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EDITOR: T.K. Viswanathan

The Journal of Parliamentary Information, a quarterly publication brought out by the Lok Sabha Secretariat, aims at the dissemination of authoritative information about the practices and procedures in Indian and foreign Legislatures. The Journal serves as an authentic recorder of important parliamentary events and activities. It provides a useful forum to members of Parliament and State Legislatures and other experts for the expression of their views and opinions, thereby contributing to the development and strengthening of parliamentary democracy in the country.

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NEW DELHI

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EDITORIAL NOTE

On 13 May 2012, a function was organised in the Central Hall of Parliament House to commemorate the 60th Anniversary of the First Sitting of Parliament. The Vice-President and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri M. Hamid Ansari, the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar, the then President of India, Smt. Pratibha Devisingh Patil and the Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh addressed the distinguished gathering on this historic occasion. Four members of the first Lok Sabha, Sarvashri Rishang Keishing, Resham Lal Jangde, Kandala Subrahmanyam and Kanety Mohana Rao were felicitated during the function. We reproduce in this issue of the *Journal* the texts of the Addresses delivered by the dignitaries on the occasion.

A Special Sitting of the Lok Sabha was also convened to mark the 60th Anniversary and the emergence of a stable, inclusive parliamentary democracy. The Speaker, Smt. Meira Kumar addressed the House from the Chair under Rule 360 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Lok Sabha. The subject 'Sixty Years Journey of the Indian Parliament' was discussed in the House. We include a brief account of the discussion under our regular feature "Sessional Review–Lok Sabha".

Following the Presidential elections held on 19 July 2012, Shri Pranab Mukherjee was sworn in as President of India on 25 July 2012 by the Chief Justice of India, Justice S.M. Kapadia at a solemn function in the Central Hall of Parliament. Later, the President addressed the distinguished gathering. We join the nation in felicitating the newly elected President and include the text of the address delivered by him in this issue of the *Journal*.

On behalf of all the Members of Parliament, the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar presented a Farewell Address to the outgoing President, Smt. Pratibha Devisingh Patil in a separate function held at the Central Hall. We reproduce the text of the Farewell Address in this issue. The Address delivered by the outgoing President is also included.

We also carry in this issue, the other regular features, *viz.* Parliamentary Events and Activities, Procedural Matters, Parliamentary and Constitutional Developments, Sessional Review, Recent Literature of Parliamentary Interest and Appendices.

In our constant pursuit of making the Journal more enriching and useful, we always invite and welcome suggestions for its further improvement. We also welcome practice and problem-oriented, non-partisan articles in the field of parliamentary procedures and institutions from members of Parliament and State Legislatures, scholars and all others interested in the field of parliamentary political science.

—*T.K. Viswanathan*
Editor

**ADDRESSES AT THE FUNCTION TO COMMEMORATE
THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PARLIAMENT
OF INDIA IN THE CENTRAL HALL OF THE
PARLIAMENT HOUSE ON 13 MAY 2012**

A function to commemorate the 60th Anniversary of the Parliament of India was held in the Central Hall of the Parliament House on 13 May 2012. The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar; the Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh; the Vice-President and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri M. Hamid Ansari; and the President, Smt. Pratibha Devisingh Patil addressed the distinguished gathering.

On the occasion, four members of the First Lok Sabha, Sarvashri Rishang Keishing, Resham Lal Jangde, Kandala Subrahmanyam and Kanety Mohana Rao were felicitated. The President, Smt. Pratibha Devisingh Patil released coins in the denominations of Rs. 5/- and Rs. 10/- and some publications of the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha Secretariats. Thereafter, a cultural programme was organized in which renowned artists, including *Pandit* Shiva Kumar Sharma, *Pandit* Debu Chaudhuri, Shri Maharajapuram Ramachandran, Smt. Shubha Mudgal and Shri Iqbal Khan performed.

We reproduce below the texts of the Addresses delivered by the distinguished constitutional dignitaries on the occasion.

—*Editor*

**ADDRESS DELIVERED BY THE SPEAKER, LOK SABHA,
SMT. MEIRA KUMAR**

It gives me immense pleasure to welcome this distinguished gathering to the hallowed Central Hall on the Sixtieth anniversary of the First sitting of our Parliament, which resounds with the hopes and aspirations of the people. Today, we feel exhilarated by the sheer reminiscence of that memorable event in Indian history. Our hearts are filled with joy.

The abiding faith of the people of India in parliamentary democracy has enabled us to successfully complete sixty years of our journey. In fact, rich and poor, men and women of all religions and creed are equal partners in this journey. The landless farmers growing bountiful crops in our fields, the labourers toiling in arduous conditions, women working untiringly day in and day out and people from the weaker and deprived sections of the society deserve special mention. All of them

have made invaluable contribution to make our democracy flourish. I express my heartfelt gratitude to them.

I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to the visionary founding fathers of our Republic who, in their sagacity and wisdom, laid firm foundations of governance based on the cherished principles of democracy, social justice and rule of law.

According to the historians, several features of modern parliamentary system such as free discussion and decision by the vote of the majority are known to have existed in ancient India as well. It is believed that India gave the concept of democracy to the world of which Republic of *Lichhavi* is an example. However, the Councils and Assemblies of the Republics in those days were dominated by the royalty and people from High Castes and Classes, whereas there is representation of all sections in our modern parliamentary system. Today, our democracy draws its strength and essence from all cross sections of people without any discrimination.

Post Independence, our journey as the world's largest parliamentary democracy began with the constitution of the first Lok Sabha, after the first General Elections in 1951-52. 13 May 1952 heralded the epoch of a new era. In this glorious dawn of democracy, our Parliament gave voice to the hitherto voiceless and marginalized people. Since then, we have successfully conducted fifteen General Elections and a mammoth electorate of over 70 crore voters were registered for the last General Elections of 2009.

India embarked on its democratic voyage at a time when the nation was facing multiple complex challenges. The vast territorial expanse and diversity of India, the stark economic backwardness, wide chasm of social disparity and darkness of illiteracy were such impediments in our path to democracy which were considered impossible to overcome and some were sceptical about our ability to face the challenges of transition. Many were apprehensive that these representative institutions would not prove suitable for a society as heterogeneous and pluralistic as ours. However, time has dispelled all such misgivings.

There are several nations where the saplings of democracy sprouted but withered away to pave way for military or autocratic rule. We are fortunate that democracy in India has blossomed into a strong and vibrant form of governance despite all the trials and tribulations. Our successful experiment with democracy is revered and admired amongst the comity of nations.

The Parliament of India stands tall as the shining beacon of democracy. It is in the Chambers of this sacred institution that our elected representatives shape and decide the destiny of over 120



The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar addressing the distinguished gathering. Seated at the dais (from left to right) the Prime Minister of India, Dr. Manmohan Singh, the Vice President of India and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri M. Hamid Ansari and the President of India, Smt. Pratibha Devisingh Patil



The Prime Minister of India, Dr. Manmohan Singh addressing the distinguished gathering



The Vice President of India and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri M. Hamid Ansari delivering his address



The President of India, Smt. Pratibha Devisingh Patil delivering her address



A view of the distinguished gathering



The members of the First Lok Sabha (in the first row, from left to right) Sarvashri Kandala Subrahmanyam, Resham Lal Jangde, Kanety Mohana Rao and Rishang Keishing

crore people. It is on the floor of this supreme institution of deliberations that many far-reaching and revolutionary changes have been effected during the last six decades for the establishment of an egalitarian and progressive India. Laws aimed at bringing about meaningful and positive changes have been framed. Employees Provident Fund, Untouchability (Offences), Bonded Labour System (Abolition), Right to Information, the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme and Right to Free and Compulsory Education and such other legislations have proved to be milestones in this direction. Many laws have been enacted for the empowerment of women so that their plight is ameliorated, they are emancipated from regressive societal practices and made a key partner in the decision making process as is witnessed in our *Panchayati Raj* Institutions. Laws were also framed to enable the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, who have been subjected to atrocities and exploitation for centuries, to live with dignity and honour. Our Parliament is a powerful and effective medium of realizing our dream of a just and modern social order. Our association with such a Parliament not only instills in us a sense of pride but also places an onerous responsibility on our shoulders. We cannot, even for a single moment, become oblivious to the fact that the legislations, policies and programmes deliberated upon in the House decide the destiny of our people. Rising above religion, region, caste, language *etc.*, we are here to protect the interests of the people of the entire nation, especially the marginalized who are ignored. This leaves no scope for any kind of lapse in discharging our duties.

We deliberated on 'the 60 years' journey of Indian Parliament' during the special session convened to commemorate the diamond jubilee of its first sitting. I am proud to inform respected *Rashtrapati ji* and other distinguished guests that the level of the debate was exceptionally high and the insightful and effective suggestions made by the Honourable members will continue to inspire all of us in the everlasting journey of our Parliament. A unanimous resolution was passed at the conclusion of discussions to uphold the dignity, sanctity and sovereignty of the Parliament and once again re-dedicate ourselves to nation building.

We are privileged to have amidst us four members of the First Lok Sabha, Honourable Shri Rishang Keishing, Honourable Shri Reshamlal Jangde, Honourable Shri K. Mohana Rao and Honourable Shri Kandala Subrahmanyam. On behalf of all of you and on my own behalf I welcome them.

I convey my gratitude to the Chairman of the Steering Committee set up to commemorate this event, Honourable Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal *ji* and all its members. I would also like to express my deep appreciation to the Secretary General, Officers

and the staff of Lok Sabha Secretariat for their active role in organizing this function.

Lastly, I would once again like to thank esteemed *Rashtrapati ji*, *Up-Rashtrapati ji*, *Pradhan Mantri ji* and other distinguished guests. Your presence has added an aura to this historic moment.

Thank you.

**ADDRESS DELIVERED BY THE PRIME MINISTER OF INDIA,
DR. MANMOHAN SINGH**

I convey my warm congratulations to you, the members of this august House and the people of India on the momentous occasion of the 60th anniversary of the First Session of the Parliament.

The Lok Sabha is a true representation of the unique diversity and genius of the Indian people. Its members have come from every region, community, religion and strata of society. Some of them have left their mark with their masterly rhetoric, others with their earthy wisdom. Whether from the Left or the Right, from the Government or treasury benches, this House has voiced the tribulations of ordinary Indians and provided succor to them by enacting laws that translated the social and economic ideals of our nation into practical reality. What the Constitution envisioned the Parliament translated into action.

As we look back over these years, we feel a sense of quiet satisfaction that this august institution representing the will of the sovereign has indeed lived up to the ideals of the founding fathers of our republic.

A number of countries in Asia, Africa and South America who liberated themselves from the yoke of imperialism in the 1940s and 1950s either succumbed to the scourge of military dictatorship or the tyranny of one party rule. India, on the other hand, has maintained an unbroken democratic tradition sanctified by fifteen cycles of general elections and many scores of the State and the local body elections.

This august chamber has scripted the development of our nation through debate and discourse tempered by the twin imperatives of idealism and pragmatism. The House has passed landmark legislations that have deepened the democratic roots of our polity and furthered our ideal of building a nation in which each citizen has an equal opportunity to social and economic fulfillment and cultural enlightenment. In recent years, we have empowered our citizens by providing them the rights to information, education and minimum employment. We have taken affirmative measures to help the weaker sections of our society including the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Other

Backward Classes, minorities and women that I know is an unfinished agenda.

In times of calamity or crisis, our Parliament has always demonstrated the ability to reflect the collective resolve of our nation and show solidarity with the people and the Government. Be it the external aggressions of 1962, 1965, 1999 or the glorious moments of 1971 this institution surmounted political partisanship to reflect the common aspirations and sentiments of our people.

However, as we look ahead, this occasion should also become the moment for some candid and serious introspection. The manner in which we have conducted our affairs, especially over the past couple of years has created a sense of frustration and disillusionment among the people. The daily routine of disruptions, adjournments and shouting in the House are leading many outside to question the efficacy of this institution and its place in public affairs.

If we are to restore the prestige of this institution, each and every one of us must lead by example. We need to resolve that the Rules of Procedure and Conduct that we have collectively evolved would be honoured in letter and spirit. Unless we can find some way to resolve the growing impasse in the functioning of Parliament, public disenchantment will only grow. The leaders of political parties should sit together to find ways to raise issues, small or big, and air differences in a manner that does not stall the Parliament at every occasion.

I believe that we should also reflect on how we should conduct the affairs of the State in which each of us plays a responsible role. Democracy is based on the notion of a popular mandate, but it should not be construed as a populist mandate. I believe that a mature democracy is one that balances the daily pressures of politics against the long-term needs of development. These conflicting demands, between the here and now of electoral politics, and the requirements of the long run that development imposes, can be and must be balanced.

We all have a sacred and solemn responsibility to the people who have elected us. But equally we bear a moral responsibility to do what is right by the generations still to come. We must therefore always keep in mind that our conduct and the actions we take here today determine the state of the nation we will bequeath to our children and grandchildren.

In conclusion, I wish to say that I am optimistic that the innate wisdom of our people and the strength of our democratic institutions will guide us on the right path to building a secure and prosperous India.

**ADDRESS BY THE VICE PRESIDENT OF INDIA AND CHAIRMAN,
RAJYA SABHA, SHRI M. HAMID ANSARI**

It is a privilege to participate in this historic function to mark the 60th Anniversary of the Parliament of India.

We celebrate the occasion with happiness, humility and hope; joy at the distance travelled; humility in remembrance of the sacrifices made by our people; hope and expectation for a radiant future for the nation and its citizens.

The functioning of our Parliament, based on universal suffrage, is a testament to our brand of democratic politics. It was unimaginable, in scale and reach, at the inception of the Republic.

Perfection eludes human creations. Nevertheless, our Parliament has been successful in good measure in representing and harmonising the diversity of our social and political interests, and in moving forward on the basis of commonality and inclusion, rather than superiority and exclusion.

While much has been achieved, more needs to be done to attain the lofty objectives so succinctly delineated in the Preamble of the Constitution.

New imperatives propel us. We do need to respond meaningfully to awakened expectation of a new generation in a changing world.

Sixty years is a good time to assess the working of Parliament in two critical areas of its functioning: ensuring accountability and oversight of the executive, and deliberation and law making.

Both tend to exhibit declining efficacy. The institutional mechanisms and procedural norms for ensuring accountability are being progressively underused. There is a perceptible drop in the working days of the Parliament. Deliberation is less frequent; legislation is at times hasty.

An impression is afoot in some quarters that diligent parliamentary work is less rewarding in political terms. Despite it, excellent work is being done in some in parliamentary committees. Public awareness of this, through appropriate means, is essential in this age of instant information.

Our citizens know, must know, that the Parliament is central to economic reform and development as these hinge on bringing about new laws, amending old ones and harmonising differences. As we see nation after nation suffering from fiscal problems, we are reminded of the key responsibility of the Parliaments around the world in prudent fiscal management and ensuring financial accountability.

Earlier today, both the Houses of Parliament have resolved to reinvigorate their working. These supplement the resolves and resolutions

of yesteryears. Despite it, sceptics amongst the citizen body, seeking faster outcomes in practical terms, may well be induced to recall an Urdu couplet:

*Tere va'de par jiye hum, to yeh jaan, jhoot jana
Kih khushi se mar na jate agar etibar hota*

Had I lived on your pledge, I would surely have lost life
Out of sheer joy and ecstasy, if I had believed in it.

We must therefore restore our legislatures to their earlier norms of functioning. It is all the more necessary to restore such salience to the Parliament as we negotiate a difficult economic and social evolution in an era of globalisation, international economic churning and an unstable external strategic environment.

Our collective resolve on this historic occasion must be, to use the words of Jawaharlal Nehru, to restore "the majesty of Parliament".

I once again extend my greetings and best wishes to all on this historic occasion.

Jai Hind!

**ADDRESS BY THE PRESIDENT OF INDIA,
SMT. PRATIBHA DEVISINGH PATIL**

Dear Members of Parliament and Dignitaries:

I am very happy to participate in today's function which celebrates a very significant event in the history of free India. Sixty years ago, on 13 May 1952, the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha held their First Sessions, after the completion of the first General Elections in the country. On that day, the newly elected members of Parliament took oath, and it is fortunate that four of them—Shri Rishang Keishing who continues to be a Member of Parliament, Shri Reshamlal Jangde, Shri Kandala Subrahmanyam and Shri K. Mohana Rao are here with us today. I warmly congratulate them and also all those present here.

As the world's largest democracy, India can be proud that since winning its freedom and adopting a Constitution, it has continuously walked the path of democracy. Sceptics, in those early post-Independence days, doubted whether democracy in such a large and diverse country could possibly survive. We proved them wrong. Over and over again, repeatedly, in accordance with the Constitution, representatives to the Parliament, the State Legislatures and the Local Bodies have been chosen through electoral exercises, which have been fair and open. Our record has been remarkable and there is widespread acclaim about the tenacious manner in which we have adhered to democracy.

However today, democracies of the world are operating in complex situations. Pressures are developing on account of many reasons—demands for development are louder, people are articulating their demands very vocally and many shades of opinions are emerging. There is always the requirement of finding a balance between various expectations. There are now fractured mandates. Governments are mostly coalitions and the legislatures are composed of many parties. There are regional aspirations as well. The last decade has also seen an explosion of the media. Hence, democracy now functions in the midst of various new scenarios, which are internal as well as those emanating out of complex international situations, in a world that is more integrated and inter-dependent. Against this background, India is committed to take the nation forward on the path of peace, development and progress, through a democratic system of governance, while protecting the sanctity of the institutions established by the Constitution. The big challenge is for democracy to proceed towards being a vibrant but healthy democracy. It is, therefore, necessary to walk ahead carefully, with determination, so that the main aim of establishing a progressive and healthy democracy is never lost sight of. For this, various aspects are important and need to be taken into consideration. I will speak of some of them.

Elections are the foundation stone of any democracy and therefore, the first pillar of any healthy democracy is sound electoral practices. Our Election Commission, as an independent entity, has performed remarkably well in organizing elections of a huge electorate. However, we must constantly improve our systems, and remove all corrupt and other malpractices from our electoral processes, and from our society.

Parliament is the repository of the will of the people. Therefore, people's growing aspirations and expectations need to be translated here into policy decisions and necessary legislation. Discussions can be difficult and divergent, but yet solutions have to be found through discussions in the Parliament, and resolved through established parliamentary practices. Parliamentarians serve the people. In this connection, the words of Mahatma Gandhi in his poem entitled, 'A Servant's Prayer' are very important. He said and I quote, "As a humble servant and a friend of the masses, may we never part from those whom we wish to serve". Unquote

Democracy, in the true sense of the word, also means a shared responsibility. Democracy can survive, flourish and grow when there is respect for all stakeholders, and for differing opinions, and where institutions of democracy are functioning in harmony in general. Whether it is the Legislatures, the Judiciary, the Executive, or the citizens or the media, they have a role to play but with responsibility, and they must uphold the Constitution as well as the rule of law. Democracy

can be sustained when there is sensitivity to national interest, social objectives and towards each other. As Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar said and I quote, "Democracy is not merely a form of Government. It is primarily a mode of associated living of conjoint, communicated experience. It is essentially an attitude of respect and reverence towards fellow-men." Unquote

Again, democracy must be participatory. A major leap forward was the decision taken by the Parliament when it passed the 73rd and 74th Amendments to the Constitution, which provide for elected representatives from different sections of society, including our tribal people, backward classes and also women who form 50 percent of the population, to the *Panchayati Raj* Institutions and the Local Urban bodies. This expanded and deepened the reach of democracy at the grass roots level.

Most importantly, we must have unity of purpose. Our ultimate aim is to have development and freedom, while preserving and protecting the age-old values of our Indian culture, and the principles of tolerance and harmony, which reflect on the image of India on the world platform. We must take a call at this juncture, after our journey of 60 years, and resolve to work collectively for this goal through a well-built democracy. As is said in a *Shloka*—

ऐक्यं बलं समाजस्य तदभावे स दुर्बलः ।

which means, unity is the strength of any society and society is weak without it.

Uptil now, India has demonstrated its unflinching commitment to democracy through a consultative and participatory approach. Democracy cannot be allowed to falter, for it is the very essence of our nationhood. It is the fruit that we are enjoying of the sacrifice of our great freedom fighters and of our long and unique independence struggle under the illustrious leadership of Mahatma Gandhi. Therefore, a historical responsibility is placed on our shoulders. We must rise to the occasion. We have made progress, we are looked upon as a nation that has much potential. We can together achieve greater heights. I would like to remind all the distinguished members of what *Swami Vivekananda* said, and I quote, "Great things have been done in the past in this land, and there is both time and room for greater things to be done yet." Unquote. With the sincere efforts of all stakeholders of this generation, I hope that our chariot of democracy, surmounting every difficulty and challenge, will carry forward the nation towards progress and prosperity. With these words, I once again convey my very best wishes to all present here, and to all the people of our country on this auspicious occasion.

Thank You.

Jai Hind!

**ADDRESS BY SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE
ON THE ASSUMPTION OF OFFICE AS THE
PRESIDENT OF INDIA**

Following the Presidential election held on 19 July 2012, Shri Pranab Mukherjee was declared elected as the President of India on 21 July 2012. Shri Pranab Mukherjee was sworn in as the President on 25 July 2012 by the Chief Justice of India, Justice S.H. Kapadia at a solemn function in the Central Hall of Parliament. Soon after the swearing-in ceremony, the new President addressed the distinguished gathering in the Central Hall.

We reproduce below the text of the Address delivered by Shri Pranab Mukherjee on his assumption of office as the President of India.

—Editor

Smt. Pratibha Devisingh Patil, Shri Hamid Ansari, Smt. Meira Kumar, Shri Justice S.H. Kapadia, Members of Parliament, Your Excellencies, Friends and fellow citizens:

I am deeply moved by the high honour you have accorded to me. Such honour exalts the occupant of this office, even as it demands that he rises above personal or partisan interests in the service of the national good.

The principal responsibility of this office is to function as the guardian of our Constitution. I will strive, as I said on oath, to preserve, protect and defend our Constitution not just in word but also in spirit. We are all, across the divide of party and region, partners at the altar of our motherland. Our federal Constitution embodies the idea of modern India: it defines not only India but also modernity. A modern nation is built on some basic fundamentals: democracy, or equal rights for every citizen; secularism, or equal freedom to every faith; equality of every region and language; gender equality and, perhaps most important of all, economic equity. For our development to be real the poorest of our land must feel that they are part of the narrative of rising India.

I have seen vast, perhaps unbelievable, changes during the journey that has brought me from the flicker of a lamp in a small Bengal village to the chandeliers of Delhi. I was a boy when Bengal was savaged by a famine that killed millions; the misery and sorrow is still



Shri Pranab Mukherjee addressing dignitaries after being sworn-in as the President of India in the Central Hall of Parliament House. Seated at the Dias are (from left to right) the Chief Justice of India, Justice S. H. Kapadia, the outgoing President, Smt. Pratibha Devisingh Patil, the Vice President and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri M. Hamid Ansari and the Speaker of Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar

not lost on me. We have achieved much in the field of agriculture, industry and social infrastructure; but that is nothing compared to what India, led by the coming generations, will create in the decades ahead.

Our national mission must continue to be what it was when the generation of Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru, Sardar Patel, Rajendra Prasad, Ambedkar and Maulana Azad offered us a tryst with destiny: to eliminate the curse of poverty, and create such opportunities for the young that they can take our India forward by quantum leaps. There is no humiliation more abusive than hunger. Trickle-down theories do not address the legitimate aspirations of the poor. We must lift those at the bottom so that poverty is erased from the dictionary of modern India.

What has brought us thus far, will take us further ahead. India's true story is the partnership of the people. Our wealth has been created by farmers and workers, industrialists and service-providers, soldiers and civilians. Our social harmony is the sublime co-existence of temple, mosque, church, *gurudwara* and synagogue; they are symbols of our unity in diversity.

Peace is the first ingredient of prosperity. History has often been written in the red of blood; but development and progress are the luminous rewards of a peace dividend, not a war trophy. The two halves of the 20th Century tell their own story. Europe, and indeed the world, reinvented itself after the end of the Second World War and the collapse of colonization, leading to the rise of great institutions like the United Nations. Leaders who ordered great armies into the field, and then understood that war was more barbarism than glory, transformed the world by changing its mindset. Gandhiji taught by example, and gave us the supreme strength of non-violence. India's philosophy is not an abstract in textbooks. It flourishes in the day-to-day life of our people, who value the humane above all else. Violence is external to our nature; when, as human beings, we do err, we exorcise our sins with penitence and accountability.

But the visible rewards of peace have also obscured the fact that the age of war is not over. We are in the midst of a fourth world war; the third was the Cold War, but it was very warm in Asia, Africa and Latin America till it ended in the early 1990s. The war against terrorism is the fourth; and it is a world war because it can raise its evil head anywhere in the world. India has been on the frontlines of this war long before many other recognized its vicious depth or poisonous consequences. I am proud of the valour and conviction and steely determination of our Armed Forces as they have fought this menace on our borders; of our brave police forces as they have met the enemy within; and of our people, who have defeated the terrorist

trap by remaining calm in the face of extraordinary provocation. The people of India have been a beacon of maturity through the trauma of whiplash wounds. Those who instigate violence and perpetuate hatred need to understand one truth. Few minutes of peace will achieve far more than many years of war. India is content with itself, and driven by the will to sit on the high table of prosperity. It will not be deflected in its mission by noxious practitioners of terror.

As Indians, we must of course learn from the past; but we must remain focused on the future. In my view, education is the alchemy that can bring India its next golden age. Our oldest scriptures laid the framework of society around the pillars of knowledge; our challenge is to convert knowledge into a democratic force by taking it into every corner of our country. Our motto is unambiguous: All for knowledge, and knowledge for all.

The weight of office sometimes becomes a burden on dreams. The news is not always cheerful. Corruption is an evil that can depress the nation's mood and sap its progress. We cannot allow our progress to be hijacked by the greed of a few.

I envisage an India where unity of purpose propels the common good; where Centre and State are driven by the single vision of good governance; where every revolution is green; where democracy is not merely the right to vote once in five years but to speak always in the citizen's interest; where knowledge becomes wisdom; where the young pour their phenomenal energy and talent into the collective cause. As tyranny dwindles across the world; as democracy gets fresh life in regions once considered inhospitable; India becomes the model of modernity.

As Swami Vivekananda in his soaring metaphor said, India will be raised, not with the power of flesh but with the power of the spirit, not with the flag of destruction, but with the flag of peace and love. Bring all the forces of good together. Do not care what be your colour-green, blue or red, but mix all the colours up and produce that intense glow of white, the colour of love.

Ours is to work, the results will take care of themselves.

There is no greater reward for a public servant than to be elected the first citizen of our Republic.

Jai Hind!

**FAREWELL ADDRESS PRESENTED TO
SMT. PRATIBHA DEVISINGH PATIL,
PRESIDENT OF INDIA, BY MEMBERS OF
PARLIAMENT ON 23 JULY 2012**

On 23 July 2012, a function was held in the Central Hall of Parliament House to bid farewell to the outgoing President, Smt. Pratibha Devisingh Patil. The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar presented a Farewell Address to the President on behalf of all the members of Parliament placing on record their respectful and affectionate tributes to Smt. Pratibha Devisingh Patil. The Speaker also presented her a casket containing a scroll signed by all the members of Parliament.

The President then addressed the distinguished gathering. She also attended an 'at Home' given by the members of Parliament.

We reproduce below the text of the Farewell Address presented to President, Smt. Pratibha Devisingh Patil by the members of Parliament and the Address by the outgoing President at the function.

—Editor

**(NATIONAL EMBLEM)
FAREWELL ADDRESS
PRESENTED TO
SMT. PRATIBHA DEVISINGH PATIL
PRESIDENT OF INDIA
BY
MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT**

Mahamahim Rashtrapatiji, Smt. Pratibha Devisingh Patil,

With a sense of profound gratitude we, the Members of both Houses of Parliament, have assembled here today to thank you and bid you a fond farewell. Madam not only have you brought great honour to the exalted Office of the President of the Republic of India but you also have made history by becoming the first woman to hold this position. I, on behalf of Members of both Houses of Parliament, would like to felicitate you.

The story of your journey from a practicing lawyer at the Jalgaon, District Court, Maharashtra to Rashtrapati Bhawan is truly remarkable. From being elected to the Maharashtra Legislative Assembly at the young age of 27 years to leading a country with a billion plus population in 2007, you have had a sterling public career.

When you assumed the august Office of the President of India, it was a moment of pride for all of us, as for the first time we had the opportunity to have a woman as our Head of State. The five years of your tenure as First Citizen of our great country have seen Rashtrapati Bhawan as a symbol of dignity, grace and most importantly of women's empowerment. You are a role model for countless women of our country who constantly strive to better themselves and those around them.

In your long public life of fifty years, you have been associated with several institutions in various capacities. For more than two decades as Member of the Maharashtra Legislative Assembly, you distinguished yourself as a capable political leader and administrator. Recognizing your strong credentials and experience, you were given charge of several Ministries in the Government of Maharashtra. As a Leader of Opposition and as a Minister, you displayed great concern for the emancipation of the marginalized and disadvantaged sections of society. Your initiatives in establishing the *Maharashtra Arthik Vikas Mahamandal* and a separate all women's Co-operative Bank in Maharashtra have been instrumental in strengthening the co-operative movement. The fact that you have not lost any election that you stood for speaks volumes of your commitment to the welfare of the common man.

Your presence in Parliament, initially in the Rajya Sabha and then in the Lok Sabha, for more than a decade from 1985 to 1996, helped the country to benefit from your political and administrative experience. Your stint as Deputy Chairperson of the Rajya Sabha from 1986 to 1988 stands testimony to your vast knowledge and expertise of parliamentary procedures. As a woman Parliamentarian, you led Parliamentary Delegations to popularize and promote women's rights and causes.

As the first woman Governor of Rajasthan, you stood for the cause of war widows in the State. Your sensitivity for weaker sections of society was firmly established when you advised the Government of Rajasthan to initiate *Mahila Swayam Siddha Kendras* for providing temporary housing, education and formal training to women to enable them to earn a livelihood with dignity and self-esteem.

In your distinguished career you have remained devoted to the service of the country and betterment of our people. Your developmental

Farewell Address Presented to Smt. Pratibha Devisingh Patil, President of India 271

and environmental initiatives are laudable and can be seen even in the premises of the Rashtrapati Bhawan.

You personify the best of Indian culture and values. With the blend of tradition and modernity, you, as the Head of State, have earned the country and its people a renewed sense of glory, strength and respect.

At the time of your assuming office, you had stressed on the need for bringing about socially inclusive development in our national life. Today we would like to assure you that we will make sincere and relentless efforts in fulfilling your dream of transforming India into a modern, progressive and developed nation. In our service to the nation, we hope, you will continue to guide us in all matters of public interest.

Parliament House
New Delhi;
23 July, 2012
1 Sravana, 1934 (Saka)

We remain,
Yours respectfully,
MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

**ADDRESS BY THE PRESIDENT OF INDIA,
SMT. PRATIBHA DEVISINGH PATIL**

Shri Hamid Ansari, Chairman, Rajya Sabha; Smt. Meira Kumar, Speaker, Lok Sabha; Members of Parliament; Dignitaries; Ladies and Gentlemen;

My very warm greetings to everyone present here.

Today, I speak with a sense of nostalgia in this Hall that has been witness to important events in the Parliamentary history of our country. I have many memories of the time I spent here-as a member of the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha participating in debates and discussions; and as the Deputy Chairperson of the Rajya Sabha presiding over its proceedings. In that capacity, on the occasion of the oath taking ceremony of President R. Venkataraman in July, 1987, I read out in this Hall, the Hindi version of his inaugural speech. I did not know at that time that, twenty years later, I myself would be taking oath as the President. Over the past five years, I have had the honour as the President, to be a part of you and to address Parliament, on several occasions. I also had the opportunity to interact with members of Parliament and with various delegations from different political parties and leaders. I express my deep and sincere thanks to you for the respect shown to me. I also thank the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha and the Speaker of the Lok Sabha for the co-operation and support they have extended to me on every occasion.

I take this opportunity to convey my warmest congratulations to Shri Pranab Mukherjee, who has been elected to be the next President. He is well known to the people of India, as also to members of Parliament, for his work as a statesman and for his many achievements in over four decades of public life. A veteran Parliamentarian, he has a formidable reputation based on his insightful mind and sharp memory. He has vast experience of the functioning of Government as well. He brings to the office of the President, sagacity, experience and a deep understanding of national and international issues. I wish him the very best.

