

RAJYA SABHA
STATISTICAL INFORMATION
PERTAINING TO THE 241ST SESSION

[16-11-2016 TO 16-12-2016]

1. The 241st Session commenced on Wednesday, the 16th of November, 2016 and as scheduled, comes to an end today, the 16th of December, 2016.
2. The Session had 21 sittings in all and the House sat for more than 22 hours. During the Session, more than 86 hours were lost due to disruption on the issue of demonetization of currency and some other issues like, (a) need to constitute Cauvery Water Management Board, (b) need to protect the Tamil Nadu fishermen from firing by the Sri Lankan Navy, (c) need to stop the disinvestment of Salem Steel Plant, (d) alleged involvement of relative of a Union Minister of State of Home Affairs in the Hydel Power Project scam in Arunachal Pradesh, (e) distress among farmers due to flood, drought and demonetization, and (f) Agusta Westland Chopper deal.
3. During the Session, the Chair made references to the passing away of Mr. Shimon Peres, former President of Israel, King Bhumibol Adulyadej of Thailand, Pramukh Swami Shastri Narayan Swarup Das, Head of the Swaminarayan Sect, Dr. M. Balamuralikrishna, legendary musician, Commander Fidel Castro, former President of the Republic of Cuba and 13 former Members of the Rajya Sabha *including* Ms. J. Jayalaitaa, Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu.
4. References (i) to the victims of the train accident of the Indore-Patna Express near Kanpur in Uttar Pradesh on the 20th November, 2016 and (ii) to the Anniversaries of the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and of the terrorist attack on the Parliament Building were also made by the Chair.
5. 3 Statements were made/laid by Ministers on (i) the accident of Train No. 19321 Dn. Indore-Rajendra Nagar Terminal (Patna) Express between Pokhrayan and Malasa Stations of Jhansi Division of North Central Railway on the 20th November, 2016, (ii) the Prime Minister's visit to Japan for the Annual Summit meeting on November 11-12, 2016 and (iii) Indian International Science Festival(IISF-2016) organized from 7-11 December, 2016 at CSIR-NPL Campus, New Delhi. The Minister of State in the Ministry of Defence also informed the House, by laying a Statement on the Table, regarding data collection exercise by the Army Formations in the Eastern Command and other Commands. 34 Statements were also laid on the status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the Reports of various DRPS Committees.

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6. The discussion on the 'demonetization of currency' was taken up by suspending the business for the first day, under Rule 267. 14 Members belonging to various parties took part in the discussion, which lasted for more than 6 hours. The discussion remained inconclusive.
 7. Only one Government Bill, *namely*, the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Bill, 2014, stipulating punishment for those persons discriminating against the differently-abled people could be passed during the Session. No Private Members' Bills and Resolutions could be discussed *except* introduction of 12 Private Member's Bills.
 8. The Chair gave a ruling on the objection raised on the 5th August, 2016 regarding Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation (Amendment) Bill 2015 introduced by Dr. K. V. P. Ramachandra Rao. It was ruled that the said Bill is a Financial Bill within the meaning of Article 117(1) of the Constitution and further discussion thereon was terminated with the direction that the Bill may be removed from the Register of Bills pending in the Council .
 9. During the Session, 116 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.
 10. Only 3 matters of public importance could be raised with the permission of the Chair. Only 1 Special Mention on Matters of Public Importance could be made/laid during the Session.
 11. Statement on Quarterly Review of the trends in receipts and expenditure in relation to the Budget, at the end of the first quarter of the financial year 2016-17; Report of the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights, New Delhi along with Performance Review, for the year 2013-14; Progress Report on the Action Taker pursuant to the recommendations of the JPC on Stock Market Scam (December, 2016) ; 12th Annual Statement on Pending Law Commission Reports (December, 2016); Report of the University Grants Commission (UGC), New Delhi, for the year 2015-16; Report of the Justice Ashok Kumar Roopnwal (Retd.) Commission of Inquiry to enquire into the facts and circumstances leading to the death of Shri Chakravarti R. Vemula, a research scholar at the University of Hyderabad and issues related thereto; Annual Report of the Goods and Services Tax Network (GSTN), New Delhi, for the year 2015-16 and few CAG Reports and some sensitive notifications relating to Ministry of Finance were some of the important Reports/Papers that were laid on the Table of the House during the Session.
 12. During the Session, 330 Starred Questions and 3517 Unstarred Questions were admitted and answered. Of these, only 2 Starred Questions could be orally answered.
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Highlights of work transacted during the 241st Session – At a glance

Sittings	
Date of issue of Summons	17-10-2016
Duration of the Session	16-11-2016 to 16-12-2016
Number of actual days of sitting	21
Actual Hours of sittings (<i>excluding recess intervals</i>)	22+ Hrs.
Time lost due to interruptions/adournments	86 ^{1/2} + Hrs.
Time made up by late sittings/skipping lunch recess	-
Date of prorogation of Session	-
Questions	
No. of Starred Questions listed	330
No. of Starred Questions answered orally	2
No. of Unstarred Questions answered	3517
Short Notice Questions	-
Half-an-Hour Discussions	-
Government Bills	
No. of Bills introduced	-
No. of Bills withdrawn	-
No. of Bills passed/returned	1
No. of Bills part discussed (Under consideration)	-
No. of Bills referred to Joint/Select Committee	-
No. of Bills deferred	-
Private Members' Business	
No. of Bills introduced	12
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	1
No. of Resolution withdrawn/negatived	-
Oath/Affirmation	
No. of Members made and subscribed oath/affirmation	-
Statements by Ministers	
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	34
Matters of public importance raised	
No. of Calling Attentions	-
No. of Short Duration Discussions	-
No. of Special Mentions	1
No. of Matters raised with permission	3
Submission by Members	-
Discussion by suspending business of the House under Rule 267 (Discussion not concluded)	1
Papers Laid on the Table	2060