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MESSAGE FROM LOK SABHA

THE HIGH COURT AND SUPREME COURT JUDGES (SALARIES AND CONDITIONS OF SERVICE) AMENDMENT BILL, 2018

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I have to report to the House the following message received from the Lok Sabha, signed by the Secretary General of Lok Sabha:

"In continuation of earlier message dated 4th January, 2018, I am to forward herewith a revised copy of the High Court and Supreme Court Judges (Salaries and Conditions of Service) Amendment Bill, 2018, as passed by Lok at its sitting held on the 4th January, 2018, wherein the Speaker has certified that the Bill is a Money Bill within the meaning of article 110 of the Constitution."

Sir, I lay a revised copy of the said Bill on the Table.

(Ends)

VALEDICTORY REMARKS

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, now we coming to the

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conclusion of this Session. Hon. Prime Minister, hon. Leader of the House, hon. Leader of the Opposition, hon. Members of the House, it is an opportunity for all of us to review, recall and introspect about how all of us have conducted the proceedings of the House. As Chairman, this has been the first full Session for me. At the outset, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all the hon. Members for your cooperation. Though the House could transact some important Business, it could have been better than what it proved to be. We are all important participants in the polity of our country. However, all of you would agree with me that though the Parliament is a political institution, it cannot be an extension of politics in its typical sense which is marked by deep divisions and acrimony. Sometimes it happens, but at the end of the day it is the general good of the country and the people. That should prevail. Parliament is an important institution for furthering the shared socio-economic goals of the nation which are critical to fulfilling the aspirations of the citizens who are the chief patrons of our parliamentary

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democracy. Our nation is steadily evolving towards realizing its immense untapped potential. I have said in my first address to this august House that time is not on our side and we need to stretch ourselves to make-up for the missed opportunities and time. The legislatures of our country including the apex Parliament need to quickly evolve in the way we conduct our proceedings so as to meet the needs of our evolving nation. Having said so, this Session of the House has had its highs and lows. The high point being that both the sides of the House have reiterated their commitment to respect and uphold the high office of the hon. Prime Minister and the hon. former Prime Minister and other dignitaries. I sincerely hope that this spirit prevails in future as well. It is unfortunate that despite discharging its responsibilities to a great extent, the august House ends up losing some degree of the esteem of the people on account of disruptions and substantial loss of functional time. Intense and passionate submissions and debates are the order of democracy, but disruptions are certainly not. I urge

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upon the hon. Members to seriously introspect in this regard. Another high point of this Session being the way in which all sections of the House spoke in one voice and in a restrained way regarding Shri Kulbhushan Jadhav meeting his family members in a Pakistan Jail. This has been an exemplary case of Members going beyond party-lines on larger issue of common concern. I am glad to note that the leaders of all the parties in the House and the hon. Members as well were delighted over the positive media reports of the House creating a record of taking up all the listed Starred Questions on January 2, 2018 in the beginning of the year and after 15 long years. I am happy to note that there has been a certain degree of change in the way the proceedings were held in this august House, further to this exemplary performance. The need of the hour is to carry this spirit into the future. To give the hon. Members a brief statistical summary of the Business transacted during the 13 sittings of this Session, despite some disruptions and adjournments, 9 Government Bills were passed, 19 Private

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Members' Bills were introduced and one Private Member's Bill was discussed at length. The House also deliberated the important issues of the state of economy and employment generation besides the high levels of air pollution in Delhi.

(Contd by 2B/SSS)

SSS-AKG/2B/1.05

MR. CHAIRMAN (CONTD.): Yesterday only we have witnessed how an in-depth analysis was made with regard to the economic situation of the country. During Short Duration Discussion, various sides of the House have made their contribution, highlighted the strengths and weaknesses of our economy and the Leader of the House has summed up the discussion and explained the actual position and the Government's stand. That should be an ideal situation for all of us in future also to see that we discuss issues in-depth, at length, in a meaningful and a constructive manner.

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During the five days when the Question Hour was taken up, 46 Starred questions were orally answered besides 51 Members making Zero Hour submissions and another 50 Members making Special Mentions on matters of public importance.

It is, however, a matter of deep discomfort that the House has lost 34 hours of valuable working time as against the period of 41 hours of Business transacted.

I am happy to inform the hon. Members that the Rajya Sabha Secretariat has brought out New Year Calendar, 2018, on a novel theme of the top leaders of various countries who had addressed the hon. Members of both Houses in the Central Hall of Parliament since 1955. The Calendar has photographs of 12 such leaders. I compliment the Secretary-General and his officers for this initiative.

Three hon. Members, namely, Dr. Karan Singh, Shri Janardan Dwivedi and Shri Parvez Hashmi, representing the National Capital Territory of Delhi would be retiring from this august House on the 27th of this month. We all would be missing their sagacious contributions to the proceedings of the House. In the morning itself we have seen how excellently they made their final contribution in this House and the

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entire House heard them with rapt attention and we are all in full praise for the contribution they have made to the proceedings of this House. That must really inspire us. The Parliamentarians, particularly, the youngsters should see to it that in future they also conduct themselves and get such acclamation by the House as well as the public also. I, on behalf of all the Members of this House, wish them a happy, healthy and meaningful times thereafter.

I am happy to place on record my sincere gratitude to the Leader of the House, Shri Arun Jaitley, who, from time to time, used to enlighten us and explain to us the Government's point of view and also clarify, on certain important occasions, when certain issues were raised. I would also like to thank the Leader of the Opposition, Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad, Ministers of Parliamentary Affairs, Shri AnanthKumar and Shri Vijay Goel, the leaders of various parties and groups represented in this House for the cooperation and courtesies they have extended to me.

The Deputy Chairman has been a great source of support for me. I thank him and also the Members of the Panel of Vice-Chairmen and the officers and staff of the Secretariat for their help and

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cooperation. The Deputy Chairman takes most of it in the House. You know what I mean. He has the patience and perseverance also to conduct the House.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: He should be given Padma Award for this.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is too small. I wish all the Members and the people a Happy 2018, Happy Makar Sankranti, Happy Pongal, and Happy Bihu. Jai Hind.

Now, before we adjourn the House *sine die*, we will have the National song.

(The National Song, “*Vande Mataram*”, was then played.)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, the House stands adjourned *sine die*.

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**The House then adjourned *sine die* at
ten minutes past one of the clock.**