Dear Members,

We, as an ancient civilization, have had a long history of democratic functioning. As a young nation, since our independence and the adoption of our Constitution itself, we have embraced democracy as a concept and praxis fundamental to our nationhood. Since the holding of the first elections in our country in 1952, we have assiduously walked the path of democracy. Through challenges, we have found opportunities and through determination, we have forged our destiny. We have demonstrated to the world, time and again, that a developing country of over a billion people, each aspiring for a better quality of life, can live harmoniously and move forward within the framework of an inclusive democracy. Therefore, it is with some sense of fulfillment that we can look at our achievements of the past over six decades. However, if we are to maintain progress much more needs to be achieved, and every constituent of our democracy, has to increasingly learn to work together, so that we can achieve our true potential.

Parliament symbolizes a national purpose as it is the repository of the will of the people. The people's faith in this democratic institution rests upon how effectively the elected representatives perform, and on how attentive they are to issues that impact public welfare. This is an enormous responsibility. Speaking from my experience, I believe that there exists in Parliament a commitment and willingness to work for meeting the aspirations of the people.

Dear Members,

The prime focus of any legislature is bringing in laws required for the progress and good governance of the country, as well as the welfare of people. Varied political thinking is a part of any legislature, as it is a microcosm of the nation, and in a country as large and diverse as ours. It reflects the many shades of opinion and interests of the citizens. That shall always be the case. While this adds to the vibrancy of our democratic institutions, it at the same time, also poses a challenge as a multiplicity of expectations are to be met. Yet,

these should not become impediments in the working of our legislative system. The art of democracy lies in finding a way forward, in which, differing viewpoints and interests are discussed, and a solution found through consultations. Naturally, there will be arguments in the process for the search for answers, but it should never happen that in the din we lose our way forward. At the end of the day, the worth, value and respect of a legislature, is judged by its output in terms of serious debate and legislations.

Every successive Parliament has had to face its own unique circumstances and to address a range of issues. Over the past two decades, we are observing changes such as an information explosion, technological innovations, increasing economic prosperity, growing materialism and in its midst the danger of losing values. Governments and legislative assemblies need to seriously reflect on these fundamental changes that are taking place. If unnoticed, our systems and institutions could be out-of-size and out-of-time. Therefore, deep thought should be given by Honourable members to how our institutions, our administrative practices, legislatures and legal processes, can fulfill these growing demands and responsibilities effectively. Thought should also be given on how these can be strengthened. Another important aspect, which I believe needs reform, is the electoral process. Therefore, I would also urge constructive thinking on social issues, to be followed up by positive action.

My Dear Members,

As I look ahead into the future, I have confidence that our nation has the strength and the will to stand unitedly to surmount the challenges of changing times. This is because our Parliament and our legislatures have experience and also that every member has it within him or her, to make a better world. I reiterate what Gandhiji had said, "A democratic organization has to dare to do the right at all costs." To be able to do so, Parliament must be a robust body, with its members guided by values and a vision of the inclusive progress for the nation. I am confident that our Parliamentarians will deliver on this. Indeed, the functioning of the Parliament of the world's largest democracy must meet exacting standards, to set an example for the rest of the world.

In conclusion, I take this opportunity to once again thank you with all humility, for the unstinted support you have extended to me at every stage. Your cooperation had always been forthcoming and was a source of great strength for me. I will demit office of the President on 25th of July but your respect, love and affection will always remain with me as fond memories. All of you must continue with your work with a sense of purpose and steadfastness to reach your goal. Without a goal, obstacles are difficult to overcome. The Lok Sabha

Speaker, Shrimati Meira Kumarji is very good at reciting *shero-shayari*. Therefore, motivated by her, I will recite a couplet in this context:

खुद यकीं होता नहीं जिनको अपनी मंजिल का
उनको राह के पत्थर कभी रास्ता नहीं देते।

The age-old values propounded by our leaders, sages and saints of every religion, have given our country immense inherent strength and the ability to maintain unity in diversity. You must keep these in mind, as you work for an India that is prosperous and progressive. This goal will surely, guide you in your work. I end with another couplet.

कारवां चलते हैं मंजिल का सहारा लेकर
और मंजिल की कशिश रहनुमा होती है।

May you always be committed to the welfare of our people and the nation. With these words, I wish you all the best in your endeavours.

Thank you.

Jai Hind!



The outgoing President, Smt. Pratibha Devisingh Patil addressing the distinguished gathering



The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar presenting on behalf of all the members of Parliament, a scroll containing a Farewell Address to the outgoing President, Smt. Pratibha Devisingh Patil. Also seen in the picture is the Vice President and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri M. Hamid Ansari

PARLIAMENTARY EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

CONFERENCES AND SYMPOSIA

60th Anniversary of the First Sitzings of the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha: To commemorate the 60th Anniversary of the First Sitzings of the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha, special sittings of both the Houses were held on 13 May 2012. The two Houses deliberated on the theme “60 years’ journey of the Parliament of India”. The Prime Minister and Leader of the House in Rajya Sabha, Dr. Manmohan Singh, and Union Minister of Finance and Leader of the House in Lok Sabha, Shri Pranab Mukherjee, initiated the discussions in Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha, respectively. Leaders of Parties in Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha and several MPs including Independents took part in the discussion. A unanimous resolution was passed at the conclusion of discussions to uphold the dignity, sanctity and sovereignty of the Parliament and once again re-dedicate to nation building.

A function was also held in the Central Hall of Parliament on 13 May, 2012 at 5.30 PM. to celebrate the 60th Anniversary of the first sitting of the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha. The President, the Vice-President, the Prime Minister and the Speaker, Lok Sabha addressed the distinguished gathering. The surviving members of the First Lok Sabha, namely, Sarvashri Rishang Keishing, MP (Rajya Sabha), Resham Lal Jangde (also member of the 2nd and 9th Lok Sabha), Kandala Subrahmanyam and K. Mohana Rao were honoured. Publications brought out by the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha Secretariats viz. *Who’s Who: First Lok Sabha (English, Reprint)*; *Speakers of Lok Sabha* (both English and Hindi); *Sixty Years of Lok Sabha: A Study* (both English and Hindi); *Finance Ministers’ Budget Speeches: 1947-2011* (English); *Selected Speeches of Women Members of the Constituent Assembly*; *Welcome Honourable Chairman*; *Sixty Years of Rajya Sabha (1952-2012)* and *Nominated Members of Rajya Sabha* were released by the President of India. The President, Smt. Pratibha Devisingh Patil also released coins in the denominations of Rs. 5/- and Rs. 10/- brought out by the Ministry of Finance for the occasion. The function was followed by a Cultural Programme which included performances by

Pandit Shiv Kumar Sharma and Rahul Sharma (*Santoor Jugalbandi*); Ustad Iqbal Ahmed Khan (Classical Vocal), Maharajapuram Ramachandran (Carnatic Vocal), Ms. Shubha Mudgal (Classical Vocal), and Pandit Debu Chaudhuri (Sitar).

126th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, Kampala, Uganda: The 126th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) was held in Kampala, Uganda from 31 March to 5 April 2012. An Indian Parliamentary delegation led by Smt. Meira Kumar, Speaker, Lok Sabha attended the Assembly. The other members of the Delegation were Shri V. Hanumantha Rao, MP; Shri Francisco Cosme Sardinha, MP; Shri Narahari Mahato, MP; Dr. Kirit Premjibhai Solanki, MP; Smt. Smriti Zubin Irani, MP; Smt. Putul Kumari, MP; Shri T.K. Viswanathan, Secretary-General, Lok Sabha and Dr. V.K. Agnihotri, Secretary-General, Rajya Sabha. Shri S. Bal Shekar, Additional Secretary, Lok Sabha Secretariat was Secretary to the Delegation.

During the Assembly, the following resolutions of the three Standing Committees were adopted:

- 'Promoting and practicing good governance as a means of advancing peace and security: Drawing lessons from recent events in the Middle East and North Africa' (First Standing Committee on Peace and International Security)
- 'Redistribution of power, not just wealth: Ownership of the international agendas' (Second Standing Committee on Sustainable Development, Finance and Trade).
- 'Access to health as a basic right : The role of Parliaments in addressing key challenges to securing the health of women and children (Third Standing Committee on Democracy and Human Rights)

The Speaker, Lok Sabha participated in the General debate on the political, economic and social situation in the world with the overall theme 'Parliaments and People: Bridging the Gap'.

The Indian Delegates participated in the following three Panel Discussions held during the Assembly:

- Bringing an end to malnutrition: the Role of Parliamentarians in addressing Nutrition Security
- The Disaster Risk Reduction and Sustainable Development', and
- 'Making the law work for the response to AIDS: Zero new infections, zero discrimination and zero AIDS-related deaths.

The Emergency Item on 'Inter-Parliamentary Union Initiative for an immediate halt to the bloodshed and human rights violations in Syria, and the need to ensure access to humanitarian aid for all persons in need and to support implementation of all relevant Arab League and United Nations Resolutions and Peace Efforts' was adopted and included in the Assembly agenda, and thereafter a resolution was adopted on the same.

The Members of the Delegation participated in the meeting of the Asia Pacific Geo Political Group (APG) of IPU, held on 31 March 2012. The women members of the delegation attended the meetings of Women Parliamentarians held on the sidelines of the Assembly. The Secretaries-General of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha participated in the meetings of Association of Secretaries-General of Parliaments (ASGP).

25th Session of the Steering Committee of Parliamentary Conference on the WTO: The 25th Session of the Steering Committee of the Parliamentary Conference on the WTO was held in Brussels, Belgium from 7 to 8 May 2012. Shri P.C. Chacko, MP, Lok Sabha participated in the Session. During this meeting, update on recent developments at the WTO was discussed.

In conjunction with the above Session, Shri P.C. Chacko also attended a workshop entitled "The future of the WTO and the World Trading System" which was organised by European Parliament. During the Workshop, the following agenda items came up for discussion: (i) High level panel discussion on Identifying the reasons behind the institutional crisis and providing high-level guidance; (ii) Panel discussion on assessing the options for WTO reform on: (a) The role of the WTO in a rapidly changing international economic order; and (b) Towards greater coherence and transparency.

Mid-Year CPA Executive Committee Meeting: The Mid-Year Commonwealth Parliamentary Association Executive Committee Meeting was held in Nukua'lofa, Tonga from 17 to 20 April 2012. Smt. Meira Kumar, Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha attended the meeting. Shri Kiyaniile Peseyie, Speaker, Nagaland Legislative Assembly attended the meeting as Regional Representative from CPA India Region. Shri Deependra Singh Shekhwat, Speaker, Rajasthan Vidhan Sabha also attended the meeting. Shri T.K. Viswanathan, Secretary General, Lok Sabha accompanied Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar as the Regional Secretary of CPA India Region.

Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha, also inaugurated a Solar Project

funded and supported by Government of India under the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation Programme (ITEC) on 19 April 2012.

23rd Commonwealth Parliamentary Seminar on “Strengthening Parliamentary Democracy”: The 23rd Commonwealth Parliamentary Seminar on “Strengthening Parliamentary Democracy” was held in Apia, Samoa from 24 to 30 May 2012 to give an opportunity to newly elected Members to participate in an intensive learning exercise in parliamentary matters. From the CPA India Union Branch, Shri Ponnambhakar, MP, Lok Sabha attended the Seminar. From the State CPA Branches, Sarvashri Nadendla Manohar, Speaker, Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly; Kuldeep Sharma, Speaker, Haryana Vidhan Sabha; John Rotluangliana, Deputy Speaker, Mizoram Legislative Assembly; Hibi Eden, Member, Kerala Legislative Assembly and Dr. Raghu Sharma, Member, Rajasthan Vidhan Sabha attended the seminar.

BIRTH ANNIVERSARIES OF NATIONAL LEADERS

On the birth anniversaries of national leaders whose portraits adorn the Central Hall of Parliament House, functions are organized under the auspices of the Indian Parliamentary Group (IPG) to pay tributes to the leaders. Booklets containing the profiles of these leaders, prepared by the Library and Reference, Research, Documentation and Information Service (LARRDIS) of the Lok Sabha Secretariat, are distributed on the occasion.

The birth anniversaries of the following leaders were celebrated during the period 1 April to 30 June 2012:

Dr. B.R. Ambedkar: On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar a function was held on 14 April 2012 in the Central Hall, Parliament House. The Deputy Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Kariya Munda; the Leader of Opposition (Lok Sabha), Smt. Sushma Swaraj; Chairman of BJP Parliamentary Party Shri L.K. Advani; Union Ministers; members of Parliament; former members of Parliament; Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha Dr. V.K. Agnihotri; Senior Officers from the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha Secretariats paid floral tributes to Dr. B.R. Ambedkar.

Pandit Motilal Nehru: On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Pandit Motilal Nehru a function was held on 6 May 2012 in the Central Hall, Parliament House. The Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh; members of Parliament; former members of Parliament, and the Secretaries-

General of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha, paid floral tributes to Pandit Motilal Nehru.

Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore: On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore, a function was held on 8 May 2012 in the Central Hall, Parliament House. The Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh; the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt Meira Kumar; the Leader of the House in the Lok Sabha and Union Minister for Finance, Shri Pranab Mukherjee; the UPA Chairperson, Smt. Sonia Gandhi; Union Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Water Resources, Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal; Union Minister of State for Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions and Prime Minister's Office Shri V. Narayanasamy; Union Minister of State for Urban Development Prof. Saugata Roy; Union Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs Shri Rajeev Shukla, Members of Parliament, former Members of Parliament, and the Secretaries-General of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha Shri T.K. Viswanathan and Dr. V.K. Agnihotri, and other dignitaries paid floral tributes to Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore.

Swatantryaveer Vinayak Damodar Savarkar: On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Swatantryaveer Vinayak Damodar Savarkar, a function was held on 28 May 2012 in the Central Hall, Parliament House. The Leader of Opposition (Lok Sabha), Smt. Sushma Swaraj; the Chairman of the BJP Parliamentary Party, Shri L.K. Advani; members of Parliament; former members of Parliament and the Secretary-General, Lok Sabha Shri T.K. Viswanathan paid floral tributes to Swatantryaveer Vinayak Damodar Savarkar.

EXCHANGE OF PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATIONS

Foreign Parliamentary Delegations Visiting India

Finland: A 4-member Parliamentary Delegation from Finland led by H.E. Mr. Eero Heinaluoma, Speaker of the Parliament of Finland visited India from 23 to 26 April 2012.

The Delegation called on Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha, Smt. Sushma Swaraj and Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Water Resources, Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal on 23 April 2012. On 24 April 2012, the Delegation called on the Hon'ble Vice-President of India and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri Mohammad Hamid Ansari; Minister of Rural Development and Minister of Drinking Water and Sanitation, Shri Jairam Ramesh and Minister of State for External Affairs,

Smt. Preneet Kaur. The Delegation also met Hon'ble Chairman and Members of the Standing Committee on External Affairs. On the same day, the delegation called on Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar. A Cultural Programme was organized which was followed by a Dinner hosted in the honour of the Delegation. The Delegation also visited Mumbai.

Saudi Arabia: A 10-member Parliamentary Delegation from Saudi Arabia led by H.E. Dr. Abdullah Bin Mohammed Bin Ibrahim Al Al-Sheikh, Speaker of *Majlis Ash Shura* (Consultative Council) visited India from 7 to 10 May 2012.

On 7 May 2012, the Delegation met the Minister of State for External Affairs, Shri E. Ahamed. The Delegation called on Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Dr. Manmohan Singh and Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar on 8 May 2012. On 9 May 2012, the Delegation also called on Hon'ble Vice-President of India and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri Mohammad Hamid Ansari and Minister of Health and Family Welfare, Shri Gulam Nabi Azad.

Indian Parliamentary Delegations Visiting Abroad

New Zealand: A 12-member Indian Parliamentary Delegation led by Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar visited New Zealand from 13 to 16 April, 2012. The other members of the Delegation were Shri Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi, Shri Bhartruhari Mahtab, Shri Radha Mohan Singh, Prof. Ram Gopal Yadav, Shri Tarun Mandal, all Members of Parliament and Shri T.K. Viswanathan, Secretary General, Lok Sabha. Shri P.K. Misra, Joint Secretary, Lok Sabha Secretariat was Secretary to the Delegation.

Visit of Foreign Dignitaries to Parliament House

Yemen: Nobel Laureate Ms. Tawakkol Karman, prominent member of Al-Islah Party of Yemen called on the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar on 4 April 2012.

United Nations: The Secretary General of the United Nations, Mr. Ban Ki-moon called on the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar on 27 April 2012.

Kuwait: A 20-member delegation of the Editors-in-Chief of Kuwait called on the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar on 16 May 2012.

PARLIAMENT MUSEUM

During the period 1 April to 30 June 2012, a total of 6,736 visitors visited the Museum. Apart from general visitors, 845 students from 14 schools/colleges from all over the country visited the Museum. A number of present and former members of Parliament, members of State legislatures and foreign dignitaries/delegations also visited the Museum. Among the foreign dignitaries, Nobel Laureate from Yemen Ms. Tawakkol Karman; Delegations from European Parliament, Kenya, Finland, Malawi, Kuwait, Indonesia, Uganda, and Singapore visited the Museum. As many as 1,58,188 visitors have visited the Museum between 5 September 2006 (*i.e.* the date of opening of the Museum for general public) to 30 September 2012.

BUREAU OF PARLIAMENTARY STUDIES AND TRAINING

Lecture Series for Members of Parliament: As part of the Lecture Series for Members of Parliament, a Lecture titled "Indian Human Development Report, 2011: Towards Social Inclusion" by Dr. Santosh Mehrotra, Director General, Institute of Applied Manpower Research, Delhi, was organised on 26 April 2012.

Study Visits: During the period from 1 April to 30 June 2012, Study Visits were organized for: (i) 9-Member Delegation from the House of People's Representatives of Ethiopia, from 17 to 18 April 2012; (ii) 7-Member Delegation of the Welfare and Facilities Committee of the National Assembly of Kenya, from 23 to 26 April 2012; (iii) 7-Member Delegation of the Standing Committee on Office of Profit from the Parliament of Ghana, from 30 April to 2 May 2012; (iv) 3 officers from the Parliament of Malawi, from 2 to 4 May 2012; (v) 16 District Governors of Afghanistan, undergoing a Training Programme at the Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA), New Delhi, on 7 May 2012; (vi) 8-Member Delegation of the Committee on Legal and Parliamentary Affairs of the Parliament of Uganda, from 21 to 25 May 2012; (vii) 13-Member Delegation of the Law Formulation Committee of the Regional House of Representatives, Republic of Indonesia, on 23 May 2012; (viii) 7-Member Delegation from the Namibia Institute of Public Administration and Management (NIPAM), on 1 June 2012; (ix) 4 Research Staff members from the National Assembly of Kenya, from 28 May to 6 June 2012; and (x) 20 officers of the Parliament of Myanmar, from 11 to 15 June 2012.

Besides, 18 other Study Visits (National) were conducted for the

students, teachers and officials of various schools, and organizations in India. A total of 672 participants attended these visits.

Appreciation Courses: Appreciation Courses in Parliamentary Processes and Procedures were organized for the following participants: (i) 42 Probationers of the Indian Ordnance Factories Service, from 9 to 14 April 2012; (ii) 17 Probationers of the Indian Corporate Law Service, from 16 to 18 May 2012; (iii) 160 Probationers of the Indian Administrative Service and the Royal Bhutan Civil Service, from 23 to 27 April 2012; and (iv) 122 Probationers of IRSE and IRSME, from 14 to 16 May 2012.

Training Programmes: Training Programmes were organized for (i) 27 officials of Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha and State Legislature Secretariats dealing with Questions and Legislative and Budgetary Processes, from 21 to 25 May 2012; (ii) 80 officials of the Lok Sabha Secretariat appearing for the Departmental Examination for the post of Junior Clerk in the Secretariat, from 28 May to 5 June 2012; and (iii) 31 Security officials of Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha and State Legislature Secretariats, from 4 to 8 June 2012.

PROCEDURAL MATTERS

LOK SABHA

Observation from the Chair regarding disallowance of notices for suspension of Question Hour on the ground that there was no provision in the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha for suspension of Question Hour: On 19 March 2012, the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar made the following observation:—

“Honourable members, I have received notices of Suspension of Question Hour from Sarvashri Gurudas Dasgupta, Yashwant Sinha and Basudeb Acharia regarding the reported resignation of Union Minister of Railways.

There is provision in the Rules of Procedure under which members may make a demand for suspension of Question Hour. I have, therefore, disallowed the notices of Suspension of Question Hour.

It seems that Shri Gurudas Dasgupta who has also given a notice of a motion to this effect wants to move a motion to suspend the Question Hour under Rule 388 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha.

As per Rule 388, any member may, with the consent of the Speaker, move that any rule may be suspended in its application to a particular motion before the House. There is no Motion before the House. The question of invoking the provisions of Rule 388 does not arise. There is, therefore, no question of suspending the Question Hour.

However, as a special case, I am allowing the members to make brief submissions. Thereafter, we will take up Question Hour.”

II

On 21 March 2012, again on the notices submitted by members for suspension of Question Hour, the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar made the following observation:—

“Honourable members, I have received notices of Suspension

of Question Hour from Sarvashri Prabodh Panda and Sharad Yadav regarding the report on calculation of poverty line by Planning Commission.

There is no provision in the Rules of Procedure under which members may make a demand for suspension of Question Hour.

I will consider allowing a discussion on the issue if proper notice is tabled by the members.

I have, therefore, disallowed the notices of Suspension of Question Hour.”

III

Observation from the Chair regarding derogatory statement made by members of Civil Society against Ministers and Members of Parliament: On 27 March 2012, Sarvashri Sharad Yadav, Jagdambika Pal, Dara Singh Chauhan, Mulayam Singh Yadav, Sharifuddin Shariq, Dr. Farooq Abdullah, Shri T.K.S. Elangovan, Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh and Shri Anandrao Adsul made submission regarding alleged derogatory statement made by the civil society members against Ministers and members of Parliament. Dr. M. Thambidurai and Shri Nama Nageswara Rao were also associated. Thereupon, the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar made the following observation:—

“Honourable members, as is well known, members of this House undergo a rigorous scrutiny by the Election Commission under the provisions of the Representation of the People Act, Model Code of Conduct and other legal requirements while they file their nominations for the Lok Sabha elections. After meticulously assessing their conduct and performance, the people of India in their wisdom elect them. The Parliament, therefore, reflects the collective will of the people of our country.

Any remark lowering the dignity and esteem of this august House is unwarranted and totally unacceptable”.

Instances when the Chair allowed members to lay their written speeches on the Table of the House: On 19 March 2012, during further consideration of the Motion of Thanks on President’s Address that an address be presented to the President in the terms “that the Members of the Lok Sabha assembled in this Session are deeply grateful to the President for the Address which she has been pleased to deliver to both Houses of Parliament assembled together on 12 March 2012”, moved by Dr. Girija Vyas and seconded by Dr. Shashi Tharoor on 13 March

2012, the Chair permitted Shri Naveen Jindal to lay his written speech on the Table of the House.

On the same day, during discussion under Rule 193 on situation arising out of widespread discontentment among working class due to faulty Government policies, the Chair permitted seven members [Dr. (Prof.) Prasanna Kumar Patasani, Shri Ganesh Singh, Shri S.S. Ramasubbu, Dr. (Smt.) Jhansi Lakshmi Botcha, Shri Jagdambika Pal, Dr. Kirit P. Solanki and Shri Arjun Meghwal] to lay their written speeches on the Table of the House.

On 20 March 2012, during combined discussion on the Budget (Railways)-2012-13, the Demands for Grants on Account of Budget (Railways) for 2012-13, the Supplementary Demands for Grants in respect of Budget (Railways) for 2011-12 and the Demands for Excess Grants in respect of Budget (Railways) for 2009-10, the Chair permitted 36 members to lay their written speeches on the Table of the House.

On 21 March 2012, during combined discussion on the Budget (Railways)-2012-13, Demands for Grants on Account of Budget-(Railways) for 2012-13, the Supplementary Demands for Grants in respect of Budget (Railways) for 2011-12 and the Demands for Excess Grants in respect of Budget (Railways) for 2009-10, the Chair permitted 71 members to lay their written speeches on the Table of the House.

On 22 March 2012, during combined discussion on the Budget (Railways)-2012-13, the Demands for Grants on Account (Railways) for 2012-13, the Supplementary Demands for Grants (Railways) for 2011-12 and the Demands for Excess Grants (Railways) for 2009-10, the Chair permitted seven members (Sarvashri Harish Choudhary, K. Sugumar, S. Pakkirappa, Hansraj G. Ahir, Smt. J. Shantha, Smt. Jayshreeben Patel and Rajkumari Ratna Singh) to lay their written speeches on the Table of House.

On the same day, during combined discussion on the Budget (General)-2012-13, the Demands for Grants on Account on Budget (General) for 2012-13, the Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) for 2011-12 and the Demands for Excess Grants (General) for 2009-10, the Chair permitted Shri Radha Mohan Singh to lay his written speech on the Table of the House.

On 26 March 2012, during combined discussion on the Budget (General)-2012-13, the Demands for Grants on Account of Budget (General) for 2012-13, the Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) for 2011-12 and the Demands for Excess Grants (General) for 2009-10,

the Chair permitted 18 members to lay their written speeches on the Table of the House.

On 27 March 2012, during combined discussion on the Budget (General)-2012-13, the Demands for Grants on Account of Budget (General) for 2012-13, the Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) for 2011-12 and the Demands for Excess Grants (General) for 2009-10, the Chair permitted 106 members to lay their written speeches on the Table of the House.

On 25 April 2012, during discussion on the Demands for Grants (Railways) for 2012-13, the Chair permitted 10 members (Sarvashri Anand Prakash Paranjpe, Maheshwar Hazari, S.S. Ramasubbu, Dr. Kirit P. Solanki, Sarvashri Ratan Singh, Jeetendra Singh Bundela, P. Kumar, P. Venugopal, C. Rajendran and Satpal Maharaj) to lay their written speeches on the Table of the House.

On 26 April 2012, during discussion on the Demands for Grants (Railways) for 2012-13, the Chair permitted seven members (Sarvashri Bharat Ram Meghwal, Prem Chand Guddu, Dr. P.L. Punia, Dr. Virendra Kumar, Sarvashri Hansraj G. Ahir, R. Thamaraiselvan and K. Sugumar) to lay their written speeches on the Table of the House.

On the same day, during discussion on the Demands for Grants (2012-13) under control of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, the Chair permitted 17 members (Shri Jose K. Mani, Dr. Mahendrasinh P. Chauhan, Shri Harish Choudhary, Shri Sukhdev Singh Libra, Shri Ratan Singh, Shri Naranbhai Kachhadia, Smt. Jayshreeben Patel, Dr. Virendra Kumar, Sarvashri K. Sugumar, P. Kumar, Arjun Ram Meghwal, C. Rajendran, S. Semmalai, P.T. Thomas, Dr. P.L. Punia, Sarvashri Ram Singh Kaswan, O. S. Manian and Ghanshyam Anuragi) to lay their written speeches on the Table of the House.

On 27 April 2012, during discussion on the Demands for Grants (2012-13) under control of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, the Chair permitted 2 members (Sarvashri Hansraj G. Ahir and R. Thamaraiselvan) to lay their written speeches on the Table of the House.

On 30 April 2012, during discussion on the Demands for Grants (2012-13) under control of Ministry of Urban Development, the Chair permitted 16 members (Sarvashri R. Thamaraiselvan, Premchand Guddu, N. Peethambara Kurup, Naranbhai Kachhadia, Smt. Jyoti Dhurve, Dr. Charles Dias, Smt. Santosh Chowdhary, Dr. Mahendrasinh P. Chauhan, Dr. Arvind Sharma, Sarvashri Udai

Pratap Singh, Dhananjay Singh, S.S. Ramasubbu, Narayan Singh Amlabe, Makhansingh Solanki, Ratan Singh and Smt. Putul Kumari) to lay their written speeches on the Table of the House.

On 2 May 2012, during discussion on the Demands for Grants (2012-13) under control of the Ministry of Home Affairs, the Chair permitted 33 members to lay their written speeches on the Table of the House.

On 3 May 2012, during discussion on the Demands for Grants (2012-13) under the control of Ministry of Commerce and Industry, the Chair permitted 33 members to lay their written speeches on the Table of the House.

On 7 May 2012, during discussion on motion for consideration of the Indian Medical Council (Amendment) Bill, 2012, the Chair permitted Dr. Kirit P. Solanki to lay his written speech on the Table of the House.

On 13 May 2012, during discussion on 'Sixty Years Journey of Indian Parliament', the Chair permitted 132 members to lay their written speeches on the Table of the House.

On 17 May 2012, during further discussion under rule 193 on the steps taken by the Government to protect river Ganga from pollution and Himalayas from ruthless exploitation since the discussion on the subject was last held during the Ninth Session of Current Lok Sabha, the Chair permitted 16 members to lay their written speeches on the Table of the House.

PARLIAMENTARY AND CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

(1 APRIL TO 30 JUNE 2012)

Events covered in this Feature are based primarily on reports appearing in the daily newspapers and, as such, the Lok Sabha Secretariat does not accept any responsibility for their accuracy, authenticity or veracity.

—Editor

INDIA

DEVELOPMENTS AT THE UNION

Parliament Session: The Second Part of the Tenth Session of the Fifteenth Lok Sabha and the Two Hundred and Twenty Fifth Session of the Rajya Sabha commenced on 24 April 2012. Both the Houses were adjourned on 22 May 2012. The President of India, Smt. Pratibha Devisingh Patil prorogued both the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha on 28 May 2012.

Resignation of Union Minister: On 26 June 2012, the Union Finance Minister, Shri Pranab Mukherjee resigned from the Union Council of Ministers.

On the same day, the President, Smt. Pratibha Devisingh Patil accepted the resignation of the Union Minister for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, Shri Virbhadra Singh from the Union Council of Ministers. The Union Minister for Science and Technology, Shri Vilasrao Deshmukh was given additional charge.

Vacation of Seat: Consequent upon assuming the Office of the President of India, Shri Pranab Mukherjee, Member representing the Janjipur Parliamentary Constituency of West Bengal ceased to be a Member of Lok Sabha *w.e.f.* 25 July 2012, in terms of clause (1) of the Constitution of India.

Rajya Sabha Elections: On 22 March 2012, elections were held to 6 Rajya Sabha seats from Andhra Pradesh, one from Chhattisgarh,

3 each from Gujarat and Karnataka, 6 from Maharashtra, 5 from Madhya Pradesh, one from Uttarakhand and 10 from Uttar Pradesh.

Sarvashri Ananda Bhaskar Rapolu, Chiranjeevi Konidala, Palvai Govardhan Reddy and Smt. Renuka Chowdhury, all from the Indian National Congress (INC); Sarvashri Devender Goud T. and C.M. Ramesh, both of the Telugu Desam Party (TDP) were declared elected from Andhra Pradesh.

The term of all the above members commenced on 3 April 2012. While Shri Rapolu, Shri Chiranjeevi, Smt. Renuka Chowdhury and Shri C.M. Ramesh took oath/affirmation on 24 April 2012, Sarvashri Palvai Govardhan Reddy and Devender Goud T. took oath/affirmation on 25 April 2012.

On the same day, Dr. Bhushan Lal Jangde of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) was declared elected from Chhattisgarh.

Sarvashri Arun Jaitley, Shankarbhai N. Vegad and Mansukh L. Mandaviya, all from the BJP were declared elected from Gujarat.

Sarvashri K. Rahman Khan (INC), Rangasayee Ramakrishna (BJP) and Shri Rajeev Chandrasekhar, an Independent, were declared elected from Karnataka.

Smt. Vandana Chavan and Shri D.P. Tripathi, both from the Nationalist Congress Party (NCP); Sarvashri Vilasrao Dagadojirao Deshmukh and Rajeev Shukla, both of the INC; Anil Desai of the Shiv Sena and Ajay Sancheti of the BJP were declared elected from Maharashtra.

Sarvashri Kaptan Singh Solanki, Thaawar Chand Gehlot, Faggan Singh Kulaste, Dr. Najma A. Heptulla, all from the BJP; and Shri Satyavrat Chaturvedi of the INC were declared elected from Madhya Pradesh.

Sarvashri Kiranmay Nanda, Darshan Singh Yadav, Naresh Agrawal, B.B. Tiwari, Chaudhary Munabbar Saleem and Smt. Jaya Bachchan, all from the Samajwadi Party (SP), Kumari Mayawati and Shri Munquad Ali, both of the Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP), Shri Rasheed Masood of the INC and Shri Vinay Katiyar of the BJP were declared elected from Uttar Pradesh.

The term of all the above members commenced on 3 April 2012 and they all took oath/affirmation on 24 April 2012.

On the same day, elections to 5 seats from West Bengal and 3 seats each from Odisha and Rajasthan were also held.

