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Title: The Speaker made the Valedictory Reference on the conclusion of the 10<sup>th</sup> session of 15<sup>th</sup> Lok Sabha.

MADAM SPEAKER: Hon. Members, the Tenth Session of the Fifteenth Lok Sabha is coming to a close today.

The first part of this Budget Session commenced on 12 March, 2012 with the Address by the hon. President to the Members of both the Houses assembled together *in* Central Hall. The House **adjourned on 30 March, 2012** to enable the **Standing Committees to examine** the Demands for Grants of **various Ministries/Departments** and **submit** their Reports thereon. **The second part of the Budget Session commenced on 24 April, 2012**, after the recess.

During the Session, we had 34 sittings spread over 182 hours 01 minutes. Of these, 14 sittings were held in the first part and 20 sittings were held in the second part of the Session.

The House discussed the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address, a copy of which was laid on the Table of the House on 12 March, 2012. It was adopted on 19 March, 2012 after a debate lasting for more than 14 hours and 37 minutes.

The Budget (Railways) and Budget (General) for the year 2012-13, were presented on 14<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> March, 2012 respectively. After a combined discussion on the Budget (Railways) for 2012-13, Demands for Grants on Account (Railways) for 2012-13, Supplementary Demands for Grants (Railways) for 2011-12 and Demands for Excess Grants (Railways) for 2009-10 lasting over 16 hours and 11 minutes, the Demands were voted and the related Appropriation Bills were passed. The Demands for Grants (Railways) for 2012-13 were discussed in the Second half of the Session on 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> April, 2012. The discussion lasted for 4 hours and 36 minutes. The Demands were voted in full and the related Appropriation Bill was passed.

The House also held a combined discussion on the Budget (General) for 2012-13, Demands for Grants on Account (General) for 2012-13, the Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) for 2011-12 and Demands for Excess Grants (General) for 2009-10 lasting over 9 hours and 10 minutes. The Demands were voted and the related Appropriation Bills were passed.

During the Second part of the Session, the Demands for Grants for 2012-13, in respect of the Ministries of Health and Family Welfare, Urban Development, Home Affairs and Commerce and Industry were discussed for 20 hours and 52 minutes before being voted in full. All the other outstanding Demands for Grants in respect of Budget (General) for 2012-13 of the remaining Ministries were submitted to the vote of the House on 3<sup>rd</sup> May, 2012 and voted in full and the related Appropriation Bill was passed.

The House also discussed the Finance Bill, 2012 on 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> May, 2012. The discussion lasted for about 8 hours and 43 minutes before it was passed.

During the current Session, 21 Government Bills were introduced. In all, 21 Bills were passed, which included one Ordinance replacing Bill. Some of the important Bills passed were the Judicial Standards and Accountability Bill, 2012, the Indian Medical Council (Amendment) Bill, 2012, the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (Amendment) Bill, 2012, the North-Eastern Areas (Reorganisation) and Other Related Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2012, the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order (Second Amendment) Bill, 2012, the Central Educational Institutions (Reservation in Admission) Amendment Bill, 2012, the Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development Bill, 2012, the Copyright (Amendment) Bill, 2012, the Anand Marriage (Amendment) Bill, 2012, and the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Bill, 2012.

The House had debates lasting over 14 hours and 50 minutes on matters of public importance under Rule 193 on (i) the situation arising out of widespread discontentment among the working class due to faulty Government policies, (ii) need to bring comprehensive policy changes in the Civil Aviation sector due to large scale mismanagement in the affairs of national carrier, that is, Air India and also some other private carriers and need to look into the problems being faced by the workforce engaged in the Civil Aviation sector, (iii) steps taken by the Government to protect the river Ganga from pollution and the Himalayas from ruthless exploitation. The Ministers concerned replied to the debates. Two discussions on situation arising out of faulty policy for procurement of food grains and inadequate facilities for their storage and Centre-State relations remained part-discussed.

