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**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT  
NEW DELHI  
INDIA**

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**ADDRESSES DELIVERED BY DIGNITARIES DURING THE NINTH  
G20 PARLIAMENTARY SPEAKERS' SUMMIT (P20) HELD FROM  
13<sup>TH</sup> TO 14<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2023**

On 12<sup>th</sup> October 2023, the Lok Sabha Speaker, Shri Om Birla addressed the Parliamentary Forum on “*LiFE: Lifestyle for Environment*”, ahead of the Ninth G20 Parliamentary Speakers’ Summit (P20). Parliamentarians from G20 countries and guest countries, including the newly inducted African Union came together at the India International Convention Centre, Delhi to deliberate on the lifestyles which need to be adopted for the future of the planet. Shri Birla said that Mission LiFE is a comprehensive approach to environmental protection which empowers every person to reduce, reuse and recycle. While noting that LiFE has now become a global movement, Shri Birla said that based on this idea, many countries are making policies and action plans according to their geographical and socio-economic conditions. The Parliamentary Forum on LiFE (Mission Lifestyle for Environment), held on the day preceding the grand opening of the Ninth G20 Parliamentary Speakers’ Summit (P20), witnessed lawmakers sharing their perspectives on the shared challenges of humanity and pathways towards addressing them at the national and international levels.

On the sidelines of inauguration of Parliamentary Forum for “*LiFE: Lifestyle for Environment*”, ahead of P20 Summit in New Delhi, the Lok Sabha Speaker, Shri Om Birla met Hon. Milton Dick, Speaker of the Australian House of Representatives of Australia; H.E. Ms. Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury, Speaker of the Jatiya Sangsad of Bangladesh; H.E. Mr. Saqr Ghobash, Speaker of the Federal National Council, UAE; and H.E. Dr. Ashebir Woldegiorgis Gayo, Acting President, Pan Africa.

On 13<sup>th</sup> October 2023, the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated the Ninth G20 Parliamentary Speakers’ Summit (P20) at YashoBhoomi (India International Convention & Expo Centre), New Delhi. The Lok Sabha Speaker, Shri Om Birla graced the occasion. Presiding Officers of the Parliaments of G20 nations and of the invited nations; President of Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), Mr. Duarte Pacheco and other dignitaries also graced the occasion.



The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi; Lok Sabha Speaker, Shri Om Birla and IPU President, Mr. Duarte Pacheco during the Inaugural Session of the P20 Summit on 13<sup>th</sup> October 2023.

Addressing the distinguished gathering, the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi welcomed the dignitaries to the G20 Parliamentary Speakers' Summit on behalf of the 140 crore citizens of India. He emphasized that the P20 Summit is taking place on the land, which is not only known as the mother of democracy, but also the largest democracy in the world.

The Prime Minister spoke about the continual evolution and strengthening of India's parliamentary traditions over time. He informed that 17 General elections and more than 300 State assembly elections have taken place in India since Independence, and that people's participation is consistently increasing in this largest electoral exercise. The Prime Minister highlighted the unwavering faith of the citizens in the parliamentary traditions of India and credited it to its diversity and vibrancy.

Referring to the inter connected nature of the world, the Prime Minister said that a world full of conflict and confrontation is in no one's interest. He said that this is a time for growth and the well-being of all, and stressed on the need to overcome the global trust crisis and to move forward with human-centric thinking. He further spoke on the need to look at the world in the spirit of One Earth, One Family, One Future. The Prime Minister expressed happiness over the Pan Africa participation in the forum of P20.

President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), Mr. Duarte Pacheco congratulated the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi for the successful

leadership of the G20 Summit. Referring to India's status as the world's largest democracy, Mr. Pacheco said that the success of the P20 Summit was a foregone conclusion, owing to the centrality and relevance of the Parliament of India to Indian democracy. Underlining the foundational value of world peace, Mr. Pacheco said that parliamentarians must defend peace in all parts of the world. He added that without peace, the world won't be able to achieve other goals like sustainable development. Mr. Pacheco observed that the role of parliamentarians must be increased in solving global issues as they understand consensus building based on dialogue and discussion. He appreciated the work of the IPU and the P20 in this direction.

The Ninth G20 Parliamentary Speakers' Summit (P20) concluded on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2023 with the valedictory address delivered by the Lok Sabha Speaker, Shri Om Birla. Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri Harivansh; President of Inter-Parliamentary Union, Mr. Duarte Pacheco; Presiding Officers of Parliaments of the G20 nations; and other dignitaries graced the occasion. Delivering the address, the Lok Sabha Speaker, Shri Om Birla thanked the Presiding Officers of Parliaments of G20 nations and of the invited nations for their contributions to the success of the P20 Summit on "*Parliaments for One Earth, One Family and One Future*". He expressed confidence that the valuable views and inputs shared during the four sessions on SDGs, green energy, women-led development and digital public infrastructure would further strengthen the G20 process for human-centred development. In a significant move, the Delhi P20 adopted a joint statement unanimously, mirroring the approach taken during India's Presidency of the G20. The Presiding Officers of the Parliaments of G20 nations commended the efforts of Shri Birla in evolving unanimity on the adoption of the Joint Statement. On the parliamentary dimension of the G20, Shri Birla noted that the discussions held over the past two days have clearly underlined the importance of the parliamentary dimension of the G20, and have also established on how Parliaments can work together to achieve the collective goals of *One Earth, One Family and One Future*. On the conclusion of India's P20 presidency, the Lok Sabha Speaker, Shri Om Birla handed over the presidency to the Parliament of Brazil.

**ADDRESS DELIVERED BY THE LOK SABHA SPEAKER,  
SHRI OM BIRLA AT THE PARLIAMENTARY FORUM ON  
“LiFE: LIFESTYLE FOR ENVIRONMENT” PRE-SUMMIT EVENT  
ORGANIZED AHEAD OF THE P20 SUMMIT ON 12<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2023**



Lok Sabha Speaker, Shri Om Birla addressing the Parliamentary Forum on *LiFE: (Lifestyle for the Environment)* pre-Summit event organized ahead of the P20 Summit on 12<sup>th</sup> October 2023

**Your Excellencies,**

You all are heartily welcome to India, the Mother of Democracy. It gives me immense pleasure to greet you all at the Pre-summit meeting related to Lifestyle for Environment.

Environment and Climate Change is an issue that affects the common future of the entire world. Hence, it is natural that we made environmental issues the focus of discussion in the P20 conference and we are discussing this important issue today in the pre-summit.

**Your Excellencies,**

Our Indian culture and traditions consider the environment to be an integral part of human life. Respecting nature is embedded in our value-system.

It is said in our ancient scriptures that “Those who protect nature are, in

turn, protected by her.” And, this is also the basic concept of environmental protection.

In the changing scenario today, no country in the world is untouched by the ill effects of climate change. We are aware of the challenges being faced by the world in this regard. Thus, concrete efforts are being made in this direction today.

**Your Excellencies,**

On the subject of environmental protection, the Honorable Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi had presented the idea of Lifestyle for Environment (LiFE) to the world. Mission LiFE is a comprehensive approach to environmental protection that inspires every person to adopt behaviors that promote the culture of reduce, reuse and recycle in their life.

That is why, today we need to adopt such a lifestyle and approach which is not harmful for our environment. This is the individual and collective responsibility of all of us.

LiFE Mission has given us a new way to deal with contemporary challenges like climate change, sustainable development, health security, food security, energy security.

Today, this idea has become a global movement. Based on this idea, today different countries are making policies and action plans according to their geographical and socio-economic conditions.

Intensive discussions regarding Lifestyle for Environment have also taken place in the Parliament of India and laws in this respect have also been formulated. I urge that this topic be discussed in all the parliaments of the world.

But climate change cannot be addressed by making policies and laws alone. Rather, we all need to contribute collectively by incorporating changes in our daily routine.

I am confident that we will be successful in achieving the goal of building a better world by incorporating the message of Mission Lifestyle in our lives. With this hope, I heartily welcome you all once again.

**INAUGURAL ADDRESS DELIVERED BY THE PRIME MINISTER,  
SHRI NARENDRA MODI ON 13<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2023\***



The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi addressing the inaugural session of the P20 Summit on 13<sup>th</sup> October 2023.

**Namaskar!**

On behalf of 140 crore Indians, I extend a hearty welcome to all of you at the G20 Parliamentary Speakers' Summit. This summit, in a way, is a 'Mahakumbh' or massive congregation of different parliamentary practices from around the world. All the delegates like you are experienced in the working style of different parliaments. Your visit to Bharat with such rich democratic experiences is a great pleasure for all of us.