Sarvashri Kunal Kumar Ghosh, Vivek Gupta, Md. Nadimul Haque and Mukul Roy all from the All India Trinamool Congress (AITC) and Shri Tapan Kumar Sen of the Communist Party of India (Marxist) [CPI(M)] were declared elected from West Bengal. The term of all the members commenced on 3 April 2012. Shri Tapan Kumar Sen took oath/affirmation on 24 April 2012 while the rest took it on 25 April 2012.

Sarvashri Dilip Kumar Tirkey and Rabinarayan Mohapatra, both of the Biju Janata Dal (BJD) and Shri A.V. Swamy, an Independent, were declared elected from Odisha. The term of all the members commenced on 4 April 2012 and they all took oath/affirmation on 24 April 2012.

Dr. Abhishek Manu Singhvi and Shri Narendra Budania, both of the INC; and Shri Bhupender Yadav of the BJP were declared elected from Rajasthan. The term of all the members commenced on 4 April 2012. Dr. Singhvi took oath/affirmation on 9 April 2012 and the other two—Shri Budania and Shri Yadav took it on 24 April 2012.

On 23 March 2012, elections to 6 seats from Bihar were held. The winners are: Prof. Anil Kumar Sahani, Dr. Mahendra Prasad, Sarvashri Ali Anwar Ansari, Bashistha Narain Singh, all from the Janata Dal (United) [JD(U)]; Dharmendra Pradhan and Ravi Shankar Prasad, both of the BJP. The term of all the above members commenced on 3 April 2012 and they took oath/affirmation on 24 April 2012.

On 30 March 2012, Shri Mahendra Singh Mahra of the INC was declared elected from Uttarakhand. The term of Shri Mahra commenced on 3 April 2012 and he took oath/affirmation on 24 April 2012.

On 19 April 2012, Shri Arvind Kumar Singh of the SP was declared elected from Uttar Pradesh. The term of Shri Singh commenced on 20 April 2012 and he took oath/affirmation on 24 April 2012.

On 3 May 2012, Dr. Pradeep Kumar Balmuchu of the INC and Shri Sanjiv Kumar of the JMM were declared elected from Jharkhand. The term of both the members commenced on 4 May 2012. Dr. Balmuchu and Shri Sanjiv Kumar took oath/affirmation on 8 and 9 May 2012, respectively.

On 18 June 2012, Shri Alok Tiwari of the SP was declared

elected from Uttar Pradesh. The term of Shri Tiwari commenced on 19 June 2012. He is yet to take oath/affirmation.

Nominated Members to Rajya Sabha: On 27 April 2012, Shri Sachin Ramesh Tendulkar, Ms. Rekha and Ms. Anu Aga were nominated to the Rajya Sabha. Their term commenced on 27 April 2012. While Ms. Anu Aga and Ms. Rekha took oath/affirmation on 13 and 15 May 2012 respectively, Shri Tendulkar took oath/affirmation on 4 June 2012.

On 28 June 2012, Shri K. Parasaran and Prof. Mrinal Miri were nominated to the Rajya Sabha. The term of both the members commenced on 29 June 2012 and they took/affirmation on 6 July 2012.

Death of Rajya Sabha Member: On 25 April 2012, Shri B.B. Tiwari, Samajwadi Party member from Uttar Pradesh passed away.

Resignation of Lok Sabha Member: On 2 May 2012, Shri Akhilesh Yadav, a Samajwadi Party member of Lok Sabha from Kannauj (Uttar Pradesh) Constituency resigned from his seat.

Lok Sabha Bye-election Results: On 9 June 2012, Smt. Dimple Yadav of the Samajwadi Party was declared elected unopposed from Kannauj (Uttar Pradesh) Lok Sabha Constituency.

On 15 June 2012, Shri M. Rajamohan Reddy of the YSR Congress Party was declared elected from Nellore (Andhra Pradesh) Lok Sabha Constituency, bye-election to which was held on 12 June 2012.

Suspension of BJD Member from the Party: On 1 June 2012, the Odisha Chief Minister and BJD President, Shri Naveen Patnaik suspended Shri Pyarimohan Mohapatra, party's Rajya Sabha member for anti-party activities.

AROUND THE STATES

ANDHRA PRADESH

Resignation of Two INC MLAs: On 4 June 2012, Sarvashri Alla Kali Krishna Srinivas *alias* Alla Nani and Ravu Venkata Sujay Krishna Ranga Rao, both members of the INC from Eluru and Bobbili Assembly Constituencies, respectively, resigned from the State Legislative Assembly.

Assembly Bye-election Results: Bye-elections to 18 Assembly Constituencies were held on 12 June 2012. The results were announced

on 15 June 2012. The YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) won 15 seats, the INC secured 2 seats while 1 seat went to TRS. The winners are: Shri Charmana Krishna Das, (Narsannapeta); Babu Rao Golla, (Payakaraopet); Tellam Bala Raju (Polavaram); Mekathoti Sucharitha, (Prathipadu); Ramakrishna Reddy Pinnelli, (Macherla); Balineni Srinivasa Reddy (Vasu), (Ongole); Mekapati Chandra Sekhar Reddy, (Udayagiri); Amaranath Reddy Akepati, (Rajampet); Koramutla Sreenivasulu, (Kodur); Gadikota Srikanth Reddy, (Rayachoti); Bhuma Shobha Nagi Reddy, (Allagadda); K. Chenna Kesava Reddy, (Yemmiganur); Kapu Ramachandra Reddy, (Rayadurg); Bodimalla Gurunatha Reddy, (Anantapur Urban); and Bhumana Karunakar Reddy, (Tirupati), all from the YSR Congress Party; Shri Thota Trimurthulu, (Ramachandrapuram) and Kothapalli Subbarayudu (Pedababu), (Narasapuram), both from INC; and Shri Moluguri Bikshapathi, (Parkal) of the Telangana Rashtra Samithi (TRS).

GOA

New Governor: On 27 April 2012, Shri B.V. Wanchoo was appointed as the Governor of Goa. He was sworn in on 4 May 2012.

Assembly Bye-election Result: On 20 May 2012, Smt. Alina Saldanha of the BJP won the bye-election from Cortalim Assembly Constituency unopposed. She was the lone candidate for the seat.

Expansion of Cabinet: On 8 June 2012, Smt. Alina Saldanha was sworn in as the Cabinet Minister (Environment and Forest).

JHARKHAND

Assembly Bye-election Result: On 15 June 2012, Shri Navin Jaiswal of the All Jharkhand Students Union (AJSU) was declared elected from Hatia Assembly Constituency, bye-election to which was held on 12 June 2012.

KERALA

Assembly Bye-election Result: On 15 June 2012, Shri R. Selvaraj of the INC was declared elected from Neyyattinkara Assembly Constituency, bye-election to which was held on 2 June 2012.

MADHYA PRADESH

Assembly Bye-election Result: On 15 June 2012, Shri M. Rajkumar of the BJP was declared elected from Maheshwar Assembly Constituency, bye-election to which was held on 12 June 2012.

MAHARASHATRA

Assembly Bye-election Result: On 15 June 2012, Shri Prathviraj *alias* Roman Shivajirao Sathe of the NCP was declared elected from Kaij Assembly Constituency, bye-election to which was held on 12 June 2012.

ODISHA

Political Developments: On 1 June 2012, the Chief Minister, Shri Naveen Patnaik removed the Women and Child Development Minister, Smt. Anjali Behera and the Commerce and Transport Minister, Shri Sanjeeb Kumar Sahoo from the Council of Ministers.

On the same day, the Chief Minister, Shri Naveen Patnaik suspended two BJD MLAs-Sarvashri Prabhat Biswal and Bibhuti Balabantray for anti-party activities.

On 4 June 2012, the Chief Minister removed the Housing and Urban Development Minister, Shri Sarda Prasad Nayak from the Council of Ministers.

Change of Party: On 5 June 2012, all the four Nationalist Congress Party MLAs in the State Legislative Assembly joined the BJD. They are: Sarvashri Amar Prasad Satpathy, Prashant Nanda, Nabin Nanda and Ramachandra Hansda.

PUNJAB

Death of BJP MLA: On 3 June 2012, Shri Amarjit Singh Sahi, BJP MLA from Dasuya constituency died following a cardiac arrest.

RAJASTHAN

New Governor: On 27 April 2012, Uttarakhand Governor, Smt. Margaret Alva was appointed as the Governor of Rajasthan. She was sworn in on 12 May 2012.

TAMIL NADU

Death of MLA: On 1 April 2012, Shri S.P. Muthukumaran, a Communist Party of India (CPI) MLA was killed in a road accident on Pudukottai-Annavasal road.

Assembly Bye-election Result: On 15 June 2012, Shri Karthik Thondaiman of the All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (AIADMK) was declared elected from Pudukottai Assembly Constituency, bye-election to which was held on 12 June 2012.

TRIPURA

Assembly Bye-election Result: On 15 June 2012, Shri Tapan Chandra Das of the CPI(M) was declared elected from Nalchar Assembly Constituency, bye-election to which was held on 12 June 2012.

UTTARAKHAND

Portfolios allocated: On 1 April 2012, the Chief Minister, Shri Vijay Bahuguna allocated portfolios to his Council of Ministers.

The names of the Ministers with their portfolios is as follows*: Shri Vijay Bahuguna, Chief Minister, *Suraj, Corruption Alleviation and Public Service, Gopan, Personnel, Home, Law, GAD, Housing, Excise, Energy, PWD, Estate, Information, Forest, Wild Life and Environment, Higher Education, Technical Education, Industrial Development, Re-Organization and Agriculture Education and the Department/Subject which are not allocated to any Cabinet Minister;* Dr. Indira Hridayesh, *Finance, Legislative Affairs, Vidhai, Election, Census, Language and Protocol;* Sarvashri Yashpal Arya, *Revenue, Land Management, Disaster Management and Rehabilitation, Irrigation, RES, Flood Control, Watershed Management and Co-Operatives;* Surinder Singh Negi, *Medical and Health, Ayush and Ayush Education, Science and Technology, Bio-Technology, Sugarcane Development and Sugar Industries;* Pritam Singh, *Food and Civil Supplies, Minor Irrigation, Rural Development and Panchayati Raj;* Smt. Amrita Rawat, *Tourism, Horticulture, Culture, Women Empowerment and Child Welfare and Renewable Energy;* Sarvashri Dinesh Agarwal, *Planning, Information Technology, Sports and Youth Welfare;* Harak Singh Rawat, *Agriculture, Medical Education and Soldier Welfare;* Mantriprasad Naithani, *Agriculture Marketing, School Education, Adult Education, Sanskrit Education and Drinking Water;* Pritam Singh Panwar, *Urban Development, Urban Employment, Animal Husbandry, Fisheries, Fruit Industry, Civil Defence and Home Guards and Prisons;* Harish Chandra Durgapal, *Labour, Employment, Small Scale Industries, Khadi and Village Industries and Dairy Development;* and Surendra Rakesh, *Social Welfare and Transport.*

New Governor: On 27 April 2012, Shri Aziz Qureshi, was appointed as the Governor of Uttarakhand. He was sworn in on 15 May 2012.

Resignation of BJP MLA: On 23 May 2012, Shri Kiran Mandal,

* As on 7 September 2012

a BJP MLA from Sitarganj resigned from the State Legislative Assembly. His resignation was accepted.

UTTAR PRADESH

New Speaker: On 13 April 2012, Shri Mata Prasad Pandey was unanimously elected as the Speaker of the Sixteenth State Legislative Assembly.

Legislative Council Election Results: On 19 April 2012, the following 13 were declared elected unopposed to the State Legislative Council. The winners are: Shri Akhilesh Yadav, Ambika Chaudhary, Madhu Gupta, Naresh Chand Uttam, Ram Sakal Gurjar, Vijay Yadav, Rajendra Chaudhary and Omer Ali Khan, all of the SP; Thakur Jaiveer Singh, Sunil Kumar and Vijay Pratap all of the BSP; Chaudhary Mushtaq (INC-Rashtriya Lok Dal); and Mahendra Singh of the BJP.

Assembly Bye-election Result: On 15 June 2012, Shri Shyam Sunder Sharma of the AITC was declared elected from Mant Assembly Constituency, bye-election to which was held on 12 June 2012.

WEST BENGAL

Assembly Bye-election Results: On 15 June 2012, Smt. Mamata Bhunia and Smt. Minati Mishra, both of the AITC were declared elected from Daspur and Bankura Assembly Constituencies, bye-elections to which were held on 12 June 2012.

EVENTS ABROAD

ALGERIA

Legislative Elections: The elections to the 462-seat National Assembly (the lower chamber of the bicameral legislature) were held on 10 May 2012. The party position following the elections is as follows: National Liberation Front: 221; National Democratic Rally: 70; Green Algeria Alliance: 47; Front of Socialist Forces: 21; Workers' Party: 17; Algerian National Front: 9; Justice and Development Party: 7; Algerian Popular Movement: 6; New Dawn: 5; Front of Change: 4; National Party for Solidarity and Development: 4; National Front for Social Justice: 3; Ahd 54: 3; Union of Democratic and Social Forces: 3; National Republican Alliance: 3; Future Front (El-Moustakbal): 2; Dignity Party (El-Karama): 2; National Movement of Hope: 2; Algerian Rally: 2; Movement of Free Citizens: 2; Republican Patriotic Rally: 2; Party of Youth: 2; Algerian Light Party: 2; Other Parties: 7; and Independents: 19.

ARMENIA

Legislative Elections: The elections to the 131-seat National Assembly (the unicameral legislature) were held on 6 May 2012. The party position following the elections is as follows: Republican Party of Armenia: 70; Prosperous Armenia Party: 36; Armenian National Congress: 7; Country of Law Party: 6; Armenian Revolutionary Federation: 5; Heritage Party: 5; and Others: 2.

BAHAMAS

Legislative Elections: The elections to the 38-seat House of Assembly (the lower house of Parliament, the bicameral legislature) were held on 7 May 2012. The Progressive Liberal Party secured 29 seats while the Free National Movement won 9 seats.

CONGO

New Prime Minister: On 18 April 2012, the President, Mr. Joseph Kabila appointed Mr. Matata Ponyo Mapon as the Prime Minister.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

New President: Mr. Danilo Medina was declared elected as the President in the elections held to the office on 20 May 2012.

EAST TIMOR

New President: On 23 April 2012, Mr. Taur Matan Ruak was declared elected as the President of East Timor. He was sworn in on 20 May 2012 for a five-year term.

FRANCE

New President: On 6 May 2012, following the second round of Presidential elections, Mr. François Hollande of the Socialist Party was declared elected as the President.

GREECE

Legislative Elections: The elections to the 300-seat *Vouli* (the unicameral federal legislature) were held on 6 May 2012. The party position following the elections is as follows: New Democracy: 108; Coalition of the Radical Left: 52; Panhellenic Socialist Movement: 41; Independent Greeks: 33; Communist Party of Greece: 26; Golden Dawn: 21; and Democratic Left: 19.

HAITI

New Prime Minister: On 10 April 2012, the Senate (the upper chamber of the National Assembly, the bicameral legislature) approved Mr. Laurent Lamothe as the new Prime Minister.

On 4 May 2012, the Chamber of Deputies (the lower chamber of Congress, the bicameral legislature) approved the President, Mr. Michel Martelly's nomination of Foreign Affairs and Culture Minister, Mr. Laurent Lamothe as the new Prime Minister.

HUNGARY

Resignation of President: On 2 April 2012, the President, Mr. Pal Schmitt, resigned from his post. Mr. Laszlo Kover, the President of the National Assembly (the unicameral legislature), was named as acting president.

New President: On 2 May 2012, the 386-seat National Assembly (the unicameral legislature) by 262 votes to 40, elected Mr. Janos Ader as the new President.

JORDAN

Resignation of Prime Minister: On 26 April 2012, the Prime Minister, Mr. Awn Khasawneh resigned from his post.

New Prime Minister: On 2 May 2012, a new Government headed by the Prime Minister, Mr. Fayez Tarawneh was sworn in by the King Abdullah II.

LESOTHO

Legislative Elections: The elections to the 120-seat National Assembly (the unicameral legislature) were held on 26 May 2012. The party position following the elections is as follows: Democratic Congress: 48; All Basotho Convention: 30; Lesotho Congress for Democracy: 26; Basotho National Party: 5; Popular Front for Democracy: 3; National Independent Party: 2; Lesotho People's Congress: 1; Basotho Democratic National Party: 1; Marematlou Freedom Party: 1; Basotho Congress Party: 1; Basotho Batho Democratic Party: 1; and Lesotho Worker's Party: 1.

MALAWI

Death of President: On 5 April 2012, the President Mr. Bingu wa Mutharika died. The Vice President, Ms. Joyce Banda, was sworn in as the new President.

MALI

Interim President: On 7 April 2012, the leader of the National Assembly (the unicameral legislature), Mr. Dioncounda Traore was appointed as the interim President.

RUSSIA

President Sworn in: On 7 May 2012, Mr. Vladimir Putin was sworn in as the President for a third term.

SENEGAL

President Sworn in: On 2 April 2012, Mr. Macky Sall was sworn in as the President for a seven year term.

SERBIA

Resignation of President: On 4 April 2012, Mr. Boris Tadic resigned as the President.

New President: The elections to the office of President were held in two rounds of polling on 6 and 20 May 2012. Mr. Tomislav Nikolic was declared elected as the President and sworn in for a five year term on 31 May 2012.

Legislative Elections: The elections to the 250-seat National Assembly (the unicameral legislature) were held in on 6 May 2012. The party position following the elections is as follows: Let's Get Serbia Moving: 73; Choice for a Better Life: 67; Socialist Party of Serbia Alliance: 44; Democratic Party of Serbia: 21; Liberal Democratic Party Alliance (Turnover): 19; United Regions of Serbia: 16; Alliance of Vojvodina Hungarians: 5; Party of Democratic Action of Sandzak: 2; All Together Alliance: 1; None of the Above: 1; and Albanian Coalition of Presevo Valley: 1.

SOUTH KOREA

Legislative Elections: The elections to the 300-seat National Assembly were held on 13 April 2012. The party position following the elections is as follows: Saenuri (New Frontier) Party: 152; Democratic United Party: 127; Unified Progressive Party: 13; Liberty Forward Party: 5; and Independents: 3.

DOCUMENTS OF CONSTITUTIONAL AND PARLIAMENTARY INTEREST

The Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order (Amendment) Act, 2012: Clause (25) of article 366 of the Constitution defines “Scheduled Tribes” which means such tribes or tribal communities or parts of or groups within such tribes or tribal communities as are deemed under article 342 to be Scheduled Tribes for the purposes of this Constitution.

Article 342 of the Constitution provides that—(1) the President may with respect to any State or Union territory, and where it is a State, after consultation with the Governor thereof, by public notification, specify the tribes or tribal communities or parts of or groups within tribes or tribal communities which shall for the purposes of this Constitution be deemed to be Scheduled Tribes in relation to that State or Union territory, as the case may be. (2) Parliament may by law include in or exclude from the list of Scheduled Tribes specified in a notification issued under clause (1) any tribe or tribal community or part of or group within any tribe or tribal community, but save as aforesaid a notification issued under the said clause shall not be varied by any subsequent notification.

In view of the above constitutional provisions, the first list of Scheduled Tribes in Karnataka was notified through the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order, 1950. It had further been modified through the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Orders (Amendment) Act, 1956, the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Lists (Modification) Order, 1956, the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Orders (Amendment) Act, 1976, the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order (Second Amendment) Act, 1991 and the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Orders (Amendment) Act, 2002.

At present, there are 50 communities appearing in the list of Scheduled Tribes in the State of Karnataka. To fulfil the long standing demand for considering the grant of Scheduled Tribes Status to the “Medara” community in the State of Karnataka, it was proposed, on the recommendation of the State of Karnataka, to amend the entry at Serial No. 37 occurring under Part VI, relating to Karnataka of the Schedule to the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order, 1950 and insert the ‘Medara’ community after the community “Meda” Scheduled Tribes of Karnataka.

The Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order (Amendment) Bill, 2012 which sought to achieve the above-mentioned objectives was passed by the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha on 15 May and 21 May 2012, respectively. The President assented to it on 31 May 2012. [The Bill was introduced as the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order (Second Amendment) Bill, 2011. The short title of the Bill was changed to the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order (Amendment) Bill, 2012 by the Lok Sabha through an amendment to Clause 1].

The North-Eastern Areas (Reorganisation) and Other Related Laws (Amendment) Act, 2012: The North-Eastern Areas (Reorganisation) Act, 1971 was enacted with a view to provide for the establishment of the States of Manipur and Tripura and to provide for the formation of the State of Meghalaya and of the Union territories of Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh by reorganisation of the existing State of Assam and for matters connected therewith.

Clause (b) of sub-section (1) of section 28 of the aforesaid Act provided that there shall be a common High Court for the States of Assam, Nagaland, Meghalaya, Manipur and Tripura to be called the Gauhati High Court (the High Court of Assam, Nagaland, Meghalaya, Manipur and Tripura). Subsequently, under sub-section (1) of section 15 of the State of Mizoram Act, 1986 and sub-section (1) of section 18 of the State of Arunachal Pradesh Act, 1986, the Gauhati High Court also became the common High Court for the States of Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh (the High Court of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland and Tripura).

On 9 February 1987, it was decided by the Central Government that separate High Courts for each of the States of the North-Eastern Region *viz.* Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland and Tripura (after Arunachal Pradesh and Mizoram attained Statehood) may be established. It was also decided that requisite Parliamentary legislation for this purpose may be brought in the Parliament. Pending the enactment of the legislation, the Central Government approved the setting up of permanent Benches of the Gauhati High Court in each of the aforesaid States of the North-Eastern Region.

In pursuance of the above decision, permanent Benches of the Gauhati High Court were set up in Manipur at Imphal with effect from 21 January 1992, in Meghalaya at Shillong with effect from 4 February 1998 and in Tripura at Agartala with effect from 16 May 1992. Separate High Courts for each of the States of the North-Eastern Region could not be established as the State Governments concerned could not provide High Court buildings and related infrastructure to the satisfaction of the Chief Justice of the Gauhati High Court. As the new buildings for the High Courts, housing and other infrastructural facilities were now ready, the Governments of Meghalaya, Manipur and Tripura had been requesting for establishment of separate High Courts at their respective State Capitals.

The North-Eastern Areas (Reorganisation) Act, 1971 was proposed to be amended with the object of setting up separate High Courts for the States of Manipur, Meghalaya and Tripura, instead of the Gauhati High Court being the common High Court, in their respective State Capitals at Imphal, Shillong and Agartala, respectively, to address and to provide easy access, speedy and cost effective justice for the people of those States and also to make the consequential amendments in other related laws.

The North-Eastern Areas (Reorganisation) and Other Related Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2012 which sought to achieve the above-mentioned objectives was passed by the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha on 11 and 16 May 2012, respectively. The President assented to it on 4 June 2012.

We reproduce here the texts of the above Acts.

—Editor

**THE CONSTITUTION (SCHEDULED TRIBES) ORDER
(AMENDMENT) ACT, 2012**

An Act further to amend the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order, 1950 to modify the list of Scheduled Tribes in the State of Karnataka.

BE it enacted by Parliament in the Sixty-third Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

1. *Short title:* This Act may be called the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order (Amendment) Act, 2012.

2. *Amendment of Part VI of Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Orders, 1950.* In the Schedule to the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order, 1950 in C.O.22. Part VI.—*Karnataka*, in entry 37, after “Meda”, insert, “Medara.”

**THE NORTH-EASTERN AREAS (REORGANISATION) AND OTHER
RELATED LAWS (AMENDMENT) ACT, 2012**

An Act further to amend the North-Eastern Areas (Reorganisation) Act, 1971 and Other Related Laws.

BE it enacted by Parliament in the Sixty-third Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

CHAPTER I

PRELIMINARY

1. *Short title and commencement.*—(1) This Act may be called the North-Eastern Areas (Reorganisation) and Other Related Laws (Amendment) Act, 2012.

(2) It shall come into force on such date as the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, appoint.

CHAPTER II

*AMENDMENTS TO THE NORTH-EASTERN AREAS
(REORGANISATION) ACT, 1971*

2. *Amendment of section 2.*—In section 2 of the North-Eastern Areas (Reorganisation) Act, 1971 (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act), in clause (d), the following proviso shall be inserted, namely:—

‘Provided that on and from the commencement of the North-Eastern Areas (Reorganisation) and Other Related Laws (Amendment) Act, 2012, the provisions of this clause shall

have effect as if for the brackets and words “(Assam, Nagaland, Meghalaya, Manipur and Tripura)”, the brackets and words “(Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram and Nagaland)” had been substituted.’.

3. Amendment of section 28.—In section 28 of the principal Act, in sub-section (1), the following proviso shall be inserted, namely:—

“Provided that on and from the commencement of the North-Eastern Areas (Reorganisation) and Other Related Laws (Amendment) Act, 2012, the common High Court shall be the High Court for the States of Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram and Nagaland and shall cease to have its jurisdiction, powers and authority for the States of Meghalaya, Manipur and Tripura.”.

4. Insertion of new sections 28A to 28K.—After section 28 of the principal Act, the following sections shall be inserted, namely:—

“28A. Establishment of separate High Courts for the States of Meghalaya, Manipur and Tripura.—(1) On and from the commencement of the North-Eastern Areas (Reorganisation) and Other Related Laws (Amendment) Act, 2012, there shall be a High Court—

- (a) for the State of Meghalaya to be called the High Court of Meghalaya;
- (b) for the State of Manipur to be called the High Court of Manipur;
- (c) for the State of Tripura to be called the High Court of Tripura.

(2) The principal seat of the High Court of Meghalaya, the High Court of Manipur and the High Court of Tripura shall respectively be at such place as the President may, by notified order, appoint.

(3) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-section (2), the Judges and division courts of the High Court of Meghalaya, the High Court of Manipur and the High Court of Tripura may sit at such other place or places in the States of Meghalaya, Manipur and Tripura respectively, other than their principal seat as the Chief Justice of the respective High Court may, with the approval of the Governor of the State concerned, appoint.

28B. Judges of High Courts of Meghalaya, Manipur and Tripura.—

(1) Such of the Judges of the common High Court holding office immediately before the commencement of the North-

Eastern Areas (Reorganisation) and Other Related Laws (Amendment) Act, 2012 as may be determined by the President after ascertaining their option shall, on such commencement, cease to be the Judges of the common High Court and become a Judge of the High Court of Meghalaya or the High Court of Manipur or the High Court of Tripura, as the case may be.

(2) Every person who by virtue of sub-section (1) become a Judge of the High Court of Meghalaya or the High Court of Manipur or the High Court of Tripura shall, except in the case where any such person is appointed to be the Chief Justice of any of those High Courts, rank in the respective High Court according to the priority of their respective appointments as Judges of the common High Court.

28C. *Jurisdiction of High Courts of Meghalaya, Manipur and Tripura.*—The High Court of Meghalaya, the High Court of Manipur and the High Court of Tripura shall have, in respect of any part of the territories included in the State of Meghalaya, the State of Manipur and the State of Tripura respectively, all such jurisdiction, powers and authority as, under the law in force immediately before the commencement of the North-Eastern Areas (Reorganisation) and Other Related Laws (Amendment) Act, 2012, are exercisable in respect of that part of the said territories by the common High Court.

28D. *Custody of seal of High Courts of Meghalaya, Manipur and Tripura.*—The law in force immediately before the commencement of the North-Eastern Areas (Reorganisation) and Other Related Laws (Amendment) Act, 2012 with respect to the custody of the seal of the common High Court shall, with the necessary modifications, apply with respect to the custody of the seal of the High Court of Meghalaya, the High Court of Manipur and the High Court of Tripura, as the case may be.

28E. *Practice and procedure in the High Courts of Meghalaya, Manipur and Tripura.*—The law in force immediately before the commencement of the North-Eastern Areas (Reorganisation) and Other Related Laws (Amendment) Act, 2012 with respect to practice and procedure in the common High Court shall, with necessary modifications, apply in relation to the High Court of Meghalaya, the High Court of Manipur and the High Court of Tripura, and accordingly, the High Court of Meghalaya, the High Court of Manipur and the High Court of Tripura shall, respectively, have all such powers to make rules and orders with respect to practice and procedure as are immediately before the commencement of the North-Eastern Areas

(Reorganisation) and Other Related Laws (Amendment) Act, 2012 exercisable by the common High Court:

Provided that any rules or orders which are in force immediately before the commencement of the North-Eastern Areas (Reorganisation) and Other Related Laws (Amendment) Act, 2012 with respect to the practice and procedure in the common High Court shall, until varied or revoked by rules or orders made by the High Court of Meghalaya or the High Court of Manipur or the High Court of Tripura, as the case may be, apply with the necessary modifications in relation to the practice and procedure in the High Court of Meghalaya, the High Court of Manipur and the High Court of Tripura respectively, as if such rules or orders were made by the respective High Court.

28F. *Forms of writs and other Processes.*—The law in force immediately before the commencement of the North-Eastern Areas (Reorganisation) and Other Related Laws (Amendment) Act, 2012 with respect to the form of writs and other processes used, issued or awarded by the common High Court shall, with the necessary modifications, apply with respect to the form of writs and other processes used, issued or awarded by the High Court of Meghalaya, the High Court of Manipur and the High Court of Tripura.

28G. *Powers of Judges.*—The law in force immediately before the commencement of the North-Eastern Areas (Reorganisation) and Other Related Laws (Amendment) Act, 2012 relating to the powers of the Chief Justice, Single Judges and division courts of the common High Court and with respect to all matters ancillary to the exercise of those powers shall, with the necessary modifications, apply in relation to the High Court of Meghalaya, the High Court of Manipur and the High Court of Tripura.

28H. *Procedure as to appeals to Supreme Court.*—The law in force immediately before the commencement of the North-Eastern Areas (Reorganisation) and Other Related Laws (Amendment) Act, 2012 relating to appeals to the Supreme Court from the common High Court and the Judges and division courts thereof shall, with the necessary modifications, apply in relation to the High Courts of Meghalaya, Manipur and Tripura.

28-I. *Transfer of proceedings from common High Court to the High Courts of Meghalaya, Manipur and Tripura.*—(1) Except as hereinafter provided, the common High Court shall, as from the commencement of the North-Eastern Areas (Reorganisation)

and Other Related Laws (Amendment) Act, 2012, have no jurisdiction in respect of the States of Meghalaya, Manipur and Tripura.

(2) Such proceedings pending in the common High Court immediately before the commencement of the North-Eastern Areas (Reorganisation) and Other Related Laws (Amendment) Act, 2012 as are certified, whether before or after that day, by the Chief Justice of that High Court, having regard to the place of accrual of the cause of action and other circumstances to be proceedings which ought to be heard and decided by the High Court of Meghalaya or the High Court of Manipur or the High Court of Tripura, as the case may be, shall, as soon as may be after such certification, be transferred to the High Court of Meghalaya or the High Court of Manipur or the High Court of Tripura, as the case may be.

(3) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-sections (1) and (2) or in section 28A, but save as hereinafter provided, the common High Court shall have, and the High Court of Meghalaya, the High Court of Manipur and the High Court of Tripura shall not have, jurisdiction to entertain, hear or dispose of appeals, applications for leave to the Supreme Court, applications for review and other proceedings where any such proceedings seek any relief in respect of any order passed by the common High Court before the commencement of the North-Eastern Areas (Reorganisation) and Other Related Laws (Amendment) Act, 2012:

Provided that if after any such proceedings have been entertained by the common High Court, it appears to the Chief Justice of that High Court that they ought to be transferred to the High Court of Meghalaya or the High Court of Manipur or the High Court of Tripura, he shall order that they shall be so transferred, and such proceedings shall thereupon be transferred accordingly.

(4) *Any order made by the common High Court.—*

- (a) before the commencement of the North-Eastern Areas (Reorganisation) and Other Related Laws (Amendment) Act, 2012, in any proceedings transferred to the High Court of Meghalaya, or the High Court of Manipur or the High Court of Tripura by virtue of sub-section (2); or
- (b) in any proceeding with respect to which the common High Court retains jurisdiction by virtue of sub-section (3),

shall, for all purposes, have effect, not only as an order of the common High Court but also as an order made by the High Court of Meghalaya, or the High Court of Manipur or the High Court of Tripura, as the case may be.

28J. Interpretation.—For the purposes of section 28H,—

- (a) proceedings shall be deemed to be pending in a Court until that Court has disposed of all issues between the parties, including any issue with respect to the taxation of the costs of the proceedings and shall include appeals, applications for leave to appeal to the Supreme Court, applications for review, petitions for revision and petitions for writs; and
- (b) references to a High Court shall be construed as including references to a Judge or division Court thereof, and references to an order made by a Court or a Judge shall be construed as including references to a sentence, judgment or decree passed or made by that Court or Judge.

