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Title : Valedictory reference on the conclusion of 7th Session of the 14th Lok Sabha .

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MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, the Seventh Session of Fourteenth Lok Sabha, which commenced on 16 February, 2006 is coming to an end today.

The first part of the Session commenced on 16 February, 2006 with the Address by the hon. President to the Members of both the Houses assembled together in Central Hall and adjourned *sine die* on 22 March, 2006. The second part of the Session commenced on 10 May, 2006.

During the Session, as many as 35 sittings, spread over 194 hours and 18 minutes, were held, of which 25 sittings were held in the first part and 10 in the second part of the Session.

During the Session, the House passed the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address on 23 February, 2006 after a debate lasting for more than 14 hours and 34 minutes.

The Budget (Railways) and Budget (General) for the year 2006-2007 were presented on 24.02.2006 and 28.02.2006, respectively.

The House had General Discussions on the Budget (Railways) for 2006-2007; the Demands for Grants on Account (Railways) for 2006-2007; Supplementary Demands for Grants (Railways) for 2005-2006 and Demands for Excess Grants (Railways) for 2003-2004 lasting over 14 hours and 57 minutes before passing the same along with the related Appropriation Bills.

Demands for Grants (Railways) for 2006-2007 were voted by the House on 11.03.2006 without discussion.

The House had General Discussion on the Budget (General) for 2006-2007, the Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) for 2005-2006 and Demands for Excess Grants (General) for 2003-2004. The Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) for 2005-2006 and Demands for Excess Grants (General) for 2003-2004 along with related Appropriation Bills, were also passed.

The Demands for Grants in respect of Budget (General) for 2006-2007 relating to the Ministries of Home Affairs; Agriculture and Rural Development were discussed for 18 hours and 56 minutes before being passed. All the outstanding Demands for Grants in respect of the Budget (General) 2006-2007 were Guillotined and related Appropriation Bill, passed. Later, on 20 March, 2006, after discussion lasting over 8 hours and spread over two days, the House passed the Finance Bill, 2006.

One Adjournment Motion, regarding failure of the Central Government to make adequate security arrangements to protect the lives of Indian citizens in the border areas as evident by the recent killing of 32 persons in Doda and Udhampur Districts on May 1, 2006 and killing of two persons by grenade attack on a political *dhama* in Doda on May 13, 2006, was discussed in the House. The Motion was negated after a debate lasting 3 hours and 30 minutes.

During this Session, the House passed as many as 28 Government Bills. Some of the important Bills passed by the House were the Contempt of Courts (Amendment) Bill, 2006; Parliament (Prevention and Disqualification) Amendment Bill, 2006; Delhi Laws (Special Provisions) Bill, 2006; and Constitution (One hundred and fifth Amendment) Bill, 2006.

The Prime Minister also made three statements regarding: (i) India's vote in the IAEA on the issue of Iran's Nuclear Programme; (ii) Civil nuclear energy cooperation with the United States; and (iii) Civil nuclear energy cooperation with the United States in the context of the recent visit of the President of USA.

The House also had long and fruitful debates lasting over 22 hours on six important matters of global and topical relevance under Rule 193. The debates were on the statements made by the Prime Minister regarding (i) India's vote in the IAEA on the issue of Iran's Nuclear Programme; (ii) Civil nuclear energy cooperation with the United States in the context of then recent visit of the President of USA; (iii) Outcome of the Round Table Conference held between the Prime Minister, various political parties and Kashmiri Leaders on 25.2.2006 to provide peace in Jammu and Kashmir; (iv) Suicide by farmers in various parts of the country; (v) Situation arising out of communal violence in different parts of the country; and (vi) Rise in prices of essential commodities.

During the current Session five important matters were raised by way of Calling Attention in response to which the concerned Ministers made statements. As many as 63 statements were made by the Ministers on various other important subjects.

Coming to the Private Members' Business, as many as 24 Private Members' Bills were introduced during the Session. Two Bills, namely, the Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2004 seeking to amend the Constitution by insertion of new article 47A seeking establishment of primary health centre in every village with all medical facilities and the Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2004 seeking

to amend the Constitution by insertion of new article 45A for providing nutritious food to all children who have been provided free and compulsory education by the States were withdrawn by the leave of the House after a fruitful debate. Another Bill, namely, the Crop Insurance Bill, 2005 seeking to provide for insurance of crops in the country remained inconclusive.

A Private Members' Resolution urging the Government to recommend for taking steps for balanced and equitable development of all parts of the country remained part discussed.

Hon. Members may recall that in the wake of telecast of news bulletins on 19 December, 2005, on the Star News Channel in their programme titled 'Operation Chakravayuh' wherein some Members of Lok Sabha were showed allegedly indulging in improper conduct in the matter of implementation of MPLAD Scheme, I, with the consent of all Parties, constituted an Inquiry Committee on 20 December, 2005 to go into the matter. The Committee presented their Report to me on 12 March, 2006 and it was laid on the Table of the House on 13 March, 2006. On the basis of recommendations made in the Report, the House adopted a motion suspending four of our colleagues from the membership of the House from 20 December, 2005 to 22 March, 2006. The House through this motion also reprimanded the said members for their misconduct.

During the Session, 560 Starred Questions were listed, out of which 85 Questions were answered orally. Thus, on an average about 2.4 Questions could be answered orally per day. In addition, one Half-an-Hour Discussion was raised. Written replies to 4933 Unstarred Questions were laid on the Table.

In this Session, the Departmentally Related Standing Committees presented 56 Reports.

Hon. Members raised 415 Matters under Rule 377. Besides, 349 matters of urgent public importance were raised by the Members in what has come to be called 'Zero Hour'[\[r7\]](#).

In this Session, we lost over 36 hours of time due to interruptions and adjournments apart from the time lost today. However, the Lok Sabha sat late during the Session for over 34 hours to compensate the loss of time due to interruptions etc.

Hon. Members, in a path-breaking development on 11th May, 2006, the Lok Sabha channel was launched on experimental basis. It has been my endeavour to extend the reach of our proceedings to the doorstep of every household in the country and bring the House closer to the people.

Finally, I would like to thank all the hon. Members for the kind cooperation extended to me, to the hon. Deputy-Speaker and to my colleagues in the Panel of Chairmen in the conduct of proceedings in the House. I am extremely grateful to the Leader of the House, the Leader of the Opposition, the Leaders of various Parties and groups as well as the Chief Whips for their co-operation and support extended to me and to my colleagues. I would also like to thank, on behalf of all of you, the members of the Media. I take this opportunity to thank Secretary-General and officers and staff of the Lok Sabha Secretariat for their dedicated service to the House. I also thank the allied agencies for their able assistance in the conduct of the proceedings of the House.

The hon. Members may now stand up as the tune of *Vande Matram* would be played.

14.16 hrs.

NATIONAL SONG

The National Song was played.

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

14.17 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned sine die.

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