**Friends,**

This is the festive season in Bharat. During these days, many festive activities take place across Bharat. But this time G20 has sustained the enthusiasm of the festive season throughout the year. We hosted G20 delegates in different cities of Bharat throughout the year. Consequently, an atmosphere of festivity was created in those cities. After this, Bharat

\* [https://www.pmindia.gov.in/en/news\\_updates/pms-speech-at-inauguration-of-the-9th-g20-parliamentary-speakers-summit-in-new-delhi/?comment=disable&tag\\_term=pmspeech](https://www.pmindia.gov.in/en/news_updates/pms-speech-at-inauguration-of-the-9th-g20-parliamentary-speakers-summit-in-new-delhi/?comment=disable&tag_term=pmspeech)

landed on the Moon. This further enhanced the celebrations across the country. Then, we hosted a successful G20 summit here in Delhi. And now this P20 summit is taking place here. The greatest strength of any country is its people; the will power of its people. Today, this summit has also become a reason to celebrate this strength of the people.

**Friends,**

The P20 summit is being held in Bharat, which is the mother of democracy, the largest democracy in the world. As representatives of various Parliaments around the world, you are aware that Parliaments are important places for debate and deliberation. We have very good examples of debates and deliberations that took place here even thousands of years ago. In our scriptures that are more than 5000 years old, in our Vedas, meetings and committees have been talked about. There, collective decisions were taken in the interest of the society. It is also said in our oldest Veda, Rigveda – संगच्छ-ध्वंसंवद-ध्वंसं, वमनांसजिानताम् । That means we walk together, we speak together and our minds are one. Even during that period, decisions related to villages were taken through debate in gram sabhas.

When the Greek ambassador Megasthenes saw such a system in Bharat, he was surprised. He had written in detail on this system that prevailed in different States of Bharat. You will also be surprised to know that we have a 9th century stone inscription in Tamil Nadu. It mentions the rules and codes of village legislatives. And it will also be very interesting for you to know that on that 1200-years-old inscription, it is even written that which member could be disqualified, for which reason and under which circumstances. I am talking about 1200 years ago. I also want to tell you about Anubhava Mantapa. Even before Magna Carta, we have had a tradition of “Anubhava Mantapa” in the 12th century. Debate and discussions were encouraged in this as well. People from every class, every caste, every community used to go there to express their views in “Anubhav Mantapa”. This gift of Jagadguru Basaveshwara still makes Bharat proud. This journey from 5000 years old Vedas till today, this development of parliamentary traditions, is not only our heritage but the heritage of the entire world.

**Friends,**

Bharat's parliamentary processes have continuously improved over time and have become more powerful. In Bharat, we consider General

Elections as the biggest festival. Since independence in 1947, 17 general elections, and more than 300 State Assembly elections have been held in Bharat. Bharat not only conducts the world's largest elections, but people's participation in it is also continuously increasing. In the 2019 general elections, the countrymen have made my party victorious for the second consecutive time. The 2019 general election was the largest democratic exercise in human history. More than 60 crore *i.e.* 600 million voters participated in it. You can imagine, at that time there were 91 crore *i.e.* 910 million registered voters in Bharat. This is more than the total population of the entire Europe. The turn-out of around 70 percent of the total registered voters in Bharat shows how much trust people have in parliamentary practices in Bharat. And in this, an important factor was the maximum participation of women. Indian women voted in record numbers in the 2019 elections. And friends, not only in numbers, but also in terms of political representation, you will not find any other example like Bharat's elections in the world. More than 600 political parties took part in the 2019 general elections. In these elections, more than one crore *i.e.* 10 million government employees contributed to election work. More than 1 million or 10 lakh polling stations were set up in the country for the elections.

**Friends,**

With time, Bharat has also integrated the election process with modern technology. Bharat has been using Electronic Voting Machines- EVMs for about 25 years. With the use of EVM, both transparency in elections and efficiency in the electoral process have increased. In Bharat, election results are declared within a few hours after counting begins. Now I am giving you another figure. You will be surprised to hear this as well. You must be aware that next year there is going to be general elections in Bharat again. 100 crore voters *i.e.* 1 billion people are going to cast their votes in this election. I extend an advance invitation to all the delegates of the P20 Summit to come and watch the general elections to be held next year. Bharat will be very delighted to host you once again.

**Friends,**

Just a few days ago, the Parliament of Bharat has taken a very important decision, about which I want to make you aware. Bharat has decided to provide 33 per cent reservation to women in its Parliament and State Legislative Assemblies. There are about 32 lakhs *i.e.* more than 3 million elected representatives in local self-governance institutions in Bharat. Of these, about 50 per cent are women representatives. Today,

Bharat is promoting women's participation in every sector. The recent decision taken by our Parliament will further enrich our parliamentary tradition.

**Friends,**

There is another crucial reason for the unwavering faith of the countrymen in the parliamentary traditions of Bharat, which is very important for you to know and understand. Our strength lies in our diversity, our vastness and our vibrancy. We have people of every religion here. Hundreds of types of food, hundreds of ways of living are our identity. Hundreds of languages are spoken in Bharat; we have hundreds of dialects. There are more than 900 TV channels in Bharat, in 28 languages working 24×7 to provide real-time information to the people. More than 33 thousand different newspapers are published here in about 200 languages. We have about 3 billion users on different social media platforms. This shows how massive and powerful is the flow of information and the level of freedom of speech in Bharat. In this world of the 21st century, this vibrancy of Bharat, unity in diversity, is our greatest strength. This vibrancy inspires us to fight every challenge and solve every problem together.

**Friends,**

Today no one is untouched by whatever is happening in different corners of the world. Today the world is facing crises due to conflicts and confrontation. This world full of crises is not in anyone's interest. A divided world cannot provide solutions to the major challenges faced by humanity. This is a time for peace and brotherhood; a time to move together; a time to move forward together. This is a time for growth and well-being of all. We have to overcome the global trust deficit and move forward on human-centric thinking. We have to look at the world in the spirit of 'One Earth, One Family, One Future'. The greater the participation in making decisions related to the world, the bigger the impact it will be. In this spirit, Bharat proposed to make the African Union a permanent member of G20. I am glad that all the member countries accepted it. I am very happy to see the participation of the Pan Africa Parliament in this forum too.

**Friends,**

I am told that our Speaker, Om Birla ji, is going to take you to the new Parliament House of Bharat this evening. There you are also going to pay tribute to Pujya Mahatma Gandhi. As you know Bharat has been facing

cross-border terrorism for decades. Terrorists have killed thousands of innocent people in Bharat. Close to the new Parliament building you will also see the old Parliament of Bharat. About 20 years ago, terrorists had also targeted our Parliament. And you will be shocked to know that Parliament was in session at that time. The terrorists had planned to take the MPs hostage and to kill them. Bharat has reached here today after dealing with many such terrorist incidents. Now the world is also realizing how big a challenge terrorism is for the world. Wherever terrorism strikes, for whatever reason and in whatever form, it is against humanity. In such a scenario, we all will have to be extremely stringent all the time regarding terrorism. However, there is another global aspect to this, to which I would like to draw your attention. It is very sad that there is no consensus on the definition of terrorism. Even today, the International Convention on Combating Terrorism is waiting for a consensus in the United Nations. The enemies of humanity are taking advantage of this attitude of the world. Parliaments and representatives around the world will have to think about how we can work together in this fight against terrorism.

**Friends,**

There can be no better medium than public participation to deal with the world's challenges. I have always believed that governments are formed by majority, but the country is run by consensus. Our Parliaments, and this P20 Forum can also strengthen this sentiment. Our efforts to make this world a better place through debate and deliberations will definitely be successful. I am sure your stay in Bharat will be pleasant. I once again wish you all the success for this Summit and a pleasant journey in Bharat.

**Thank you very much.**

**ADDRESS DELIVERED BY THE LOK SABHA SPEAKER,  
SHRI OM BIRLA DURING THE INAUGURAL SESSION  
ON 13<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2023**



Lok Sabha Speaker, Shri Om Birla addressing the Inaugural Session of the P20 Summit on 13<sup>th</sup> October 2023.

*Hon. Prime Minister of India;*

*President of IPU, Shri Duarte Pacheco ji;*

*Your Excellencies*

I extend heartiest welcome to all the distinguished guests from G20 nations and other invitee countries from all over the world who have gathered here to take part in the Ninth G20 Parliamentary Speakers Summit (P20). A warm welcome to all of you in India, the Mother of Democracy.

Unanimous adoption of the New Delhi Leaders' Declaration during the recently concluded G20 Leader's Summit under India's Presidency is a matter of pride for us.

It reflects the able leadership and global vision of India's Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi ji. It is a testimony to the commitment and solidarity of G20 nations in the face of global challenges.

**Excellencies,**

The Ninth P20 Conference showcases our commitment towards democratic values and international cooperation, as well as our resolve to make joint parliamentary efforts to overcome the contemporary challenges and find solutions to issues of global significance.

