 Matters were raised by Members with the permission of the Chair during the Session.
11. Two Government Bills *namely*, the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation (Amendment) Bill and the Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Amendment Bill were introduced and 8 Government Bills (i) the Constitution (117<sup>th</sup> and 118<sup>th</sup> Amendment) Bills providing reservation for SC/STs in promotions in Government jobs & special provisions for erstwhile Hyderabad-Karnataka areas respectively, (ii) the North-Eastern Areas (Reorganisation) Amendment Bill, (iii) the Prevention of Money-Laundering (Amendment) Bill, (iv) the Appropriation (No.4) Bill, (v) the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Amendment Bill, (vi) the Banking Laws (Amendment) Bill, and (vii) the Enforcement of Security Interest and Recovery of Debts Laws (Amendment) Bill were passed/returned during the Session.
12. The Motion seeking disapproval of the decision of the Government to allow FDI in Multi-brand Retail Sector was discussed at length on 6<sup>th</sup> December, 2012 and by dispensing with the Question Hour on the 7<sup>th</sup> December, 2012. The discussion lasted for more than 8 hours and 35 Members participated in the Debate. The Motion was negated by the House.
13. The issue regarding suspension of Indian Olympic Association by International Olympic Committee was discussed through a Calling Attention Notice. No Short Duration Discussion could be taken up during the Session.
14. During the Session, 53 Bills were listed for introduction and 11 Bills were listed for consideration and passing under Private Members' Legislative Business. 35 Private Members Bills were introduced and 2 Bills were taken up for discussion, of which one remained inconclusive.
15. During the Session, 7 Private Members' Resolutions were listed for consideration of which Resolution on the Election and other related Laws was discussed and the discussion on the Resolution regarding the Information Technology Act, 2000 remained inconclusive.

16. During the Session, 117 Reports *including* the Reports of the Select Committee on the Lokpal & Lokayuktas Bill and Joint Committee on Offices of Profits/Statements of various Parliamentary Committees were presented or laid on the Table of the House.
17. Report of the Central Vigilance Commission; Valuation Report of the Life Insurance Corporation of India; National Pharmaceuticals Pricing Policy; Progress Report on the Action Taken Pursuant to the Recommendations of the Joint Parliamentary Committee on Stock Market Scam; Statement on Pending Law Commission Reports; Special Report of the National Commission for Scheduled Castes along with an explanatory memorandum; Statement on Quarterly Review of the trends in receipts and expenditure in relation to the Budget and Mid-Year Economic Analysis, 2012-13 as required under the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management Act, 2003; Report on the Proposed Voluntary Winding Up of the Industrial Investment Bank of India Limited; Report of the National Commission for Women; and Reports of UPSC and CIC, were few of the important Reports/papers that were laid on the Table of the House during the Session.
18. The proceedings during the Question Hour were disrupted on 11 days and Questions could not be taken up for oral answers on those days. However, 400 Starred Questions and 3100 Unstarred Questions were admitted and answered. Of these 43 Starred Questions were orally answered. 5 Short Notice Questions were taken up during the Session.

**Highlights of work transacted during the 227<sup>th</sup> Session – At a glance**

<b>Sittings</b>		
Date of issue of Summons		01-11-2012
Duration of the Session		22-11-2012 to 20-12-2012
Number of actual days of sitting		20
Actual Hours of sittings ( <i>excluding recess intervals</i> )		57+ Hrs.
Time lost due to interruptions/adjournments		47+ Hrs.
Time made up by late sittings/skipping lunch recess		About 11 Hrs.
<b>Questions</b>		
No. of Starred Questions listed		400
No. of Starred Questions answered orally		43
No. of Unstarred Questions answered		3100
No. of Short Notice Questions		5
No. of Half-an-Hour Discussions		-
<b>Government Bills</b>		
No. of Bills introduced		2
No. of Bills withdrawn		-
No. of Bills passed/returned		8
No. of Bills referred to Select Committee		-
No. of Bills deferred		.....
<b>Private Members' Business</b>		
No. of Bills introduced		35
No. of Bills part discussed (Under consideration)		1
No. of Bills withdrawn/negatived		1
No. of Resolution part discussed		1
No. of Resolution withdrawn/negatived		1
<b>Oath/Affirmation</b>		
No. of Members made and subscribed oath/affirmation		-
<b>Statements by Ministers</b>		
No. of <i>suo motu</i> Statements made/laid by Ministers		3
No. of Statements laid regarding Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Reports of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committees		29
<b>Matters of public importance raised</b>		
No. of Calling Attentions		1
No. of Short Duration Discussions		-
No. of Special Mentions		108
No. of Matters raised with permission		30
Submission by Members		-
<b>Papers Laid on the Table</b>		1519 papers