

an>

Title : Regarding business of the House transacted during the previous week.

12.20 hrs.

OBSERVATION BY THE SPEAKER

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

Normally, I do this on every Tuesday, but this Tuesday the House was adjourned.

Out of 100 Starred Questions admitted, only 15 could be answered orally. Replies to the remaining Starred Questions along with the replies to 1,074 Unstarred Questions were laid on the Table.

During the period, as many as 71 matters of urgent public importance were raised after the Question Hour. Also, 60 matters were raised under Rule 377.

The House also took up four Calling Attention matters: (i) "situation arising out of reported disinvestments of profit making public sector undertakings, particularly BHEL", raised by Shri Gurudas Dasgupta; (ii) "situation arising out of reported increase in the prices of medicines, particularly life saving drugs, in the country", raised by Shri Ajoy Chakraborty; (iii) "situation arising out of reported non-implementation of Special Economic Zone in Amritsar (Punjab) as announced by the hon. Prime Minister", raised by Shri Navjot Singh Sidhu; and (iv) "situation arising out of on-going economic blockade in Manipur resulting in non-availability of essential commodities, including medicines", raised by Prof. Vijay Kumar Malhotra.

The House also took up further deliberations on the Short Duration Discussion under Rule 193 regarding Natural Calamities in the country and completed its debate on the subject on 5th August, 2005. Besides, the House also discussed two more Short Duration Discussions under Rule 193, namely, (i) on the statement made by the Prime Minister on 29.07.2005 regarding his official visit to the United States of America, raised by Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee; lasting for more than 5 hours and; (ii) Terrorism in the country including attack on Sri Ram Janam Bhoomi Complex at Ayodhya, raised by Prof. Vijay Kumar Malhotra. The matter was discussed for 4 hours and 49 minutes and the discussion is yet to be concluded.

The House also took up combined discussion on the Statutory Resolution moved by Shri Shivraj V. Patil, regarding approval of continuance in force of Proclamation issued by the President under article 356 in respect of the State of Bihar; and the Motion under Rule 184 expressing deep concern of the House over the "Deteriorating law and order situation in the State of Bihar under President's Rule and also on the situation arising out of the Chief Secretary of the State proceeding on long leave". After discussions lasting about 6 hours and 25 minutes, the motion was negatived and the Statutory Resolution was adopted.

As regards the financial business, the Bihar Budget 2005-06, Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) - 2005-06 and Demands for Excess Grants (General) 2002-03; supplementary Demand for Grant (Railways) - 2005-06 and; Demands for Excess Grants (Railways) - 2002-03 were also presented to the House during the aforesaid period.

The House also discussed the budget for the State of Bihar, 2005-06. After discussing the Demands for more than 1 hour and 30 minutes, the Demands for Grants on Account (Bihar), 2005-06 were voted in full besides passing the Bihar Appropriation (Vote-on-Account) No. 2 Bill, 2005.

As regards Private Members' Business, the discussion on the Resolution regarding reservation of one-third of the seats for women in all the State Legislatures and Parliament, moved by Shri C.K. Chandrappan, remained inconclusive.

The Departmentally Related Standing Committees presented 14 Reports to the House.

While we lost 1 hour and 46 minutes of valuable time due to interruptions and forced adjournments last week, the House sat late and worked extra for as many as 8 hours and 49 minutes to transact essential items of business.

Out of the 8 hours and 49 minutes for which the House sat late, 1 hour and 58 minutes were devoted to the raising of matters of urgent public importance after the normal business of the House was over, as per the practice started by us with effect from 3rd August, 2005.

In this connection, I want to place on record my deep appreciation of the exemplary attitude shown by the hon. Members who patiently

waited the whole day to raise their matters in the evening.

Once again, I wish to convey my thanks to the hon. Members for their cooperation in the conduct of the proceedings.