Democracy is our most cherished legacy. Democracy is a way of life for us. It is intrinsic to our thoughts, ideas and conduct. It is an integral part of our culture and traditions.

Hence it was quite obvious that we adopted parliamentary democracy after gaining independence. In fact, it is democracy that that is the cornerstone of transparency and accountability in our polity.

**Excellencies,**

Indian democracy is distinguished by its vastness, plurality and diversity. In our splendid democratic journey, spanning 75 years, we have effected socio-economic changes in the lives of the common people through people-centric governance.

The concept of “Vasudhaiv Kutumbkam” is integral to our culture. The main theme of this conference is “*Parliaments for One Earth, One Family, One Future*”. We believe that the world is one family, which is indicative of our spirit of cooperation, collaboration, participation and compassion. We intend to reinforce this spirit in this P20 Conference.

**Excellencies,**

A concrete and decisive global action plan regarding environment is the need of the hour. Hon'ble Prime Minister of India has presented his vision of Mission Life to the world, which was discussed in detail in the pre-summit event yesterday.

Every participant was of the view that environment is not the responsibility of any one particular country. It is our individual as well as collective responsibility. We need to adopt lifestyle changes that are conducive towards conservation of environment. I am happy to share that this Mission has received tremendous support from the Parliaments of all the G20 countries. All of them have taken a resolve to discuss Mission Life in their Parliaments and strive to turn it into a mass movement. I am greatly obliged to all of you for this immense support.

**Excellencies,**

Human-centric subjects have been selected for discussion in this parliamentary summit. I hope the Conference would witness intense

discussions on these subjects leading to meaningful outcomes. Achieving Sustainable Development Goals; Sustainable Energy Transition for a Green Future; From Women Development to Women-led Development; and Transforming lives of the people through Digital Platforms are the subjects to be taken up for discussion in the Conference.

### **Excellencies,**

Sustainable Development Goals aim to build a better world through holistic development. A policy framework has been put in place to attain SDGs in India. The schemes for implementation of these policies have been the subject of intensive discussions in the Parliament.

The districts lagging behind have been categorized as aspirational districts, and policy decisions have been taken to bring them at par with the developed districts. This will ensure equitable development in the country as a whole.

Climate change has made sustainable energy transition essential. In fact, India has prioritized green development and green transition through a number of initiatives in sustainable energy transition sector. Indian initiatives towards this end, such as International Solar Alliance and International Bio-fuel Alliance have garnered widespread support throughout the world.

In the present scenario we have changed our focus from Women Empowerment to Women-led Development. I am very pleased to say that the very first day of the first session convened in the New Parliament Building witnessed a constitutional amendment through which reservation of one-third seats in the elected Houses of the Parliament and the State Legislatures was made for women which will lead to their increased participation in the decision-making process. It is my firm belief that women-led development will become a transformational force in the 21st century world.

### **Excellencies,**

Digital technology has enabled inclusive, transparent and accountable governance. We have been able to bring miraculous transformation in the life of the person standing on the last rung of society through Public Digital Platforms. Digital interventions such as DBT, UPI etc. have paved the way for holistic development of the country.

**Excellencies,**

I am confident that our collective discussions and deliberations will help us fulfill our resolution of building an inclusive, equitable and just global society. The P20 Summit under India's stewardship will usher in a new era of international parliamentary cooperation.

P20 is an important parliamentary dimension that promotes cooperation between Parliaments for fulfilling international commitments.

**Excellencies,**

I sincerely hope that the discussions on the important issues that will be taken up here, will continue to resonate in our Parliaments in future also. I also hope that intensive deliberations on these issues will lead to formulation of policies, schemes and laws, if needed.

May parliamentary diplomacy lead the way to a better future for humanity. We hope for continued support from the P20 for furthering the G20 objectives.

With this hope in my heart, I again extend a warm welcome to you to this P20 summit.

**ADDRESS DELIVERED BY THE LOK SABHA SPEAKER,  
SHRI OM BIRLA DURING THE VALEDICTORY SESSION  
ON 14<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2023**



Lok Sabha Speaker, Shri Om Birla ceremonially handing over P20 presidency to the President of the Chamber of Deputies of Brazil, H.E. Mr. Arthur Cesar Pereira de Lira on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2023

Distinguished Delegates from the G20 nations and other invitee countries, I once again thank you all for your active participation in the P20 conference.

**Excellencies,**

After meaningful discussions during the past two days, we have now come to the conclusion of the New Delhi P-20 Summit, under India's G20 Presidency.

I take this opportunity to thank you, and members of your delegation for contributing to the success of this P20 Summit, held on the theme "*Parliaments for One Earth, One Family and One Future*".

The adoption of the Joint Statement at the Conference has further strengthened the P20 process. I am confident that your valuable views and inputs during the four sessions on SDGs, green energy, women-led development and digital public infrastructure will further strengthen the G20 process for a human centric development. We will take

human centric development forward through the P20 summit, and hold meaningful dialogue and discussion in our Parliaments. The discussions held over the past two days have clearly underlined the importance of the parliamentary dimension of the G20 and the P20, as well as the important role of Parliaments in achieving the collective goals of One Earth, One Family and One Future. Many members also highlighted important global challenges besides the development agenda selected for discussion. These include recent geo-political events and economic issues.

Several members also mentioned the situation in West Asia/ Middle East. Some other members mentioned the need to strengthen multilateralism, promote international trade and the importance of a resilient supply chain. I have listened to these points carefully. In today's inter-connected world, we cannot view any particular issue in isolation. We welcome all the inputs and suggestions of the Hon'ble Representatives and we have also taken note of those suggestions. That is why we have mentioned this in paragraph 27 of the adopted Joint Statement. I would like to bring some points in Paragraph 27 to your notice. It says that we will continue to use parliamentary diplomacy and mutual dialogue appropriate forums as a catalyst for promoting international peace, prosperity and harmony, while supporting the peaceful resolution of conflicts and disputes. We reiterate our determination to pursue our agenda and our shared commitments in the future at the P20, G20 and beyond. As public representatives, we – the Members of Parliament – are in a special position to formulate the required policies and laws to fulfil the hopes, aspirations and needs of the public. Our role is to complement the efforts of the government and our Parliaments and parliamentarians have a specific role to play in ensuring good governance with the objective of public welfare.

### **Excellencies,**

It is a pleasure for me and my team to host you. I hope you have had a pleasant stay in India. I urge you to enjoy the rich history and colorful diverse culture of India to the fullest during your stay here. I look forward to welcoming you again in India to continue our discussions on issues of public welfare. I also hope that our Parliaments will continue to strive in this direction.

I take this opportunity to congratulate Brazil on its upcoming G20 presidency and wish success. I now request the Hon'ble Arthur Cesar Pereira de Lira, President of the Chamber of Deputies of Brazil, to address us. I extend my good wishes to him for a successful Presidency by Brazil.

## PARLIAMENTARY EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

### CONFERENCES AND SYMPOSIA

**Ninth G20 Parliamentary Speaker's Summit (P20):** The Ninth G20 Parliamentary Speaker's Summit (P20) was hosted by the Parliament of India in cooperation with the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), at *Yashobhoomi* (India International Convention and Expo Centre), New Delhi from 13<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> October 2023. The Summit was preceded by a Parliamentary Forum on LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment) on 12<sup>th</sup> October 2023. The theme of the Ninth P20 Summit was '*Parliaments for One Earth, One Family, One Future*', which draws inspiration from the ancient Indian Philosophy of '*Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam*' and was in line with the theme of India's G20 Presidency.

From a historical point of view, the New Delhi P20 Summit had the highest participation ever. All the G20 Members and 9 Invitee countries were represented at the Summit, except one. A total of 34 Speakers/Deputy Speakers participated in the Summit from 23 Countries. One country was represented at the level of the Chairperson of International Affairs Committee. The Pan-African Parliament participated in the P20 Summit for the first time after the inclusion of the African Union as a G20 member during India's G20 Presidency. A total of 436 Delegates, including 48 Members of Parliament, in addition to the Speakers and Deputy Speakers of the Parliaments of the G20 Members and Invitee countries participated in the Ninth P20 Summit.

On 12<sup>th</sup> October 2023, the Lok Sabha Speaker, Shri Om Birla inaugurated and addressed the G20 Parliamentary Forum on LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment) that preceded the Ninth P20 Summit. Addressing the distinguished gathering, Shri Birla said that the Summit's theme has been rooted in the cultural ethos of Bharat, which has been pursuing inclusive interests and priorities of the world at large since ancient times. Bharat has always considered the world to be one family on the principle of '*Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam*' which speaks of India's commitment to unity, cooperation and a shared future. He also shared legislative initiatives undertaken by the Parliament of India in promoting sustainable lifestyle.

