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Title : Mr. Speaker made valedictory reference on the conclusion of 11th Session of the 14th Lok Sabha.

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, it appears that on an issue on which I have no control, it is not possible to conduct this House in a proper manner.

...(Interruptions)

श्री यमदास आठवले (पंढरपुर) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, बीजेपी के ...(व्यवधान)

MR. SPEAKER: Please; enough is enough. जाइए, आप अपनी सीट पर बैठिए।

Hon. Members, the Eleventh Session of the Fourteenth Lok Sabha, which commenced on 10th August, 2007 is coming to an end today, although it was decided earlier that the Session would conclude on 14th September, 2007.

Seventeen sittings spreading 64 hours and 24 minutes could be held during the Session.

Discussions on the voting of Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) and (Railways) for 2007-08 lasting for five hours and 33 minutes, and six hours and 40 minutes respectively, were held before passing the related Appropriation Bills.

One Adjournment Motion regarding "the failure of the Government to contain terrorist violence in the country as is evidenced by a series of recent events, the latest being the twin blasts in Hyderabad in which 42 innocent citizens lost their lives and 50 were injured" was discussed in the House. The motion was negatived after a debate lasting over four hours and 21 minutes.

During the Session, the House passed 10 Bills. Some of the important Bills passed were the Merchant Shipping (Amendment) Bill, 2007; the State Bank of India (Amendment) Bill, 2007; the Inland Vessels (Amendment) Bill, 2007; and the Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Amendment Bill, 2007. Four Bills were passed by the House without discussion due to interruptions.

The House had a fruitful debate lasting over 10 hours on short duration discussion under Rule 193 on the situation arising out of the floods in various parts of the country.

During the current Session, two important matters were raised by way of Calling Attention in response to which the concerned Ministers made statements. In response to another Calling Attention, the Minister concerned laid the statement but no discussion could be held due to interruptions. One Calling Attention on continued rise in the prices of essential commodities was converted into a short duration discussion under Rule 193 but the same could not be taken up for discussion. As many as 36 statements were made by the Ministers on various other important subjects.

Coming to the Private Members' Business, 22 Private Members' Bills were introduced during the Session. One Bill, namely, the Promotion of Self-Employment Bill, 2006 was negatived by the House after a fruitful debate. Another Bill, namely, the Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2004 seeking to amend the Constitution with a view to provide gainful employment to every able bodied citizen who has attained eighteen years of age remained inconclusive.

A Private Members' Resolution urging the Government for formulation and implementation of a comprehensive food and nutrition security scheme aiming at total eradication of hunger from the country was discussed for about two hours and 40 minutes before being withdrawn by the leave of the House. Another Private Members' Resolution urging the Government for free and compulsory education up to higher secondary level, remained part discussed.

During the Session, 380 Starred Questions were listed, out of which 35 Questions could be answered orally. Thus, on an average, about 2.05 Questions could be answered per day. Written replies to 3,776 Unstarred Questions were laid on the Table. One Short Notice Question was also admitted.

In this Session, the Departmentally Related Standing Committees presented 26 Reports.

About 131 matters of urgent public importance were raised by the Members after the Question Hour and after the day's proceedings, before the House rose for the day. Hon. Members also raised 197 matters under Rule 377.[\[r1\]](#)

In this Session, we have lost over 42 hours of time due to interruptions and forced adjournments.

I once again take this opportunity to reiterate that Parliamentary democracy can function only when there is active participation of all sections of the House in the debates and discussions on matters of national and international importance and when the House functions with decorum and dignity. In order to ensure the smooth and orderly conduct of the business of the House and to provide opportunities to discuss matters of urgent importance concerning the common man, I had, on several occasions, convened meetings with the Leaders, Chief Whips/Whips of Parties in Lok Sabha and Members of the Panel of Chairmen. However, in spite of my repeated earnest requests and efforts, some of the very important legislative business before the House had to be completed without discussion; and some matters of great public importance like need for harmonious functioning of three organs of the State, that is, Legislature, Judiciary and Executive and another discussion on the statement made by the Prime Minister on the civil nuclear energy cooperation with the United States, problems faced by farmers, the discussion on continued rise in the price of essential commodities and the Sachar Committee Report could not even be taken up, although I had admitted them because the House could not function properly.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. Everyone should introspect. I am not specifying any section of the House.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not interrupt the Speaker.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Dr. Chakraborty, it is very unbecoming. You please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Do not record. It is not to be recorded.

(Interruptions) â€!*

MR. SPEAKER: This is very unfortunate.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: What is going on here? It amounts to insulting the Chair.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You please sit down. This is a disease now. It has become a disease. Even when the Speaker is speaking, you are interrupting.

I may submit that as people's representatives, the Members can serve their constituents only by participating in structured discussion on the floor of the House within the parameters of the Rules of Procedure. It is extremely disturbing that the highest public forum in this country has almost come to a standstill which has raised questions about the future of our system of Parliamentary democracy.

I would like to thank the hon. Deputy-Speaker and my colleagues in the Panel of Chairmen for their cooperation in conducting the business before the House. I once again appeal to the hon. Prime Minister, the Leader of the House, the Leader of the Opposition, the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, Leaders of various parties and groups as well as the Chief Whips apart from the hon. Members for their cooperation. That is my earnest appeal. I would like to thank, on behalf of all of you, our friends in the Press and the Media. I take this opportunity to thank the Secretary-General and the officers and staff of the Lok

* Not recorded

Sabha Secretariat for their dedicated and prompt service to the House. I also thank the allied agencies for their able assistance in the conduct of the proceedings of the House.

17.09 hrs.

NATIONAL SONG

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MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members may now stand up as *Vande Mataram* would be played.

(The National Song was played.)

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

17.10 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned sine die.

Contd by f1.e [\[r1\]](#)