

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**STATISTICAL INFORMATION**  
**PERTAINING TO THE 229<sup>TH</sup> SESSION**

**[ 05-08-2013 TO 07-09-2013 ]**

1. The 229<sup>th</sup> Session (Monsoon Session) commenced on Monday, the 5<sup>th</sup> August, 2013 and was scheduled to terminate on the 30<sup>th</sup> August, 2013. However, the Session was extended by 6 days and comes to an end today, the 7<sup>th</sup> September, 2013.
2. The Session had **21** sittings in all and the House sat for more than **98** hours. During the Session, more than **44** hours were lost on issues like (a) reported formation of the State of Telengana, (b) agitation for separate Bodoland, (c) ambush close to the Line of Control in Poonch Sector of Jammu and Kashmir by the Pakistan Army, (d) publishing the names of some Members in Parliamentary Bulletin, who came into the 'Well' in violation of Rules, (e) communal violence in Kishtwar, Jammu & Kashmir, (f) alleged land deals by kin of a leading politician, (g) solar scam in Kerala, (h) missing of some files/documents relating to Coal Block allocation, (i) demand for a special package for the State of Uttar Pradesh, (j) killing of a social activist in Pune, Maharashtra, (k) 84 kose yatra by VHP, (l) Government's move to fill up two casual vacancies in JPC on 2G Spectrum, (m) deletion of remarks of Shri Arun Jaitley made during Statement made by the Prime Minister, (n) reservation of SC/STs in Government jobs, and (o) reported Chinese incursion in Ladakh. The House, however, made up this loss by skipping lunch recess and sitting late for **30** Hours to complete legislative and other important business.
3. 2 new Members *namely* Shrimati Kanimozhi and Shri B. K. Hariprasad elected from the States of Tamil Nadu and Karnataka respectively joined the House during the Session.
4. The Prime Minister introduced 4 Cabinet Ministers and 4 Ministers of State to the House.
5. The House was informed by the Chair about the re-constitution of the 'Panel of Vice-Chairmen' of Rajya Sabha and resignations of Shri Anil H. Lad and Shri Nandamuri Harikrishna, Members representing the States of Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh respectively.
6. During the Session, the House made references to the killing of Dr. Narendra Dabholkar and passing away of **8** former Members of the Rajya Sabha.

7. References to the (a) victims of Flash Floods, Cloudburst and landslides in Uttarakhand and floods due to heavy monsoon rains in several parts of the country; (b) maoist Attack in Bastar District of Chhattisgarh; (c) terrorist attacks in Srinagar; (d) ambush by CPI (Maoist) on the convoy of the Superintendent of Police in Dumka district of Jharkhand; (e) serial bomb blasts in the Mahabodhi Temple at Bodhgaya in Bihar; (f) death of school children after consuming mid-day meal in Saran District of Bihar; (g) victims of explosion and fire onboard Indian Navy Submarine INS Sindhurakshak at Naval Dockyard in Mumbai, (h) victims of train accident at Dhamara Ghat Railway Station in Bihar and (i) birth anniversary of Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, the first Chairman of the Rajya Sabha and former President of India were made by the Chair.
8. The Chair also offered felicitations to (a) the Indian Cricket Team, for winning the ICC Champions Trophy; (b) the Indian Archery Team for winning 1 Gold and 2 Bronze medals in different events in the Third Archery World Cup Championship held in Medellin, Columbia in July, 2013; (c) Ms. K. Jennitha Anto for winning the Thirteenth IPCA World Women's Individual Chess Championship for the disabled in Velke Losiny, Czech Republic; (d) the Indian Wrestlers' Team for winning 15 medals including 3 Gold, 9 Silver and 3 Bronze medals besides winning the Champion's Trophy in the Free Style Category in the Asian Cadet Championship in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia (e) Shri Aditya Mehta for winning the Gold Medal in the Men's Snooker event in the World Games held at Cali in Columbia; (f) the Junior Indian Women's Hockey Team for winning Bronze Medal at Junior Women Hockey World Cup held in Germany; (g) the Indian Women's Recurve team for winning the Gold medal at the World Cup Archery (Stage IV) held in Poland; and (h) the India Under-23 Cricket Team for winning the Asian Cricket Council Emerging Teams Cup in Singapore.
9. A statement on the economic situation in the country was made by the Prime Minister. There were also **12** *suo motu* Statements by Ministers which were either made or laid. These Statements related to (a) reported formation of the State of Telengana; (b) incident of ambush close to the Line of Control in Poonch Sector of Jammu and Kashmir by the Pakistan Army; (c) introduction of Mechanism for Marketing of Minor Forest Produce (MFP) through Minimum Support Price (MSP) and Development of Value Chain for MFP; (d) Current Account Deficit; (e) unprovoked attack on Indian troops on our side of the Line of Control; (f) incident of major fire onboard Indian Navy Submarine INS Sindhurakshak; (g) loss of human lives due to unusual incident that occurred near Dhamara Ghat Railway Station under East Central Railways; (h) investigation of coal block allocations by CBI and furnishing of documents to CBI; (i) Mumbai gangrape case; (j) report by the Chairman, National Security Advisory Board regarding border infrastructure; and (k) meeting of Home Minister with the representatives of Gorkha Jan Mukti Morcha of Darjeeling. Some of these statements provided opportunities to

Members to seek further clarifications from the Ministers concerned. **26** statements were made/laid on the status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the Reports of various DRPS Committees.

