

## RAJYA SABHA

### VALEDICTORY REMARKS – 227<sup>th</sup> Session (20.12.2012)

**MR. CHAIRMAN** : Hon'ble Members, the 227<sup>th</sup> Session of the Rajya Sabha, which commenced on 22<sup>nd</sup> November, 2012, comes to a close today.

The House condoled the passing away of eleven former Members including Shri Inder Kumar Gujral, Former Prime Minister. The House also made references to the victims of natural calamities and tragic incidents.

Twenty-one Ministers were introduced to the House by the Prime Minister. The new Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha was also introduced to the House.

More than 47 hours were lost in the course of 20 sittings of the House and the Question Hour could be conducted only on 8 days. 5 Short Notice Questions were also taken up.

The House passed the two Constitution Amendment Bills one providing reservation for SC/STs in promotions in Government jobs and other providing special provisions for the erstwhile Hyderabad-Karnataka areas of the State of Karnataka. The House debated the Motion on FDI in Multi-brand Retail Sector. Two Government Bills were introduced and eight Government Bills were passed/returned.

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Thirty-five Private Members' Bills were introduced. The issues regarding need to amend Election and other related Laws and Information Technology Act, 2000 were discussed through Private Members' Resolutions.

One Calling Attention Notice on the situation arising out of suspension of Indian Olympic Association by International Olympic Committee was discussed.

108 Special Mentions were made and 30 significant matters were raised with the permission of the Chair.

I take this opportunity to thank the Leader of the House, the Leader of the Opposition, the Leaders of various parties and groups and the Hon'ble Members for the cooperation extended by them in the overall functioning of the House.

I have asked the Secretary-General to make available the statistical information relating to this Session.

I also thank the Deputy Chairman, the Members on the Panel of Vice-Chairmen and the officers and staff of the Secretariat for their help and cooperation.

The House stands adjourned *sine die*.