

>

Title: Mr. Speaker made an observation regarding the business transacted by the House during the week ending 20 February, 2009.

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, for your information, I want to briefly recapitulate the main items of business transacted by the House at its five sittings during the last week.

During the Question Hour, out of the 80 Starred Questions which were listed, only 16 could be answered orally. The replies to the remaining Starred Questions along with the replies to 449 Unstarred Questions for the same period were laid on the Table. [\[MSOffice1\]](#)

The Minister of Finance presented the Interim Budget (General) for 2009-10 on 16th February, 2009 and introduced the Finance Bill, 2009.

The House discussed the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address for eight hours and thirty six minutes. The discussion was concluded with the reply of the Leader of the House and thereafter the Motion of Thanks was adopted.

A combined discussion on the Interim Budget (Railways) for 2009-10; Demands for Grants on Account (Railways) – 2009-10; Supplementary Demands for Grants (Railways) – 2008-09; Demands for Excess Grants (Railways) – 2006-07 took five hours and thirty minutes and concluded with the reply of the Minister of Railways. All the Demands for Grants on Account (Railways), Supplementary Demands for Grants (Railways) and Demands for Excess Grants (Railways) were voted in full and the related Appropriation Bills were passed.

The Interim Budget for the State of Jharkhand for 2009-10 was presented on 17th February, 2009 along with the Supplementary Demands for Grant (Jharkhand) for 2008-09. The combined discussion on the Interim Budget for the State of Jharkhand 2009-10; Demands for Grants on Account for the State of Jharkhand – 2009-10 and the Supplementary Demands for Grants for the State of Jharkhand – 2008-09 was taken up on 19th February, 2009 and the Demands were voted in full and the related Appropriation Bills were passed.

A Statutory Resolution approving the Proclamation of President's Rule on 19th January, 2009 under Article 356 of the Constitution in relation to the State of Jharkhand was also adopted. As regards Legislative Business, ten Bills were introduced and nine were passed. One Bill was withdrawn. The important Bills passed were the High Court and Supreme Court Judges (Salaries and Conditions of Service) Amendment Bill, 2008; the Statutory Resolution disapproving the Ordinance on the above Bill was also negatived. The National Capital Territory of Delhi Laws (Special Provisions) Bill, 2009 was also passed. The Central Universities Bill, 2009 was passed by the House and the Statutory Resolution on the Central Universities Ordinance, 2009 was withdrawn. The Prevention and Control of Infectious and Contagious Diseases in Animals Bill, 2008 was also passed by the House.

A combined discussion on the Interim Budget (General) for 2009-10; Demands for Grants on Account (General) – 2009-10; Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) – 2008-09 took four hours and forty two minutes. Further discussion on the Interim Budget (General) will resume today.

One Calling Attention regarding situation arising out of large scale retrenchment, lay-offs, wage cuts and withdrawal of statutory benefits of workers in organised and unorganised sectors in the country and steps taken by the Government in this regard was raised by Shri Gurudas Dasgupta. The Minister of Labour and Employment made a Statement and replied to the clarifications.

In all 16 Statements were made by the Ministers on important subjects in the House.

During the week, Members raised as many as 37 matters of urgent public importance. Also, 48 matters were raised under Rule 377.

The Departmentally Related Standing Committees presented 13 Reports during the week.

I am happy to inform you that the House sat late for over nine hours and 21 minutes to dispose of the important legislative and financial business and for raising of matters of urgent public importance. I take this opportunity to convey my sincere thanks to the hon. Members for the cooperation and support extended to the Chair in smooth conduct of the proceedings during the last

week of this Lok Sabha.

I wish all weeks were similar.

-