28K. Saving.—Nothing in sections 28A to 28J (both inclusive) shall affect the application to the High Court of Meghalaya, the High Court of Manipur and the High Court of Tripura of any provisions of the Constitution, and the provisions of these sections shall have effect subject to any provision that may be made on or after the commencement of the North-Eastern Areas (Reorganisation) and Other Related Laws (Amendment) Act, 2012 with respect to the respective High Court by any Legislature or other authority having power to make such provisions.”.

5. Amendment of section 31.—In section 31 of the principal Act, in sub-section (3), for the words “Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland or Tripura”, the words “Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram or Nagaland” shall be substituted.

6. Amendment of section 32.—In section 32 of the principal Act, the following proviso shall be inserted, namely:—

“Provided that on and from the commencement of the North-Eastern Areas (Reorganisation) and Other Related Laws (Amendment) Act, 2012, the provisions of this section shall cease to have effect.”.

7. Amendment of section 33.—In section 33 of the principal Act, for the words “Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland and Tripura”, the words “Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram and Nagaland” shall be substituted.

8. *Insertion of new section 87A.*—After section 87 of the principal Act, the following section shall be inserted, namely:—

“**87A. Power to remove difficulties.**—(1) If any difficulty arises in giving effect to the provisions of this Act, as amended by the North-Eastern Areas (Reorganisation) and Other Related Laws (Amendment) Act, 2012, the Central Government may, by order published in the Official Gazette, make such provisions not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, as may appear to be necessary for removing the difficulty:

Provided that no such order shall be made under this section after the expiry of a period of two years from the commencement of the North-Eastern Areas (Reorganisation) and Other Related Laws (Amendment) Act, 2012.

(2) Every order made under this section shall be laid before each House of Parliament.”.

CHAPTER III

AMENDMENTS TO THE ADVOCATES ACT, 1961 AND SPECIAL PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE BAR COUNCIL AND ADVOCATES

9. *Amendment of section 3.*—On and from the commencement of the North-Eastern Areas (Reorganisation) and Other Related Laws (Amendment) Act, 2012, in section 3 of the Advocates Act, 1961,—

(A) in sub-section (1),—

(i) in clause (a), for the words “and Uttaranchal”, the words “Uttarakhand, Meghalaya, Manipur and Tripura” shall be substituted;

(ii) for clause (b), the following clause shall be substituted, namely:—

“(b) for the States of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Mizoram and Nagaland to be known as the Bar Council of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Mizoram and Nagaland;”;

(B) in sub-section (2), for the words “in the case of the State Bar Council of Assam, Nagaland, Meghalaya, Manipur and Tripura, the Advocate-General of each of the States of Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland and Tripura”, the words “in the case of the State Bar Council of Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram and Nagaland, the Advocate-General of each of the States of Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram and Nagaland” shall be substituted.

10. *Special provision relating to Bar Councils and advocates.—*

(1) Any person who immediately before the commencement of the North-Eastern Areas (Reorganisation) and Other Related Laws (Amendment) Act, 2012 is an advocate on the roll of the Bar Council of the States of Assam, Nagaland, Meghalaya, Manipur and Tripura may give his option in writing, within one year from the commencement of the North-Eastern Areas (Reorganisation) and Other Related Laws (Amendment) Act, 2012 to the Bar Council of such State, to transfer his name on the roll of the Bar Council of any one State among the States of Meghalaya, Manipur and Tripura and notwithstanding anything contained in the Advocates Act, 1961 and the rules made thereunder, upon such option so given his name shall be deemed to have been transferred on the roll of the Bar Council of such State with effect from the date of the option so given for the purposes of the said Act and the rules made thereunder.

(2) The persons other than the advocates who are entitled immediately before the commencement of the North-Eastern Areas (Reorganisation) and Other Related Laws (Amendment) Act, 2012, to practise in the common High Court or any subordinate Court thereof shall, on and after the commencement of the North-Eastern Areas (Reorganisation) and Other Related Laws (Amendment) Act, 2012, be recognised as such persons entitled also to practise in the High Court of Meghalaya, the High Court of Manipur and the High Court of Tripura or any subordinate Court thereof, as the case may be.

(3) The right of audience in the High Court of Meghalaya, the High Court of Manipur and the High Court of Tripura shall be regulated in accordance with the like principles as immediately before the commencement of the North-Eastern Areas (Reorganisation) and Other Related Laws (Amendment) Act, 2012 are in force with respect to the right of audience in the common High Court.

11. *Right to appear or to act in proceedings transferred to High Courts of Meghalaya, Manipur and Tripura.—*Any person who, immediately before the commencement of the North-Eastern Areas (Reorganisation) and Other Related Laws (Amendment) Act, 2012, is an advocate entitled to practise or any other person entitled to practise in the common High Court and was authorised to appear in any proceedings transferred from that High Court to the High Court of Meghalaya or the High Court of Manipur or the High Court of Tripura under section 28-I of the North-Eastern Areas (Reorganisation) Act, 1971 shall have the right to appear in the High Court of Meghalaya, or the High Court of

Manipur or the High Court of Tripura, as the case may be, in relation to those proceedings.

CHAPTER IV

AMENDMENT OF THE STATE OF MIZORAM ACT, 1986

12. *Amendment of Act 34 of 1986.*—After section 26 of the State of Mizoram Act, 1986, the following section shall be inserted, namely:—

“26A. *Non-applicability of this Part to the States of Meghalaya, Manipur and Tripura.*—On and from the date of commencement of the North-Eastern Areas (Reorganisation) and Other Related Laws (Amendment) Act, 2012, the provisions of sections 15 to 26 (both inclusive) shall not apply to the States of Meghalaya, Manipur and Tripura.”.

CHAPTER V

AMENDMENT OF THE STATE OF ARUNACHAL PRADESH ACT, 1986

13. *Amendment of Act 69 of 1986.*—After section 28 of the State of Arunachal Pradesh Act, 1986, the following section shall be inserted, namely:—

“28A. *Non-applicability of this Part to the States of Meghalaya, Manipur and Tripura.*—On and from the date of commencement of the North-Eastern Areas (Reorganisation) and Other Related Laws (Amendment) Act, 2012, the provisions of sections 18 to 29 (both inclusive) shall not apply to the States of Meghalaya, Manipur and Tripura.”.

SESSIONAL REVIEW

FIFTEENTH LOK SABHA

TENTH SESSION

The second-half of the Tenth Session of the Fifteenth Lok Sabha commenced on 24 April 2012 and adjourned *sine-die* on 22 May 2012. Twenty sittings were held during this period. A resume of some of the important discussions held and other business transacted during the period 24 April 2012 to 22 May 2012 is given below*:

A. DISCUSSIONS / STATEMENTS

Special sitting to commemorate the 60th Anniversary of the first sitting of Parliament: A special sitting was held on Sunday, 13 May 2012 to commemorate the 60th Anniversary of the First sitting of the Parliament of India. Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar addressed the House from Chair under Rule 360 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha. The House discussed the topic "Sixty Years of Journey of Indian Parliament". The discussion lasted for about 5 hours 35 minutes in which 41 Members participated and 132 members laid their written speeches.

Initiating the discussion, the Minister of Finance, Shri Pranab Mukherjee** said the story of Indian democracy is unique. Sixty years

* The resume of the First part of the Session was included in the June 2012 issue of the Journal of Parliamentary Information.

** Those who participated in the discussion were: Sarvashri Sharad Yadav, Shailendra Kumar, Arjun Ram Meghwal, Lalubhai Babubhai Patel, T.K.S Elangovan, Dr. Kirit Premjibhai Solanki, Tapas Paul, Shivkumar Udasi, Dr. Sanjay Jaiswal, K.P. Dhanapalan, Bhartruhari Mahtab, Ganesh Singh, Lalit Mohan Suklabaidya, P.T. Thomas, Nathubhai Gomanbhai Patel, N. Peethambara Kurup, Adhir Chowdhury, Bhakta Charan Das, Sanjay Singh Chauhan, Harin Pathak, C. Sivasami, Paban Singh Ghatowar, Sajjan Verma, Radha Mohan Singh, Mahendrasinh P. Chauhan, Tara Chand Bhagora, S.S. Ramasubbu, Ramsinh Rathwa, Madhusudan Yadav, D. Venugopal, S.D. Shariq, Dinesh Chandra Yadav, P.K. Biju, Naranbhai Kachhadia, Mohan Jena, H.D. Kumaraswamy, Ripendra Nath Roy, N. Cheluvarya Swamy, Jitendra Singh Bundela, P. Viswanathan, Prasanta Kumar Majumdar, Charles Dias, Premdas, Siricilla Rajaiah, O.S. Manian, Nishikant Dubey, Suresh Angadi, Ramashankar Rajbhar, Bhudeo Choudhary, Satpal

are not a very long period in the history of a country, but there have been important landmarks like the 24th Amendment to the Constitution which provides the procedure for Constitution amendment. From 1950 to 1968 everyone believed that Indian Parliament has absolute power to make any law or amend any part of the Constitution. But in the *Keshavanand Bharati case*, the Supreme Court asserted that the basic structure of the Constitution cannot be altered. He appealed to the House to promote debate discussion and dissention, but avoid disruption.

Shri L.K. Advani (BJP) said that India is the only country which is very successfully continuing with its vibrant democracy. The biggest virtue of democracy is the virtue of reconciliation and tolerance towards divergent views. People in India have mutual respect even for those people with whom our ideology differs. We can find a way out to each and every problem through debate and discussion.

Smt. Sonia Gandhi (INC) said that the poor and illiterate masses of this country have turned out to be amazingly skilled and sophisticated. Again and again, they have voted with wisdom and with purpose, sometimes reaffirming their faith in those who govern them, sometimes voting them out. The *aam aadmi* has become the heart and the soul of Indian democracy and is India's greatest triumph. One can say with pride that India's Parliament, elected by the largest electorate in the

Contd. from p. 288

Maharaj, P.C. Chacko, P.L. Punia, Harshvardhan, Kamal Kishor 'Commando', P. Karunakaran, R.K. Singh Patel, K. Jayaprakash Hegde, Arjun Roy, Rajendra Agrawal, Kapil Muni Karwaria, Vishwa Mohan Kumar, Bishma Shankar *alias* Kushal Tiwari, Baidyanath Prasad Mahato, M.K. Raghavan, Inder Singh Namdhari, Gorakhnath Pandey, Shivarama Gouda, Hukmadeo Narayan Yadav, Hassan Khan, Manikrao Hodlya Gavit, C. Rajendran, Suresh Kumar Shetkar, A.T. Nana Patil, P.C. Gaddigoudar, Ram Singh Kaswan, R. Dhruvanarayana, Bhoopendra Singh, Jaswant Singh, Jagdambika Pal, Virendra Kumar, Sanjay Nirupam, Jai Prakash Agarwal, Tufani Saroj, Pralhad Joshi, Om Prakash Yadav, Dilip Kumar Mansukhlal Gandhi, Rewati Raman Singh, Rakesh Sachan, Govind Prasad Mishra, Bibhu Prasad Tarai, Dhananjay Singh, Kaushalendra Kumar, Mahesh Joshi, Ponnam Prabhakar, Ramesh Bais, Vijay Inder Singla, Anto Antony, Bhausahab Rajaram Wakchaure, Prabodh Panda, Kamlesh Paswan, Ghanshyam Anuragi, Anurag Singh Thakur, Mansukhbhai D. Vasava, Smt. Kamla Devi Patle, E.G. Sugavanam, P. Lingam, Dushyant Singh, J.M. Aaron Rashid, Rajaram Pal, G.M. Siddeshwara, Devji M. Patel, Ramen Deka, Haribhau Jawale, Ananth Kumar, Madhu Goud Yaskhi, Danve Raosaheb Patil, Praveen Singh Aron, Gutha Sukhender Reddy, Maheshwar Hazari, Ratan Singh, Sameer Bhujbal, Sk. Saidul Haque, Dr. Vinay Kumar Pandey, Dr. Mirza Mehboob Beg, Dr. Shafiqur Rahman Barq, Dr. Shashi Tharoor, Dr. Thokchom Meinya, Dr. G. Vivekanand, Dr. Rajan Sushant, Dr. Arvind Kumar Sharma, Dr. Ratna De., Smt. Jyoti Dhurve, Smt. Santosh Chowdhary, Smt. Rama Devi, Smt. Jayshreeben Patel, Smt. Sushila Saroj, Smt. Bijoya Chakravarty, Smt. Seema Upadhyay, Smt. Kaiser Jahan, Smt. Darshana Jardosh, Smt. Poonam Veljibhai Jat, Smt. Sumitra Mahajan, Smt. Putul Kumari, Smt. Botcha Jhansi Lakshmi and Km. Saroj Pandey.

world and reflecting the aspirations of some 1.2 billion people, has grown into a great representative political institution.

Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav (SP) said that the country should resolve to realize the dreams of Gandhiji. The students and youth of the country participated in a big way in the 1942 movement and this was the reason that compelled the British to leave our country. Today, we salute these young men. On this occasion, I also salute to all those people who struggled for our independence. The farmers, labourers and poor people of the country should get their due.

Shri Dara Singh Chauhan (BSP) said that the founding fathers of the Constitution of India were of the view that the poor and hapless people of the country should get due representation in the Parliament. But this is not happening. Today, our country needs urgent electoral reforms.

Shri Sudip Bandyopadhyay (AITC) said that Parliament should be a representative, open and transparent, accessible, accountable and effective parliament. Indian democracy should stand for international solidarity and brotherhood throughout the world.

Shri Basu Deb Acharia (CPI-M) said that the gap between the rich and the poor has increased. The Government has not been able to provide 100 per cent shelter. Safe drinking water has also not been provided to the poor people. We must seriously think of the Tribals and the *Dalits* whose conditions have not improved. Another major problem which is corroding Parliamentary democracy is the use of money power in elections. There is a need for electoral reforms. But unless there is State funding of elections, we will not be able to curb the use of the money power.

Shri Arjun Charan Sethi (BJD) said that considering the need for involving people at the grass-root level for inclusive growth, there is a need to expedite the process of devolution of powers to the institutions of local self-Government to make the Panchayati Raj more effective and people-centric.

Shri Anant Gangaram Geete (SS) said that whenever this country has been attacked, has run into crisis or our security has come under threat, Parliament has faced it unitedly. India is divided into various castes, various religions and various languages, but despite that we are one and behind this oneness is our Parliament.

Shri Sharad Pawar (NCP) said that the Parliament has taken a number of good steps and brought so many legislations and shown rare display of unity while safeguarding the interest of the country. He said

that we have not been able to safeguard the interest of the poor sections of the society. Steps must be taken to alleviate poverty, and to protect the interest of our farmers. It is our responsibility to instill faith and confidence in the lowest sections of our country be it the minorities, the dalits or the tribals. A very large chunk of our society is deprived of proper education.

Dr. M. Thambidurai (AIADMK) said that India will become truly independent only after we accord official status to all the languages enshrined in the Eighth Schedule of our Constitution. The role of Parliament is not restricted to enacting laws, but also to act as the watchdog to monitor the implementation of such Acts.

Shri Lalu Prasad (RJD) said that the decision of giving right to vote to the poor and uneducated people of the country was a decisive turn of events in our democracy. This country belongs to all. A deep rooted conspiracy is being hatched in the country to dismantle the democracy and degrade, devalue Parliament.

Shri Nama Nageswara Rao (TDP) said that the country must utilize natural and human resources effectively by formulating productive laws. The immediate tasks to be performed are eradication of poverty, ensuring social justice, fight for the growth of the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Backward Classes, Minorities and farmers.

Shri Gurudas Dasgupta (CPI) said that new forces must emerge and play a significant role in changing and redesigning India in conformity with the dreams of the millions of Indians who had sacrificed their lives for the freedom of the country.

Dr. Rattan Singh Ajnala (SAD) said that the people of this country made supreme sacrifices to throw off the yoke of slavery. Of the over 2600 people who were handed out life imprisonment by the colonial rulers, about 2145 were Sikhs and Punjabis. He said that the country must take good care of its minorities.

Shri Asaduddin Owaisi (AIMIM) said that 15 Lok Sabha elections have been held so far and only 471 Muslims have been elected to this august House; whereas, according to their population, 908 should have been elected. This is the main reason behind Muslims being socially, educationally and economically backward.

Shri Jose K. Mani (KC-M) was of the opinion that Parliament has passed laws that have had far reaching impact on society. But this tool for social engineering is facing internal and external challenges which must be overcome to stay relevant in the present times.

Shri Prem Das Rai (SDF) said that the country's oversight mechanisms must be strengthened and this can be done only by making more concrete contributions in the Standing Committees and other Committees of Parliament.

Shri A. Ganeshamurthi (MDMK) said that we must be open minded, impartial and pragmatic with a definite will to find lasting solutions. This must be our resolve on this sixtieth year celebrations.

Shri Thol Thirumaavalavan (VCK) said that there will be a meaningful democracy only if there is decentralization of power. Shri C.M. Chang (NPF) felt that we must conduct ourselves in a manner that befits an institution of the world's largest democracy. Shri Kuldeep Bishnoi (HJC-BL) said that India is an example of unity in diversity. Everyone should pledge their complete commitment towards the country and democracy. Shri Sansuma Khunggur Bwiswmuthiary (BPF) appealed to the Government of India to take appropriate steps to increase the reservation quota meant for the SCs and STs.

Smt. Sushma Swaraj (BJP) said that the House completed 60 years journey despite all odds. Our social, political and economic thinking have also kept pace with this journey. She also said that women have been given 33 per cent reservation in Panchayats, Municipalities and Municipal Corporations by bringing about 73rd and 74th Amendments in the House but the same could not be implemented in Legislative Assemblies and in the Parliament. She hoped that the 15th Lok Sabha will bring an end to this imbalance in terms of women representation. Despite holding our head high in so many respects in the world, we are still ranked low on several human development parameters.

The Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh said that the Lok Sabha is a true representation of the unique diversity and genius of the Indian people. Its Members come from every region, community, religion and strata of society. This House has voiced the tribulations of ordinary Indians and provided succour to them by enacting laws that translated the social and economic ideals of the nation into practical reality. What the Constitution envisioned, Parliament translated into action.

Statement regarding launch of Radar Imaging Satellite-1 (RISAT-1): Making a statement in the House on 26 April 2012, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions and Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office, Shri V. Narayanasamy informed that India's Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV)-C19 successfully launched the Radar Imaging Satellite-1 (RISAT-1) from Satish Dhawan

Space Centre in Sriharikota at 05.47 AM in the morning. After a flight of 1064.9 seconds, RISAT-1 Satellite was placed into its polar orbit. RISAT-1, India's first indigenously developed Radar Imaging Satellite capable of cloud penetration and day-night imaging, would enable applications in agriculture and in the management of natural disasters like floods and cyclones.

Statement regarding Issue of Persecution of Hindus in some parts of Pakistan: Making Statement in the House on 9 May 2012, The Minister of External Affairs, Shri S.M. Krishna stated that incidents of persecution and intimidation of the minority communities in Pakistan have been reported from time to time. Recently, in separate incidents, three Hindu girls in Sindh province have reportedly been abducted and married against their will to Muslim men after being forcefully converted to Islam. This issue is a matter of concern to the Government and is being taken up appropriately with the Government of Pakistan.

While, the Simla Agreement of 1972 between India and Pakistan specifically provides for non-interference in each other's internal affairs, nevertheless, Government has taken up such matters with the Government of Pakistan in the past.

The Minister informed the House that Government of Pakistan has expressed grave concern on the incidents and has called for implementation of laws to protect the rights of the minorities in the country.

Discussion under Rule 193 regarding need to bring comprehensive policy changes in civil aviation sector due to large scale mismanagement in the affairs of national carrier, i.e. Air India and also some other private carriers and need to look into problems being faced by workforce engaged in civil aviation sector: Shri Gurudas Dasgupta* (CPI) while initiating the discussion on 10 May 2012, said that Air India and Indian Airlines have started incurring losses due to mismanagement and merger of the two airlines. Prior to the merger both the airlines were earning good profit. In 2004-05, Air India made a profit of Rs. 96 crore and the Indian Airlines made a profit of Rs.65 crore. The Public

* Those who participated in the discussion were: Sarvashi Adhir Chowdhury, Syed Shahnawaz Hussain, Shailendra Kumar, Bhisma Shankar *Alias* Kushal Tiwari, P. Karunakaran, Tathagata Satpathy, Sharad Yadav Nishikant Dubey, Sanjay Nirupam, S. Semmalai, Shatrughan Sinha, Kodikkunnil Suresh Nripendra Nath Roy, S.D. Shariq, Ajay Kumar, Madan Lal Sharma, C. Sivasami, Surendra Singh Nagar, Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh and Dr. Ratna De.

Undertakings Committee also says in its latest report that the amalgamation was ill-conceived, whimsical, a marriage of two incompatible individuals. The C&AG report also says that based on available records, it has not been possible ascertain the detailed justification for this merger. Financial care of merger was not adequately validated prior to the merger. The CAG has estimated the loss to be Rs.10,000 crore. The integration has taken place but salary is not the same, the environment is not the same. This is the grievance of the employees and pilots and that is why a section pilots are on strike. The Government should not try to tackle this grievance by taking recourse to termination.

Several profitable domestic routes have been surrendered to private airlines. There are bilateral entitlements of flights to foreign carriers. Emirates have 12 destinations in India but Air India has only one destination to Dubai. Foreign carriers use low cost aviation fuel. The same should be available to Air India. Corruption has taken place at every level. There is a need for a more effective revival policy. Employees should get their due salaries.

Shri Anant Gangaram Geete (Shiv Sena) said that the condition of Air India has turned from bad to worse. The merging of Indian Airlines and Air India has been a blunder. The employees of these companies were not in favour of merger. Air India should progress and earn profit. 118 new aircrafts are being purchased. There is a need to investigate as to why so many aircrafts have been purchased at a time. The financial condition of this company worsened further due to payment of interest on Rs. 38 thousand crores. The company is not able to pay salaries to its employees for six months. The situation should be understood and steps taken to end the strike immediately. Further, private parties are taking the advantage of properties of Airport Authority and this should also be investigated.

Shri Nama Nageswara Rao (TDP) said that an international consultant was hired at the time of merger. 118 aircrafts were purchased in one go. This matter also needs to be investigated. There is 5000-acre land around Delhi Airport. Out of this land, 5 per cent is commercial. There are around 14 hotels being built on the right side of Delhi Airport. A Parliamentary Committee should be constituted to look into merger scam, aircraft purchase scam and the issue of Delhi airport. There is a need to construct airport in Khammam District and upgrade the Vijayawada airport. New connectivity facility should be provided between Chennai and Hyderabad.

Shri Sansuma Khunggur Bwiswmuthiary (BPF) said that even after

65 years of independence, the Government has not set up a domestic airport in the backward, Sixth Schedule area of Kokrajhar. A domestic airport should be developed in Bodoland.

Replying to the discussion, the Minister of Civil Aviation, Shri Ajit Singh said that in 2007, the Government decided to merge the erstwhile Indian Airlines and Air India in order to improve the efficiency, competitiveness and reduce cost and to meet prevailing global challenges by making optimal use of the assets, capabilities, infrastructure and human resources. The biggest problem was that merger was not completed in the stipulated two years because of different working cultures of Air India and Indian Airlines and other factors. In order to address HR issues, the Government constituted a Committee of Experts under the Chairmanship of Justice Dharmadhikari. Air India cannot survive without the cooperation of the employees. The Government has approved the Turn Around Plan and the Financial Restructuring Plan for Air India to bring it out of the financial crisis. The total bail out package will be given over the next eight years.

As regards bilateral agreements, whenever traffic rights under these bilateral agreements are allotted from India, Air India is given first preference. But they do not have the planes and the capacity to utilize those bilateral traffic rights. If it is not given to other Indian carriers, only the foreign carriers will be gaining advantage. The sector has been liberalized and there are many aviation companies in India now. By the time Air India will have the capacity of more planes, traffic will grow and again Air India will be given the first chance. India should be the hub for international traffic. The aviation sector will come on its own when India becomes a hub. An Essential Air Services Fund which will provide direct subsidies to those airlines who want to fly to smaller destinations is being created.

Another issue is regarding the development of the Delhi Airport under the Joint Venture Scheme. The IGI airport in Delhi has been developed through a PPP mode, in which the Airport Authority of India has 26 per cent equity in the joint venture company and the rest is with GMR. With the revenue that they earned, the Airport Authority of India is developing airports in Chennai and Kolkata. As far as land allotment is concerned, land allotted for commercial exploitation was a pre-bid condition. The problem of the Aviation Sector is the high costs. Aviation sector is a very capital intensive industry. Strike is causing a lot of problems. Lots of passengers have been inconvenienced. The whole point is that they called a strike at this time when Rs.30,000 crore has been approved by the Government.

The strike was on four issues. One was, they wanted exclusive right to fly dream-liners. They wanted to fly first class when they are not flying on duty. They wanted arrears immediately. They wanted the required period of 10 years for getting promoted to Commander to be reduced to six years. Air India management agreed to pay the arrears. The management refused their demand for flying first class. About the training aspect, Supreme Court allowed the management to send both erstwhile Air India and Indian Airlines pilots for training. Air India went to the High Court, which declared the strike illegal. Supreme Court's final judgement has not yet come. They could have waited for one or two months till Dharmadhikari Report is out. They may also have some other legitimate grievances. But this kind of a strike is not the answer to solve any grievances. These pilots should obey the law and worry about the passengers and discuss issues threadbare.

The discussion was concluded.

Discussion under Rule 193 regarding the steps taken by the Government to protect the river Ganga from pollution and the Himalayas from ruthless exploitation since the discussion on the subject was last held during the Ninth Session of Current Lok Sabha: Initiating the discussion on 14 May 2012, Shri Rewati Raman Singh* (SP) said: that the River Ganga and the Himalayas are linked with Indian civilization and culture. The Ganga has been declared as a National River and The Ganga River Basin Authority has been constituted. The Government of Uttarakhand intends to destroy this heritage for generation of electricity. Maneri Bhali-1, Maneri Bhali-2 and Tehri Dams are constructed on the river Ganga. The river is drying up and the reservoir of Tehri is polluted. Construction of dams is continuing on tributaries of the Ganga such as Mandakani, Alaknanda, Kali Dholi and Yamuna in the Himalayan region of Uttarakhand. There is a need to constitute a the Himalayan Commission for the Himalayan region and without its permission no construction work should be undertaken there. The total generation of power from all the dams in Uttarakhand will be one percent of the total power

* Those who participated in the discussion were: Sarvashri Rajendra Agrawal, Pradeep Tamta, Bhartruhari Mahtab, R. Thamaraiselvan, Tufani Saroj, Satpal Maharaj, Vijay Bahadur Singh, Sharad Yadav, Arjun Ram Meghwal, Ramesh Bais, Premdas, Ram Singh Kaswan, Anjay Singh Chauhan, Prabodh Panda, P.T. Thomas, Smt. Annu Tandon, S.S. Ramasubbu, Shailendra Kumar, Sushil Kumar Singh, Kapil Muni Karwaria, O.S. Manian, Gorakhnath Pandey Prof. Ranjan Prasad Yadav, Dr. Tarun Mandal, Sk. Saidul Haque, Yogi Aditya Nath, Dr. Ratna De and Smt. Botcha Jhansi Lakshmi.

production in India if all the proposed dams are constructed there. The Ganga and the Himalayas can't be put in jeopardy for generation of one percent electricity.

There are seventy hydropower projects on Bhagirathi and Alaknanda rivers, at various stages of development. Along with them, 34 other dams are being built. These projects will stop the flow of silt in the river and will severely affect agriculture of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. Such projects should not continue.

Shri Lalu Prasad (RJD) said that the river Ganga, which has been declared as the national river is drying up. At the time of water sharing treaty with Bangladesh, it was said that Bihar will have no shortage of water. The Government should take initiative to share the water of the Ganga properly. There is no water left in this river after it descends from Uttarakhand. The situation is particularly worse in Bihar. The Ganga is drying up. Therefore, we should make efforts to save it.

Shri Anant Gangaram Geete (SS) said that the projects being constructed in the Himalayan region are posing a threat to the river Ganga and the Himalayas and there is apprehension of major mishap that is why public as well as we, the Members of Parliament are against the upcoming projects in that region. Due to the projects being constructed in the Himalayas, river Ganga will be ruined and it will affect the entire country. There is no danger to the river from the run off river projects.

Dr. M. Thambidurai (AIADMK) said that all the states are constructing dams. The dams are useful for generating hydropower but at the same time, we have to see that the river water is not restricted only for that particular area, but it has to go to other States also. Stringent action must be taken by the Ministry to prevent all this kind of pollution. The Ganga Development Authority has already taken some action. All the rivers must be nationalized. Only then these rivers can be protected.

Shri Nama Nageswara Rao (TDP) said that the river Ganga flows through six States. Right from the starting to the end it is the responsibility of the States to protect the river Ganga from pollution. Hydro project has also contributed to this problem as the flow of water has decreased.

Replying on 17 May 2012, the Minister of State of the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Smt. Jayanthi Natarajan said that out of 70 dams only 17 dams are actually commissioned and generating power. All dams except Koteshwar and Tehri are run off the river. At the

meeting of the National River Ganga Basin Authority, the Prime Minister had expressed concern about domestic and industrial pollution in the Ganga. He pointed out that Pollution Boards functioning under the State Governments and they should monitor the effluents being discharged by the industries. Moreover flow of the river is disturbed because the water is diverted through canals for agriculture.

As such much work has been done under Ganga Action Plan initiated in 1985 by late Shri Rajiv Gandhi. In the main stem of the river Ganga, 2,900 litres of sewage is discharged everyday from class I and II town, and only 1,100 MLD is treated because of the limited infrastructure. There are technical shortcomings and inadequate resources which need to be addressed. The flow of the river is coming down due to climate change and various other issues in Farakka Barrage also. The consortium of IITs have stated that 20-30 per cent flows are there in the river whether it is monsoon deficiency or hydro-electric projects. A draft report prepared by IIT, Roorkee on Accumulative Impact-Assessment was placed before the Committee. The Prime Minister has announced that there should be a multidisciplinary committee with representatives from the State to give a set of recommendations on minimum desirable e-flows based on scientific opinion. The Ganga has been declared as the national river and National Ganga River Basin Authority has been set up. The Government will make sure that no stone is left unturned to protect the river, Ganga, and ensure the flow of Ganga.

The discussion was concluded.

Calling Attention to the Situation Arising out of Severe Drought in Karnataka: On 18 May 2012, Shri Pralhad Joshi (BJP) called the attention of the Minister of Agriculture to the situation arising out of severe drought in Karnataka and steps taken by the Government in this regard. Replying to the Calling Attention Motion the Minister of State in the Ministries of Agriculture, Food Processing Industries and Parliamentary Affairs, Shri Harish Rawat said that in the wake of natural calamities including drought, immediate relief works are required to be taken by the State Government concerned. There is ready availability of funds for this purpose under State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF), which has been constituted for each and every State with contributions from the State Government and the Central Government in the ratio of 3:1 for 17 General Category States and in the ratio of 9:1 for 11 Special Category States of North-Eastern Region including Sikkim and 3 hill States of Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Jammu & Kashmir. The Central Team visited drought affected areas in the State to assess the loss/damage caused due to drought. Accordingly, Ministry of Agriculture

constituted an Inter-Ministerial Central Team (IMCT) to re-assess the loss/damage and recommended appropriate financial assistance.

There is no doubt that Karnataka has been suffering from severe drought. Upon the submission of the report by the IMCT, which assessed the damage and recommended appropriation financial assessments team, the Government released an additional amount of Rs.70 crore. As such, National Disaster Respond Fund (NDRF) norms were fixed by the Norms Committee as per the Thirteenth Finance Commission. The Government endeavour is to give as much help as possible provided procedure is followed.

As regards groundwater in about 80 *talukas* of Karnataka, the condition of groundwater recharge is critical. Central Ground Water Board has sent an advisory to Karnataka and other States. Apart from this, the Government has provided financial assistance to Karnataka under DPAP, DDP, Integrated Watershed Management, National Watershed Development Programme, MNREGA, and National Food Security Mission etc. The Members have given viable long-term solutions to overcome the drought situation including de-silting of water bodies and erecting boundaries around them. These suggestions are under consideration.

Calling Attention to the situation arising out of shortage of drinking water in the country, particularly in Jhunjunu and Churu districts of Rajasthan: On 21 May 2012, Shri Sis Ram Ola (INC) called the attention of the Minister of Rural Development and Minister of Drinking Water and Sanitation to the situation arising out of shortage of drinking water in the country, particularly in Jhunjunu and Churu districts of Rajasthan and steps taken by the Government in this regard.