On 13<sup>th</sup> October 2023, the Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated the Ninth G20 Parliamentary Speakers' Summit (P20)

at *Yashobhoomi*, New Delhi in the presence of the Lok Sabha Speaker, Shri Om Birla; President of Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), Mr. Duarte Pacheco; Presiding Officers of Parliaments of G20 Members; Invitee Countries and other dignitaries. On behalf of the 140 crore citizens of India, the Prime Minister welcomed the dignitaries to the G20 Parliamentary Speakers' Summit. He observed that the Summit was a '*Maha Kumbh*' of Parliamentary practices from across the globe. Expressing satisfaction with the event, he stated that the P20 Summit was taking place in a country, which is not only known as the 'Mother of Democracy', but is also the largest democracy in the world.

During the two-day Summit, four high level Sessions were held, viz. on (i) *Agenda 2030 for SDGs: Showcasing Achievements, Accelerating Progress*; (ii) *Sustainable Energy Transition: Gateways to a Green Future*; (iii) *Mainstreaming Gender Equality: From Women's Empowerment to Women-Led Development*; and (iv) *Transformation in Peoples' lives through Public Digital Platforms*. In addition to the Lok Sabha Speaker, Shri Om Birla, the Sessions were chaired/moderated by the Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri Harivansh. The Lok Sabha Speaker delivered the Opening Remarks, and also delivered the Valedictory Speech at the conclusion of the Summit.

On 13<sup>th</sup> October 2023, the Presiding Officers unanimously adopted a Joint Statement of the Ninth P20 Summit under the Chairmanship of the Lok Sabha Speaker, Shri Om Birla. The Presiding Officers welcomed the comprehensive and constructive dialogue held during the G20 Leaders' Summit and India's G20 Presidency. The Presiding Officers reaffirmed their "*commitment to continue our joint work to make an effective and meaningful parliamentary contribution to the G20 process, as appreciated by the G20 Leaders*". The Joint Statement also mentioned that the Parliaments will continue to engage in parliamentary diplomacy and dialogue in relevant fora as a catalyst for promoting international peace, prosperity and harmony, including supporting the peaceful resolution of conflicts and disputes.

The Ninth P20 Summit concluded successfully on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2023 with the Valedictory Speech delivered by the Lok Sabha Speaker, Shri Om Birla. Expressing gratitude to the distinguished attendees, Shri Om Birla expressed satisfaction on the meaningful deliberations held during the Summit, as well as during the G20 Parliamentary Forum on LiFE held on 12<sup>th</sup> October 2023. Subsequently, the Lok Sabha Speaker,

Shri Om Birla handed over the P20 Presidency to his Brazilian counterpart, H.E. Mr. Arthur Cesar Pereira de Lira, President of the Chamber of Deputies.

The Lok Sabha Speaker held bilateral meetings with his counterparts from several countries on the eve of the Summit and during the Summit. He met his counterparts from the Parliaments of Australia, Bangladesh, UAE, Republic of Korea, Turkiye and South Africa, and also with the President of the Senate of Netherlands, Chairperson of the Federation Council of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation, Vice-President of European Union, President of the Senate of Mexico, President, IPU and Acting President of Pan Africa Parliament.

**147<sup>th</sup> Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU):** The 147<sup>th</sup> Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union and related meetings were held in Luanda, Angola from 23<sup>rd</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> October 2023. An Indian Parliamentary Delegation (IPD) led by Shri Vishnu Dayal Ram, Member, Lok Sabha attended the 147<sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly. The other members of Indian delegation were Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tasa, Dr. Sasmit Patra, and Ms. Mamta Mohanta, all members of the Rajya Sabha; Smt. Aparajita Sarangi and Smt. Sumalatha Ambareesh, both members of the Lok Sabha.

Shri Vishnu Dayal Ram, and Leader of the Delegation participated in the General Debate and delivered a statement on the overall theme of *Parliamentary action for peace, justice and strong institutions* (SDG 16). After the deliberations, the Assembly unanimously adopted an Outcome Document called “Luanda Declaration” on the overall theme.

The IPU Governing Council held its 212<sup>th</sup> Session during the 147<sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly in which Members of the Indian Parliamentary Delegation participated. The Governing Council elected Dr. Tulia Ackson, Speaker of the National Assembly of Tanzania, as the new IPU President after a secret ballot held on 27<sup>th</sup> October 2023.

In the context of the initiatives taken by Parliaments to promote gender equality, Smt. Aparajita Sarangi, Member, Lok Sabha and Member of the IPU ExCom apprised the Executive Committee about the historic *Naari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam* (Women Empowerment Act) passed by the Parliament of India for providing one-third reservation to women in the Lok Sabha and the State Assemblies.

The Indian Parliamentary Delegation also participated in the meetings of the various IPU bodies and the four IPU Standing Committees. Members of the Indian delegation also attended meetings of the Asia

Pacific Geopolitical Group and the Coordinating Meeting of Asian Parliamentary Assembly held on the sidelines of the IPU Assembly. They also participated in the following Panel Discussions/Workshops organized during the IPU Assembly (i) IPU-UNICEF Joint workshop: *The role of parliaments in securing effective public spending for children's rights* (ii) Parity Debate: *I care to care: Male parliamentarians engage in equal caring responsibilities*, and (iii) IPU-WHO Joint Workshop: *Unpacking the development of the Pandemic Accord*.

At the request of the Parliamentary Delegations from Armenia, Belarus and Tanzania, members of IPD met the following: (i) H.E. Mr. H. Arshakyan, Vice President of the National Assembly, Armenia; (ii) Mr. Sergei Rachkov, Leader of the Belarus Delegation and Mr. Andrei Savinykh, Member of Parliament; and (iii) Mr. Mussa Azzan Zungu, Hon'ble Deputy Speaker of the Parliament of Tanzania.

The Embassy of India in Angola organized a community event in honour of the Indian Parliamentary Delegation. Members of the Indian delegation attended the event and interacted with members of the Indian Diaspora in Angola.

**The 66<sup>th</sup> Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference (CPC):** An Indian Parliamentary Delegation, led by Shri Anurag Sharma, Member, Lok Sabha attended the 66<sup>th</sup> Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference from 30<sup>th</sup> September to 6<sup>th</sup> October 2023 in Accra, Ghana.

The theme of the Conference was "*The Commonwealth Charter 10 years on: Values and Principles for Parliaments to Uphold*". The Indian delegation included Shri Sunil Kumar Singh, Member, Lok Sabha; Shri Jasbir Singh Gill, Member, Lok Sabha; and Shri S. Niranjan Reddy, Member, Rajya Sabha, along with Delegates/Secretaries from 23 State/UT CPA Branches (State/UT Legislatures) of CPA India Region viz. Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Delhi, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Uttarakhand and Uttar Pradesh.

The CPA Executive Committee Meetings were held on 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2023. It was attended by Shri Biswajit Daimary, Speaker, Assam Legislative Assembly, and Smt. Ritu Khanduri Bhushan, Speaker, Uttarakhand Legislative Assembly. The Speaker, Uttarakhand Legislative Assembly made an effective intervention during the Executive Committee

Meeting. Both the Speakers also attended the Meeting of Planning and Review Sub Committee as well as the Finance Sub Committee.

The Conference was officially inaugurated by H.E. Mr. Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo, President of Ghana on 4<sup>th</sup> October 2023. Eight Workshop Sessions were held during the Conference and the Indian Delegation actively participated and made their contribution by making interventions on all the themes of Workshop Sessions. The Conference concluded with the Meeting of General Assembly that was held on 5<sup>th</sup> October 2023. The Executive Committee Members of CPA India Region and all other Delegates from India attended the Meeting.

During the visit, the Indian Delegates also informally interacted with their counterparts from other Commonwealth Countries, the Indian Business Community and the Indian Diaspora in Ghana.

**Ninth G20 Parliamentary Speakers' Summit (P20 Summit) and G20 Parliamentary Forum:** During the P-20 Summit held from 13<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> October 2023, the CPA Cell was actively involved in all the works relating to venue management and the Lok Sabha Speaker's Bilateral Meetings and Bilateral Meetings between two countries/Union.

The Lok Sabha Speaker, Shri Om Birla held 14 Bilateral Meetings during the Summit. In addition, 25 Bilateral Meetings were held between the visiting Leaders of Delegations.

**Virtual Meeting of CPA Working Group on Human Rights:** A virtual meeting of the CPA Working Group on Human Rights was held on 11<sup>th</sup> December 2023. Shri Jamyang Tsering Namgyal, Member, Lok Sabha is the member of the said Working Group. The Meeting deliberated on various issues related to Human Rights and areas of future work.

