

RAJYA SABHA
VALEDICTORY REMARKS – 229TH Session
(07.09.2013)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon'ble Members, the 229th Session of the Rajya Sabha, that commenced on 5th of August, 2013 is coming to a close today after an extension of a week.

Nine members from the States of Assam, Tamil Nadu, and Karnataka, including the Leader of the House and Prime Minister, who were elected / re-elected, were welcomed in the House.

Substantial legislative business, with detailed discussions, was transacted in the 21 sittings. There were spells of calm and fury. Particularly noticeable was the cooperation of all sections of the House to transact listed business. The Government introduced 17 Bills and in all 18 Bills were passed. Apart from legislative work, other business transacted in the Session included 83 matters of public importance; 169 Special Mentions, 3 Short Duration Discussions and a Calling Attention. The Private Members had the opportunity of discussing 2 Resolutions.

The Question Hour continued to remain a casualty. It could function only on 6 of the stipulated 14 days. Only 28 out of 300 Starred Questions were answered orally while about 2300 Unstarred Questions were provided written answers.

Almost 44+ hours of the scheduled time (98 + hours) were lost due to disruption.

Greater effort was made by the House collectively to adhere to the rules of procedure and norms of etiquette. This needs to be sustained.

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

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 Members for the cooperation extended by them in the overall functioning of the House.

I 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 National Song, (“*Vande Mataram*” to be played.)

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House stands adjourned *sine die*.
