

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**VALEDICTORY REMARKS – 241<sup>st</sup> Session**  
**( 16.12.2016 )**

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Hon'ble Members, the 241<sup>st</sup> Session of the Rajya Sabha that commenced on November 16, 2016, comes to a close today. The Secretary General will make available to the Hon'ble Members the relevant statistical data.

I had fervently hoped that I would not have to repeat what I said at the conclusion of 221<sup>st</sup> Session in December 2010. My hope stands belied.

Regular and continuous disruptions characterised the session. The symbolism of dignified protest, so essential for orderly conduct of parliamentary proceedings, was abandoned. This deprived Members of the opportunity to seek accountability of the Executive through Questions and discussions on matters of public interests.

The prohibition in the Rules about shouting slogans, displaying posters and obstructing proceedings by leaving their assigned places, was consistently ignored by **all** sections of the House. Peace prevailed only when obituaries were read.

All sections of the House need to introspect on the distinction between dissent, disruption and agitation.

The House functioned on the first day of the Session and had a useful discussion on demonetization on November 16 & November 24 which remained inconclusive. The House also passed on December 14 the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Bill, 2014.

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.

Before we disperse, may I wish you Seasons Greetings and very Happy New Year.

**The National Song, ("Vande Mataram" to be played.)**

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

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