#### BIRTH ANNIVERSARIES OF NATIONAL LEADERS

On the birth anniversaries of national leaders, whose portraits adorn the Central Hall of Samvidhan Sadan (old Parliament House), and also on the birth anniversaries of former Speakers of Lok Sabha, functions are organized under the auspices of the Indian Parliamentary Group (IPG) to pay tributes to the leaders. Booklets containing the profiles of these leaders, prepared by the Library and Reference, Research, Documentation and Information Service (LARRDIS) of the Lok Sabha Secretariat, are distributed on the occasion.

The birth anniversaries of the following leaders were celebrated during the period from 1<sup>st</sup> October to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023:

**Shri G.M.C. Balayogi:** On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Shri G.M.C. Balayogi, a function was held on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2023 in the Central Hall of Samvidhan Sadan. Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri Harivansh; Members of Parliament; and other dignitaries paid floral tributes at the portrait of former Lok Sabha Speaker, Shri G.M.C. Balayogi.

**Mahatma Gandhi and Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri:** On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi and Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri, a function was held on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2023 in the Central Hall of Samvidhan Sadan. Lok Sabha Speaker, Shri Om Birla; Union Minister of Education and Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Shri Dharmendra Pradhan; Union Minister for Parliamentary Affairs and Coal and Mines, Shri Pralhad Joshi; Leader of Opposition in the Rajya Sabha, Shri Mallikarjun Kharge; Members of Parliament; former Members of Parliament; and other dignitaries paid floral tributes at the portrait of Mahatma Gandhi and Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri.

**Shri Bali Ram Bhagat:** On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Shri Bali Ram Bhagat, a function was held on 7<sup>th</sup> October 2023 in the Central Hall of Samvidhan Sadan. Lok Sabha Speaker, Shri Om Birla; Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri Harivansh; Members of Parliament; former Members; and other dignitaries paid floral tributes at the portrait of former Lok Sabha Speaker, Shri Bali Ram Bhagat.

**Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel:** On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, a function was held on 31<sup>st</sup> October 2023 in the Central Hall of Samvidhan Sadan. Lok Sabha Speaker, Shri Om Birla; Union Minister of Commerce and Industry, Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution and Minister of Textile, Shri Piyush Goyal; Union Minister of State for Law & Justice, Parliamentary Affairs and Culture, Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal; Leader of Opposition in the Rajya Sabha, Shri Mallikarjun Kharge; Members of Parliament; former Members of Parliament; and other dignitaries paid floral tributes at the portrait of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.

**Maulana Abul Kalam Azad:** On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, a function was held on 11<sup>th</sup> November 2023 in the Central Hall of Samvidhan Sadan. Dignitaries paid floral tributes at the portrait of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad.

**Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, a function was held on 14<sup>th</sup> November 2023 in the Central Hall of Samvidhan Sadan. Leader of Opposition in the Rajya Sabha, Shri Mallikarjun Kharge; Members of Parliament; former Members of Parliament; and other dignitaries paid floral tributes at the portrait of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru.

**Smt. Indira Gandhi:** On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Smt. Indira Gandhi, a function was held on 19<sup>th</sup> November 2023 in the Central Hall of Samvidhan Sadan. Leader of Opposition in the Rajya Sabha, Shri Mallikarjun Kharge; Members of Parliament; former Members of Parliament; and other dignitaries paid floral tributes at the portrait of Smt. Indira Gandhi.

**Shri Rabi Ray:** On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Shri Rabi Ray, a function was held on 26<sup>th</sup> November 2023 in the Central Hall of Samvidhan Sadan. Lok Sabha Speaker, Shri Om Birla and other dignitaries paid floral tributes at the portrait of former Lok Sabha Speaker, Shri Rabi Ray.

**Shri G.V. Mavalankar:** On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Shri G.V. Mavalankar, a function was held on 27<sup>th</sup> November 2023 in the Central Hall of Samvidhan Sadan. Lok Sabha Speaker, Shri Om Birla; Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri Harivansh; and other dignitaries paid tributes at the portrait of former Lok Sabha Speaker, Shri G.V. Mavalankar.

**Dr. Rajendra Prasad:** On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Dr. Rajendra Prasad, a function was held on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2023 in the Central Hall of Samvidhan Sadan. Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri Harivansh; Minister of State of the Ministry of Law and Justice, Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal; Members of Parliament; former Members of Parliament; and other dignitaries paid floral tributes at the portrait of the first President of India, Dr. Rajendra Prasad.

**Shri C. Rajagopalachari:** On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Shri C. Rajagopalachari, a function was held on 10<sup>th</sup> December 2023 in the Central Hall of Samvidhan Sadan. Lok Sabha Speaker, Shri Om Birla and other dignitaries paid floral tributes at the portrait of Shri C. Rajagopalachari.

**Chaudhary Charan Singh:** On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Chaudhary Charan Singh, a function was held on 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2023 in the Central Hall of Samvidhan Sadan. Lok Sabha Speaker, Shri Om Birla;

Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri Harivansh; Members of Parliament; former members of Parliament; and other dignitaries paid floral tributes at the portrait of former Prime Minister, Chaudhary Charan Singh.

**Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya and Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee:** On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya and Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, a function was held on 25<sup>th</sup> December 2023 in the Central Hall of Samvidhan Sadan. Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi; Lok Sabha Speaker, Shri Om Birla; Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri Harivansh; Union Ministers; Members of Parliament; former Members of Parliament; and other dignitaries paid floral tributes at the portrait of Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya and Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

#### EXCHANGE OF PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATIONS

##### **Foreign Parliamentary Delegation Visiting India**

**Sri Lanka:** A Parliamentary Delegation led by H.E. Mr. Mahindra Yapa Abeywardena, Speaker of the Parliament of Sri Lanka visited India from 16<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> December 2023. The Delegation arrived Delhi on 16<sup>th</sup> December 2023. On 18<sup>th</sup> December 2023, the Lok Sabha Speaker, Shri Om Birla and the visiting Speaker held bilateral Parliamentary dialogue, which was followed by a Banquet Lunch. The delegation also witnessed the proceedings of the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha from the 'Special Box', and a show round of Parliament House Complex was organized for the visiting delegation. On the same day, the delegation called on the Vice-President of India and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri Jagdeep Dhankhar. Besides Delhi, the Delegation also visited Aurangabad and Guwahati.

##### **Call-on Meeting with the Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha**

**Dominican Republic:** Mrs. Raquel Pena, Vice President of the Dominican Republic had a meeting with Lok Sabha Speaker, Shri Om Birla on 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2023 in Parliament House.

**European Parliament:** A delegation of the European Parliament led by Mr. Morten Lokkegaard, Chair of Delegation for Relations with India, and Ms. Nathalie Loiseau, Chair of Sub Committee on Security and Defence, called on the Lok Sabha Speaker, Shri Om Birla on 19<sup>th</sup> December 2023 in Parliament House.

**Vietnam:** A delegation of the Vietnam-India Parliamentary Friendship Group led by Mr. Duong Thanh Binh, Chairman of the Vietnam-India Parliamentary Friendship Group, called on the Lok Sabha Speaker, Shri Om Birla on 20<sup>th</sup> December 2023 in Parliament House.

**SHOW ROUND OF PARLIAMENT**

- (1) A show round of Parliament was arranged for members of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Backward Classes of the Punjab Legislative Assembly led by Mrs. Sarvjit Kaur Manuke, Chairperson on 5<sup>th</sup> October 2023.
- (2) A show round of Parliament was arranged for the Special House Committee of the Karnataka Legislative Council, led by Shri U.T. Khader Fareed, Hon'ble Speaker, Karnataka Legislative Assembly on 26<sup>th</sup> October 2023.
- (3) A show round of Parliament was arranged for members of the Committee on Subordinate Legislation, Kerala Legislative Assembly led by Shri M.M. Mani, Chairperson on 27<sup>th</sup> October 2023.
- (4) A show round of Parliament was arranged for Finnish Parliamentary Committee on Environment led by Ms. Jenni Pitko, Chairperson of the Committee on 21<sup>st</sup> November 2023.
- (5) A show round of Parliament was arranged for the Nepali Youth Delegation led by Mr. Kabindra Burlakati, Joint General Secretary, Rashtriya Swatantra Party on 13<sup>th</sup> December 2023.
- (6) A show round of Parliament was arranged for the Vietnam-India Parliamentary Friendship Group led by Mr. Duong Thanh Binh, Chairperson of the Vietnam-India Parliamentary Friendship Group on 20<sup>th</sup> December 2023.
- (7) A show round of Parliament was arranged for a delegation from Sri Lanka led by Thiru Senthil Thondaman, Governor of East Province, Sri Lanka on 30<sup>th</sup> December 2023.

