

>

Title: Speaker made the Valedictory Reference on the conclusion of the 9th session of the 15th Lok Sabha.

MADAM SPEAKER: Hon. Members, the Ninth Session of the Fifteenth Lok Sabha, which commenced on 22nd November, 2011, is coming to a close today.

During this Session, we had 24 sittings and the House sat for 85 hours and 01 minute.

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 24 minutes before the Demands were voted and the related Appropriation Bill was passed.

Discussion on the Supplementary Demand for Grant (Railways) for 2011-12 was held on 13th and 16th December, 2011. The discussion lasted for over 5 hours and 21 minutes, in which 96 Members took part, before the Demand was voted and the Appropriation Bill was passed.

During the Session, 27 Bills were introduced and 18 Bills were passed. Some of the important Bills passed were the Damodar Valley Corporation (Amendment) Bill, 2011; the New Delhi Municipal Council (Amendment) Bill, 2010; the National Capital Territory of Delhi Laws (Special Provisions) Second Bill, 2011; the Life Insurance Corporation (Amendment) Bill, 2009; the Petroleum and Mineral Pipelines (Acquisition of Right of User in Land) Amendment Bill, 2010; the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2011; the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order (Amendment) Bill, 2011; the Prasar Bharati (Broadcasting Corporation of India) Amendment Bill, 2011; the Regulation of Factor (Assignment of Receivables) Bill, 2011; the Export-Import Bank of India (Amendment) Bill, 2011; the Constitution (One Hundred and Eleventh Amendment) Bill, 2009.

The House also passed the Lokpal and Lokayuktas Bill, 2011 and the Whistle Blowers Bill, 2011.

During the Session, 400 Starred Questions were listed, out of which, only 41 Questions could be answered orally. Thus, on an average, about 2.05 Questions could be answered per day, which you will agree is extremely low. Written replies to the remaining Starred Questions along with 4,600 Unstarred Questions were laid on the Table.

About 168 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 314 Matters under Rule 377.

The Standing Committees presented 34 Reports to the House.

The House also held two Short Duration Discussions under Rule 193 on subjects of Urgent Public Importance, namely (i) on the Statement laid on the Table on 22nd November, 2011 by the Minister of Finance regarding the inflation situation in India; and (ii) on the situation arising out of the threat being posed to the very existence of the River Ganga and the Himalayas due to their ruthless exploitation. The discussions on these two important matters concluded with the reply of the Ministers concerned. A discussion on the increase in agrarian crisis in the country and the incidence of suicides by farmers by Shri Basu Deb Acharia, remained part-discussed.

During the Session, an Adjournment Motion on the situation arising out of money deposited illegally in foreign banks and action being taken against the guilty persons was discussed for five hours and 36 minutes and negated by the House.

The House also adopted a motion, moved by the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs regarding constitution of a Committee of both the Houses, to be called the 'Committee for Welfare of Other Backward Classes' (OBCs).

During the Session, three important matters were raised by way of Calling Attention, namely (i) the situation arising out of non-revision of wages of employees of IDBI Limited; (ii) the need to take adequate safety measures to protect the lives of Safai Karamcharis (sewer cleaners) and provide health insurance cover to them; and (iii) the situation arising out of spread of Encephalitis and Brain Fever in various parts of the country, particularly in Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and Bihar. In response to these Calling Attention, the Ministers concerned made statements and also replied to the clarifications sought by the Members.

As many as 39 Statements were made by the Ministers on various other important subjects including four Statements made by the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs on Government Business.

Unfortunately, which is a matter of great concern for all of us, is that no Private Members' Business could be taken up during the Session due to forced adjournment of the House.

In this Session, the House sat late for 22 hours and 12 minutes. But, regrettably we lost over 76 hours and 21 minutes of time due to interruptions followed by forced adjournments. Such forced adjournments compromise the authority and supremacy of Parliament.

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 Opposition, the Chairperson of UPA, the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, the Leaders of various Parties and Groups as well as the Chief Whips and the hon. Members of the House 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 convey my deep appreciation to the Secretary-General for the competent and expert assistance he has rendered to me. I compliment 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.

I wish you all a very Happy New Year.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Same to you, Madam.

13.15 hrs.

NATIONAL SONG

MADAM SPEAKER: The hon. Members may now stand up as *Vande Mataram* would be played.

The National Song was played

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

13.16 hrs

The Lok Sabha then adjourned sine die.

* Not recorded.

* Not recorded.

* Not recorded.

* Not recorded.

•

* Not recorded.

* Not recorded.

* Not recorded.

* Not recorded.

* Not recorded.

* Not recorded.