10. There were about **169** Special Mentions on Matters of Public Importance which were made/laid during the Session. About **83** matters were also raised with the permission of the Chair.
11. **17** Government Bills were introduced and **4** Government Bills were withdrawn. **18** Government Bills were passed/returned during the Session. The National Food Security Bill, the Companies Bill, the Constitution (120<sup>th</sup> Amendment) Bill, the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Bill, the National Highways Authority of India (Amendment) Bill, the Registration of Births and Deaths (Amendment) Bill, the Citizenship (Amendment) Bill, the National Waterway (Lakhipur-Bhanga Stretch of the Barak River) Bill, the Wakf (Amendment) Bill, the Parliament (Prevention of Disqualification) Amendment Bill, the Marriage Laws (Amendment) Bill, the Representation of the People (Amendment and Validation) Bill, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Amendment) Bill, the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority Bill, the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order (Amendment) Bill, the Appropriation (No.4) Bill, the Rajiv Gandhi National Aviation University Bill and the Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and their rehabilitation Bill were some of the notable Bills which the House passed/returned during the Session.
12. The issue regarding repeated attacks on Indian fishermen by Sri Lankan Navy was discussed in the form of a Calling Attention during the Session.
13. The following issues were discussed at length for more than **10** hours in the form of Short Duration Discussions :-
  - (i) Large scale devastation caused by cloud bursts, flash floods and landslides recently in Uttarakhand;
  - (ii) Economic situation of the country; and
  - (iii) Abnormal rise in the prices of onion and other essential commodities.
14. A Resolution placed by the Chairman, Rajya Sabha, rejecting Pakistan National Assembly's Resolution of 13<sup>th</sup> August, 2013, by condemning the Pakistan Army for the attacks and urged Pakistan to abide by the ceasefire agreement of November 2003 along the international border and Line of Control (LoC) in letter and spirit, was unanimously adopted by the House.

15. The issues regarding need to amend article 371-I of the Constitution and to constitute a National Reconstruction Adalat for a communal Riot Free India were discussed through Private Members' Resolutions. However, no Private Members' Legislative Business could be taken up during the Session.
16. Two Members, namely, Shri Y. S. Chowdary and Shri C. M. Ramesh belonging to Telugu Desam Party were directed by the Chair to withdraw from the House on three occasions, for willfully obstructing the proceedings of the House protesting against the decision of formation of Telengana.
17. During the Session, **100** Reports/Statements of various Parliamentary Committees including those of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committees were presented or laid on the Table of the House.
18. Report on the National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions, 2011-12, Statement of Market Borrowings by Central Government, 2012-13, 20<sup>th</sup> Progress Report on the ATR of the JPC on Stock Market Scam, Report of the National Commission for Scheduled Castes for 2005-06, Report of the Justice Usha Mehra (Retd.) Commission of Inquiry along with Action Taken Note, 12<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan 2012-17, Statement on Quarterly Review of the trends in receipts and expenditure in relation to the Budget, 2012-13 were some of the important Reports that were laid on the Table of the House during the Session.
19. During the Session, **300** Starred Questions and **2324** Unstarred Questions were admitted and answered. Of these **28** Starred Questions were orally answered. **2** Short Notice Questions were also taken up during the Session. Question Hour could not be taken up on **8** days due to pandemonium and interruptions in the House over one or the other issue.

### Highlights of work transacted during the 229<sup>th</sup> Session – At a glance

<b>Sittings</b>	Date of issue of Summons	19-07-2013
	Duration of the Session	05-08-2013 to 07-09-2013
	Number of actual days of sitting	<b>21</b>
	Actual Hours of sittings ( <i>excluding recess intervals</i> )	<b>98+ Hrs.</b>
	Time lost due to interruptions/adjournments	<b>44+ Hrs.</b>
	Time made up by late sittings/skipping lunch recess	<b>30 Hrs.</b>
	Date of prorogation of Session	-
<b>Questions</b>	No. of Starred Questions listed	<b>300</b>
	No. of Starred Questions answered orally	<b>28</b>
	No. of Unstarred Questions answered	<b>2324</b>
	Short Notice Questions	<b>2</b>
	Half-an-Hour Discussions	-
<b>Government Bills</b>	No. of Bills introduced	<b>17</b>
	No. of Bills withdrawn	<b>4</b>
	No. of Bills passed/returned	<b>18</b>
	No. of Bills referred to Select Committee	-
	No. of Bills deferred	<b>1</b>
<b>Private Members' Business</b>	No. of Bills introduced	-
	No. of Bills part discussed (Under consideration)	-
	No. of Bills withdrawn/negatived	-
	No. of Resolution part discussed	-
	No. of Resolution withdrawn/negatived	<b>2</b>
<b>Oath/Affirmation</b>	No. of Members made and subscribed oath/affirmation	<b>2</b>
<b>Statements by Ministers</b>	No. of <i>suo motu</i> Statements made/laid by Ministers	<b>13</b>
	No. of Statements laid regarding Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Reports of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committees	<b>26</b>
<b>Matters of public importance raised</b>	No. of Calling Attentions	<b>1</b>
	No. of Short Duration Discussions	<b>3</b>
	No. of Special Mentions	<b>169</b>
	No. of Matters raised with permission	<b>83</b>
	Submission by Members	<b>5</b>
<b>Papers Laid on the Table</b>		<b>1356</b>