**PARLIAMENTARY RESEARCH AND TRAINING INSTITUTE FOR DEMOCRACIES (PRIDE)**

During the period from 1<sup>st</sup> October to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023, the Parliamentary Research and Training Institute for Democracies (PRIDE) had organized the following Courses/Programmes/Events for Members/Delegates/ Probationers/Dignitaries/Officials:

- (1) Training program for Assistant Section Officers ASOs of ISTM:** (i) Nineteen Group B Officers of Meghalaya Secretariat (MSS) undergoing training at ISTM, New Delhi attended Training Programme on 19<sup>th</sup> November 2023; and (ii) One hundred seventy-four Assistant Section Officers undergoing training Programme

at ISTM, attended Training Programme on Parliamentary Work Management on 7<sup>th</sup> October 2023.

- (2) Appreciation Courses:** Four Appreciation Courses in Parliamentary Processes and Procedures were organized for: (i) Thirty-five Officer Trainees (OTs) of Indian Economic Service from 21<sup>st</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2023; (ii) Twenty-eight Officer Trainees of IRS of 73<sup>rd</sup> Batch from NACIN, Faridabad from 18<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> December 2023; (iii) Thirty-six Probationers of Military Engineer Services from 28<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> November 2023; and (iv) One hundred fifty-five Probationers of Indian Police Service (IPS) from 15<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> November 2023.
- (3) Capacity Building/Training Programme for officials of Lok Sabha/ Rajya Sabha and State Legislature Secretariats:** (i) Sixty-one officials/staff of Lok Sabha Secretariat attended the Training Programme on Organisational Leadership and Team Building (Batch-I) on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2023; (ii) Sixteen officials/staff of Lok Sabha Secretariat attended the Training Programme on Tally Software on 21<sup>st</sup> November 2023; (iii) Thirty-five Marshal/ Security Officers of Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha and State Legislature Secretariats attended the Capacity Building Programme from 8 November to 10 November 2023; (iv) Seventy-one officials of P&AO and other branches of Lok Sabha Secretariat dealing with bills, payments and finance related matters from 8<sup>th</sup> November to 10<sup>th</sup> November 2023; and (v) Thirty-six Officials of Lok Sabha/ Rajya Sabha Secretariat and State Legislatures and Officials working in Legislative Departments of State Government attended the 6<sup>th</sup> National Legislative Drafting Programme from 30<sup>th</sup> October to 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2023.
- (4) Know Your Leader:** One thousand four hundred thirty-nine attended the Programme “Know Your Leader—Participation of Youths in Events in Parliament to Pay Homage to National Leaders on the Birth Anniversary of Shri Mahatma Gandhi and Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri and Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel” on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2023 and 31<sup>st</sup> October 2023.
- (5) Study Visit/Training Programme (International) (a):** (i) Thirty-seven foreign Diplomats undergoing special training at Sushma Swaraj Institute of Foreign Service (SSIFS), Ministry of External

Affairs, New Delhi attended Study Visit on 20<sup>th</sup> October 2023; (ii) Thirty-three Indian Diaspora youth under 68<sup>th</sup> edition of Know India Programme (KIP), Ministry of External Affairs, Govt. of India, attended Study Visit on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2023; (iii) Fourteen Online Sessions on “Ensuring Accountability through Strengthening the Public Relations of the Bangladesh Parliament: Training for the officials of the FOC and PR Wings” were organised by PRIDE in collaboration with Bangladesh Parliament at Dhaka, on 21<sup>st</sup> November 2023; (iv) Forty Indian Diaspora Youth under Know India Program (KIP) from Ministry of External Affairs, attended the Special Training Programme on 13<sup>th</sup> December 2023; and (v) Thirty-three Foreign Diplomats from 30 Countries attending 1<sup>st</sup> Global South Young Diplomats Forum at Sushma Swaraj Institute of Foreign Services, Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi, attended the Study Visit on 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2023.

**(6) Study Visit (National) (b):** Sixty-five Study Visits (National) were organized during the period.

#### MEMBERS' REFERENCE SERVICE

Members' Reference Service caters to the information needs of Members of Parliament, primarily in connection with their day-to-day parliamentary work. The Service brings out Reference Notes and Legislative Notes on important issues and Bills before the House. During the period from 1<sup>st</sup> October to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023, a total of 747 references were received and disposed off, out of which 674 references were offline, and 73 references were online. 13 Legislative Notes and 1 Reference Notes were prepared, uploaded on Parliament Library website as well as shared with Members of Parliament through the Members' Portal. During the period, 3 Briefing Sessions were organized for Members of Parliament on important Legislative Business before the House.

## PRIVILEGE ISSUES

### LOK SABHA

During the period from 1<sup>st</sup> October to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023, the Committee of Privileges held 2 sittings on 10<sup>th</sup> October and 7<sup>th</sup> December 2023; and the Committee on Ethics held 3 sittings on 26<sup>th</sup> October, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> November 2023. The Committee on Ethics presented one report during the period.

#### Committee on Ethics

The First Report of the Committee on Ethics, 17<sup>th</sup> Lok Sabha on 'Examination/investigation of alleged 'Unethical Conduct' of Smt. Mahua Moitra, MP with reference to complaint dated 15 October, 2023 given by Dr. Nishikant Dubey, MP against Smt. Mahua Moitra, MP for alleged direct involvement in cash for query in Parliament.', was presented to the Hon'ble Speaker on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2023 and laid on the Table of the House on 8<sup>th</sup> December 2023.

On the three aspects, which have been elaborately examined/ investigated by the Committee on Ethics, Lok Sabha, made the following recommendations:

**(1) 'Unethical Conduct' and 'Contempt of the House' by Smt. Mahua Moitra, MP for sharing her Lok Sabha login credentials, i.e., user ID and Password of Lok Sabha 'Members Portal' to unauthorised person and its impact on the National Security [Para(s) 55 to 63 of the Report].**

- (i) The serious misdemeanours on the part of Smt. Mahua Moitra calls for severe punishment. The Committee, therefore, recommended that Smt. Mahua Moitra, MP may be expelled from the Membership of the Seventeenth Lok Sabha.
- (ii) In view of highly objectionable, unethical, heinous and criminal conduct of Smt. Mahua Moitra, the Committee recommended for an intense, legal, institutional inquiry by the Government of India in a time-bound manner.

**(2) 'Unethical Conduct' and 'Contempt of the House' by Smt. Mahua Moitra by way of accepting money — cash and kind, amenities and various other facilities by Smt. Mahua Moitra, MP from**

**Shri Darshan Hiranandani, Business Tycoon, based in Dubai, United Arab Emirates [Para(s) 64 to 69 of the Report].**

The 'money trail' of cash transaction between Smt. Mahua Moitra and Shri Darshan Hiranandani as a part of 'quid pro quo' should be investigated by the Government of India in a legal, institutional and time-bound manner.

**(3) Unruly conduct and spreading rumours by Kunwar Danish Ali, MP and Member of Committee on Ethics on 2 November, 2023 [Para(s) 70 & 71 of the Report].**

Kunwar Danish Ali, MP and Member of the Committee on Ethics should be 'admonished' for twisting/moulding the intent of question put forth by the Chairperson, Committee on Ethics to Smt. Mahua Moitra during her deposition on 2 November, 2023 with the objective of fomenting the sentiments of public, at large, as well as, disparaging the self-esteem of Chairperson and other Members as well as breaching Rule 275(2) contained in the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha.

## **PARLIAMENTARY AND CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENTS (1<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER TO 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2023)**

Events covered in this Feature are based primarily on the information available in the public domain including the official websites of the Union and the State Legislatures, the Election Commission of India, and also reports appearing in daily newspapers. As such, the Lok Sabha Secretariat does not accept any responsibility for their accuracy, authenticity or veracity.

### **INDIA**

#### **DEVELOPMENTS AT THE UNION**

*Parliament Session(s):* The Fourteenth Session of the Seventeenth Lok Sabha and the Two Hundred and Sixty Second Session of the Rajya Sabha commenced on 4<sup>th</sup> December 2023. Both the Houses were adjourned *sine die* on 21<sup>st</sup> December 2023. The President of India, Smt. Droupadi Murmu prorogued both the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha on 29<sup>th</sup> December 2023.

*Resignation of Union Ministers:* On 7<sup>th</sup> December 2023, the Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Shri Narendra Singh Tomar; the Minister of State in the Ministry of Food Processing Industries and Jal Shakti, Shri Prahlad Singh Patel; and the Minister of State in the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Smt. Renuka Singh Saruta, resigned.

*Allocation of Additional Charges:* On 7<sup>th</sup> December 2023, the Minister of Tribal Affairs, Shri Arjun Munda was given additional charge of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare; the Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Sushri Shobha Karandlaje was given the additional charge of the (MoS) Ministry of Food Processing Industries; the Minister of State in the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Shri Rajeev Chandrasekhar was given the additional charge of (MoS) Ministry of Jal Shakti; and the Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Dr. Bharati Pravin Pawar was given the additional charge of (MoS) the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.

*Resignation of Rajya Sabha Member:* On 6<sup>th</sup> December 2023, Dr. Kirodi Lal Meena, Member of the Bharatiya Janata Party from Rajasthan, resigned.