During the Session, five important matters were raised by way of Calling Attention, namely (i) situation arising out of incident of child separation of an Indian couple by the Norway authorities, (ii) need to include Bhojpuri language in the Eighth Scheduled to the Constitution, (iii) situation arising out of non-implementation of wage revision of Industrial Development Bank of India employees, (iv) situation arising out of severe drought in Karnataka, and (v) situation arising out of shortage of drinking water in the country, particularly in Jhunjunu and Churu Districts of Rajasthan. In response to

the Calling Attention, the Ministers concerned made a statement each and also replied to the clarifications sought by the Members.

As many as 56 statements were made by the Ministers on various other important subjects, including 3 statements by the Hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs on Government Business.

Coming to the Private Members' Business, 53 Private Members' Bills were introduced during the Session. Motion for consideration of the Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2010 (Amendment of the Eighth Schedule) by Shri Satpal Maharaj, which sought to amend the Eighth Schedule with a view to include 'Garhwali' and 'Kumaoni' languages in that Schedule, moved during the Eighth Session was taken up for further discussion on 27 April, 2012. The Bill was withdrawn by leave of House by the member-in-charge after conclusion of discussion. The Motion for consideration of another Bill seeking to provide for ban on the practice of witchcraft was moved by Shri Om Prakash Yadav on 27 April, 2012 and remained part-discussed on that day.

A Private Member's Resolution regarding special economic development package for the desert regions of the country moved by Shri Harish Chaudhary during the eighth session on 26 August, 2011, was further discussed on 4 and 18 May, 2012. After conclusion of debate, the Resolution was put to vote and negatived by the House. Another resolution regarding setting up of a Central University in Motihari District of Bihar was moved by Shri Om Prakash Yadav on 18 May, 2012 and remained part-discussed.

During the session, 660 Starred Questions were listed, out of which 82 Questions could be answered orally. Thus, on an average, only about 2.41 Starred Questions could be answered per day. Written replies to the remaining Starred Questions along with 7590 Unstarred questions were laid on the Table,

One half-an-hour discussion on the points arising out of the answer given by the Minister of Agriculture on 13.03.2012 to Starred Question No. 1 regarding "Agricultural Profession" was raised in the House and the Minister replied thereto.

During this Session, 92 reports of the Departmentally Related Standing Committees were presented.

About 634 matters of urgent public importance were raised by the Members after the Question Hour and after completion of formal business of the House by sitting late in the evening. Hon. Members also raised 434 matters under Rule 377.

In this session, while we lost over 48 hours 21 minutes of time due to interruptions and forced adjournments, the House sat late for 41 hours and 04 minutes to compensate the time lost.

Hon. Members, Lok Sabha had a Special Sitting on Sunday, the 13 May, 2012 to commemorate the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the First Sitting of Parliament of India. I addressed the House from the Chair under Rule 360 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha. This was only the second such occasion in the history of Lok Sabha. The House discussed the topic "Sixty years Journey of the Indian Parliament". The discussion lasted for about 5 hours and 35 minutes in which 41 members participated and 132 Members laid their written speeches. A Resolution was unanimously passed by the House at the conclusion of the discussion solemnly reaffirming total and binding commitment of the House to the ideals cherished by the founding fathers of the Constitution.

Finally, I would like to thank the hon. Deputy Speaker and my colleagues in the Panel of Chairmen for their cooperation in the smooth conduct of the House. I am extremely grateful to the hon. Prime Minister, the Leader of the House, the Leader of the Opposition, Chairperson of UPA, Shri Advani ji, Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, Leaders and Chief Whips of various Parties and Groups and the hon. Members for their cooperation. I would also 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 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.

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**17.25 hrs.**

NATIONAL SONG

MADAM SPEAKER :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*.

**17.26 hrs**

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned sine die.*

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\* The sign + marked above the name of a Member indicates that the Question was actually asked on the floor of the House by that Member.

\* Not recorded.

\* Not recorded.

\* Not recorded.

\* Not recorded.

\* Not recorded.

\* English translation of the Speech originally delivered in Punjabi.

\*\* Not recorded.

\* Not recorded.