

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**STATISTICAL INFORMATION**  
**PERTAINING TO THE 239<sup>TH</sup> SESSION**

**[ 25-04-2016 TO 13-05-2016 ]**

1. The 239<sup>th</sup> Session commenced on Monday, the 25<sup>th</sup> April, 2016 and as scheduled, comes to an end today, the 13<sup>th</sup> May, 2016.
2. The Session had 15 sittings and the House sat for more than 69 hours. During the Session, more than 19 hours were lost on issues like (a) political crisis in Uttarakhand, (b) allegations of bribery and corruption in Agusta Westland Chopper Deal, (c) alleged lynching of Muslims in Jharkhand, (d) anomalies/irregularities pointed out in the CAG Report in KG Basin Gas Project of Gujarat State Petroleum Corporation, (e) train carrying empty tankers sent by the Government to drought hit Bundelkhand (U.P.) and (f) reported remarks by the Prime Minister against Leaders of UPA in the Agusta Westland deal at an election rally in Tamil Nadu. The House, however, sat late for more than 10 Hours to complete legislative and other important business.
3. 13 Members elected from the States of Assam, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Nagaland, Punjab and Tripura and 6 nominated Members joined the House.
4. The Chair made references to the passing away of 1 sitting Member and 4 former Members of the Rajya Sabha.
5. References to the victims of (a) terrorist attacks in Brussels, Belgium; (b) earthquakes in Ecuador and Japan; (c) landmine blast in Dantewada District of Chhattisgarh, (d) collapse of an under-construction flyover near Girish Park in Kolkata, (e) bus accident in Deogarh District of Odisha, and (f) massive landslide in Tawang District of Arunachal Pradesh were made by the Chair.
6. The Chair offered felicitations to the Scientists, Engineers and Technicians of ISRO for the successful launch of IRNSS-1G satellite.
7. The House was informed by the Chair about the resignation of Dr. Vijay Mallya, Member representing the State of Karnataka and Dr. Pranav Pandya, nominated Member.
8. The House bid farewell to 53 Members, whose term of office would expire in the months of June and July, 2016.
9. 14 Statements on the status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the Reports of various DRPS Committees were laid on the Table of the House by concerned Ministers.

10. The following two matters of Urgent Public Importance were discussed in the form of a Calling Attention during the Session :-
- (i) Imposition of Central Excise Duty on the gold jewellery by the Government leading to resentment among jewellers in the country; and
  - (ii) Repeated incidents of violence against the cattle traders in various parts of the country.
11. The following issues were discussed at length for more than 9<sup>1/2</sup> hours in the form of Short Duration Discussions :-
- (i) serious situation arising out of prevailing drought and heat wave conditions and resultant water crisis in the country and the remedial measures taken by the Government in regard thereto; and
  - (ii) allegations of bribery and corruption in Agusta Westland Chopper Deal.
12. The House discussed the working of Ministries of Health & Family Welfare and, Human Resource Development.
13. 12 Government Bills, *namely*, the Appropriation Acts (Repeal) Bill, the Repealing and Amending (Third) Bill, the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order (Amendment) Bill, the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment Bill, the Appropriation (Railways) No.2 Bill, the Anti Hijacking Bill, the Appropriation (No. 2) Bill, the Finance Bill, the Rajendra Central Agricultural University Bill, the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code and the Indian Trusts (Amendment) Bill were passed/returned. The Enforcement of Security Interest and recovery of Debts Laws and Miscellaneous Provisions (Amendment) Bill, 2016 was referred to the Joint Committee of both the Houses.
14. During the Session, 6 Private Member's Bills were introduced in the House. One Private Member's Bill *namely* 'The Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation (Amendment) Bill, 2015' was taken up for discussion, which remained inconclusive.
15. The issues regarding need to (a) strengthen the provisions of Indian Penal Code and other laws to protect girls and women from sexual exploitation and to make other welfare measures for their empowerment, and (b) abolish capital punishment in the country, were discussed through Private Members' Resolutions.
16. During the Session, 129 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.

17. There were 37 Special Mentions on Matters of Public Importance which were made/laid during the Session. 55 Members also raised 80 matters with the permission of the Chair.
  18. Report on Protection of Civil Rights Acts, 1955; Report on the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989; Report of the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities; (July, 2014 to June, 2015); Report on the alleged Rape and Murder of a Scheduled Caste girl in Rayamangalam, Enakulam, Kerala; the Uttarakhand Budget, 2016-17, Outcome Budgets of various Ministries/Departments and some CAG Reports, were some of the important Reports/papers that were laid on the Table of the House during the Session.
  19. During the Session, 225 Starred Questions and 2391 Unstarred Questions were admitted and answered. Of these, only 61 Starred Questions were orally answered and another 227 Supplementaries were also raised.
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**Highlights of work transacted during the 239<sup>th</sup> Session – At a glance**  
(25-4-2016 to 13-5-2016)

<b>Sittings</b>	
Date of issue of Summons	07-04-2016
Duration of the Session	25-04-2016 to 13-05-2016
Number of actual days of sitting	15
Actual Hours of sittings ( <i>excluding recess intervals</i> )	69+Hrs.
Time lost due to interruptions/adjournments	19+ Hrs.
Time made up by late sittings/skipping lunch recess	10+ Hrs.
Date of prorogation of Session	-
<b>Questions</b>	
No. of Starred Questions listed	225
No. of Starred Questions answered orally	61
No. of Unstarred Questions answered	2391
Short Notice Questions	-
Half-an-Hour Discussions	-
<b>Government Bills</b>	
No. of Bills introduced	-
No. of Bills withdrawn	-
No. of Bills passed/returned	12
No. of Bills referred to Joint/Select Committee	1
No. of Bills deferred	-
<b>Private Members' Business</b>	
No. of Bills introduced	6
No. of Bills part discussed (Under consideration)	1
No. of Bills withdrawn/negatived	-
No. of Bills passed	-
No. of Bills on which debate adjourned	-
No. of Resolution part discussed	1
No. of Resolution withdrawn/negatived	1
<b>Oath/Affirmation</b>	
No. of Members made and subscribed oath/affirmation	16
<b>Statements by Ministers</b>	
No. of <i>suo motu</i> Statements made/laid by Ministers	-
No. of Statements laid regarding Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Reports of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committees	14
<b>Matters of public importance raised</b>	
No. of Calling Attentions	2
No. of Short Duration Discussions	2
No. of Special Mentions	37
No. of Matters raised with permission	80
Submission by Members	-
<b>Papers Laid on the Table</b>	717