*Expulsion of Lok Sabha Member:* According to the Lok Sabha Secretariat separate Notification dated 8<sup>th</sup> December 2023, “Consequent on the adoption of a Motion by the Lok Sabha on the 8<sup>th</sup> December, 2023, expelling Smt. Mahua Moitra, an elected member from the Krishnanagar Parliamentary Constituency of West Bengal, from the membership of Lok Sabha, Smt. Mahua Moitra has ceased to be a member of Lok Sabha with effect from the 8<sup>th</sup> December, 2023 afternoon.”.

*Resignation from Lok Sabha:* The following members resigned from the Lok Sabha:

Sl.No.	Name	Constituency	State	Date
1.	Col. Rajyavardhan Rathore	Jaipur Rural	Rajasthan	06.12.2023
2.	Ms. Diya Kumari	Rajsamand	Rajasthan	06.12.2023
3.	Shri Narendra Singh Tomar	Morena	Madhya Pradesh	06.12.2023
4.	Shri Prahlad Singh Patel	Damoh	Madhya Pradesh	06.12.2023
5.	Shri Rakesh Singh	Jabalpur	Madhya Pradesh	06.12.2023
6.	Smt. Riti Pathak	Sidhi	Madhya Pradesh	06.12.2023
7.	Shri Uday Pratap Singh	Hoshangabad	Madhya Pradesh	06.12.2023
8.	Smt. Gomti Sai	Raigarh	Chhattisgarh	06.12.2023
9.	Shri Arun Sao	Bilaspur	Chhattisgarh	06.12.2023
10.	Smt. Renuka Singh Saruta	Surguja	Chhattisgarh	07.12.2023
11.	Shri Balak Nath	Alwar	Rajasthan	07.12.2023
12.	Shri Anumula Revanth Reddy	Malkajgiri	Telangana	08.12.2023
13.	Shri Komti Reddy Venkat Reddy	Bhongir	Telangana	11.12.2023
14.	Shri Kotha Prabhakar Reddy	Medak	Telangana	13.12.2023
15.	Shri Uttam Kumar Reddy Nalamada	Nalgonda	Telangana	13.12.2023
16.	Shri Hanuman Beniwal	Nagaur	Rajasthan	15.12.2023

## AROUND THE STATES

**CHHATTISGARH**

*Legislative Assembly Election Results:* The Assembly elections to the 90 seat Chhattisgarh State Legislative Assembly were held on 7<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> November 2023. The results were announced on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2023. The party position following the election was as follows:

<b>Name of the Party</b>	<b>Seats</b>
Bharatiya Janata Party	54
Indian National Congress	35
Gondvana Gantantra Party	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>90</b>

*Oath of Chief Minister:* On 13<sup>th</sup> December 2023, Shri Vishnu Deo Sai was sworn in as the Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh.

On the same day, *Sarvashri* Arun Sao and Vijay Sharma took oath as the Deputy Chief Ministers.

*Appointment of New Speaker:* On 19<sup>th</sup> December 2023, Shri Raman Singh was elected as the Speaker of the Chhattisgarh Legislative Assembly.

*Oath of New Ministers:* On 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2023, the Governor, Shri Biswa Bhusan Harichandan, administered oath of office and secrecy to the nine newly-inducted Ministers, *Sarvashri* Brijmohan Agrawal, Ram Vichar Netam, Kedar Kashyap, Dayal Das Baghel, O.P. Choudhary, Tank Ram Verma, Shyam Bihari Jaiswal, Lakhan Lal Dewangan and Smt. Laxmi Rajwade.

**GOA**

*Oath of New Minister and allocation of Portfolio:* On 19<sup>th</sup> November 2023, the Governor, Shri P.S. Sreedharan Pillai administered the oath of office and secrecy to newly-inducted Minister, Shri Aleixo Sequeira.

On 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2023, the Chief Minister, Shri Pramod Sawant allocated the charges of the Departments of Law & Judiciary, Environment, Captain of Ports and Legislative Affairs to the Minister, Shri Aleixo Sequeira.

## KERALA

*Resignation of Ministers:* On 24<sup>th</sup> December 2023, the Minister of Transport, Shri Antony Raju and the Minister of Ports, Shri Ahamed Devarkovil, resigned.

*Oath of new Ministers and allocation of Portfolios:* On 29<sup>th</sup> December 2023, the Governor, Shri Arif Mohammed Khan administered the oath of office and secrecy to two newly-inducted Ministers, *Sarvashri* Ramachandran Kadannappalli and K.B. Ganesh Kumar.

The Chief Minister, Shri Pinarayi Vijayan allocated the charge of the Department of Transport to Shri K.B. Ganesh Kumar and the charge of the Departments of Registration, Museums, Archaeology and Archives to Shri Ramachandran Kadannappalli. The Chief Minister allocated the charge of the Department of the Ports to the Minister of Co-operation, Shri V.N. Vasavan.

## MADHYA PRADESH

*Legislative Assembly Election Results:* The Assembly elections to the 230 seat Madhya Pradesh State Legislative Assembly were held on 17<sup>th</sup> November 2023. The results were announced on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2023. The party position following the election was as follows:

<b>Name of the Party</b>	<b>Seats</b>
Bharatiya Janata Party	163
Indian National Congress	66
Bharat Adivasi Party	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>230</b>

*Oath of Chief Minister:* On 13<sup>th</sup> December 2023, Dr. Mohan Yadav was sworn in as the Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh.

On the same day, *Sarvashri* Jagdish Devda and Rajendra Shukla took oath as Deputy Chief Ministers.

*Appointment of New Speaker:* On 20<sup>th</sup> December 2023, Shri Narendra Singh Tomar was elected as the Speaker of the Madhya Pradesh Legislative Assembly.

*Oath of New Ministers:* On 25<sup>th</sup> December 2023, the Governor, Shri Mangubhai Patel, administered oath of office and secrecy to eighteen

Cabinet Ministers *viz.* *Sarvashri* Kailash Vijayvargiya, Prahalad Patel, Rakesh Singh, Karan Singh Verma, Uday Pratap Singh, Tulsi Silawat, Edal Singh Kanshana, Govind Singh Rajput, Vishvas Kailash Sarang, Narayan Singh Kushwaha, Nagar Singh Chouhan, Pradhuman Singh Tomar, Rakesh Shukla, Chetanya Kumar Kashyap, Indar Singh Parmar, Kunwar Vijay Shah, Smt. Sampatiya Uike and Sushri Nirmala Bhuria, six Ministers of State (Independent Charge) *viz.* *Sarvashri* Dharmendra Singh Lodhi, Dileep Jaiswal, Gautam Tetwal, Lakhan Patel, Narayan Singh Panwar and Smt. Krishna Gaur and four Ministers of State *viz.* *Sarvashri* Narendra Shivaji Patel, Dileep Ahirwar, Smt. Pratima Bagri and Smt. Radha Singh.

### MIZORAM

*Legislative Assembly Election Results:* The Assembly elections to the 40 seat Mizoram State Legislative Assembly were held on 7<sup>th</sup> November 2023. The results were announced on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2023. The party position following the election was as follows:

<b>Name of the Party</b>	<b>Seats</b>
Zoram People's Movement	27
Mizo National Front	10
Bharatiya Janata Party	2
Indian National Congress	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>40</b>

*Oath of Chief Minister:* On 8<sup>th</sup> December 2023, Shri Lalduhoma was sworn in as the Chief Minister of Mizoram.

On the same day, the Governor, Shri Hari Babu Kambhampati administered oath of office and secrecy to seven Cabinet Ministers, *viz.* *Sarvashri* K. Sapdanga, Vanlalhlana, C. Lalsawivunga, Lalthansanga, PC Vanlalruata, Dr. Vanlalhlana and Ms. Lalrinpuii; and four Ministers of State, *viz.* *Sarvashri* F. Rodingliana, B. Lalchhanzova, Lalnilawma and Lalnginglova Hmar.

*Appointment of New Speaker:* On 12<sup>th</sup> December 2023, Shri Lalbiakzama was elected as the Speaker of the Mizoram Legislative Assembly.

### NAGALAND

*Assembly Bye-election Result:* On 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2023, Shri Wangpang Konyak member of the Nationalist Democratic Progressive Party was

declared elected from Tapi Assembly Constituency, in the bye-election held on 7<sup>th</sup> November 2023.

### ODISHA

*Oath of Governor:* On 31<sup>st</sup> October 2023, Shri Raghubar Das was sworn in as the Governor of Odisha.

### PUDUCHERRY

*Resignation of Minister:* On 10<sup>th</sup> October 2023, the Minister of Transport, Smt. S. Chandira Priyanga resigned.