Replying to the Calling Attention, the Minister of Rural Development and Minister of Drinking Water and Sanitation, Shri Jairam Ramesh said that there is acute shortage of water in Rajasthan. Besides, the quality of water is also a problem. The fluoride content is high. Assistance is given to the State Governments under the National Drinking Water Programme implemented by the Ministry. An amount of Rs.10,500 crore has been earmarked for the entire country under the National Rural Drinking Water Programme. Rajasthan has been provided an amount of Rs. 1300 crore. Jhunjunu and Churu districts would get an amount of Rs. 70 and 50 crore respectively and the State Government would also contribute matching grant in that. Desert districts are given priority. About 20 per cent funds go to desert areas. It is expected that the entire Churu district will be covered under *Aapni Yojna* by 2014-15

B. LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development Bill, 2011: Moving the Motion for consideration of the Bill on 21 May 2012, the Minister of State of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Shri Ajay Maken, said the Bill has the provision to declare the Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development as an institute of national importance.

The Minister said that India has 39 institutes of national importance, out of which 35 are in the field of technology, 3 in medical field and one is in the field of language. There is not a single institute of national importance for the development of the most important resource the 'Indian youth'. He said that a mentor group was constituted on 28 March 2011 comprising experts from various fields of youth activities. This institute will have a post graduate course in 'Youth Development' in a new format.

Shri Kirti Azad* (BJP) pointed out many shortcomings in the Bill. Many recommendations of the Standing Committee have not found a place in this Bill. The *Tandon Committee* detected gross irregularities in the institute and withdrew the tag of deemed university from the institute. Later, the Mentor Committee was constituted which found everything right.

Shri R. Thamaraiselvan (VCK) said that many economists in the world predict that India will emerge as an economic super power very soon. The present Bill paves the way for India to become a super power in sports too. He said that if the aim is to develop sports in the country, one should create sports infrastructure in the rural areas also.

Shri Lalu Prasad (RJD) said that the Rajiv Gandhi National Youth Development Institute has been working as a society since 1993. It should have been given a legal shape much earlier.

Replying to the bill, Shri Ajay Maken said that out of a population of 120 crore people, 55 crore are in the age group of 13-35 years. This institute will be able to work in different sectors and for youth in different parts of the country. The most important work of this institute will be to prepare the National Youth Policy of India.

The Bill, as amended, was passed.

* Others who participated in the discussion were: Sarvashri Ninong Ering, Shailendra Kumar, Ramashankar Rajbhar, Arjun Roy and A. Sampath.

C. QUESTION HOUR

The Tenth Session of the Fifteenth Lok Sabha commenced on 12 March 2012, and adjourned *sine-die* on 22 May 2012. In all, 49,743 notices of Questions were received, out of which 32,551 were Starred, 17,183 Unstarred and 9 Short Notice Questions. The maximum number of notices of Starred and Unstarred Questions included for ballot were 1293 on 23 March 2012 and 599 on 27 April 2012. The minimum number of notices of Starred and Unstarred Questions included for ballot were 794 on 21 May 2012 and 390 on 13 March 2012. The maximum number of members whose names were included in the ballot process were 442 for 30 April 2012 and the minimum number of Members included in the ballot were 304 for 13 March 2012.

All the notices were examined with a view to deciding their admissibility or otherwise. Out of the notices received, 660 notices were included in the lists of Starred Questions, 7590 were included in the lists of Unstarred Questions and none was included in the list of Short Notice Question. These include 4 Questions postponed from Starred Question Lists for next Session and 7 Questions deleted from Unstarred Question Lists due to suspension of 8 members from the House.

A total of 380 members were included in the lists of Starred and Unstarred Questions. The maximum number of questions *i.e.*, 111 were admitted/clubbed in the name of Hazari maheshwar, MP.

A total of 82 Starred Questions were orally replied during the Session and 16 hrs and 37 minutes consumed in the process. The average number of Starred Questions answered orally during each sitting of the House was 2.48. The maximum number of Starred Questions answered orally on a single day was 6 on 25 April 2012 and 10 May 2012, respectively.

The average number of Unstarred Questions appearing in the List came to 230 per day during the entire session.

The sitting of the House fixed, 23 March 2012 was cancelled *vide* Bulletin Part-II dated 21 March 2012 at Sl. No. 3849. Hence, the replies to both Starred and Unstarred Notices of Questions given for the said sitting were laid on the Table at next sitting of the House *i.e.* 26 March 2012. The House, however, sat on Sunday, the 13 May 2012 to commemorate the 60th Anniversary of the First Sitting of Parliament of India. There was no Question Hour on that day.

On 29 March and 9 May 2012, Question Hour could not be taken up due to interruptions in the House. Hence, the replies to all the

Starred Questions listed for those days were treated as Unstarred and their answers together with the answers to Unstarred Questions were printed in the official report for the day.

Due to interruptions in the House only 1 Starred Question each was called for oral answer on 15, 21, 22, 26, 27, 28, 30 March, 24 April and 2, 8, 11, 22 May 2012.

In all, 32 notices of Half-an-Hour Discussion were received during the Session. Out of them, 9 notices were admitted for discussion, but only 1 notice which secured the first priority in the ballot came up for discussion and 8 notices could not be discussed as they did not get first priority in Ballot. Rest of the 23 notices were disallowed.

A total of 5 statements were made by the Ministers correcting the replies already given by them to questions in Lok Sabha in the recent past.

OBITUARY REFERENCES

During the Session, obituary references were made to the passing away of Sarvashri M.Y. Ghorpade, Ramachandra Ulaka, Paragi Lal Chaudhary, Brij Raj Singh, M.O.H. Farook, Col. Rao Ram Singh, Mani Ram Bagri, Uttamrao Patil, Hafiz Mohd. Siddiq, C.K. Chandrappan, Sudhir Ghosal, Dinesh Pratap Singh, N.K.P. Salve, Tek Lal Mahato and Brij Bhushan Tiwari, all former members.

The members then stood in silence for a short while, as a mark of respect to the memory of the deceased.

RAJYA SABHA

TWO HUNDRED AND TWENTY-FIFTH SESSION*

The Rajya Sabha met on 12 March 2012 for its Two Hundred and Twenty Fifth Session and was adjourned on 30 March 2012 to enable the Department-related Standing Committees to examine the Demands for Grants of the Ministries/Departments assigned to them and report back to the House. The House reconvened on 24 April 2012 and was adjourned *sine die* on 25 May 2012. The House had a Special Sitting held on Sunday, 13 May 2012 to commemorate the Sixtieth Anniversary of the first sitting of Rajya Sabha. The Rajya Sabha was prorogued by the President on 28 May 2012. In all, the House sat for 35 days during the session. A resume of some of the important discussions held and other business transacted during the Session is given below:

A. STATEMENTS/DISCUSSIONS

Motion of Thanks to the President for her Address to the Members of Parliament: On 12 March 2012, the President of India, Shrimati Pratibha Devisingh Patil addressed the Members of both Houses of Parliament assembled together in the Central Hall of Parliament. The Motion of Thanks to the President for her Address was moved by Shri Satyavrat Chaturvedi of the Indian National Congress on 14 March 2012. The Motion was seconded by Dr. E.M. Sudarsana Natchiappan of the Indian National Congress. The discussion took place on 14, 15, 19 and 20 March 2012.

Moving the Motion of Thanks, Shri Satyavrat Chaturvedi stated that the President's Address mirrors the achievements of the Government attained through its policies and programmes and reflected the framework of its future plans. He said that after assessing the political, economic and social situation of the country, the Government had rightly set the following priorities to work on, that is, strengthening the economy of the country (economic security); generating employment avenues for livelihood security of the countrymen; enhancing power generation for energy security; protection of ecology and environment and; lastly, ensuring internal as well as external security in the country and safeguard of borders.

* Contributed by the General Research Unit, LARRDIS, Rajya Sabha Secretariat

Dismissing Opposition's remark that the Government was a failure, he gave figures of steady increase in growth rate in the country since the present Government came to power, that is, 6.5 per cent in 2004-05, 8.2 per cent in 2005-06 and 8.4 per cent in 2006-07. In 2009-10, when the world was hit by severe global financial crisis, India's controlled and protectionist policies not only saved the country but also resulted in a healthy growth rate of 8.1 per cent. On the country's security aspect, he said that, in 2004 the number of terrorist incidents were 2,565 which got reduced to 340 in 2011. He, however, emphasized that concerted efforts of both the Opposition and the Government could combat this menace. Further, he stated that agriculture has been a major factor in the economic progress of the country and after 2003-04, the Government reduced the interest rate on agricultural loan from 12-14 per cent to 7 per cent and increased the limit of loan. This resulted in record production of foodgrains and enhanced the production of fruits, vegetables and pulses, in 2010-11.

He added that in order to create employment avenues it is necessary to strengthen education. He further mentioned about the National Vocational Education Qualifications Framework which would impart professional training to make people skilled enough to get employment. Speaking about other initiatives taken by the Government, he mentioned the Higher Education Credit Guarantee Authority for poor students; scholarships and fellowships provided to more than 1.5 crore students of Scheduled Castes (SCs), Scheduled Tribes (STs), Other Backward Classes (OBCs) and minority category; work created of around 11,000 crore days through Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) in rural areas etc. Regarding power generation he said that in just one year, 2011-12, the country had succeeded in generating 15 thousand megawatt of extra power. Efforts were also being made to expand use of solar energy through Jawahar Lal Nehru National Solar Energy Mission. Besides, Government had set a target to increase the nuclear power generation capacity from the current 4780 megawatt to 10,080 megawatt during the 12th Five Year Plan. Regarding ecological and environmental security in the country he made a mention of the Ganga Basin Authority set up to stop pollution in Ganga river, Rs.1,200 crore sanctioned to save tigers under Project Tiger and Green India Mission to protect forests of the country.

Shri Chaturvedi, however, urged the Government to take measures to boost up industry and production in view of recent fall in manufacturing sector of the country. He suggested that loan amount to farmers should be increased from 3 lakh rupees to 5 lakhs in view of

increased prices of things supporting agriculture viz. manure, labour, power. In respect of cotton growing farmers specifically, he requested the Government to ensure that they get reasonable returns for their produce.

Seconding the Motion of Thanks Dr. E.M. Sudarsana Natchiappan of Indian National Congress (INC) pointed out that the Address clearly reflected that the Government had strived to develop the entire country not leaving even a small portion of the population. In this context he pointed out that 75 per cent of the total taxes collected by the Central Government were disbursed to States as per the Union List of the Constitution of India. Shri Natchiappan urged the State Governments to coherently work with the Central Government and give power to Panchayati Raj institutions so that the money allotted to them reaches the needy people. He stated that people of the country are now having better connectivity with the world. Tele-density had increased from 10 per cent in 2002 to 70 per cent in 2011. The country was moving from 2G to 3G level and would go to the level of 4G and 5G. Literacy rate had also increased from 62 per cent in 1991 to 82 per cent in 2011. Health programmes were coming within the reach of a wider populace. To enhance the reach of ordinary people to banks, branches were being opened in areas having a population of two thousand. He mentioned that the country had also established brotherly relations with all neighboring countries. Pakistan had given India the status of 'Most Favored Nation'. He said that the country had one of the best Armed Forces and its Air and Naval Forces were also being upgraded. Para Military Forces have been strengthened and given more powers to supervise the areas so that border and people remain protected from terrorist activities.

Participating in the discussion* Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu of Bharatiya

* Others who took part in the discussion were: Sarvashri Moinul Hassan, Raghunandan Sharma, M. Rama Jois, Sitaram Yechury, Sukhendu Sekhar Roy, D. Raja, Meghraj Jain, S.S. Ahluwalia, Tarun Vijay, Shivanand Tiwari, Pyarimohan Mohapatra, Pramod Kureel, Shivanand Tiwari, Tariq Anwar, Kishore Kumar Mohanty, Sukhendu Sekhar Roy, D. Raja, N. Balaganga, H.K. Dua, Birendra Prasad Baishya, Bhagat Singh Koshyari, Husain Dalwai, D. Bandyopadhyay, Prakash Javadekar, Narendra Kumar Kashyap, Saman Pathak, Baishnab Parida, Biswajit Daimary, Ahmad Saeed Malihabadi, Kumar Deepak Das, Nand Kumar Sai, Jai Prakash Narayan Singh, Sanjay Raut, Tarun Vijay, Ram Kripal Yadav, M. Rama Jois, Mohammed Adeeb, G.N. Ratanpuri, Ram Vilas Paswan, Prof. M.S. Swaminathan, Prof. P.J. Kurien, Dr Chandan Mitra, Dr. Barun Mukherji and Shrimati Vasanthi Stanley.

Janata Party (BJP) stated that the Address of the President ignored the most vital question of the country regarding credibility of the Government's leadership, decisiveness and trust between allies. Ministers had been resigning and Government's own allies were obstructing the functioning of the House which showed that major decisions were not being taken by evolving consensus among allies. In this situation, Shri Naidu expressed skepticism over Government's ability to implement the promises made in the President's Address. He said that contrary to the statement in the Address that Government had remained committed to providing an honest and efficient Government, the country had, rather, witnessed maximum number of scams during its regime. He mentioned that instead of bringing a Bill to fight corruption, as mentioned in the Address, the Government needed political will to curb the same.

He further pointed out that the Government was trying to assault the federal structure of the Constitution through its increasing tendency of centralizing power. He said that the Government was trying to take over the functions of the State by imposing extra-legal measures or transferring the States' functions to the Concurrent List or misusing the constitutional powers to withhold Bills passed by the State Assemblies *viz.* Gujarat Control of Organised Crime (GUJCOC) Bill of Gujarat. He claimed that the Central Government was also discriminating towards the non-Congress States; be it allocation of coal or thermal power or foodgrains or MGNREGA funds. Cut in subsidies to gas, food, fertilizer had given push to already increasing prices and had impacted poor farmers, specifically. He opined that in the sowing season, during the agricultural operations, the MGNREGA should be linked with agriculture so that farmers could get labour at affordable cost. He also requested the Government to initiate steps to take up the scheme of inter-linking of rivers in the country.

Shri Y.S. Chowdary of Telugu Desam Party (TDP) said that the President's Address had left aside the major issues being confronted by the nation. The people of the country, especially the youth had lost their confidence in the Government due to various irregularities allegedly involving Government officials both at the State and Central level. Regarding AADHAAR Unique Identification Scheme, he referred to the reports claiming its registration process and delivery of AADHAAR numbers as completely faulty and confusing. Further, he pointed out that there was no mention of the unemployment problem of educated people in the Address. There was no commitment for quality and timely supply of farm inputs like seeds and fertilizers to farmers.

Regarding generation of additional power he said that the Government should realize that the need of the hour was to strengthen renewable energy so as to save our natural resources and to reduce pollution. He criticized the Government for not respecting the country's federal structure by creating National Counterterrorism Center (NCTC) without taking State Governments and major political parties into confidence.

Replying to the points raised by the Members, the Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh thanked the President for her enlightening Address. While disagreeing with the claim that the President's Address did not lay out a roadmap of the Government's agenda he drew the attention of the Members to Paragraph 10 of the President's Address which explained five important challenges faced by the country that the Government would work on. He further stated that President's Address highlighted the working of the existing programmes as well as some new initiatives that the Government proposed to take to bring about faster, sustainable and more inclusive growth.

Regarding the country's economic aspect he stated that in the wake of the financial crisis of 2008-09, even industrialized countries had registered a fragile recovery and it had affected India also. The crisis had resulted in excess liquidity in the world economy which had put pressure on commodity prices viz. foodgrains, petroleum products, fertilizers. He said that under such uncertain economic environment the country's economic growth rate at 7 per cent, though slower than expected, should be regarded as commendable. To improve upon it he appealed to all the members to help the Government to undertake timely remedial measures.

He mentioned that the menace of terrorism and Left-Wing extremism were two such issues which should unite the nation to work out a comprehensive and coordinated strategy. He said that the Government was committed to provide fully secured living conditions to its citizens and setting up of the National Counterterrorism Center (NCTC) was an important step in that direction. He allayed the apprehensions of some members that the Central Government was not taking State Governments into confidence in this regard and was trying to encroach upon their jurisdiction. He added that the need for such single and effective point of coordination to counter terrorism had been discussed in the last couple of years during meetings of Chief Ministers on Internal Security. He expressed confidence that differences in that regard could be narrowed down and a broad-based consensus could be arrived. He assured the House that nothing would be done to infringe the federal imperatives of the country's constitutional set-up.

With regard to the welfare of Sri Lankan Tamils, the Prime Minister said that as a result of the Government's constructive engagement with the Government of Sri Lanka and with considerable assistance programme, normalcy was beginning to return in the Tamil areas of Sri Lanka.

Speaking about the suicides of farmers he said that the Government equally shared the concern and had been making efforts since the last seven and a half years to revitalize and put more vigour into the development process for agriculture. Indicators had shown that agricultural growth had gone up to about 3 to 3.5 per cent in the 11th Five Year Plan as against less than 2 per cent in the preceding five years. He stated that the Government would work further towards imparting a new momentum of dynamism to the country's agriculture. On the issue of black money he referred to the promise made by the Finance Minister in his Budget Speech to bring forward a White Paper in this regard soon.

The Budget (Railways) 2012-2013: The discussion on the Budget (Railways) 2012-2013 took place on 20, 21 and 22 March 2012.

Initiating the discussion, Shri Balbir Punj of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) expressed his doubt over the myriad promises made in the Railways Budget. He wondered as to why the Railway Minister, Shri Dinesh Trivedi had to resign despite the Prime Minister's and Finance Minister's appreciation for his Budget proposal. He stated that it was a parliamentary convention that the Minister should take Parliament into confidence by explaining before the House reasons of his resignation. He, therefore, appealed to the House to hear Shri Trivedi's side also. Criticising the hike in railway fares, he said it would further compound the problems of common man already struggling with inflation. He, however, noted that such hike could not revive Railways. He, also, objected to the increase in freight rates as it would cause price hike of coal, manure, petroleum products, salt and many other consumable items. He said that the Service Tax of 12 per cent declared by the Finance Minister in his Budget speech would apply to Railway Ticket also, which would further enhance its cost.

Speaking on the condition of Railways he mentioned that 45 per cent of Railways' freight was covered by coal and Coal India Ltd. had claimed that even if they produced 500 million tonnes of coal, Railways would not be able to transport it. He stated that as planned by the Government, for the next 5 years, if all power plants get operational,

transportation of around 770 million tonnes of coal would be needed for which Railways was not capable. This would directly affect power supply, industries, employment in the country thus adversely affecting the economy.

Referring to the various pending projects he stated that in 2007 it was declared that two locomotive construction plants would be set up in Bihar. However, even tenders has not been called for them yet. Besides, 160 multipurpose campuses were to be built, 584 stations were to be modernized and made world class, but nothing was done in this regard. Dedicated Freight Corridor was declared from Delhi to Mumbai and Delhi to Kolkata by Shri Lalu Prasad, but no work has been started except for acquiring the land.

He further mentioned that the Government had been prejudiced towards non-Congress States. In this respect he said that for Odisha, inspite of the fact that it was a poor and backward State, projects of only Rs. 700 crore were sanctioned instead of Rs. 1800 crore, as requested. Speaking about the paucity of resources for investment in Railways he said that in 2004 the Government had promised to sanction the required funds, which were never provided, and in 2012, also Government had given the same assurance. He insisted the Government to keep its promises.

Participating in the discussion* Shri Motilal Vora of Indian National Congress (INC) congratulated the Government for declaring that in the next financial year provision of employment opportunities would be made for about one lakh people in the Railways. He, however, felt that group "D" employees did not get their reasonable share in them. He urged the Government to give special attention towards completing the work of converting unmanned railway crossings into manned crossings

* Others who took part in the discussion were: Sarvashri Rama Chandra Khuntia, Ganga Charan, Prasanta Chatterjee, Pyarimohan Mohapatra, A. Elavarasan, Birendra Prasad Baishya, S.P. Singh Baghel, P. Rajeeve, Sabir Ali, A.A. Jinnah, Syed Azeez Pasha, N. Balaganga, Rajniti Prasad, Shanta Kumar, Nandi Yellaiah, Shreegopal Vyas, T.K. Rangarajan, Derek O' Brien, Kumar Deepak Das, Avinash Rai Khanna, G.N. Ratanpuri, Mohd. Ali Khan, Biswajit Daimary, Dilipbhai Pandya, Ishwar Singh, Sanjay Raut, P. Bhattacharya, Balwinder Singh Bhunder, Ram Kripal Yadav, Husain Dalwai, Ranbir Singh Prajapati, Mohammed Adeeb, Anil H. Lad, Prof. S.P. Singh Baghel, Prof. Alka Balram Kshatriya, Dr. Gyan Prakash Pilania, Dr. Janardhan Waghmare, Dr. Ashok S. Ganguly, Dr. Barun Mukherjee, Dr. Ram Prakash, Shrimati Gundu Sudharani, Shrimati Bimla Kashyap Sood, Shrimati Kusum Rai, Ms. Sushila Tiriya and Miss Anusuiya Uikey

in view of innumerable fatal accidents. In this context, he appreciated the decision of the Government to set up Rail-Road Grid Separation Corporation of India. He was pleased that the Railway Minister for the first time visited different States to analyse their needs according to their geographical requirement. To fulfill their needs Railway Minister had declared that in a period of 5 years, with the estimated expenditure of Rs. 63,212 crores, railway tracks measuring 19,000 km would be renewed and 11,250 rail bridges would be built.

He thanked the Government to include the proposal of making three rail corridors in Chhattisgarh with the assistance of the State Government. He, however, expressed disappointment that in the list of targeted railway lines to be completed in 2012-13, Chhattisgarh did not find any mention. He further stressed upon the need for implementation of different schemes or projects declared by the Government.

Dr. Yogendra P. Trivedi of Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) said that in case of essential services like Indian Railways, the Government and the State have to indulge in commercial activities for resource mobilization. But such activities, he said, should maintain standards.

Mentioning the five goals set by the Railway Minister in the Budget *i.e.* safety, consolidation, decongestion and capacity augmentation, modernization and improving operation ratio, he stated that Railways lacked the financial backup required to fulfill these goals. He added that the Government should go for modernisation of Railways keeping in view the 2 per cent revenue to be generated from the corporates under the Companies Act.

Shri D. Bandyopadhyay of All India Trinamool Congress (AITC), referred to the report of the Kakodkar Committee which said that the present environment of the Indian Railways revealed a grim picture of inadequate performance largely due to the poor infrastructure and resources. It also reflected lack of empowerment of the people at the functional level. He expressed concern on the adverse operation ratio in Indian Railways which is presently hovering in the level of 90s. He said that unless it was brought down to the level of the 70s railways would not be able to generate adequate funds as profit nor be able to regenerate itself in the future. He, however, did not find any justification for hike in fares. He felt that reports of Kakodkar Committee and Sam Pitroda Committee required in-depth analysis and for this he urged to have full discussion in the House. He further supported the idea of Railway Safety Organisation, an independent statutory body. He, however,

disagreed with the idea of a Tariff Regulatory Authority as Indian Railways, being a totally Government controlled organisation, did not have any competitors.

Replying to the discussion, the Minister of Railways Shri Mukul Roy reiterated his commitment to Vision 2020 document which laid a roadmap for Indian Railways with the objective to deepen and broaden the agenda of inclusive growth. He assured the Members of launching an aggressive drive to mop up resources through non-conventional means. He stated that there would be a focused approach for utilizing the vacant land and airspace available with the Railways.

He assured the House that the safety initiatives already proposed would be implemented soon. Commitment to eliminate the unmanned level crossings in a focused and time-bound manner would be pursued with vigour. He said that there would be special emphasis on filling up all vacancies in safety categories, including the posts required for manning of level crossings.

To realize the vision of transforming the Indian Railways into a technology-friendly modern organization, he said, strong thrust would be given to modernization of tracks, bridges, signaling and telecommunication works. He informed that the Railways would add 725 km. of new railway line in the current year. Also, 825 km. of gauge conversion and 750 km. of doubling was under completion. All proposals of Road Over Bridges and Road Under Bridges for which cost sharing consent of the State Governments had been received were proposed for inclusion in the Works Programme.

On low standard of cleanliness at stations and in trains, he promised that cleanliness and hygiene would be the most important agenda after safety. He said that he would personally look into the efficacy of inspections carried out by railway officers and results of such monitoring. Regarding poor quality of food being served in trains he stated that the core catering activity was slowly regaining its feet under the new Catering Policy announced recently.

On backlog vacancies of loco pilots he said that the process of filling up of the vacancies was on. Also, all the backlog vacancies for weaker sections of the society, including those of the physically challenged would be filled, he said. As regards hike in passenger fares he conveyed that in view of the already over-burdened common man he had decided to revert the decision of train fare hike, of all classes.

The Budget (General) 2012-2013: The discussion on the Budget (General) 2012-2013 took place on 26, 27 and 28 March 2012.

Initiating the discussion, the Leader of the Opposition, Shri Arun Jaitley said that the Budget had been prepared with pre-1991 mindset when sluggish economy and less than modest growth rates reduced the economic activity, leading the Government to balance the expenditure with higher taxes. He stated that the country needed an efficient and competitive economy where Government was not required to increase taxes, but to enhance the width and volume of economic activities which in turn widens the tax base, instead.

Objecting on the present tax structure he said that it not only included 30 per cent odd taxes on earnings and 2 per cent educational cess, but included tax on spending, manufacturing, on all forms of services and various kind of Central and State taxes, giving rise to huge inflationary impact on economy. In the face of subsidies being given by the Government to various commodities and anticipated expenditure on Food Security Act, he wished to know how Government was going to bring down fiscal deficit to 5.1 per cent next year from the present 5.6 per cent, as projected in the Budget.

Referring to the state of the country in a 'policy paralysis', he stated that interest rates, taxes and cost of capital had gone up. There was reverse flight of capital, going out of the country, as industrialists were exploring other destinations in the wake of country's economic situation. Also, the state of infrastructure was worsening showing slack in construction work of highways, airports, sea-ports. Regarding power, many project holders were on the verge of abandoning them due to inadequacy of coal. In agriculture, cultivable land area was declining whereas population was increasing. The year registered a very good harvest, but input costs had gone up hugely. Due to inadequacy of storage facilities, food grains were rotting. All these areas, he said, were of serious concern.

Regarding Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) he said that such livelihood schemes should be linked with some asset creating activity by having same labour, with some higher payment and with some better training. He further, wished to know if States would be compensated for the Service Tax being imposed on them by the Central Government. Speaking on enactment of 'Right to Education' he stated that initial proposal was that 75 per cent funds would be backed by the Centre and 25 per cent by the States. Now the ratio has become 50:50 which the States would not be able to bear.

Participating in the discussion* Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar of Indian National Congress (INC) described the Budget weaved into economic imperatives with political realities and no dramatic policy announcements. He said that India under the United Progressive Alliance (UPA) had survived the global downturn and India's growth rate of 6.9 per cent was higher than the growth rate in Euro Zone, USA and all the non-oil producing large economies of Asia, except China. He stated that unlike China where debt-GDP ratio had reached 155 per cent, India was experiencing the real growth and not debt-fuelled growth. He asserted that when National Democratic Alliance (NDA) was last in office, ratio of interest payments to Budget revenues was 43 per cent which now had come down to 31 per cent. Tax receipts had increased from around Rs. 6 lakh crores, in last financial year, to an estimated Rs. 7.71 lakh crore this year.

In respect of subsidies being given to meet the increasing demand of the rural areas, the Government can consider increasing expenditure in these areas which will lead to a spur in overall demand in the economy. Apart from this he said that there were wide number of Centrally-Sponsored Schemes (CSS) financing of which amounted to nearly Rs. 2 lakh crores. He further pointed to recently released Paise Report which had shown that only 6 per cent of *Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan* funds reached the students. To ensure delivery of benefits to the last intended beneficiary, he stressed on the involvement of local-self governments viz. *Panchayats, Nagarpalikas* and *Gram Sabhas*. He urged the House to support his request to the Finance Minister to set up a study group or committee to see how inclusive governance at the grass roots level could be translated into inclusive growth.

He, further, requested the Government for increased investment in agriculture in the wake of decline in share of agriculture in Gross Domestic Product (GDP), as per the Economic Survey. He emphasized on the need of agricultural reforms on the line advocated by Dr. M.S.

* Others who took part in the discussion were: Sarvashri Tapan Kumar Sen, Sukhendu Sekhar Roy, Kumar Deepak Das, Piyush Goyal, Shantaram Naik, N.K. Singh, Veer Singh, Naresh Gujral, Shashi Bhusan Behera, A.W. Rabi Bernard, Prabhat Jha, Mangala Kisan, Jesudasu Seelam, Biswajit Daimary, Sanjay Raut, Ram Jethmalani, Narendra Kumar Kashyap, Ishwarlal Shankarlal Jain, Derek O'Brien, G.N. Ratanpuri, Bharatsinh Prabhastsinh Parmar, Shadi Lal Batra, Mohammed Adeeb, Narendra Budania, Ram Kripal Yadav, P. Bhattacharya, P. Kannan. M. Rama Jois, Prof. M.S. Swaminathan, Dr. Ashok S. Ganguly, Dr. Barun Mukherji, Dr. Vaijaylaxmi Sadho, Dr. Prabha Thakur, Shrimati Kanimozhi, Shrimati Smriti Zubin Irani, Shrimati T. Ratna Bai, Shrimati Hema Malini and Ms. Sushila Tiriya.

Swaminathan's National Commission on Farmers, with particular attention to dry land farming to increase productivity.

Regarding money needed for subsidies and for social sector and anti-poverty programmes, he mentioned that apart from tax revenue receipts scheduled for the coming year of about Rs. 7.71 lakh crore, forgone tax revenues were estimated at about Rs. 4.28 lakh crore. He informed that at present subsidies constituted only about 40 per cent of the revenues that were being forgone.

Shri Y.S. Chowdary of Telugu Desam Party (TDP) said that as against the anticipated growth rate of 9 per cent by the Economic Survey 2010-11, Indian economy registered growth rate of only 6.9 per cent in 2011-12. This was attributed to the global economic crisis to some extent. The Survey had suggested the need for innovative policies, however, he alleged that the Finance Minister had failed to do so in the Budget. He added that in spite of the fact that India had the largest agricultural land area in the world, the country was not able to encash it. He stated that not even 50 per cent of farmers were getting benefited by the credit facility schemes due to loopholes in their implementation. He said that instead of such credits, farmers were expecting to have sustainable measures.

He stated that the Government should work on enhancing the production of indigenous resources to decrease dependency on foreign imports. Also, there was need to explore renewable sources, he said. Speaking on health sector he said that expenditure on health had increased from 1.25 per cent in 2006-07 to only 1.30 per cent in 2011-12. The National Rural Health Mission Scheme (NRHM) started by the Government has been infested with corruption. He mentioned that special Budgetary provision as a one-time measure for overall improvement in the health infrastructure, was necessary.

Participating in the discussion Dr. T.N. Seema of Communist Party of India (Marxist) said that the Government was more concerned about the corporate and big business houses than the poor people. She said that, as indicated by the Government, cut in subsidy to fuel and fertilizer would have adverse effect on the common man and farming community. She requested the Government to ensure that women get minimum wages, as available to MGNREGA workers, for unskilled manual labour. She urged the Government to bring cap on interest rates of the micro-credit to control the exploitation of poor women by Micro-Finance Institutions (MFIs) who were mostly dependent on them.

Appreciating the Government's initiative to control malnutrition through Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Augmentation Programme, she intended it to be implemented beyond the limit of 200 districts. Citing the example of Kerala she stated that to ensure distribution of the fruits of development among all the sections of the society, Government should work towards land reforms, universal public education, good health facilities and effective decentralization. She expressed disappointment over decrease in allocation for relief of rape victims from Rs. 140 crore to Rs. 20 crore.

Replying to the discussion, the Minister of Finance, Shri Pranab Mukherjee said that while formulating the Budget, conditions prevailing in the country and outside the country need to be kept in mind. He stated that nobody can insulate Indian economy from the external influences like political uncertainty or economic crisis in other countries. However, by emphasizing on domestic demand driven strategy insulation to some extent could be done.

While explaining the repercussions of international crisis being faced by the country he said that collective thinking of the entire political spectrum of the country was required to address the issue. Regarding domestic demand-driven strategy he stated that it was important to make investment in agriculture as it was the area where domestic demand could be encouraged to grow. He informed that in agriculture he had increased the fund allocation by 18 per cent and in *Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana* (RKVY) by 17 per cent. As a result of the allocations made under the scheme 'Bringing Green Revolution in Eastern India' and by the personal interest of the Chief Ministers of Eastern States *viz.* Bihar, Orissa, West Bengal, for the first time India had produced more than 102 million tonnes of rice. He stated that foremost condition to establish food security was to produce enough foodgrains to feed the country's population. To achieve this, the recommendations of Dr. Swaminathan needed to be pursued, he said. Regarding wastage and leakage of foodgrains, he informed that investments had been made in this regard. Measures like extending Viability Gap Fund, lowering of interest rate, withholding of tax from 20 per cent to 5 per cent had been made to promote creation of cold-chains and warehousing. Additional interest subvention would be given to farmers who would keep their produce in warehouses.

