

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**STATISTICAL INFORMATION**  
**PERTAINING TO THE 236<sup>TH</sup> SESSION**

**[ 21-07-2015 TO 13-08-2015 ]**

1. The 236<sup>th</sup> Session commenced on Tuesday, the 21<sup>st</sup> of July, 2015 and as scheduled, comes to an end today, the 13<sup>th</sup> of August, 2015.
2. The Session had 17 sittings in all and the House sat for more than 9 hours. During the Session, more than 72 hours were lost on issues like (a) alleged facilitation of British Travel documents by the Minister of External Affairs and filing of an affidavit by the present Chief Minister of Rajasthan to support the application of an Indian citizen wanted by Law and Enforcement Agencies in India, (b) Vyapam scam, (c) non-implementation of the assurance by Government to grant special status to Andhra Pradesh, (d) suspension of some Congress Members by the Speaker, Lok Sabha, (e) signing of Naga Peace Accord without consulting Chief Ministers of North Eastern States, (f) appointment of Governor of Bihar without consulting the State Government.
3. 1 Member *namely* Shri M. J. Akbar, elected in a bye-election held from the State of Jharkhand, joined the House during the Session.
4. During the Session, the Chair made references to the passing away of Dr. A. P. J. Abdul Kalam, Former President of India, Shri Kalpataru Das, sitting Member and 9 former Members of the Rajya Sabha.
5. References to the victims of (a) terrorist attack in Gurdaspur, Punjab; (b) train accidents in Harda district of Madhya Pradesh; and (c) to the 73<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary of the Quit India Movement.
6. The Chair offered felicitations to (a) the Scientists and Engineers of ISRO for the successful launch of PSLV C-28 and (b) Ms. Sania Mirza, Shri Leander Paes and Shri Sumit Nagal for winning Women's Doubles, Mixed Doubles and Boy's Doubles Titles in Wimbledon Lawn Tennis Championships.
7. 3 Statements were made by Ministers on (i) the terrorist attack in Gurdaspur, Punjab on 27<sup>th</sup> July, 2015 (ii) the decision of the Government to declare 7<sup>th</sup> August as 'National Handloom Day' and (iii) terrorist attack in Jammu & Kashmir on 5<sup>th</sup> August 2015. The Minister of Railways also informed the House about the train accidents in Harda district of Madhya Pradesh. 33 Statements were also laid on the status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the Reports of various DRPS Committees.

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8. The House bid farewell to 3 Members – one from Puducherry and two Nominated Members who would be retiring in the months of October and November, 2015 on expiration of their term of office.
  9. 3 Government Bills were withdrawn and only 2 Appropriation Bills could be returned. No Private Members' Bills and Resolutions could be discussed *except* introduction of 6 Private Member's Bills. However, as suggested by the Leader of the Opposition and as agreed to by the House, it was decided to take up all the Private Members' Resolutions listed in the Revised List of Business for Friday, the 31<sup>st</sup> July, 2015 during the next Session.
  10. During the Session, 98 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.
  11. Only 4 matters of public importance could be raised with the permission of the Chair. No Special Mentions on Matters of Public Importance could be made/laid during the Session.
  12. Report of the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC); Reports of the National Commission for Scheduled Castes (NCSC); Report on the Progress made in the intake of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes against vacancies reserved for them in recruitment and promotion categories on the Railways; Reports of the National Commission for Safai Karamcharis (NCSK); Statement regarding rejection of the Award given by the Board of Arbitration (BoA) under the Joint Consultative Machinery (JCM) and Compulsory Arbitration for the Central Government Employees in regard to payment of Conveyance Allowance of ₹ 30/- per month to non-Gazetted Central Government employees; Twenty-fourth Progress Report on the Action Taken pursuant to the recommendations of the Joint Parliamentary Committee on Stock Market Scam and matters relating thereto (July, 2015); Annual Report of the National Human Rights Commission; Supplementary to the 246<sup>th</sup> Report of the Law Commission of India on Amendments to Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996 titled 'Public Policy – Developments post Report No. 246' and 2 sensitive notifications, one imposing basic customs duty of 10% on wheat till 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2016 and another increasing basic customs duty by 2.5% on certain specified goods and some CAG Reports, were some of the important Reports/Papers that were laid on the Table of the House during the Session.
  13. During the Session, 270 Starred Questions and 2880 Unstarred Questions were admitted and answered. Of these, only 6 Starred Questions were orally answered.
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## Highlights of work transacted during the 236<sup>th</sup> Session – At a glance

|   |  |                          |
|---|--|--------------------------|
| <b>Sittings</b>   |  |                          |
| Date of issue of Summons  |  | 27-06-2015               |
| Duration of the Session   |  | 21-07-2015 to 13-08-2015 |
| Number of actual days of sitting  |  | 17                       |
| Actual Hours of sittings ( <i>excluding recess intervals</i> )  |  | 9+ Hrs.                  |
| Time lost due to interruptions/adjournments   |  | 72+ Hrs.                 |
| Time made up by late sittings/skipping lunch recess   |  | -                        |
| Date of prorogation of Session  |  | -                        |
| <b>Questions</b>  |  |                          |
| No. of Starred Questions listed   |  | 270                      |
| No. of Starred Questions answered orally  |  | 6                        |
| No. of Unstarred Questions answered   |  | 2880                     |
| Short Notice Questions  |  | -                        |
| Half-an-Hour Discussions  |  | -                        |
| <b>Government Bills</b>   |  |                          |
| No. of Bills introduced   |  | -                        |
| No. of Bills withdrawn  |  | 3                        |
| No. of Bills passed/returned  |  | 2                        |
| No. of Bills referred to Joint/Select Committee   |  | -                        |
| No. of Bills deferred   |  | -                        |
| <b>Private Members' Business</b>  |  |                          |
| No. of Bills introduced   |  | 6                        |
| No. of Bills part discussed (Under consideration)   |  | -                        |
| No. of Bills withdrawn/negatived  |  | -                        |
| No. of Bills passed   |  | -                        |
| No. of Bills on which debate adjourned  |  | -                        |
| No. of Resolution part discussed  |  | -                        |
| No. of Resolution withdrawn/negatived   |  | -                        |
| <b>Oath/Affirmation</b>   |  |                          |
| No. of Members made and subscribed oath/affirmation   |  | 1                        |
| <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 |  | 33                       |
| <b>Matters of public importance raised</b>  |  |                          |
| No. of Calling Attention  |  | -                        |
| No. of Short Duration Discussions   |  | -                        |
| No. of Special Mentions   |  | -                        |
| No. of Matters raised with permission   |  | 4                        |
| Submission by Members   |  | -                        |
| <b>Papers Laid on the Table</b>   |  | 1039                     |