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Title: The Speaker made the Valedictory Reference on the conclusion of the 8th session of the 15th Lok Sabha.

MADAM SPEAKER: Hon. Members, the Eighth Session of the Fifteenth Lok Sabha, which commenced on 1st August, 2011 is coming to a close today.

During this Session, we had 26 sittings spread over 104 hours and 15 minutes.

The Session saw the disposal of important financial, legislative and other business. Discussion on Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) for 2011-12 lasted for 3 hours and 53 minutes before the Demands were voted and the related Appropriation Bill was passed.

During the Session, 11 Bills were introduced and 14 Bills were passed. Some of the important Bills passed were the State Bank of India (Subsidiary Banks Laws) Amendment Bill, 2011, and subsequently the amendments thereto by Rajya Sabha; the Transplantation of Human Organs (Amendment) Bill, 2011; the Indian Medical Council (Amendment) Bill, 2011; the National Institutes of Technology (Amendment) Bill, 2011; the Customs (Amendment and Validation) Bill, 2011; the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Amendment Bill, 2011; the National Council for Teacher Education (Amendment) Bill, 2011; the Academy of Scientific and Innovative Research Bill, 2011; the Orissa (Alteration of Name) Bill, 2010; and the Constitution (One Hundred and Thirteenth Amendment) Bill, 2010.

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During the Session, 500 Starred Questions were listed, out of which 51 Questions could be answered orally. Thus, on an average, about 1.96 Questions could be answered per day. Written replies to the remaining Starred Questions along with 5749 Unstarred Questions were laid on the Table. I hope, in future, the House will not allow suspension or disruption of the Question Hour since it is irretrievable.

One Half-an-Hour Discussion was raised on the 'Demand and Supply of Power' and the Minister replied thereto.

About 307 matters of urgent public importance were raised by the Members after the Question Hour and by sitting late in the evening. Hon. Members also raised 325 matters under Rule 377.

The Standing Committees presented 63 Reports to the House.

The House also held five short duration discussions under Rule 193 on the subjects of urgent public importance, namely, (i) on the statement made by the hon. Prime Minister regarding setting up of Lokpal; (ii) on the steps taken by the Government of India for relief and resettlement of Tamils in Sri Lanka and other measures to promote their welfare; (iii) on the situation arising out of widespread corruption in the country; (iv) on the statement made by the Minister of Finance on the issues relating to setting up of Lokpal; and (v) on the statement laid on the Table of the House on 2nd August, 2011 by the Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports regarding the Commonwealth Games, 2010 which remained part-discussed.

The House also held a discussion on motion under Rule 184 on an important subject, namely 'price rise'.

13.00 hrs.

During the Session, three matters were raised by way of Calling Attention, namely, (i) situation arising out of delay in creation of Telangana State; (ii) situation arising out of dwindling passenger share and poor financial health of Air India resulting in delayed payment of wages and other benefits to the employees and (iii) situation arising out of lack of storage and stock-holding facility for FCI procured food grains in different parts of the country and particularly in Punjab due to non-transportation of the procured food grains to deficit States. In response to these Calling Attention, the Ministers concerned made the Statements and also replied to the clarifications sought by Members.

As many as 35 Statements were made by the Ministers on various other important subjects and four Statements were made by hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs on Government Business.

Coming to the Private Members' Business, 38 Private Members' Bills on different subjects were introduced during the Session. The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, to provide for special financial assistance to the State of Bihar for undertaking development works and for relief and rehabilitation measures in the flood and drought prone areas of that State, moved by Prof. Ranjan Prasad Yadav during the last Session was further discussed on 5th and 19th August, 2011 and was withdrawn by the Member-in-charge. Another Constitution (Amendment) Bill seeking to amend the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution with a view to include 'Garhwali' and 'Kumaoni' languages in the Eighth Schedule was moved by Shri Satpal Maharaj on 19th August, 2011. The Bill was again taken up for discussion on 2nd September, 2011 but the discussion was not concluded.

A Private Members' Resolution regarding special status to the State of Bihar, moved by Dr. Bhola Singh on 21st August, 2010 during fifth Session, was further discussed on 12th and 26th August, 2011. The Resolution was withdrawn by leave of the House on 26th August, 2011. Another Resolution regarding special economic development package for the desert regions of the country, moved by Shri Harish Chaudhary on 26th August, 2011, remained part-discussed.

In this Session the House sat late for 18 hours and 25 minutes. But, regrettably we lost over 51 hours and 06 minutes of time due to interruptions followed by forced adjournments. I am sure hon. Members are committed to check this tendency in order to strengthen our Parliamentary form of democracy.

I would like to thank the hon. Deputy-Speaker and my colleagues in the Panel of Chairmen for their help and cooperation in the completion of business of the House. I am extremely grateful to the hon. Prime Minister, the Leader of the House, the Leader of the Opposition, Ministers of Parliamentary Affairs, Leaders of various Parties as well as Chief Whips apart from the hon. Members for their cooperation. I would also like to thank, on behalf of all of you, our friends in the Media.

I take this opportunity to compliment the Secretary-General for his competence and expert assistance. I deeply appreciate the officers and staff of the Lok 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.

Hon. Members, I am sure, during this Session all of you, alongwith me, missed the presence of Shrimati Sonia Gandhi, UPA Chairperson, who is recuperating after treatment in USA. We convey our very best wishes for her speedy recovery. Another colleague, Shri Gobind Chandra Naskar has not been able to attend the House, due to ill health. We also wish him speedy recovery.

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

13.06 hrs.

NATIONAL SONG

The National Song was played

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

13.07 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned sine die.

* Not recorded

* Not recorded

* Not recorded

* Not recorded

* Annual Report along with Action Taken Memorandum was laid on the Table on 11.08.2011.

* Not treated