Regarding investment in infrastructure he said that allocations for the *Pradhan Mantri Gramin Sadak Yojana* (PMGSY), Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP) and for education had been stepped up. Regarding financial sharing between Centre and State with respect

to *Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan*, he informed that from 2010-11 ratio had been rested at 65:35 instead of the previous 50:50 ratio.

In respect of taxes he mentioned that before 11th Finance Commission all kind of taxes were never brought together to assess share of States. In terms of percentage of the total tax realized, he claimed that a larger devolution of funds was taking place to the States, than before. Also, fund allocation for States had increased from 29 per cent in the 11th Finance Commission to 32 per cent in the 13th Finance Commission.

Regarding addressing the issue of State's debt burden, he said that under the 12th Finance Commission, Rs. 1,22,000 crores were used for debt consolidation for those States who enacted timely the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management (FRBM) Acts. The States who got FRBM Acts enacted late could not get the benefit. He said that a small group had been appointed to look into the matter.

Regarding skepticism over Goods and Service Tax (GST) and compensation of the Central Sales Tax (CST) he stated that it was agreed upon between the Empowered Committee of State Finance Ministers and the Ministry of Finance that CST would be brought down from 4 per cent to the level of 0 per cent over a period of four years, starting from 2007-08, and due compensation would be paid by the Central Government. He stated that since 2009-10, when it was suggested by the Empowered Committee to not to bring it down from 2 per cent in the face of economic crisis, no GST was made available to the Government despite the increase in compensation. He said that the matter needed to be discussed so that workable solution could be found.

Statement by the Minister regarding Situation in Sri Lanka: Making a Statement on this issue in the House on 14 March 2012 the Minister of External Affairs, Shri S.M. Krishna stated that since the end of conflict in Sri Lanka, the focus of the Government of India had been on welfare and well being of the Tamil citizens of Sri Lanka.

He informed that in June 2009, immediately after the conflict, the Prime Minister of India had announced a grant of Rs. 500 crore for relief, rehabilitation and resettlement work in Sri Lanka. The Government also, implemented a wide range of projects for Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) there, as assistance in the areas of housing, de-mining, education, connectivity, livelihood restoration, economic revival, etc. In January 2012 first lot of the 50,000 houses, constructed by India for IDPs, was handed over.

On the issue of alleged human rights violations during the protracted conflict in Sri Lanka, he conveyed that Government of Sri Lanka had initiated a series of measures, including appointment of a Cabinet Sub-committee to monitor implementation of the proposals in the National Human Rights Action Plan (NHRAP) and reactivating the National Police Commission, in line with the recommendations of the Lessons Learnt and Reconciliation Commission (LLRC) report. Also, a Court of Inquiry was reported to be appointed by Sri Lanka's Defence authorities to look into the allegations of human rights violations as per the LLRC report.

He stated that the Government of Sri Lanka had assured of its commitment towards pursuit of a political process, through a broader dialogue with all parties, including the Tamil National Alliance, to achieve meaningful devolution of powers and genuine national reconciliation.

On the issue of Government's stand on draft resolution initiated by the USA at the ongoing 19th Session of the UN Human Rights Council at Geneva regarding reconciliation and accountability in Sri Lanka, he stated that the Government was engaged with all parties to achieve a forward looking outcome. He said that in such sensitive issues it was important to consider implications of Government actions on friendly relations with a neighbouring country. He stated that the Government's objective was to create an atmosphere for the Tamil community in Sri Lanka, ensuring them equality, dignity, justice and self respect.

While replying to the points raised by the Members he appreciated that the members recognized the historical and cordial relations of India with Sri Lanka without striking a discordant note. He said that from his discussion with the Sri Lankan leadership it was evident that Sri Lankan Government was fully committed to implement the LLRC recommendations. On the query raised about number of houses that had been built in Sri Lanka, he suggested that a parliamentary delegation could be sent to Sri Lanka, in this regard. He said that the Government had its limitations, as meddling with the internal affairs of another country was not in the best traditions of India's foreign policy. He stated that delicate diplomatic talks were going on regarding resolution of UN Human Rights Council. He, however, underscored that whenever human rights would be violated, India was not going to be lulled into a sense of complacency.

Statement by the Minister regarding Attaching Highest Priority to Defence Preparedness of our Country: Making a statement on this issue in the House on 28 March 2012, the Minister of Defence, Shri A.K. Antony referred to the communication sent by General V.K. Singh, Chief of the Army, to the Prime Minister on March 2012, drawing his attention to certain issues relating to national defence and security. He said that such issues could not form the subject of public debates and it was also, not conducive for national security.

Stating that the country's defence preparedness had been quite strong, he assured the House that the Government had spared no effort, and would keep on doing everything necessary, to ensure that the country's Defence Forces were equipped and trained to be amongst the best fighting Forces in the world.

After the observations made by the Leader of Opposition, the Minister said that whenever any controversy arose regarding defence procurement procedure in the past, the Government had made amendments to tighten the loose ends. He informed that few years ago Government had introduced the concept of Integrity Pacts which was in vogue now. For any contract, amounting even to Rs. 100 crores, the vendor would have to get into the Integrity Pact. In case of any violation of the Pact action was taken either by blacklisting the company or by cancelling the contract. He asserted that there would be no compromise from the point of view of integrity and transparency, in this regard. He also, expressed his commitment towards fast modernization of Armed Forces to further strengthen the country's national security.

Statement by the Minister regarding Accident at Unmanned Level Crossing on North Eastern Railway involving Mathura-Kasganj Passenger: Making a statement on this issue on 20 March 2012 the Minister of Railways, Shri Mukul Roy, informed that the accident occurred when a mini van carrying 22 persons and a dead body dashed against Train No. 51976 Mathura-Kasganj Passenger at around 7.23 hours on 20 March 2012, between Hathras City and Mendu Station of Izzatnagar Division of North Eastern Railway. In the incident 15 persons, travelling in the van, lost their lives and three of them suffered injuries. No passenger travelling in the train was injured or killed in the incident. The incident took place at a 'C' class unmanned level crossing with very low traffic density.

He informed that the medical relief was immediately dispatched through an Accident Relief Medical Train. However, local public and civil authorities had shifted the injured persons to a nearby hospital by the time Army reached the site. Those requiring special medical attention were sent to medical college at Aligarh.

He added that as per preliminary information received, the incident occurred due to negligent driving by the driver of the mini van. The driver did not stop his van at the stop board short of level crossing to check for approaching train as prescribed under Section 131 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988.

He conveyed that an *ex-gratia* amount of Rs. 2 lakhs each to the next of kin of deceased, Rs. 50,000/- to the grievously injured and Rs.25,000/- to persons who sustained simple injury had been announced.

Short Duration Discussion on the problem of Food Grains Storage in the Country: A Short Duration Discussion on the problem of Foodgrains storage in the country took place in the House on 14 May 2012.

Initiating the discussion, Shri Shanta Kumar of Bharatiya Janata Party stated that the problem of food grain storage was getting graver. He said that it was unfortunate that on the one hand foodgrains and vegetables were decaying due to lack of storage and on the other hand Supreme Court had expressed concern over unabated deaths due to hunger and malnutrition in the country. He mentioned that country's store houses presently had 640 lakh tonnes of foodgrains which was likely to go up to 810 lakh tonnes this year. Since the storage capacity was limited to 460 lakh tonnes only, it meant that 300 to 400 lakh tonnes of foodgrains would rot outside and ultimately go waste.

In order to manage the crisis he suggested that people may be given the option and incentive to purchase six months' ration at a time. This would enhance the government's storage capacity by 175 lakh tonnes and the Government would save the cost of six months' foodgrains. He informed that Government had set a norm for how much buffer stock was needed to be stocked at different times of the year, including the strategic reserve. However, the Government was stocking 400 lakh tonnes above the required buffer stock *i.e.* keeping it on hold and resulting in its price rise. He stressed on the Government to provide timely sanction for the export of surplus rice. He further suggested that when farmers come to sell their produce, the Government would procure their entire produce but pay only fifty per cent of its costs while offering them to keep half of their produce in their own godown. The Government would pick the produce when need arises and in return pay them the cost of the produce plus the cost of its storage for the intermediate period. Pointing towards mismanagement, he mentioned about the shortage of even gunny bags for foodgrains.

He requested the Government to contemplate on the proposals and implement them as early as possible.

Speaking on the issue Dr. M.S. Swaminathan*, a nominated member, said that in the wake of increasing magnitude of the problem of foodgrains storage, a more enduring solution needed to be devised. He viewed that as in Canada and Australia, which were major wheat exporters, India needed a National Foodgrains Management Board which would deal with post-harvest management only and not production side at all. Once the grain is harvested, the Board would manage its processing, storage, marketing and distribution. He said that such a Board should confine itself to the commodities included in the National Food Security Bill, like wheat, rice, millet, bajra, jowar etc. The Board should consist of all the major players *viz.* Food Corporation of India (FCI), Jute Board, Railway Board, Surface Transport Ministry and Warehousing Corporation. He opined that there should be a National Grid of ultra modern grain storage in all parts of the country so that they could be moved at a very short notice.

Participating in the discussion Smt. Renuka Chowdhury of Indian National Congress, stressed on crop planning. She said that most of the farmers do 'copy cat farming' resulting in surplus grains. She pointed that inter-State barriers should be lifted for easy movement of food grains to facilitate each State. For storage, she stated that Gram Panchayats should be taken into confidence to lease the land for 50 or 99 years. Construction of storage assets should be ensured, as per MGNREGA, which always predict in annual reports how much storage would be required in future. New technology like irradiation should be used which was completely indigenous. She stated that each Member of Parliament should stress on lead banks of their respective districts to build storage houses. Farmers should be encouraged to store their produce here, against which credit could be given to them to purchase seeds or to meet their private needs *viz.* getting girls married.

She stated that to stop the hunger deaths which occurred mainly due to lack of nutrition, availability, affordability, and accessibility of

* Others who took part in the discussion were : Sarvashri Narendra Kumar Kashyap, Prasanta Chatterjee, N.K. Singh, D. Bandyopadhyay, Naresh Agrawal, Rabinarayan Mohapatra, N. Balaganga, Thaawar Chand Gehlot, Ananda Bhaskar Rapolu, M.P. Achuthan, Avinash Rai Khanna, Ranbir Singh Parjapati, Tarun Vijay, Ram Kripal Yadav, Birendra Prasad Baishya, Bhupender Yadav, Anil Desai, Dr. Prabha Thakur, Dr. K.P. Ramalingam and Shrimati Gundu Sudharani.

nutrition was a must. She added that children should have access to sugar, oil, rice, wheat and salt to ensure them supplementary nutrition.

On the issue of increasing Minimum Support Price (MSP) she said that the more it was increased 'copy-cat' farming would also increase. She rather stressed on crop planning wherein sectors were identified which could produce pulses, oilseeds, rice and paddy. Farmers should, accordingly, get proper remuneration and there should be swift response system regarding storage facilities and export policies. She further emphasized the need to encourage food processing industry, both at micro and macro level, to help farmers.

Shri Anil Desai, of Shiv Sena (SS), appreciated the steps taken by the Centre such as increasing the Budget for storage and giving loans and subsidies for private investment in the sector. However, he felt that results had not been encouraging. Apart from shortage of space, he stated that poor management of logistics of foodgrain movement was also a cause of this crisis. If a way could be devised to predict area-wise demand, some of the grain could be stored in consumer States, rather than in producer States. He added that one of the deterrents for private storage investment in Punjab was low rents. To overcome this, farmers should be encouraged to hold their produce for a few months by offering increased payment for delayed sale. He complained that things being produced in Maharashtra were not getting markets and blamed it to lack of proper approach from the Government side. Also, no impetus was being given for export of the produce by the Government. He urged the Government to look into those issues.

Replying to the discussion, Shri K.V. Thomas, the Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, stated that within a span of 65 years the country has become capable of producing foodgrains not only sufficient for the people of the country, but for export also. He informed that the country exported 40-44 lakh tonnes of rice and 8 lakh tonnes of wheat under Open General Licence (OGL), this year.

Regarding procurement of food grains, he said that in the past FCI had been procuring 20-25 per cent of the whole produce but this year it procured around 34-35 per cent. To manage this, he said that FCI was being modernised and 10,000 additional staff would be added to it. He stated that during the last five years Minimum Support Price (MSP) has doubled. Many States were giving bonus which was encouraging farmers to approach FCI or State agencies, rather than private traders.

Thus, FCI had to procure more than what actually was needed for PDS. He reiterated what the Finance Minister had said in the other House that all should sit together to decide the mechanism of procurement.

Disagreeing with the reports about large quantity of foodgrains getting damaged, he said that in 2002-03 the quantity of damaged foodgrains was 1.35 lakh tonnes which has come down to 0.03 lakh tonnes currently. He requested the members to verify FCI godowns in their respective States. He conveyed that a Consultative Committee with one Member of Parliament as the Chairman and having citizens, including media persons, as the members, had been constituted in every State to keep the system transparent. Regarding deficiency of jute bags for grains he said that it happened because in November 2011 States could not properly make an assessment of the required number of bags. He, however, said that efforts were being made to manage the situation through other means, like use of high density plastic bags and used bags of previous one or two years.

To enhance storage capacity he informed that grants had been sanctioned to States to construct small godowns. Also, under Private Entrepreneurs Guarantee (PEG) Scheme, construction of store houses having capacity of 151 lakh tonnes would complete by 2013.

He, further, refuted that there was any restriction on the movement of foodgrains. Not denying that the PDS has not been foolproof, he said there had been impressive revival of PDS across the country as per a survey by Prof. Gilchrist. Crediting the States for modernization of the system, he informed that in Chhattisgarh, the movement of food grains was being monitored through the satellites. Also, *Aadhar* system was being implemented and computerization was taking place.

Regarding nutrition he said that in the proposed Food Security Bill, a particular level of nutrition would become the Right of every person. The Government would be obliged to provide the specified amount of calories, as prescribed in the Bill, to pregnant women and to the children, from the age of three months till they go to eighth standard.

Short Duration Discussion on Normalisation of Relations with Pakistan and Issues Relating to Human Rights Violations of Minorities in Pakistan: A Short Duration Discussion on normalization of relations with Pakistan and issues relating to human rights violations of minorities in the country took place in the House on 17 May 2012.

Initiating the discussion, Shri Balbir Punj of Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) said that in 1947 when the country was partitioned,

Pakistan declared itself as an Islamic country whereas India adopted a secular Constitution. He said that it was a matter of pride that a secular and democratic Constitution is being followed successfully in the country for the last 65 years.

He said that before 1947 total population of Hindus and Sikhs in Pakistan, excluding Bangladesh, was 15 per cent and in 1951 census, it was around 11 to 12 per cent. Today this population has dwindled to 1.4 or 1.5 per cent only. This was because most of the Hindus and Sikhs were forced to convert to Islam. Referring to the National Human Rights Commission of Pakistan, he said that every month 25 to 30 abduction cases of young Hindu girls were reported, who were forcibly married to Muslims after being converted to Islam. He added that in 1947 there were more than 50 gurudwaras and temples in Lahore and today there is only one gurudwara. He urged the Government to assure that Hindu refugees who come to India would be issued visas without any hassles. Also, Hindus wishing to take shelter in the country would be given citizenship immediately.

Participating in the discussion* Shri Naresh Agarwal of Samajwadi Party (SP) said that in Pakistan not only Hindu minorities were being tortured, but also Muslims who went to Pakistan from India were also, facing step motherly treatment. He said that whatever was happening in Pakistan was against humanity. He stated that the discussion in this regard would only be justified if some strict step was taken. He expressed disappointment over the fact that on one hand so many people from India were behind the bars in Pakistan and on the other hand so much money was being spent on Mohammed Kasab, a terrorist.

He said that Article 7 of the Constitution, which says that people who migrated to Pakistan after 1 March 1947 shall not be deemed citizen of India, should be amended so that people suffering there could come back and get India's citizenship.

Speaking on the issue Shri Baishnab Parida of Biju Janata Dal (BJD) said that since its inception and formation as a Secular, Socialist Republic, India has declared itself against any sort of oppression, subjugation or discrimination in the name of religion, race, caste and creed. He said that division of India was not just based on religion,

* Others who took part in the discussion were: Sarvashri Husain Dalwai, Shivanand Tiwari, Mohammed Adeeb, Om Prakash Mathur, Tarun Vijay, Dr. Bharatkumar Raut and Dr. M.S. Gill.

but was a political division also. Not only Muslim League but other fundamentalist groups were also responsible for the present condition. Both Hindus and Muslims were suffering on account of them. Mentioning that he was very much against the fundamentalists of Pakistan who were oppressing Hindus in the name of religion, he pointed out that he felt equally ashamed when Godhra massacre took place in the country. He said that the House must urge the Indian Government to take up the issue at international forums. Also, through bilateral discussions it should be conveyed to Pakistan that Hindus should not be discriminated and oppressed and their religious rights must be upheld by the Government of Pakistan.

Explaining about the abysmal condition of minorities in Pakistan Shri Avinash Rai Khanna of Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) mentioned about the disgraceful treatment being meted out to religious places of minorities, incidents of threatening for ransom, kidnapping of girls and their forced marriages after being converted to Islam and undue killings of minorities. He said that as was done for Sri Lanka, a delegation of all parties should go to Pakistan to inculcate a sense of security in the minorities and to assure them of assistance. He further brought to the notice of the Home Minister how minority refugees of Pakistan were deprived of even basic amenities in the country *viz.* water and electricity supply. He, also, requested the Government to simplify the rules regarding issue of passport and giving citizenship to them.

Replying to the points raised by the Members, the Minister of External Affairs Shri S.M. Krishna, at the outset said that there was an imperative need for India and Pakistan to live as good neighbours and that was possible only when Pakistan subscribes to the concept of 'good neighbourly relationship'. He informed that it had been consistently conveyed to Pakistan that for peace, progress and prosperity of both the countries and in the extended region of neighborhood, it was necessary for Pakistan to fulfil its solemn commitment of not allowing its territory to be controlled or used for fomenting terrorism against India.

He stated that from time to time Government had come across reports regarding incidents of persecution, intimidation and conversion of minority communities in Pakistan. Recently, in three separate incidents in the Sindh province of Pakistan, Hindu girls were married against their will to Muslim men after being forcibly converted to Islam. He informed that on 8 May 2012 Government had conveyed to the Pakistan High Commission about their concern regarding these

incidents. He stated that while the Shimla Agreement of 1972 between India and Pakistan specifically provided for non-interference in each other's internal affairs, nevertheless, Indian Government has taken up the matter with the Government of Pakistan. The Minister, further, informed that according to a press release of Government of Pakistan, President of Pakistan had taken a serious note of the reports. He has called for transparent and expeditious investigations in the matter and to take action in accordance with the law, regardless of the influence and status of anyone involved in criminal activity.

The Minister, further, mentioned about some Pakistani nationals belonging to minority communities who came to India on Group Pilgrim Visa and had not gone back to Pakistan on the grounds of religious persecution there. He stated that grant of citizenship to foreign nationals was being done as per the provisions of the Citizenship Act of 1955, depending on the number of years spent in India or on other factors, like marriage to an Indian national, foreigner of Indian origin, etc. Therefore, to apply for citizenship they would have to go through the process prescribed by the Act of Parliament. Regarding liberalization of visa scheme, he said, that the Revised Bilateral Visa Agreement was to be signed during the forthcoming Home Secretary level talks with Pakistan, in the later part of the month. This would facilitate and liberalize travel between the two countries.

He said that the issue in question was quite sensitive, especially while dealing with a country with which India has to live in harmony. He hoped that Pakistan would see the path of reason and would help in bettering the relationship between two countries.

Calling Attention to Discrimination and Racial Profiling Faced by the Students from the North-Eastern States in Some Parts of the Country: On 4 May 2012, the Leader of the Opposition, Shri Arun Jaitley, called the attention of the Minister of Home Affairs to the discrimination and racial profiling faced by the students from the North-Eastern States in some parts of the country.

Replying to the Calling Attention, the Minister of Home Affairs, Shri P. Chidambaram stated that there have been reports regarding racial profiling and discrimination against students from the North-Eastern States in various parts of the country. He emphasized that the recent death of Ms. Dana Sangma studying in Gurgaon, Haryana and of Shri Richard Loitam studying in Bengaluru and the allegations of racial profiling against Tibetans during the recent BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) summit have caused disquiet

and agitation among the North- Eastern community, especially students from the region. He stressed that the Government of India attached highest importance to development of the North-Eastern region as well as prevention of atrocities against the Scheduled Tribes and will not tolerate discrimination in any form. He mentioned that under the Constitution, 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects and, therefore, the State Governments/UT Administrations are primarily responsible for the prevention, detention, registration, investigation and prosecution of crimes arising out of discrimination. He mentioned that three DCP-level officers have been designated as Nodal Officers to specifically address the problems faced by the students and other residents from North-Eastern States. Further, he stated that a "North East Connect Cell", headed by a Joint Secretary level officer, has been formed in the Ministry of Development of North-Eastern Region (DoNER) to serve as a coordination point with Resident Commissioners of all eight North-Eastern States and with the students and citizens bodies of people from these States. Besides these measures, an interactive website, devoted to the people hailing from the North-Eastern Region, has been developed by the Ministry of Development of North-Eastern Region in consultation with the National Informatics Centre. He categorically stated that any citizen belonging to the North-Eastern States is free to travel to and reside in any part of the country. He assured that the Government of India will take every step to ensure their security and State Governments too will discharge their Constitutional responsibilities and ensure the safety and security of all people residing within that State.

Replying to the discussion*, Shri Chidambaram thanked the Leader of the Opposition for raising the issue. He admitted that there was discrimination towards certain sections of people but he was absolutely confident that the good sense and the sense of tolerance that has permeated India through centuries would eventually prevail and then the sense of discrimination will also disappear over a period of time. Responding briefly to the suggestions and measures given by the Members he stated that in 2009 a clear standing order by Delhi Police was issued and this standing order was replaced by an even more

* Others who took part in the discussion were : Sarvashri Tarun Vijay, Kumar Deepak Das, D. Raja, Pankaj Bora, Bhubaneswar Kalita, Biswajit Daimary, Mohan Singh, Birendra Prasad Baishya, Balbir Punj, Ravi Shankar Prasad, D. Bandyopadhyay, Ram Kripal Yadav, Thomas Sangma, Dr. Chandan Mitra, Dr. Janardhan Waghmare, Dr. (Shrimati) Najma Heptulla and Shrimati Jharna Das Baidya

comprehensive standing order on the 25 October, 2010 which stated that a clear zero tolerance policy as far as crime against women in general and North-Eastern States in particular are concerned. Areas where there is concentration of the North-Eastern people have been identified and police presence and police patrolling has been strengthened covering not only hostels but also the residential colonies. He stated that in the areas where people from the North East reside, the SHOs have been advised to hold at least one meeting once in two months and regular meetings with community leaders. Commenting on the issue of Tibetans protest during BRICS Summit he stated that Tibetans residing in India have a right to protest, but should do it in the earmarked places for protest. He said that protesting where the Chinese Head of State was staying, could not be allowed as it would amount to security threat. He assured the House and the people of the country that he welcomed the mingling of the North-Eastern students with the rest of India.

Discussion on Working of the Ministry of Coal: A discussion on the working of the Ministry of Coal took place on the 2 May 2012.

Initiating the discussion, Shri Rama Chandra Khuntia of Indian National Congress (INC) pointed out that the country has coal deposits of around 2,85,862 million tonnes which would exhaust in next 443 years. To counter this he appealed the Government to explore other avenues of energy to reduce dependency on coal. To check illegal mining and coal mafia, he stressed on early adoption of recommendations of the Standing Committee on Coal, viz. deployment of Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) in coal mine areas, strict adherence of mines closure plan by companies and setting up of quasi judicial body to look into the illegal mines.

Stating that Odisha has 24 per cent of coal deposits of the country, he associated himself with the demand of Government of Odisha to increase the royalty on coal. Expressing concern over the death of workers in frequent accidents occurring in coal mines he stressed on undertaking strict preventive measures in this regard. He said that it should be ensured that contract labourers also get proper wages, social security and other benefits as they also do same work in dangerous places as other regular workers do. Speaking on pollution threat posed by coal mines he urged the Minister of Coal to take appropriate steps to control air and water pollution around them. He opined that local people should be given employment in coalfields and sufficient funds should be provided for development of the area. He emphasized on not giving coal blocks to private entrepreneurs as they

use them for other commercial purposes or try to sell it to other contractors. Also, to get undue benefits, private sector people try to allure the officers of public sector companies by promising them jobs in their company after retirement. He further objected on e-tendering of coal as poor people or village people, involved in small scale industry, were not able to participate in it.

Drawing the attention* of the Minister of Coal towards rights of the workers of coal mines Shri Shyamal Chakraborty of Communist Party of India (Marxist) said that the contract workers were being appointed in violation of the Contract Workers Act 1970 which laid down the principle of appointing permanent workers in perennial type of jobs. He stated that the Government had not fixed the salary of contract workers at par with permanent workers even after 4 months of its promise, made subsequent to proposed strike by coal mine workers. Alleging that the Government was being reluctant and casual regarding safety measures, he requested the Government to ensure that at least minimum safety norms were maintained in coal mines. He also brought to the notice of the Government deplorable condition of hospitals due to inadequate facilities. He reminded the Government of its commitment to provide hospital facilities and pension benefits to retired employees. Appreciating Government's initiative to provide free education to children of coal mine workers in IT institutions, he sought assurance from the Minister for making provision for free education at primary and secondary level also.

He urged the Government to set up a regulatory commission for controlling increasing price of coal which was contributing to price hike of electricity, steel, cement etc. He expressed anxiousness over decreasing supply of coal which was impacting power generation adversely. Regarding coal distribution he requested the Government to look into the reasons why Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) were returning coal blocks allotted to them, instead of exploring them. Speaking on the problem of land acquisition for mining, he stated that displaced people should be given compensation package on the basis

* Others who took part in the discussion were: Sarvashri Prakash Javadekar, Veer Singh, Sukhendu Sekhar Roy, Pyarimohan Mohapatra, A. Elavarasan, Sanjay Raut, Ram Kripal Yadav, V.P. Singh Badnore, D. Bandyopadhyay, Piyush Goyal, M.P. Achuthan, Jai Prakash Narayan Singh, Prof. Anil Kumar Sahani and Dr. K.V.P. Ramachandra Rao.

of market rates. At the end he insisted the Government to take serious stand to check coal mafias and illegal mining.

Speaking on the issue, Smt. Vasanthi Stanley of Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) expressed disappointment over the fact that there had been no increase in the Budget estimates of the Ministry of Coal for 2012-13 since the last financial year. She expressed concern over the dwindling coal production as compared to the targeted production since 2008-09. However, she welcomed the Bill being drafted by the Ministry on the setting up of a coal regulator. She asked the Ministry to appoint an Appellate Authority on the lines of Appellate Tribunal for Electricity (ATE) in power sector. She said that penalties should be increased for shortfalls in quality and quantity of coal produced. She added that the Ministry should take serious note of the concerns expressed by the Standing Committee on Coal and Steel in last few Reports. Suggestions included implementation of ongoing projects on fast-track basis to avoid under utilization of scarce funds. Regarding environmental clearances she said that Coal India Limited (CIL) needed to improve its environmental performance, given the fact that mining could be environmentally regressive. She asked the Minister of Coal to be concerned about the loss of revenue reflected in the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) Report. She urged the Ministry to ensure that States suffering from power crisis were given due consideration for uninterrupted supply of coal.

Replying to the points raised by the Members, Shri Sriprakash Jaiswal, Minister of Coal initially made a statement regarding the Ministry's Demands for Grants. He informed that the Budget of the Ministry of Coal for 2012-13 consisted of Gross Budgetary Support (GBS) in the form of Plan outlay of Rs. 450 crore and Non-Plan outlay of Rs. 43.85 crore. He stated that Plan outlays were meant for funding 6 Central schemes, of which 3 were provided GBS by the Government of India against its collections from Stowing Excise Duty. Also, three PSUs namely Coal India Limited, Neyveli Lignite Corporation and Singareni Collieries Company Limited had proposed to invest Rs. 9,182.78 crore out of their internal and extra Budgetary resources for their development activities. CIL had also set apart Rs. 5,500 crore as an *ad hoc* provision for acquisition and development of assets abroad.

Justifying the distribution of coal blocks he stated that in view of the deficiency of coal, dismal production of CIL and to take care of future needs of more power, all Governments since 1993 had been allocating coal blocks to private sector companies so that development

was not hampered. He said that for rapid industrialization, employment generation and to allay poverty in the country it was necessary to promote public as well as private sector.

He also mentioned that in 2006, in view of increasing demand it was decided that coal blocks should be allotted through bidding. He said that in a democratic set up long procedures were required to be followed for such change. Consent of State Governments and Trade Unions in this regard took many years. After the introduction of the Bill in Rajya Sabha, approval of Standing Committee also took years. Thereafter, elections followed and after which the passing of the Bill in the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha and then its becoming an Act took 2 years. He conveyed that coal blocks were being identified now for the bidding procedure. He said that in this whole span past procedure of allocating coal blocks had to be continued, as growth and industrialization could not be stopped on the pretext that the blocks should be allocated by bidding.

On the question of insufficient supply to power plants he stated that no plant in the country had ever been closed due to lack of coal. He said that many power plants were running their own plants due to which coal supply from coal linkages, meant for them, fell short. He stated that power plants should import coal to fulfill their extra requirement of coal. Although, he assured the House that no Thermal plant would ever face closure due to shortage of coal.

Regarding review of coal blocks he said that 26 coal blocks had been dismissed for deliberate delayed production. Others were issued advisories and show cause notices. He, however, said that it was not possible to confiscate all coal blocks. The matter of collecting cess, in relation to royalty, was referred to a Nine-Judge Bench of the Supreme Court, he informed. He said Cabinet had approved proposal to make 14 per cent royalty *ad valorem* and it would be implemented soon.

He further mentioned that with Presidential Directive the Government had approved the signing of Fuel Supply Agreement (FSA), between coal companies and power producers, at 80 per cent of the committed quantity of fuel instead of at 50-60 per cent being done earlier. He, further, stated that it was not appropriate to set up factories or airports near power plants as it resulted in development of townships near them and when plant would be dismantled, after 30 or 40 years, nearby population would suffer.

B. LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

*Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (Amendment) Bill, 2010**: On 24 April 2012, the Minister of Human Resource Development, Shri Kapil Sibal moved for consideration of the House the Bill to amend the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009. He informed the House that the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 had been published in the Gazette on 27 August 2009 and has hence become effective since 1 April 2010. Consequent upon the enactment of the Act, several representations had been received which sought two specific amendments. One amendment was to clause (d) of section 2 of the aforesaid Act of 2009 which defined the expression 'child belonging to disadvantaged group', however children with disabilities, even though disadvantaged were not included in the clause. The Bill proposed to include children with disabilities in the definition of 'child belonging to disadvantaged group' with a view to ensure that their specific needs are given precedence in the elementary education system in the country and enable them to participate as full equal members of the community in which they live. Further, Section 3 subsection 2 of the Act stated that the 'children suffering from disability as defined in the clause (i) of section 2 of the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection and Full Participation) Act, 1995 shall have the right to pursue free and compulsory elementary education in accordance with the provisions of Chapter V of the said Act. However the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection and Full Participation) Act, 1955, does not cover children with cerebral palsy, mental retardation, autism and multiple disabilities, who are covered under the National Trust for Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities Act, 1999 (Act of 1999). Accordingly, the Bill proposed that children with cerebral palsy, mental retardation, autism and multiple disabilities are also explicitly covered under the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009. The other set of amendments had been suggested in the context of articles 29 and 90 of the Constitution. The Bill proposed to amend Section 21 of the Act of 2002 so as to provide that the School Management Committees constituted under sub-section (1) of section 21 of the aforesaid Act in respect of minority institutions shall function only in an advisory capacity. It is also proposed to amend Section 22 of the Act so as to provide that the functions envisaged under the said section 22 for School Management Committees would not apply to minority institutions.

* Extract from the 'Objects and Reasons' of the Bill.

Replying to the debate*, the Minister of Human Resource Development, Shri Kapil Sibal thanked the Members for their valuable contribution. He said that the objective of 25 percent reservation in private schools was inclusive education; the vision of the Government was to create an egalitarian and inclusive society. Addressing the need for widening the definition of 'disabilities', he stated that the Ministry of Social Justice is in the process of carrying out a complete amendment of the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection and Full Participation) Act, 1955 and the National Trust for Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities Act, 1999. He further elaborated that he never used the term 'disability' publicly and the differently abled should not be looked with any sense of discrimination. Referring to the issue of articles 29 and 30 of the Constitution he said that the Supreme Court had given a clear direction that unaided minority institutions will not be governed by the provisions of this Act and therefore the amendment enacted through the Bill sought that even in aided institutions the management committees would not govern the minority institutions. He stressed on the fact that 'Health' was a State subject and hence State and the Central governments should work together to address the problem of 'malnourishment'. He said that the necessary educational framework was being given so that teachers can be provided to deal with children with special needs.

