

RAJYA SABHA
STATISTICAL INFORMATION
PERTAINING TO THE 243RD SESSION

[17-07-2017 TO 11-08-2017]

1. The 243rd Session commenced on Monday, the 17th of July, 2017 and as scheduled, comes to an end today, the 11th of August, 2017.
2. The Session had 19 sittings in all and the House sat for more than **80** hours. During the Session, about 25 hours were lost on issues like (a) increasing incidents of lynching and atrocities on *Dalits* and minorities and violence by cow vigilantes across the country, (b) Plight of farmers and agrarian crisis throughout the country (c) alleged horse trading of Congress legislators of Gujarat Legislature (d) phased increase in prices of subsidized LPG cylinders (e) provision of NOTA in the Rajya Sabha election from the State of Gujarat (f) Income Tax raids against a State Minister in Karnataka (g) renaming of Mughal Sarai Railway station (h) encroachment of forest land by a State Minister of Chhattisgarh (i) two different sizes of ₹ 500 currency notes printed by the Reserve Bank of India, (j) stalking of a girl by son of a BJP leader in Chandigarh etc. The House, however, somewhat made up this loss by sitting late for more than 7 hours to complete legislative and other important business.
3. Two new Members *namely* Shri Vinay Dinu Tendulkar and Shrimati Sampatiya Uikey elected from the States of Goa and Madhya Pradesh respectively joined the House during the Session.
4. The House was informed by the Chair about the resignations of Km. Mayawati and Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu, Members representing the States of Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan respectively.
5. During the Session, the House made references to the passing away of Shri Anil Madhav Dave and Shri Palvai Govardhan Reddy, sitting Members and 11 former Members of the Rajya Sabha.
6. References to the victims of (a) torrential rains, landslides, floods and lightening strikes in North-Eastern States and several other parts of the country, (b) terrorist attack in Anantnag District of Jammu and Kashmir, and (c) bus accident in Ramban district of Jammu and Kashmir were made by the Chair.
7. A Reference was also made on the occasion of the 75th Anniversary of the Quit India Movement. The Leaders of various parties/groups in Rajya Sabha and some Members spoke on the occasion and a Resolution was adopted unanimously by the House.

8. The Prime Minister and the Members of the House bid a warm and touching farewell to Shri M. Hamid Ansari, the former Chairman of Rajya Sabha, on the 10th of August, 2017.
9. The House also bid farewell to Shri Shantaram Naik, Member, representing the State of Goa, on expiration of his term of office and to 9 Members representing the States of Gujarat and West Bengal, who will be retiring on the 18th of August, 2017 on expiration of the term of office.
10. The Prime Minister and the Members of the House felicitated Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu, Chairman of the Rajya Sabha, on his assumption of Office as Vice-President of India.
11. 1 *suo motu* Statement regarding organisation of India International Science Festival (IISF) was laid on the Table of the House by the Minister. The House was also informed about the status of 39 Indians stuck in Mosul, Iraq since 2014. 36 Statements on the status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the Reports of various DRPS Committees were also laid on the Table of the House.
12. During the Session, the House passed 9 Government Bills, *namely*, the Footwear Design and Development Institute Bill, the Admiralty (Jurisdiction and Settlement of Maritime Claims) Bill, the Collection of Statistics (Amendment) Bill, the National Institutes of Technology, Science Education and Research (Amendment) Bill, the Indian Institutes of Information Technology (Public-Private Partnership) Bill, the Constitution (One Hundred and Twenty-third Amendment) Bill, the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Bill, the Indian Institutes of Information Technology (Amendment) Bill and the Banking Regulation (Amendment) Bill. 3 Government Bills were also withdrawn. The Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Bill, 2017 was referred to the Select Committee of the Rajya Sabha and the Financial Resolution and Deposit Insurance Bill, 2017 was referred to the Joint Committee of both Houses.
13. There were 87 Special Mentions on Matters of Public Importance which were made/laid during the Session. 77 matters were also raised with the permission of the Chair.
13. The following issues were discussed at length for more than 17 hours in the form of Short Duration Discussions :-
 - (i) Situation arising out of the reported increase in the incidents of lynching and atrocities on minorities and *dalits* across the country;
 - (ii) Farmers' distress leading to rise in the incidents of their suicide in the country; and
 - (iii) India's foreign policy and engagement with strategic partners