The motion for consideration of the Bill and clauses, etc. were adopted and the Bill was passed.

The Copyright Amendment Bill, 2010: On 17 May 2012, the Union Minister of Human Resource Development, Shri Kapil Sibal moved the Bill to amend the Copyright Act 1957 for consideration. While introducing the Bill he stated that in the new digital world, the nature of rights of various stakeholders needed to be looked at afresh. He further stated that the resolution of disputes between key stakeholders needed to be addressed and a permanent mechanism created for the resolution of those disputes; where international treaties to which we are signatories persuade us to bring our laws consistent with those international conventions. He informed the House that the amendments proposed in

* Those who took part in the discussion were: Sarvashri P. Rajeeve, Shivanand Tiwari, D. Bandyopadhyay, Naresh Agrawal, Tiruchi Siva, Baishnab Parida, A.W. Rabi Bernard, Sanjay Raut, V.P. Singh Badnore, Derek O' Brien, Mohammed Adeeb, Dr. Bhalchandra Mungekar and Dr. Bharatkumar Raut.

the Bill covered seven broad areas viz., the rights of authors and music composers who are the real creators of intellectual properties; the rights conferred to the visually impaired; extending the compulsory licence regime to the unpublished works other than orphan works; having a new regime of statutory licences in respect of cover version recordings and a statutory licence for broadcasters; bringing the WIPO Copyright Treaty and the WIPO Performances and Phonograms Treaty and ensuring that our Copyright Act provisions are consistent with those treaties, so that the right of performers can be enhanced; impose certain exceptions and limitations wherein we stipulate that certain Acts will not be deemed to be infringement of the copyright laws; some punitive action for those who still seek to infringe the Copyright law through new technologies.

Replying to the debate*, the Minister of Human Resource Development, Shri Kapil Sibal said that as far as WIPO Copyright Treaty (WCT) and WIPO Performances and Phonograms Treaty (WPPT) were concerned, the present Act was being brought in harmony with them even though India is not a signatory to them. He further elaborated that the provisions of WCT and WPPT extended copyrights to the digital world to help the publishing, film and music industries and also the authors; in addition to extending rights to performers and giving them exclusive rights and moral rights. Thus specific provisions in this Amendment were made for moral rights as well as exclusive rights. He further mentioned that Piracy was made punishable under this Act through the Amendment. He explained about the new clause 65 (a) and (b), which helped the publishing, film and music industry, including authors, to protect their works from piracy in the internet world. Concluding his reply the Minister stated that words and phrases cannot be copyrighted, for e.g. *'Inquilab Zindabad'* is not copyrighted under the law.

The motion for consideration of the Bill and clauses, etc. were adopted and the Bill was passed.

C. QUESTION HOUR

During the Session, 13112 notices of Question (8814 Starred and 4298 Unstarred) were received. Out of these 660 Questions were

* Those who took part in the discussion were: Sarvashri Javed Akhtar, Ravi Shankar Prasad, Shantaram Naik, P. Rajeeve, N.K. Singh, Tiruchi Siva, Baishnab Parida, Prakash Javadekar, M.P. Achuthan, Prof. S.P. Singh Baghel, Dr. Bharatkumar Raut, Dr. Prabha Thakur and Smt. Jaya Bachchan.

admitted as Starred and 5115 Questions were admitted as Unstarred. 103 Starred Questions were orally answered. The total number of Questions received in Hindi was 2423.

Daily average of Questions: All the lists of Starred Questions contained 20 Questions each. On an average, 3.21 Questions were orally answered, for all the sittings having Question Hour. The maximum number of Questions orally answered was 8 on 3 May 2012 and the minimum number of Questions orally answered was 1 on 22 March and 16 May 2012.

All the lists of Unstarred Questions contained 155 Questions.

Half-an-Hour Discussion: 24 notices of Half-an-Hour Discussion were received; and two of them were admitted and discussed.

Short Notice Question: 41 notices of Short Notice Questions were received. A total of 12 such notices were admitted, out of which 2 were laid on the Table of The House and 10 were answered orally.

D. OBITUARY REFERENCES

During the Session, obituary references were made on the passing away of Shri Rameshwar Singh, Shri Kartar Singh Duggal, Shri Ashwani Kumar, Shri Bibudhendra Mishra, Shri N.K.P. Salve, Dr. Mahabir Prasad, Shri Patitpaban Pradhan, all former Members, and Shri B.B. Tiwari, sitting Member.

Members stood in silence for a short while as a mark of respect to the memory of the deceased.

STATE LEGISLATURES

DELHI LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY*

The Tenth Session of the Fourth Delhi Legislative Assembly commenced on 28 May 2012 and was adjourned *sine die* on 6 June 2012. There were 8 sittings in all.

Legislative business: During the Session, the following seven Bills were introduced and passed by the House. (i) The Indira Gandhi Delhi Technical University for Women Bill, 2012; (ii) Appropriation (No. 2) Bill, 2012; (iii) The Court Fees (Delhi Amendment) Bill, 2012; (iv) The Indian Stamp (Delhi Amendment) Bill, 2012; (v) Delhi Value Added Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2012; (vi) Delhi Value Added Tax (Third Amendment) Bill, 2012; and (vii) Delhi Tax on Luxuries (Amendment) Bill, 2012.

Financial business: On 28 May 2012, the Chief Minister, Smt. Sheila Dikshit who also holds the Finance portfolio, presented the Budget for the year 2012-13 in the House. The Budget was debated for 4 days, in which 16 members participated, before it was passed by the House on 4 June 2012.

MANIPUR LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

The Second Session of the Tenth Manipur Legislative Assembly commenced on 27 June 2012 and was adjourned *sine die* on 13 July 2012. There were 12 sittings in all.

Financial business: During the Session, the Chief Minister, Shri O. Ibobi Singh who also holds the Finance portfolio presented the Budget Estimates for the year 2012-13; the Demands for Grants for the year 2012-13; and the Vote on Accounts for the year 2012-2013; which were discussed and passed.

Obituary references: During the Session, obituary reference was made on the passing away of Shri T. Gougin, former member of the Manipur Legislative Assembly from Singhat (ST) Constituency.

* Material contributed by the Delhi Legislative Assembly Secretariat

** Material contributed by the Manipur Legislative Assembly Secretariat

WEST BENGAL LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY*

The Fifteenth West Bengal Legislative Assembly which commenced its Fifth Session on 15 June 2012 was adjourned *sine die* on 6 July 2012. The Governor prorogued the House on the same day. There were 17 sittings in all.

Oath by new Members: On 20 June 2012, Smt. Mamta Bhunia and Smt. Minati Misra, elected in the bye-elections from Daspur and Bankura Assembly Constituencies, respectively, took oath before the Speaker, State Legislative Assembly.

Financial business: On 28 March 2012, the Minister in-Charge of the Finance Department, Dr. Amit Mitra had placed before the House the Demands for Grants for the year 2012-2013. The discussion and voting which started on 20 June 2012 concluded on 3 July 2012. In all, 29 Demands for Grants were discussed and voted. Thirty three Demands for Grants were guillotined on 3 July 2012.

Obituary references: During the Session, obituary references were made on the passing away of Sarvashri Kashinath Mishra, a sitting member of the State Legislative Assembly; Dipankar Mukherjee, former member of the Rajya Sabha; Santosh Kumar Roy, Bhabatosh Soren and Nanda Gopal Bhattacharjee, all former Ministers of Government of West Bengal; Jagadish Chandra Das, former member of West Bengal Legislative Assembly; Mohit Chattopadhyay, an eminent playwright, script writer and poet; Smt. Chhabi Bandyopadhyay, legendary *Kirtan* exponent and Ustad Mehdi Hassan Khan, India born *Ghazal* legend.

* Material contributed by the West Bengal Legislative Assembly Secretariat

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APPENDIX I
STATEMENT SHOWING THE WORK
TRANSACTIONED DURING THE TENTH SESSION
OF THE FIFTEENTH LOK SABHA

1. PERIOD OF THE SESSION	12 March to 22 May 2012
2. NUMBER OF SITTINGS HELD	34
3. TOTAL NUMBER OF SITTING HOURS	182 hours and 1 minute
4. TIME LOST DUE TO INTERRUPTIONS/ FORCED ADJOURNMENTS	48 hours 27 minutes
5. HOUSE SITTING LATE TO COMPLETE LISTED BUSINESS	41 hours and 4 minutes
6. GOVERNMENT BILLS	
(i) Pending at the commencement of the Session	47
(ii) Introduced	21
(iii) Laid on the Table as passed by the Rajya Sabha	8
(iv) Returned by the Rajya Sabha with any amendment/ Recommendation and laid on the Table	2
(v) Discussed	22
(vi) Passed	21
(vii) Withdrawn	Nil
(viii) Negatived	Nil
(ix) Part-discussed	1
(x) Returned by the Rajya Sabha without any Recommendation	9
(xi) Pending at the end of the Session	55
7. PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS	
(i) Pending at the commencement of the Session	205
(ii) Introduced	53
(iii) Discussed	2
(iv) Passed	Nil
(v) Withdrawn	3
(vi) Negatived	Nil
(vii) Part-discussed	1
(viii) Pending at the end of the Session	255

<i>Appendices</i>	363
8. NUMBER OF DISCUSSIONS HELD UNDER RULE 184	Nil
(i) Notice received	1,039
(ii) Admitted	84
(iii) Discussed	Nil
9. NUMBER OF MATTERS RAISED UNDER RULE 377	434
10. NUMBER OF MATTERS RAISED ON URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE DURING ZERO HOUR	634
11. NUMBER OF DISCUSSIONS HELD UNDER RULE 193	5
(i) Notice received	292
(ii) Admitted	7
(iii) Discussion held	5
(iv) Part-discussed	2
12. NUMBER OF STATEMENTS MADE UNDER RULE 197	5
13. STATEMENTS MADE BY MINISTERS	56
14. ADJOURNMENT MOTION	Nil
(i) Notice received	40
(ii) Brought before the House	Nil
(iii) Admitted	Nil
15. NUMBER OF MATTERS RAISED BY WAY OF CALLING ATTENTION	5
16. GOVERNMENT RESOLUTIONS	
(i) Notice received	7
(ii) Admitted	7
(iii) Moved	1
(iv) Adopted	1
(v) Negatived	Nil
(vi) Part-discussed	Nil
17. PRIVATE MEMBERS' RESOLUTIONS	
(i) Notice received	9
(ii) Admitted	9
(iii) Moved	1
(iv) Adopted	Nil

(v) Negatived	1
(vi) Part-discussed	1
18. GOVERNMENT MOTIONS	
(i) Notices received	1
(ii) Admitted	1
(iii) Moved & Discussed	Nil
(iv) Adopted	1
(v) Negatived	Nil
(vi) Withdrawn	Nil
(vii) Part-discussed	Nil
19. PRIVILEGES MOTIONS	
(i) Notice received	22
(ii) Brought before the House	9
(iii) Consent withheld by Speaker	Nil
(iv) Observation made by Speaker	9
20. NUMBER, NAME AND DATE OF PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES CONSTITUTED, IF ANY, DURING THE SESSION	4
(i) Committee on Absence of Members from the Sittings of the House-Constituted on 21 April 2012	
(ii) Estimates Committee-Constituted on 1 May 2012	
(iii) Public Accounts Committee-Constituted on 1 May 2012	
(iv) Committee on Public Undertakings-Constituted on 1 May 2012	
21. TOTAL NUMBER OF VISITOR PASSES ISSUED DURING THE SESSION	23,081
22. TOTAL NUMBER OF VISITORS TO THE PARLIAMENT MUSEUM DURING THE SESSION	6,640 plus Foreign Delegates
23. TOTAL NUMBER OF QUESTIONS ADMITTED	
(i) Starred	660
(ii) Un-starred	7,590
(iii) Short Notice Questions	Nil
(iv) Half-an-Hour Discussions	1

24. WORKING OF PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES

Sl. No.	Name of the Committee	No. of sittings held	No. of Reports presented
1	2	3	4
i)	Business Advisory Committee	—	—
ii)	Committee on Absence of Members from the Sittings of the House	—	—
iii)	Committee on Empowerment of Women	3	2
iv)	Committee on Estimates	—	—
v)	Committee on Ethics	—	—
vi)	Committee on Government Assurances	4	3
vii)	Committee on Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS)	2	1
viii)	Committee on Papers Laid on the Table	2	1
ix)	Committee on Petitions	2	—
x)	Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions	2	2
xi)	Committee of Privileges	—	—
xii)	Committee on Public Accounts	—	—
xiii)	Committee on Public Undertakings	6	2
xiv)	Committee on Subordinate Legislation	3	1
xv)	Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes	5	1
xvi)	General Purposes Committee	—	—
xvii)	House Committee		
	(a) Accommodation Sub-Committee		
	(b) Sub-Committee on Amenities		
xviii)	Library Committee	—	—
xix)	Railway Convention Committee	2	1
xx)	Rules Committee	—	—
JOINT/SELECT COMMITTEE			
i)	Joint Committee on Office of Profit	3	—
ii)	Joint Committee on Salaries and Allowances of Members of Parliament	—	—
DEPARTMENTALLY-RELATED STANDING COMMITTEES			
i)	Committee on Agriculture	13	5
ii)	Committee on Chemicals and Fertilizers	4	3
iii)	Committee on Coal & Steel	8	7
iv)	Committee on Defence	—	—

v)	Committee on Energy	4	3
vi)	Committee on External Affairs	—	—
vii)	Committee on Finance	—	—
viii)	Committee on Food, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution	—	—
ix)	Committee on Information Technology	—	—
x)	Committee on Labour	—	—
xi)	Committee on Petroleum & Natural Gas	—	—
xii)	Committee on Railways	6	4
xiii)	Committee on Rural Development	10	5
xiv)	Committee on Social Justice & Empowerment	6	4
xv)	Committee on Urban Development	5	3
xvi)	Committee on Water Resources	3	1

25. CELL ON PARLIAMENTARY FORUMS

Sl. No.	Name of Forum	No. of Meetings held during the period	No. of Lectures held
1.	Parliamentary Forum on Water Conservation and Management	2	2
2.	Parliamentary Forum on Youth	2	2
3.	Parliamentary Forum on Global Warming and Climate Change	2	2
4.	Parliamentary Forum on Population and Public Health	1	1
5.	Parliamentary Forum on Children	5	4
6.	Parliamentary Forum on Disaster Management	2	1

APPENDIX II

**STATEMENT SHOWING THE WORK TRANSACTED
DURING THE TWO HUNDRED AND TWENTY FIFTH
SESSION OF THE RAJYA SABHA**

1. PERIOD OF THE SESSION	12.3.2012 to 22.5.2012
2. NUMBER OF SITTINGS HELD	35
3. TOTAL NUMBER OF SITTING HOURS	164 hours and 12 minutes
4. NUMBER OF DIVISIONS HELD	2
5. GOVERNMENT BILLS	
(i) Pending at the commencement of the Session	49
(ii) Introduced	5
(iii) Laid on the Table as passed by the Lok Sabha	15
(iv) Returned by Lok Sabha with any amendment	1
(v) Referred to Select Committee by the Rajya Sabha	1
(vi) Referred to Joint Committee by the Rajya Sabha	Nil
(vii) Referred to the Department-related Standing Committees	5
(viii) Reported by Select Committee	Nil
(ix) Reported by Joint Committee	Nil
(x) Reported by the Department-related Standing Committees	1
(xi) Discussed	24
(xii) Passed	23
(xiii) Withdrawn	Nil
(xiv) Negatived	Nil
(xv) Part-discussed	Nil
(xvi) Returned by the Rajya Sabha without any Recommendation	9
(xvii) Discussion postponed	2
(xviii) Pending at the end of the Session	46
6. PRIVATE MEMBERS BILLS	
(i) Pending at the Commencement of the Session	170
(ii) Introduced	26
(iii) Laid on the Table as passed by the Lok Sabha	Nil
(iv) Returned by the Lok Sabha with any amendment and laid on the Table	Nil
(v) Reported by Joint Committee	Nil
(vi) Discussed	2
(vii) Withdrawn	2

(viii) Passed	Nil
(ix) Negatived	Nil
(x) Circulated for eliciting opinion	Nil
(xi) Part-discussed	1
(xii) Discussion postponed	Nil
(xiii) Motion for circulation of Bill negatived	Nil
(xiv) Referred to Select Committee	Nil
(xv) Lapsed due to retirement/death of Member-in-charge of the Bill	88
(xvi) Pending at the end of the Session	106
7. NUMBER OF DISCUSSIONS HELD UNDER RULE 176 (Matters of Urgent Public Importance)	
(i) Notices received	66
(ii) Admitted	3
(iii) Discussions held	3
NUMBER OF STATEMENT MADE UNDER RULE 180 (Calling Attention to Matters of Urgent Public Importance)	
8. STATEMENT MADE BY MINISTERS	3
9. HALF-AN-HOUR DISCUSSIONS HELD	2
10. STATUTORY RESOLUTIONS	
(i) Notices received	Nil
(ii) Admitted	Nil
(iii) Moved	Nil
(iv) Adopted	Nil
(v) Negatived	Nil
(vi) Withdrawn	Nil
11. GOVERNMENT RESOLUTIONS	
(i) Notices received	5
(ii) Admitted	5
(iii) Moved	Nil
(iv) Adopted	Nil
12. PRIVATE MEMBERS' RESOLUTION	
(i) Received	13
(ii) Admitted	13
(iii) Discussed	Nil
(iv) Withdrawn	Nil
(v) Negatived	Nil
(vi) Adopted	Nil
(vii) Part-discussed	1
(viii) Discussion Postponed	Nil

13. GOVERNMENT MOTIONS	
(i) Notices received	Nil
(ii) Admitted	Nil
(iii) Moved & discussed	Nil
(iv) Adopted	Nil
(v) Part-discussed	Nil
14. PRIVATE MEMBERS' MOTIONS	
(i) Received	177
(ii) Admitted	160
(iii) Moved	Nil
(iv) Adopted	Nil
(v) Part-discussed	Nil
(vi) Negatived	Nil
(vii) Withdrawn	Nil
15. MOTIONS REGARDING MODIFICATION OF STATUTORY RULE	
(i) Received	4
(ii) Admitted	4
(iii) Moved	Nil
(iv) Adopted	Nil
(v) Negatived	Nil
(vi) Withdrawn	Nil
(vii) Part-discussed	Nil
(viii) Lapsed	Nil
16. NUMBER, NAME AND DATE OF PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE CREATED, IF ANY	Nil
17. TOTAL NUMBER OF VISITORS' PASSES ISSUED	3,238
18. TOTAL NUMBER OF VISITORS	5,498
19. MAXIMUM NUMBER OF VISITORS' PASSES ISSUED ON ANY SINGLE DAY, AND DATE ON WHICH ISSUED	450 on 24.4.12
20. MAXIMUM NUMBER OF VISITORS ON ANY SINGLE DAY AND DATE	736 on 24.4.12
21. TOTAL NUMBER OF QUESTIONS ADMITTED	
(i) Starred	660
(ii) Unstarred	5,115
(iii) Short-Notice Questions	12
22. DISCUSSIONS ON THE WORKING OF THE MINISTRIES	3

23. WORKING OF PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES

Sl. No.	Name of Committee	No. of meetings held during the period from 2 April – 30 June 2012	No. of Reports presented during the 225 th Session
(i)	Business Advisory Committee	8	Nil
(ii)	Committee on Subordinate Legislation	2	1
(iii)	Committee on Petitions	6	Nil
(iv)	Committee of Privileges	Nil	Nil
(v)	Committee on Rules	Nil	Nil
(vi)	Committee on Government Assurances	3	Nil
(vii)	Committee on Papers Laid on the Table	3	Nil
(viii)	General Purposes Committee	Nil	Nil
(ix)	House Committee	3	Nil
Department-related Standing Committees :			
(x)	Commerce	10	2
(xi)	Home Affairs	7	2
(xii)	Human Resource Development	10	6
(xiii)	Industry	6	3
(xiv)	Science and Technology, Environment and Forests	5	7
(xv)	Transport, Tourism and Culture	8	7
(xvi)	Health and Family Welfare	8	6
(xvii)	Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice	6	3
Other Committees:			
(xviii)	Committee on Ethics	1	Nil
(xix)	Committee on Provision of Computers Equipment to Members of Rajya Sabha	Nil	Nil
(xx)	Committee on Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme	Nil	Nil

24. NUMBER OF MEMBERS GRANTED LEAVE OF ABSENCE 5

25. PETITIONS PRESENTED 1

26. NAME OF NEW MEMBERS SWORN IN WITH DATES

Sl. No.	Name of Members sworn	Party Affiliation	Date on which sworn
1	2	3	4
1.	Shri Hishey Lachungpa	SDF	12.3.2012
2.	Shri Arun Jaitley	BJP	24.4.2012
3.	Smt. Renuka Chowdhury	INC	-do-

4.	Shri Chiranjeevi Konidala	INC	-do-
5.	Shri C.M. Ramesh	TDP	-do-
6.	Shri Ananda Bhaskar Rapolu	INC	-do-
7.	Shri Ali Anwar Ansari	JD(U)	-do-
8.	Dr. Mahendra Prasad	JD(U)	-do-
9.	Shri Dharmendra Pradhan	BJP	-do-
10.	Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad	BJP	-do-
11.	Prof. Anil Kumar Sahani	JD(U)	-do-
12.	Shri Bashistha Narain Singh	JD(U)	-do-
13.	Dr. Bhushan Lal Jangde	BJP	-do-
14.	Shri Mansukh L. Mandaviya	BJP	-do-
15.	Shri Praveen Rashtrapal	INC	-do-
16.	Shri Shankarbhai N. Vegad	BJP	-do-
17.	Shri Shadi Lal Batra	INC	-do-
18.	Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda	BJP	-do-
19.	Shri Rajeev Chandrasekhar	IND	-do-
20.	Shri K. Rahman Khan	INC	-do-
21.	Shri Basawaraj Patil	BJP	-do-
22.	Shri Rangasayee Ramakrishna	BJP	-do-
23.	Shri Satyavrat Chaturvedi	INC	-do-
24.	Shri Thaawar Chand Gehlot	BJP	-do-
25.	Dr. Najma A. Heptulla	BJP	-do-
26.	Shri Faggan Singh Kulaste	BJP	-do-
27.	Shri Kaptan Singh Solanki	BJP	-do-
28.	Smt. Vandana Chavan	NCP	-do-
29.	Shri Anil Desai	SS	-do-
30.	Shri Vilasrao Dagadojirao Deshmukh	INC	24.4.2012
31.	Shri Ajay Sancheti	BJP	-do-
32.	Shri Rajeev Shukla	INC	-do-
33.	Shri D.P. Tripathi	NCP	-do-
34.	Shri Rabinarayan Mohapatra	BJD	-do-
35.	Shri A.V. Swamy	IND	-do-
36.	Shri Dilip Kumar Tirkey	BJD	-do-
37.	Shri Narendra Budania	INC	-do-
38.	Shri Bhupender Yadav	BJP	-do-
39.	Shri Mahendra Singh Mahra	INC	-do-
40.	Shri Naresh Agrawal	SP	-do-
41.	Shri Munquad Ali	BSP	-do-
42.	Shri Arvind Kumar Singh	SP	-do-
43.	Smt. Jaya Bachchan	SP	-do-
44.	Shri Vinay Katiyar	BJP	-do-

45.	Shri Rasheed Masood	INC	-do-
46.	Km. Mayawati	BSP	-do-
47.	Shri Kiranmay Nanda	SP	-do-
48.	Chaudhary Munabbar Saleem	SP	-do-
49.	Shri B.B. Tiwari	SP	-do-
50.	Shri Darshan Singh Yadav	SP	-do-
51.	Shri Tapan Kumar Sen	CPI(M)	-do-
52.	Shri Devender Goud T.	TDP	25.4.2012
53.	Shri Palvai Govardhan Reddy	INC	-do-
54.	Shri Kunal Kumar Ghosh	AITC	-do-
55.	Shri Vivek Gupta	AITC	-do-
56.	Shri Md. Nadimul Haque	AITC	-do-
57.	Shri Mukul Roy	AITC	-do-
58.	Dr. Pradeep Kumar Balmuchu	INC	8.5.2012
59.	Shri Sanjiv Kumar	JMM	9.5.2012
60.	Ms. Anu Aga	NOM	13.5.2012
61.	Ms. Rekha	NOM	15.5.2012

27. OBITUARY REFERENCES

Sl. No.	Name	Sitting Member/ Ex-Member
1.	Shri Rameshwar Singh	Former Member
2.	Shri Kartar Singh Duggal	-do-
3.	Shri Ashwani Kumar	-do-
4.	Shri Bibudhendra Mishra	-do-
5.	Shri N.K.P. Salve	-do-
6.	Dr. Mahabir Prasad	-do-
7.	Shri Patitpaban Pradhan	-do-
8.	Shri B.B. Tiwari	Sitting Member

APPENDIX III

STATEMENT SHOWING THE ACTIVITIES OF THE LEGISLATURES OF THE STATES AND UNION TERRITORIES DURING THE PERIOD 2 APRIL TO 30 JUNE 2012

Legislature	Duration	Sittings	Govt. Bills	Private Bills	Starred Questions	Unstarred Questions	Short Notice Questions
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
STATES							
Andhra Pradesh L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Arunachal Pradesh L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Assam L.A.*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bihar L.A.	4.4.2012	3	4(4)	—	—	—	—
Bihar L.C.	21.2.2012 to 4.4.2012	28	7	—	1,404(1,277)	(6)	524(423)
Chhattisgarh L.A.*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Goa L.A.*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gujarat L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Haryana L.A.*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Himachal Pradesh L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jammu & Kashmir L.A.*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jammu & Kashmir L.C.	23.2.2012 to 4.4.2012	3	14(13)	1	40(40)	21(21)	6(6)
Jharkhand L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Karnataka L.A.*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Karnataka L.C.	28.6.2012 to 28.6.2012	1	—	—	—	—	—
Kerala L.A.	11.6.2012 to 25.7.2012	29	13(13)	—	(7,027)	(9,463)	1
Madhya Pradesh L.A.*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Maharashtra L.A.	9.7.2012 to 25.7.2012	13	4(12)	(6)	8,363(573)	188(2,400)	17(8)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Maharashtra L.C.	9.7.2012 to 25.7.2012	13	4(16)	—	3,332(1,145)	(539)	24(8)
Manipur L.A.	27.6.2012 to 13.7.2012	12	7(7)	—	77(74)	6(6)	6(5)
Meghalaya L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mizoram L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nagaland L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Odisha L.A.	21.2.2012 to 7.4.2012	29	7(2)	—	1,941(1,581)	2,423(2,773)	1
Punjab L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rajasthan L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	B
Sikkim L.A.	25.6.2012 to 28.6.2012	9	4(4)	—	—	—	—
Tamil Nadu L.A.*	—	—	—	—	1,880(203)	866	—
Tripura L.A.*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Uttarakhand L.A.	28.5.2012 to 8.6.2012	10	10(10)	—	118(77)	405(215)	6(4)
Uttar Pradesh L.A.	28.5.2012 to 3.6.2012	21	3(3)	—	760(636)	880(741)	680(554)
Uttar Pradesh L.C.	28.5.2012 to 3.7.2012	18	(2)	—	206(195)	81(73)	279(249)
West Bengal L.A.	15.6.2012 to 6.7.2012	17	12(13)	—	662(273)	273(106)	—
UNION TERRITORIES							
Delhi L.A.	28.5.2012 to 6.6.2012	8	8(7)	—	160	588	A
Puducherry L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

* Information received from the State/Union territory Legislatures contained NIL report

** Information not received from the State/Union territory Legislatures

A- Clubbed (14), Rejected (34)

B- Questions received during non-session period 104(95)

APPENDIX III (Contd.)
COMMITTEES AT WORK / NUMBER OF SITTINGS HELD AND NUMBER OF REPORTS PRESENTED
DURING THE PERIOD 2 APRIL TO 30 JUNE 2012

		<i>Appendices</i>		375
	Business Advisory Committee	9		
	Committee on Government Assurances	10		
	Committee on Petitions	11		
	Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions	12		
	Committee of Privileges	13		
	Committee on Public Undertakings	14		
	Committee on Subordinate Legislation	15		
	Committee on the Welfare of SCs and STs	16		
	Committee on Estimates	17		
	General Purposes Committee	18		
	House/Accommodation Committee	19		
	Library Committee	20		
	Public Accounts Committee	21		
	Rules Committee	22		
	Joint/Select Committee	23		
	Other Committees	24		
STATES				
	Andhra Pradesh L.A.**			
	Andhra Pradesh L.C.**			

- g) Committee on Local Fund Accounts-4, Committee on the Welfare of Backward Class Communities-6, Library Advisory Committee-1, Committee on the Welfare of Fishermen and Allied Workers-4, Committee on the Welfare of Women, Children and Physically Handicapped-5, Committee on Welfare of Non-resident Keralites-3, Committee on Official Language-5, Committee on Environment-6(2), Committee on the Welfare of Youth and Youth Affairs-3, Committee on Paper laid on the Table-2, Committee on the Welfare of Senior Citizens-5, Subject Committee I-6(1), Subject Committee II-3(2), Subject Committee III-3(2), Subject Committee IV-3(2), Subject Committee V-4(2), Subject Committee VI-4(3), Subject Committee VII-4(1), Subject Committee VIII-3(1), Subject Committee IX-5(2), Subject Committee X-4(2), Subject Committee XI-3(2), Subject Committee XII-4(2), Subject Committee XIII-4(1), Subject Committee XIV-4(2)
- h) Committee on Questions and Reference-5, Committee on Welfare, Women and Children-2
- i) Committee on Welfare of Vimukta Jatis and Nomadic Tribes-3(2), Committee on Employment Guarantee Scheme-10, Committee on Leave of Absence of Members from Sitzings of the House-3(1), Panchayati Raj-7, Catering Committee-1, Committee on Rights and Welfare of Women-6, Committee on Welfare of Other Backward Classes-1, Committee on Table Committee-1, Committee on Inspection of Private Charitable Hospitals-1
- j) Vimukta Jatis and Nomadic Tribes Committee-3(2), Committee on Employment Guarantee Scheme-10, Panchayati Raj-7, Catering Committee-1, Committee on Rights and Welfare of Women-6, Committee on Welfare of Other Backward Classes-1, Committee on Inspection of Private Charitable Hospitals-1
- k) Standing Committee I-3, Standing Committee II-3, Standing Committee III-2, Standing Committee IV-2, Standing Committee V-2, Standing Committee VI-3, Standing Committee VII-2, Standing Committee VIII-2, Standing Committee IX-2, Standing Committee X-1, House Committee on Environment-1, House Committee on Power-1, House Committee on Rehabilitation-1, House Committee on Boundary Dispute-1, Submission Committee-7(1), House Committee on Ethics-6, House Committee on Linguistic-1, House Committee on Women and Child Development-1
- l) Committee on Welfare of Women and Child-12, Question and Reference Committee-13, Committee on Welfare of Backward Class-10, Committee on Welfare of Minorities-12
- m) Committee on Reference and Question-2, Committee on Financial and Administrative Delays-3, Committee on Rules Revision-1, Committee on Parliamentary Study-4, Committee on Enquiry of Housing Complaints of UP Legislature-8, Committee on Parliamentary and Social Welfare-1, Committee on Control of Irregularities in Development Authorities, Housing Board, Jila Panchayats and Municipal Corporations-4(2), Committee on Regulation Review-3, Committee on Commercialisation of Education-2, Daivee Aapda Prabandhan Samiti-2
- n) Committee on Bidhayak Elaka Unnayan Prakaipa-9, Committee on Papers Laid on the Table-11(4), Committee on the Entitlements of the Members-1, Committee on Affairs of Women and Children-8, Standing Committee on Agriculture, Agriculture Marketing and Fisheries-11(5), Standing Committee on Commerce and Industries, Industrial Reconstruction and Public Enterprises-12(2), Standing Committee on Micro and Small Scale Enterprises and Textiles and Animal Resources Development-11(2), Standing Committee on Higher Education-12(3), Standing Committee on School Education-12(7), Standing Committee on Environment, Forests and Tourism-11(1), Standing Committee on Finance, Excise and Development and Planning-14(7), Standing Committee on Food and Supplies, Food Processing and Horticulture and Co-operation

and Consumer Affairs-10(5), Standing Committee on Health and Family Welfare-13(2), Standing Committee on Home, Personnel and Administrative Reforms, Jails, Law, Judicial and Civil Defence-13(9), Standing Committee on Housing, Hill Affairs and Fire Services-12(3), Standing Committee on Information and Cultural Affairs, Sports and Youth Services-11(1), Standing Committee on Irrigation and Waterways and Water Investigation and Development-9(1), Standing Committee on Labour-16(2), Standing Committee on Municipal Affairs and Urban Development-11(3), Standing Committee on Panchayats and Rural Development, Land and Land Reforms and Sundarban Development-10(2), Standing Committee on Power and Non-conventional Energy Sources-10(3), Standing Committee on Public Works and Public Health Engineering – 8(2), Standing Committee on Science and Technology, Information Technology and Bio-Technology-14(3), Standing Committee on Self-Help Group and Self-Employment-10(2), Standing Committee on Social Welfare, Disaster Management and Refugee Relief and Rehabilitation-12(3), Standing Committee on Transport-11(2), Standing Committee on Minority Affairs-11(2), Committee on Reforms and Functioning of the Committee System-11.

o) Question and Reference Committee-1

APPENDIX IV**LIST OF BILLS PASSED BY THE HOUSES OF
PARLIAMENT AND ASSENTED TO BY THE
PRESIDENT DURING THE PERIOD****2 APRIL TO 30 JUNE 2012**

1.	The Indian Medical Council (Amendment) Bill, 2012	12.5.2012
2.	The Appropriation (Railways) No.3 Bill, 2012	17.5.2012
3.	The Appropriation (No.3) Bill, 2012	22.5.2012
4.	The Finance Bill, 2012	28.5.2012
5.	*The Constitution (Schedule Tribes) Order (Amendment) Bill, 2012	31.5.2012
6.	The Railway Property (Unlawful Possession) Amendment Bill, 2012	2.6.2012
7.	The North-Eastern Areas (Reorganisation) and Other Related Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2012	4.6.2012
8.	The Copyright (Amendment) Bill, 2012	7.6.2012
9.	The National Institute of Technology (Amendment) Bill, 2012	7.6.2012
10.	The Anand Marriage (Amendment) Bill, 2012	7.6.2012
11.	The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (Amendment) Bill, 2012	19.6.2012
12.	The Central Educational Institutions (Reservation in Admission) (Amendment) Bill, 2012	19.6.2012
13.	The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Bill, 2012	19.6.2012
14.	The Administrators-General (Amendment) Bill, 2012	19.6.2012
15.	The Institutions of Technology (Amendment) Bill, 2012	20.6.2012

APPENDIX V
LIST OF BILLS PASSED BY THE LEGISLATURES
OF THE STATES AND THE UNION TERRITORIES
DURING THE PERIOD

2 APRIL TO 30 JUNE 2012

BIHAR LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

1. The Bihar Viniyog Vidheyak, 2012
2. The Bihar Vitt Vidheyak, 2012
3. The Bihar Viniyog (Sankhya-2) Vidheyak, 2012
4. The Bihar Rajya Sarvajanic Pustakalaya evam Suchna Kendra (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 2012
5. The Chanakya Rashtriya Vidhi Viswavidyalaya (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 2012
6. The Bihar Visheh Sarvekshan evam Bandobast (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 2012
7. The Bihar Lokayukta (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 2012

BIHAR LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Bihar Lokayukta (Amendment) Bill, 2012
2. The Bihar Special Survey and Settlement (Amendment) Bill, 2012
3. The Chanakya National Law University (Amendment) Bill, 2012
4. The Bihar State Public Library and Information Centre (Amendment) Bill, 2012

DELHI LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Delhi Co-operative Societies (Amendment) Act, 2011
2. The Delhi Value Added Tax (Amendment) Act, 2012
3. The Delhi Appropriation (1) Bill, 2012
4. The Delhi (Vote on Account-2012)
5. Indira Gandhi Delhi Technical University for Women Bill, 2012
6. The Appropriation (2) Bill, 2012
7. The Delhi Registration Marriages Bill, 2012
8. The Court Fees (Delhi Amendment) Bill, 2012
9. The Indian Stamp (Delhi Amendment)
10. The Delhi Value Added Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2012
11. The Delhi Tax on Luxuries Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2012

JAMMU AND KASHMIR LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

1. The Transfer of Property (Amendment) Bill, 2012*
2. The Jammu and Kashmir Property Rights Slum Dwellers Bill, 2011*

3. The Jammu and Kashmir Nursing Council Bill, 2012*
4. The Jammu and Kashmir (Residential and Commercial Tenancy) Bill, 2012*
5. The Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill, 2012*
6. The Jammu and Kashmir Reservation (Amendment) Bill, 2012*
7. The Jammu and Kashmir Public Safety (Amendment) Bill, 2012*
8. The Jammu and Kashmir Development (Amendment) Bill, 2011*
9. The Jammu and Kashmir Municipal Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2011*
10. The Jammu and Kashmir Non-Bio Degradable material (Management, Handling and Disposal) (Amendment) Bill, 2012*
11. The Jammu and Kashmir Appropriation (No.1) Bill, 2012*
12. The Jammu and Kashmir Appropriation (No.2) Bill, 2012*
13. The Jammu and Kashmir General Sales Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2012*

KERALA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Kerala Government Land (Assignment) Bill, 2011
2. The Kerala Local Authorities Loans (Amendment) Bill, 2012
3. The Kerala Finance Bill, 2012
4. The Legislative Assembly (Removal of Disqualifications) Amendment Bill, 2012
5. The Kerala Health Care Service Persons and Health Care Service Institutions (Prevention of Violence and Damage to Property) Bill, 2012
6. The Kerala State Housing Board (Amendment) Bill, 2012
7. The University Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2012
8. The Cochin University of Science and Technology (Second Amendment) Bill, 2012
9. The Kerala Co-Operative Societies (Amendment) Bill, 2012
10. The Kerala State Right to Service Bill, 2012
11. The Kerala Appropriation (No.2) Bill, 2012
12. The Kerala Commonwealth Trust, Kozhikode (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertaking) Bill, 2012
13. The Kerala Appropriation (No.3) Bill, 2012

MAHARASHTRA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Maharashtra (Change of Short Titles of certain Bombay Acts) Bill, 2011
2. The Bombay Provincial Municipal Corporation (Amendment) and the City of Nagpur Corporation (Repeal) Bill, 2011
3. The Maharashtra Paramedical Council Bill, 2011
4. The Mumbai Municipal Corporation (Amendment and Validation) Bill, 2011
5. The Maharashtra State Minorities Commission (Amendment) Bill, 2012
6. The Maharashtra Housing (Regulation and Development) Bill, 2012
7. The Bombay Village Panchayats (Amendment) Bill, 2012
8. The Maharashtra Land Revenue Code (Amendment) Bill, 2012
9. The Bombay Motor Vehicles Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2012
10. The Maharashtra (Second Supplementary) Appropriation Bill, 2012

11. The Maharashtra Land Revenue Code (Second Amendment) Bill, 2012
12. The Bombay Tenancy and Agricultural Lands, the Hyderabad Tenancy and Agricultural Lands and Bombay Tenancy and Agricultural Lands (Vidarbha Region) (Amendment) Bill, 2012
13. The Maharashtra Municipal Councils, Nagar Panchayats and Industrial Townships (Amendment) Bill, 2011
14. The Maharashtra Zilla Parishads and Panchayat Samities (Amendment) Bill, 2012
15. The Bombay Village Panchayats (Second Amendment) Bill, 2012
16. The Maharashtra Municipal Corporations and Municipal Councils (Amendment) Bill, 2012
17. The Maharashtra Municipal Corporations and Municipal Councils (Second Amendment) Bill, 2012

MAHARASHTRA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

1. The Maharashtra (Change of Short Titles of certain Bombay Acts) Bill, 2011
2. The Bombay Provincial Municipal Corporation (Amendment) and the City of Nagpur Corporation (Repeal) Bill, 2011
3. The Maharashtra Paramedical Council Bill, 2011
4. The Mumbai Municipal Corporation (Amendment and Validation) Bill, 2011
5. The Maharashtra State Minorities Commission (Amendment) Bill, 2012
6. The Maharashtra Housing (Regulation and Development) Bill, 2012
7. The Bombay Village Panchayats (Amendment) Bill, 2012
8. The Maharashtra Land Revenue Code (Amendment) Bill, 2012
9. The Maharashtra Land Revenue Code (Second Amendment) Bill, 2012
10. The Bombay Tenancy and Agricultural Lands, the Hyderabad Tenancy and Agricultural Lands and the Bombay Tenancy and Agricultural Lands (Vidarbha Region) (Amendment) Bill, 2012
11. The Maharashtra Zilla Parishads and Panchayat Samitis (Amendment) Bill, 2012
12. The Bombay Village Panchayats (Second Amendment) Bill, 2012
13. The Maharashtra Municipal Corporations and Municipal Councils (Amendment) Bill, 2012
14. The Maharashtra Municipal Corporations and Municipal Councils (Second Amendment) Bill, 2012
15. The Bombay Motor Vehicle Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2012
16. The Maharashtra (Second Supplementary) Appropriation Bill, 2012

MANIPUR LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Manipur Value Added Tax (1st Amendment) Bill, 2012*
2. The Manipur Protection of Interests of Depositors (In Financial Establishments) Bill, 2012*
3. The Manipur Professions, Trades, Callings and Employments Taxation (Eight Amendment) Bill, 2012*
4. The Manipur Municipalities (Sixth Amendment) Bill, 2012*
5. The Manipur Panchayati Raj (Seventh Amendment) Bill, 2012*

6. The Manipur Parliamentary Secretary (Appointment, Salary and Allowances and Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill, 2012*
7. The Manipur Appropriation (No.3) Bill, 2012

ODISHA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Odisha Appropriation Bill, 2012
2. The Odisha Value Added Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2012

SIKKIM LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Shri Ramasamy Memorial (SRM) State University Bill, 2012*
2. The Sikkim Appropriation Bill, 2012
3. The Sikkim Ecology Fund and Environment Cess (Amendment) Bill, 2012
4. The Sikkim Value Added Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2012

TAMIL NADU LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Tamil Nadu Motor Vehicles Taxation (Amendment) Bill, 2012
2. The Tamil Nadu Municipal Laws (Second Amendment) Bill, 2012*
3. The Tamil Nadu Municipal Laws (Third Amendment) Bill, 2012*
4. The Tamil Nadu Value Added Tax (Third Amendment) Bill, 2012*
5. The Tamil Nadu Value Added Tax (Fourth Amendment) Bill, 2012*
6. The Indian Stamp (Tamil Nadu Amendment) Bill, 2012*
7. The Indian Stamp (Tamil Nadu Second Amendment) Bill, 2012*
8. The Registration (Tamil Nadu Amendment) Bill, 2012*
9. The Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences University (Amendment) Bill, 2012*
10. The Tamil Nadu Fisheries University Bill, 2012*
11. The Tamil Nadu Infrastructure Development Bill, 2012*
12. The Tamil Nadu Value Added Tax (Fifth Amendment) Bill, 2012*
13. The Indian Stamp (Tamil Nadu Third Amendment) Bill, 2012*
14. The Indian Stamp (Tamil Nadu Fourth Amendment) Bill, 2012*
15. The Registration (Tamil Nadu Amendment) Bill, 2012*
16. The Tamil Nadu Co-operative Societies (Second Amendment) Bill, 2012*
17. The Tamil Nadu Heritage Commission Bill, 2012*
18. The Tamil Nadu Value Added Tax (Sixth Amendment) Bill, 2012*
19. The Tamil Nadu Hindu Religious And Charitable Endowments (Amendment) Bill, 2012*
20. The Tamil Nadu Appropriation (No.3) Bill, 2012*

UTTARAKHAND LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Uttarakhand Audit Bill, 2012
2. The Uttarakhand Excise (Amendment) Bill, 2012
3. The Uttarakhand Co-Operative Societies (Amendment) Bill, 2012
4. The Uttarakhand Forest Development Corporation (First Amendment) Bill, 2012

5. The Uttarakhand Annual Transfer for Public Servants (Repeal) Bill, 2012
6. The Uttarakhand Public Service (Reservation for Physically Handicapped, Dependents of Freedom Fighters and Purva Sainik) (Amendment) Bill, 2012
7. The Uttarakhand Appropriation Bill, 2012
8. The Uttarakhand Value Added Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2012
9. The Zamindari Abolition and Land Reforms (Amendment) Bill, 2012
10. The Uttarakhand Special Area Development Authorities (Amendment) Bill, 2012

UTTAR PRADESH VIDHAN SABHA

1. The Uttar Pradesh Public Services (Reservation for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other Backward Classes) (Amendment) Bill, 2012
2. The Uttar Pradesh Lokayukta and UP-Lokayuktas (Amendment) Bill, 2012
3. The Uttar Pradesh Appropriation Bill, 2012

UTTAR PRADESH VIDHAN PARISHAD

1. The Uttar Pradesh Lok Ayukta tatha UP-Lok Ayukta (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 2012
2. The Uttar Pradesh Viniyog Vidheyak, 2012

WEST BENGAL LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Howrah Slum-Improvement (Amendment) Bill, 2012
2. The West Bengal Backward Classes (Other than Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes) (Reservation of Vacancies in Services and Posts) Bill, 2012*
3. The West Bengal Escheats and Forfeitures Bill, 2012*
4. The West Bengal Appropriation (No.2) Bill, 2012
5. The Techno India University, West Bengal Bill, 2012*
6. The Bengal Excise (Amendment) Bill, 2012*
7. The West Bengal Advocates Welfare Fund (Amendment) Bill, 2012*
8. The West Bengal Additional Tax and One-time Tax on Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Bill, 2012*
9. The West Bengal Motor Vehicles Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2012*
10. The West Bengal Panchayat Elections (Amendment) Bill, 2012*
11. The Cooch Behar Panchanan Barma University Bill, 2012*
12. The Kazi Nazrul University Bill, 2012*
13. The Indian Stamp (West Bengal Amendment) Bill, 2012*

* Bills awaiting assent

APPENDIX VI
ORDINANCES PROMULGATED BY THE UNION AND
STATE GOVERNMENTS DURING THE PERIOD

2 APRIL TO 30 JUNE 2012

Sl. No.	Title of Ordinance	Date of Promulgation	Date on which laid before the House	Date of Cessation	Remarks
UNION GOVERNMENT					
-Nil-					
BIHAR					
1.	The Bihar Contingency Fund (Amendment) Ordinance, 2012	23.5.2012	2.8.2012	—	—
GOA					
1.	The Goa Barge Tax (Amendment) Ordinance, 2012	23.5.2012	12.7.2012	1.8.2012	The Goa barge Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2012 was passed by the House on 1.8.2012
2.	The Goa Barge (Taxation on Goods) (Amendment) Ordinance, 2012	12.6.2012	12.7.2012	1.8.2012	The Goa barge Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2012 was passed by the House on 1.8.2012
3.	The Goa Value Added Tax (Amendment) Ordinance, 2012	30.5.2012	12.7.2012	6.8.2012	The Goa Value Added Tax (Sixth Amendment) Bill, 2012 was passed by the House on 6.8.2012.

4.	The Goa Tax on Luxuries (Amendment) Ordinance, 2012	5.6.2012	12.7.2012	6.8.2012	The Goa Tax on Luxuries (Twelfth Amendment) Bill was passed by the House on 6.8.2012
5.	The Goa Electricity Duty (Amendment) Ordinance, 2012	14.5.2012	18.7.2012	6.8.2012	The Goa Electricity Duty (Amendment) Bill, 2012 was passed by the House on 6.8.2012
KARNATAKA					
1.	The Karnataka Police (Amendment) Ordinance, 2012	1.6.2012	—	—	—
KERALA					
1.	The Kerala State Housing Board Amendment Ordinance, 2012	11.4.2012	11.6.2012	22.7.2012	Replaced by Legislation
2.	The Legislative Assembly (Removal of Disqualifications) Amendment Ordinance, 2012	11.4.2012	11.6.2012	22.7.2012	Replaced by Legislation
3.	The Cochin University of Science and Technology (Amendment) Ordinance, 2012	11.4.2012	11.6.2012	22.7.2012	Replaced by Legislation
4.	The University Laws (Amendment) Ordinance, 2012	11.4.2012	11.6.2012	22.7.2012	Replaced by Legislation
5.	The Kerala Co-Operative Societies (Amendment) Ordinance, 2012	11.4.2012	11.6.2012	22.7.2012	Replaced by Legislation

6.	The Kerala Health Care Service Persons and Health Care Service Institutions (Prevention of Violence and Damage to Property) (Amendment) Ordinance, 2012	11.4.2012	11.6.2012	22.7.2012	Replaced by Legislation
7.	The Kerala Stamp (Amendment) Ordinance, 2012	11.4.2012	11.6.2012	22.7.2012	Replaced by Legislation
8.	The Kerala Document Writers, Scribes and Stamp Vendors Welfare Fund Ordinance, 2012	11.4.2012	11.6.2012	22.7.2012	Replaced by Legislation
9.	The Kerala Panchayat Raj (Amendment) Ordinance, 2012	11.4.2012	11.6.2012	22.7.2012	Replaced by Legislation
10.	The Local Authorities (Prohibition of Defection) Amendment Ordinance, 2012	11.4.2012	11.6.2012	22.7.2012	Replaced by Legislation
11.	The Kerala Head Load Workers (Amendment) Ordinance, 2012	11.4.2012	11.6.2012	22.7.2012	Replaced by Legislation
12	The Kerala Municipality (Amendment) Ordinance, 2012	11.4.2012	11.6.2012	22.7.2012	Replaced by Legislation
13	The Kerala State Water Resources Regulatory Authority Ordinance, 2012	11.4.2012	11.6.2012	22.7.2012	Replaced by Legislation
14	The Kerala Lifts and Escalators Ordinance, 2012	11.4.2012	11.6.2012	22.7.2012	Replaced by Legislation
15	The Kerala Tolls (Amendment) Ordinance, 2012	11.4.2012	11.6.2012	22.7.2012	Replaced by Legislation

16	The Kerala Advocates' Clerks Welfare Fund (Amendment) Ordinance, 2012	11.4.2012	11.6.2012	22.7.2012	Replaced by Legislation
17	The Kerala Co-operative Societies (Second Amendment) Ordinance, 2012	26.5.2012	11.6.2012	22.7.2012	Replaced by Legislation
18.	The Kerala Farmers Debt Relief Commission (Amendment) Ordinance, 2012	26.5.2012	11.6.2012	22.7.2012	Replaced by Legislation
MADHYA PRADESH					
1.	The Rajya Shasan Dvara Madhya Pradesh Gramoan main kei Dakhal Rahit Bhumi Vishesh Upbandh Sanshodhan Adhyadesh, 2012	9.5.2012	16.7.2012	—	—
2.	The Madhya Pradesh Neji Viswavidyalaya (Shthapana evam Sanchalan) Sanshodhan Adhyadesh, 2012	21.5.2012	16.7.2012	—	—
MAHARASHTRA					
1.	The Maharashtra Zilla Parishads and Panchayat Samitis (Amendment) Ordinance, 2012	7.6.2012	9.7.2012	18.8.2012	Replaced by Legislation
2.	The Mumbai Motor Vehicles Tax (Amendment) Ordinance, 2012	26.6.2012	9.7.2012	18.8.2012	Replaced by Legislation
3.	The Maharashtra Contingency Fund (Second Amendment) Ordinance, 2012	4.7.2012	9.7.2012	18.8.2012	Replaced by Legislation

3.	The Uttarakhand Special Area Development Authorities (Amendment) Act, 2012	4.5.2012	5.6.2012	11.6.2012	The Uttarakhand Special Area Development Authorities (Amendment) Bill, 2012 passed by the House on 11 June 2012
UTTAR PRADESH					
1.	The Uttar Pradesh Public Service (Reservation for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other Backward Classes (Amendment) Ordinance, 2012	7.5.2012	28.5.2012	—	Replaced by Legislation

APPENDIX VII
A. PARTY POSITION IN 15TH LOK SABHA (STATE-WISE) (AS ON 30.9.2012)

States	No. of Seats	INC	BJP	SP	BSP	JD (U)	AITC	DMK	CPI (M)	BJD	SHIV SENA	NCP	AIA DMK	TDP	RLD	CPI	SAD	RJD	JKNC	JD (S)	AIFB	
Andhra Pradesh	42	31	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Arunachal Pradesh	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Assam	14	7	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bihar	40	1*	12	—	—	20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—
Chhattisgarh	11	1	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Goa	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gujarat	26	11	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Haryana	10	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Himachal Pradesh	4	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jammu & Kashmir	6	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—
Jharkhand	14	1	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Karnataka	28	7	18	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kerala	20	13	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Madhya Pradesh	29	12	16	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Maharashtra	48	17	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Manipur	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meghalaya	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mizoram	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nagaland	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Odisha	21	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Punjab	13	8	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rajasthan	25	20	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sikkim	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tamil Nadu	39	8	—	—	—	—	—	18	1	—	—	—	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tripura	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Uttarakhand	5	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Uttar Pradesh	80	22	10	22	20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
West Bengal	42	5	1	—	—	—	19	—	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	2
UNION TERRITORIES																						
A & N Islands	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chandigarh	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Daman & Diu	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
NCT of Delhi	7	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lakshadweep	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puducherry	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	543	203*	114	22	21	20	19	18	16	14	11	9	9	6	5	4	4	4	3	3	3	2

* Excluding Speaker, LS

APPENDIX VII (CONTD.)

States	JMM	JVM (P)	IUML	RSP	TFS	YSRC	AIM EIM	AGP	AUUDF	BVA	BPF	HJC (BL)	KC (M)	MDMK	NPF	SDF	SP	VCK	IND	Total	Vacancies		
Andhra Pradesh					2	2	1														42		
Arunachal Pradesh								1	1													2	
Assam											1											14	
Bihar																				2		39*	
Chhattisgarh																						11	
Goa																						2	
Gujarat																						26	
Haryana												1										10	
Himachal Pradesh																						4	
Jammu & Kashmir																				1		6	
Jharkhand	2	2																		2		14	
Karnataka																						28	
Kerala			2										1									20	
Madhya Pradesh																						29	
Maharashtra										1							1					48	
Manipur																						2	
Meghalaya																						2	
Mizoram																						1	
Nagaland																1						1	
Odisha																						21	
Punjab																						13	
Rajasthan																					1	25	
Sikkim																	1					1	
Tamil Nadu																		1				39	
Tripura																						2	
Uttarakhand																						4	
Uttar Pradesh																						80	1
West Bengal				2																	1	41	1
UNION TERRITORIES																							
A & N Islands																						1	
Chandigarh																						1	
Dadra & Nagar Haveli																						1	
Daman & Diu																						1	
NCT of Delhi																						7	
Lakshadweep																						1	
Puducherry																						1	
TOTAL	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	9	540*	2	

* Excluding Speaker, LS

Abbreviations used for Parties :

AGP—Asom Gana Parishad; AIFB—All India Forward Bloc; AIADMK—All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam; AIMEIM—All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen; AITC—All India Trinamool Congress; AUDF—Assam United Democratic Front; BJD—Biju Janata Dal; BJP—Bharatiya Janata Party; BPF—Bodoland Peoples Front; BSP—Bahujan Samaj Party; BVA—Bahujan Vikas Aaghadi; CPI(M)—Communist Party of India (Marxist); CPI—Communist Party of India; DMK—Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam; HJC(BL)—Haryana Janhit Congress(BL); INC—Indian National Congress; IND—Independents; J&KNC—Jammu & Kashmir National Conference; JD(S)—Janata Dal (Secular); JD(U)—Janata Dal (United); JMM—Jharkhand Mukti Morcha; JVM(P)—Jharkhand Vikas Morcha (Prajatantrik); KC(M)—Kerala Congress(M); MDMK—Marumalarchi Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam; MLKSC—Muslim League Kerala State Committee; NCP—Nationalist Congress Party; NPF—Nagaland Peoples Front; RJD—Rashtriya Janata Dal; RLD—Rashtriya Lok Dal; RSP—Revolutionary Socialist Party; SAD—Shiromani Akali Dal; SDF—Sikkim Democratic Front; SP—Samajwadi Party; SWP—Swabhimani Paksha; SS—Shiv Sena; TDP—Telugu Desam Party; TRS—Telangana Rashtra Samithi; VCK—Viduthala Chiruthaigal Katchi.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Mizoram L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nagaland L.A.	60	18	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	35 ⁽ⁱ⁾	7	60	—
Odisha L.A.	147 ^(b)	27	6	—	1	—	—	—	—	108 ⁽ⁱ⁾	5	147	—
Punjab L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rajasthan L.A.	200	102	79	3	—	—	—	1	—	2 ^(p)	13	200	—
Sikkim L.A.	32	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	32 ^(q)	—	32	—
Tamil Nadu L.A.	235 ^(b)	5	—	10	8	—	—	—	—	212 ^(r)	—	235	—
Tripura L.A.	60	10	—	46	1	—	—	—	—	3 ^(s)	—	60	—
Uttarakhand L.A.	71	33	30	—	—	—	3	—	—	5 ^(t)	—	71	—
Uttar Pradesh L.A.	404 ^(a)	28	47	—	—	1	80	—	—	242 ^(u)	6	404	—
Uttar Pradesh L.C.	100	3	7	—	—	—	59	—	—	27 ^(v)	1	97	3
West Bengal L.A.	295	42	—	39	2	—	—	—	—	210 ^(w)	2	295	—
UNION TERRITORIES	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Delhi L.A.	70	41 ^(b)	24	—	—	—	—	—	—	2 ^(k)	1	70	—
Puduchery L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

* Information received from the State/Union Territory Legislatures contained NIL report

** Information not received from the State/Union Territory Legislatures

@ Excluding Speaker /Chairman

(b) Including Speaker / Chairman

a) All India United Democratic Front-18, Bodoland Peoples Front-12, Asom Gana Parishad-10, All India Trinamool Congress-1

b) Rashtriya Janata Dal-22, Lok Janshakti Party-1

c) Nominated

d) Maharashtrawadi Gomantak Party-3, Goa Vikas Party-2

e) Indian National Lok Dal-30, Shiromani Akali Dal-1, Haryana Janhit Congress Party (BL)-1

- f) National Conference-29, Peoples Democratic Party-21, Panthers Party-3, Jammu & Kashmir Democratic Party Nationalist-1, Peoples Democratic Front-1
- g) National Conference-13, Jammu and Kashmir Democratic Party-4, Panthers Party-1
- h) Nominated-1
- i) Muslim League Kerala State Committee-20, Kerala Congress (M)-9, Socialist Janata (Democratic)-2, Kerala Congress (B)-1, Revolutionary Socialist Party (Baby John)-1, Kerala Congress (Jacob)-1, Revolutionary Socialist Party-2
- j) Samajwadi Party-1, Nominated-1
- k) Shiv Sena-45, Maharashtra Navnirman Sena-12, Peasants & Workers Party-4, Samajwadi Party-3, Jan Surajya Shakti-2, Bahujan Vikas Aghadi-2, Bharip Bahujan Mahasangh-1, Loksangram-1, Rashtriya Samaj Party-1, Swabhimani Party-1, Nominated-1
- l) Shiv Sena-8, Peasants and Workers Party of India-1, Republican Party of India (A)-1, Lok Bharti-1
- m) All India Trinamool Congress-7, Manipur State Congress Party-5, Naga People Front-4, Lok Jan Shakti Party-1
- n) Nagaland Peoples Front-35
- o) Biju Janata Dal-108
- p) Samajwadi Party-1, Loktantarik Samajwadi Party-1
- q) Sikkim Democratic Front-32
- r) All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam-150, Desia Murpokku Dravida Kazhagam-29, Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam-23, Pattali Makkal Katchi-3, Manithaneya Makkal Katchi-2, Puthiya Thamizhagam-2, All India Forward Bloc-1, Nominated-1
- s) Revolutionary Socialist Party-2, Indigenous Nationalist Party of Tripura-1
- t) Uttarakhand Kranti Dal-1, Others-3, Nominated-1
- u) Samajwadi Party-224, Rashtriya Lok Dal-8, Peace Party-4, Quami Ekta Dal-2, Apna Dal-1, Ittehad-e-Millat Council-1, All India Trinamool Congress-1, Nominated-1
- v) Samajwadi Party-16, Rashtriya Lok Dal-1, Sikhhak Dal-7, Independent Group-3
- w) All India Trinamool Congress-185, All India Forward Bloc-11, Revolutionary Socialist Party-7, Samajwadi Party-1, Democratic Socialist Party-1, Gorkha Janmukti Morcha-3, Socialist Unity Centre of India (Communist)-1, Nominated-1
- x) Lok Janshakti Party-1, Rashtriya Janata Dal-1

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9.	Wall Clock No. 597	140.00
10.	Wall Clock No. 997	90.00
11.	Time Piece No. 157	125.00
12.	Tea Set (15 pieces)	670.00
13.	Cup & Saucers (per dozen)	670.00
14.	Silk Scarf (Ladies)	253.00
15.	Silk Scarf (Gents)	186.00
16.	Flower Vase Broad Mouth	150.00
17.	Flower Vase	130.00
18.	Brass Bowl (Small)	175.00
19.	Brass Bowl (Medium)	400.00
20.	Brass Bowl (Big)	725.00
21.	Calculator No. 608	105.00
22.	Nut Tray	125.00
23.	Picture Post Card	15.00
24.	Wall Poster	5.00
25.	Paper Weight (Crystal)	94.00
26.	Paper Weight (Rectangular)	62.00
27.	Key Chain	11.00
28.	Marble Box	306.00
29.	Pen Holder	215.00
30.	Brass Flower Vase	855.00
31.	Wall Plate	335.00
32.	Napkin Stand	295.00
33.	Soup Bowl	70.00
34.	Wall Clock No. 497	145.00
35.	Wall Clock No. 511	160.00

The following Souvenirs with Parliament Museum logo are available for sale at the Souvenir Shop, Parliament Museum, Parliament Library Building, at price indicated against each :-

Sl. No.	Name of Souvenir	Price
1.	Book Marker (Paper)	10.00
2.	Brass Flower Vase	1070.00
3.	Brass/Bronze Plate	1090.00
4.	Cap	45.00
5.	Coaster Set (Wooden)	215.00
6.	Coaster Set (Chrome Plated)	90.00
7.	Colour Pencil Box Camlin	16.00
8.	Colour Pencil Box Natraj	23.00
9.	Cushion Cover Ram-H	145.00
10.	DVD	200.00
11.	Elephant Wooden	700.00
12.	Flower Pot (Stone)	170.00
13.	Jute Bag	160.00
14.	Key Chain (Leather)	11.00
15.	Key Chain (Metal)	13.00
16.	Ladies Scarf	325.00
17.	Ladies Wallet	400.00
18.	Leather Purse (Gents)	150.00
19.	Marble Box	290.00
20.	Message Slip Pad	25.00
21.	Mug Set (6 pieces)	250.00
22.	Napkin Stand	210.00
23.	Oil Pastel Colour	30.00
24.	Pad Cover (Leather)	205.00
25.	Paper Weight (Crystal)	70.00
26.	Paper Weight (Marble)	100.00
27.	Pen Holder (Marble)	215.00
28.	Pen Holder (Wooden)	145.00
29.	Pen Parker (Beta)	80.00
30.	Pen Set (Front Line)	95.00
31.	Pen Set (Perform)	125.00
32.	Pen Stand with Watch	370.00
33.	Shoulder Bag SB-2	133.00
34.	Shoulder Bag SB-3	147.00
35.	Soup Bowl	85.00
36.	Spiral Note Book (Big)	25.00
37.	Spiral Note Book (Small)	20.00
38.	Wall Clock No. 317 (Big)	170.00
39.	Wall Clock No. 997 (Small)	90.00
40.	Wall Plate	335.00
41.	Watch Set	340.00
42.	Water Marble T11	1400.00
43.	Wooden Box	700.00
44.	Writing Pad with Envelopes	70.00



THE COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTARY ASSOCIATION RANGE

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The following exclusive CPA Range may be purchased through your local CPA Branch Secretary. Orders accompanied by payment in Sterling can be forwarded by the Secretary to CPA Headquarters in London. (All prices include postage and packing. Add 15 per cent for air mail.)

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LADIES BROOCH	5.00	8.00
FLAG BADGES	1.00	1.50
CUFFLINKS	5.00	8.00
ROLLER BALL PEN	3.00	5.00
BALL PEN	2.00	3.00
CROSS BALL PEN	25.00	40.00
WATERMAN FOUNTAIN PEN	50.00	80.00
CPA VIDEO	15.00	25.00
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Presentation size	10.00	15.00
Regular size	5.00	8.00
CPA FLAGS		
Full size	50.00	80.00
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<i>Office of the Speaker</i>	10.00	15.00
<i>The Parliamentarian</i>	8.00	12.00
<i>A Guide for Election Observers</i>	7.50	12.00
<i>Strengthening Democracy</i>	15.00	25.00
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