14. The issues regarding the situation arising out of recent floods in various parts of the country particularly in Assam and situation arising out of violation of prescribed conditions of Letter of Permit by foreign trawlers in deep sea fishing in Indian seas were also taken up in the form of a Calling Attention.
15. During the Session, 13 Private Member's Bills were introduced in the House and 2 Private Members' Bills *namely* (a) the Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2016 (Amendment of the Eighth Schedule), (b) the Central Himalayan States Development Council Bill, 2016 were discussed at length. However, no Private Members' Resolution could be discussed.
16. During the Session, 113 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. Twenty-eighth Progress Report on the Action taken Pursuant to recommendations of the Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) on Stock Market Scam and matters relating thereto (July, 2017); Report of the National Human Rights Commission, New Delhi, Statement on Quarterly Review of the trends in receipts and expenditure in relation to the Budget, at the end of the Financial Year 2016-17, Forty-seventh Annual Assessment Report of the Department of Official Language, Ministry of Home Affairs, regarding Programme for accelerating the spread and development of Hindi and its progressive use for the various official purposes of the Union and its implementation, for the year 2015-16; Annual Reports of the National Statistical Commission (NSC), New Delhi, for the years 2011-12 to 2015-16; Statement of the Market Borrowings by Central Government during the year 2016-17; Two Reports of the Law Commission of India *namely* Two Hundred Sixty-fourth Report on the Criminal Law (Amendment) Bill, 2017 (Provisions dealing with Food Adulteration), (January, 2017) and Two Hundred Sixty-fifth Report on the Prospects of Exempting Income arising out of Maintenance Money of 'Minor', (March, 2017); Statement regarding approval of the Government to the entire scheme of Enabling Regulatory Architecture for establishment of Institutions of Eminence by the Central Government; Medium-term Expenditure Framework Statement (August, 2017); Annual Report of the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights; Economic Survey (Volume II) and few CAG Reports were some of the important Reports/Papers that were laid on the Table of the House during the Session.
18. During the Session, 285 Starred Questions and 3040 Unstarred Questions were admitted and answered. Of these 46 Starred Questions were orally answered. Question Hour could not be taken up on 3 days due to pandemonium and interruptions in the House over one or the other issue.

Highlights of work transacted during the 243rd Session – At a glance

Sittings	
Date of issue of Summons	28-06-2017
Duration of the Session	17-07-2017 to 11-08-2017
Number of actual days of sitting	19
Actual Hours of sittings (<i>excluding recess intervals</i>)	80+ Hrs.
Time lost due to interruptions/adjournments	25+ Hrs.
Time made up by late sittings/skipping lunch recess	7+ Hrs.
Date of prorogation of Session	-
Questions	
No. of Starred Questions listed	285
No. of Starred Questions answered orally	46
No. of Unstarred Questions answered	3040
Short Notice Questions	-
Half-an-Hour Discussions	-
Government Bills	
No. of Bills introduced	-
No. of Bills withdrawn	3
No. of Bills passed/returned	9
No. of Bills referred to Select/Joint Committee	2
No. of Bills deferred	-
Private Members' Business	
No. of Bills introduced	13
No. of Bills part discussed (Under consideration)	-
No. of Bills withdrawn/negatived	2
No. of Resolution part discussed	-
No. of Resolution withdrawn/negatived	-
Oath/Affirmation	
No. of Members made and subscribed oath/affirmation	2
Statements by Ministers	
No. of <i>suo motu</i> Statements made/laid by Ministers	1
No. of Statements laid regarding Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Reports of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committees	36
Matters of public importance raised	
No. of Calling Attentions	2
No. of Short Duration Discussions	3
No. of Special Mentions	87
No. of Matters raised with permission	77
Submission by Members	-
Papers Laid on the Table	1622