### PUNJAB

*Re-allocation of Portfolio:* On 21<sup>st</sup> November 2023, the Chief Minister, Shri Bhagwant Mann allocated the charge of the Departments of Mines & Geology, Water Resources, and Conservation of Land & Water to the Minister, Shri Chetan Singh Jouramajra.

### RAJASTHAN

*Legislative Assembly Election Results:* The Assembly Elections for 199 out of the 200 seats of the Rajasthan Legislative Assembly were held on 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2023. The results were announced on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2023. The party position following the election was as follows:

<b>Name of the Party</b>	<b>Seats</b>
Bharatiya Janata Party	115
Indian National Congress	69
Bharat Adivasi Party	3
Bahujan Samaj Party	2
Rashtriya Lok Dal	1
Rashtriya Loktantrik Party	1
Independent	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>199</b>

*Oath of Chief Minister:* On 15<sup>th</sup> December 2023, Shri Bhajanlal Sharma was sworn in as the Chief Minister of Rajasthan.

On the same day, Smt. Diya Kumari and Dr. Prem Chand Bairwa took oath as Deputy Chief Ministers.

*Appointment of New Speaker:* On 21<sup>st</sup> December 2023, Shri Vasudev Devnani was elected as the Speaker of the Rajasthan Legislative Assembly.

*Oath of New Ministers:* On 30<sup>th</sup> December 2023, the Governor, Shri Kalraj Mishra, administered oath of office and secrecy to twelve Cabinet Ministers *viz.* Sarvashri Kirodi Lal, Madan Dilawar, Gajendra Singh, Babu Lal Kharadi, Jogaram Patel, Suresh Singh Rawat, Avinash Gehlot, Joraram Kumawat, Hemant Meena, Kanhiya Lal, Sumit Godara and Col. Rajyavardhan Rathore, five Ministers of State (Independent Charge) *viz.* Sarvashri Sanjay Sharma, Gautam Kumar, Jhabar Singh Kharra, Surendra Pal Singh and Heeralal Nagar and five Ministers of State *viz.* Sarvashri Otaram Dewasi, Vijay Singh Choudhary, K.K. Vishnoi, Jawahar Singh Bedham and Dr. Manju Baghmar.

### TELANGANA

*Legislative Assembly Election Results:* The Assembly elections to the 119-seat Telangana State Legislative Assembly were held on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2023. The results were announced on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2023. The party position following the election was as follows:

<b>Name of the Party</b>	<b>Seats</b>
Indian National Congress	64
Bharat Rashtra Samithi	39
Bharatiya Janata Party	8
All India Majlis-E-Itehadul Muslimeen	7
Communist Party of India	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>119</b>

*Oath of Chief Minister:* On 7<sup>th</sup> December 2023, Shri Anumula Revanth Reddy and Shri Batti Vikramarka Mallu were sworn in as the Chief Minister and the Deputy Chief Minister, respectively.

On the same day, the Governor, Dr. Tamilisai Soundararajan administered oath of office and secrecy to ten Cabinet Ministers *viz.* Sarvashri Nalamada Uttam Kumar Reddy, Damodar Rajanarasimha, Komatireddy Venkat Reddy, Duddilla Sridhar Babu, Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy, Ponnam Prabhakar, Tummala Nageshwara Rao, Jupally Krishna Rao, Smt. Konda Surekha and Smt. D. Anasuya Seethakka.

*Appointment of New Speaker:* On 14<sup>th</sup> December 2023, Shri Gaddam Prasad Kumar was elected as the Speaker of the Telangana Legislative Assembly.

### **TRIPURA**

*Oath of Governor:* On 26<sup>th</sup> October 2023, Shri Indrasena Reddy Nallu was sworn in as the Governor of Tripura.

### **EVENTS ABROAD**

#### **ARGENTINA**

*Oath of President:* On 10<sup>th</sup> December 2023, Mr. Javier Milei was sworn in as the President of Argentina.

#### **ECUADOR**

*Oath of President:* On 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2023, Mr. Daniel Noboa was sworn in as the President of Ecuador.

#### **EGYPT**

*President re-elected:* On 18<sup>th</sup> December 2023, Mr. Abdel Fattah El-Sisi was elected as the President of Egypt for the third term.

#### **LUXEMBOURG**

*Oath of Prime Minister:* On 17<sup>th</sup> November 2023, Mr. Luc Frieden was sworn in as the Prime Minister of Luxembourg.

#### **MADAGASCAR**

*Oath of President:* On 16<sup>th</sup> December 2023, Mr. Andry Rajoelina was sworn in as the President of Madagascar for the third term.

#### **MALDIVES**

*Oath of President:* On 17<sup>th</sup> November 2023, Mr. Mohamed Muizzu was sworn in as the President of Maldives.

#### **NEW ZEALAND**

*Oath of Prime Minister:* On 27<sup>th</sup> November 2023, Mr. Christopher Luxon was sworn in as the Prime Minister of New Zealand.

#### **POLAND**

*Oath of Prime Minister:* On 13<sup>th</sup> December 2023, Mr. Donald Tusk was sworn in as the Prime Minister of Poland.

#### **SWITZERLAND**

*Oath of President:* On 13<sup>th</sup> December 2023, Ms. Viola Amherd was sworn in as the President of Switzerland.

## DOCUMENTS OF CONSTITUTIONAL AND PARLIAMENTARY INTEREST

*[The Section covers some important Bills assented to by the President of India (after the same were passed by the Parliament) during the period – 1<sup>st</sup> October 2023 - 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023]*

**The Repealing and Amending Act, 2023:** This Act is one of those periodical measures by which enactments, which have ceased to be in force or have become obsolete or the retention whereof as separate Acts is unnecessary are repealed or by which the formal defects detected in enactments are corrected.

The note on Third Schedule which follows, explains the reasons for the amendment suggested in the Bill in respect whereof some detailed explanation is necessary.

Clause 4 of the Bill contains a precautionary provision which it is usual to include in the Bill of this kind.

The Repealing and Amending Bill, 2023, which sought to achieve the above objectives was passed by the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha on 27<sup>th</sup> July, 2023 and 13<sup>th</sup> December, 2023, respectively. The President of India assented to it on 17<sup>th</sup> December, 2023.

The text of the above Act is reproduced below:

### THE REPEALING AND AMENDING ACT, 2023

An Act to repeal certain enactments and to amend an enactment.

BE it enacted by Parliament in the Seventy-fourth Year of the Republic of India as follows:—**1.** Short title. This Act may be called the Repealing and Amending Act, 2023.

**2.** Repeal of certain enactments. The enactments specified in the First Schedule and the Second Schedule are hereby repealed.

**3.** Amendment of enactment. The enactment specified in the Third Schedule is hereby amended to the extent and in the manner specified in the fourth column thereof.

**4.** Savings. The repeal by this Act of any enactment shall not affect any other enactment in which the repealed enactment has been applied, incorporated or referred to;

and this Act shall not affect the validity, invalidity, effect or consequences of anything already done or suffered, or any right, title, obligation or liability already acquired, accrued or incurred, or any remedy or proceeding in respect thereof, or any release or discharge of or from any debt, penalty, obligation, liability, claim or demand, or any indemnity already granted, or the proof of any past act or thing;

nor shall this Act affect any principle or rule of law, or established jurisdiction, form or course of pleading, practice or procedure, or existing usage, custom, privilege, restriction, exemption, office or appointment, notwithstanding that the same respectively may have been in any manner affirmed or recognised or derived by, in or from any enactment hereby repealed;

nor shall the repeal by this Act of any enactment revive or restore any jurisdiction, office, custom, liability, right, title, privilege, restriction, exemption, usage, practice, procedure or other matter or thing not now existing or in force.

## THE FIRST SCHEDULE

(See Section 2)

## REPEALS

Year	Act No.	Short Title
1	2	3
1850	18	The Judicial Officers Protection Act, 1850.
1855	28	The Usury Laws Repeal Act, 1855.
1857	5	The Oriental Gas Company Act, 1857.
1867	11	The Oriental Gas Company Act, 1867.
1871	4	The Coroners Act, 1871.
1881	16	The Obstruction in Fairways Act, 1881.
1885	18	The Land Acquisition (Mines) Act, 1885.
1912	13	The Delhi Laws Act, 1912.
1915	7	The Delhi Laws Act, 1915.
1922	22	The Police (Incitement to Disaffection) Act, 1922.
1923	6	The Cantonments (House Accommodation) Act, 1923.
1934	15	The Sugar-cane Act, 1934.
1941	12	The Delhi Restriction of Uses of Land Act, 1941.
1950	74	The Telegraph Wires (Unlawful Possession) Act, 1950.
1965	44	The Metal Corporation of India (Acquisition of Undertaking) Act, 1965.
1974	28	The Coal Mines (Conservation and Development) Act, 1974.
1976	100	The Metal Corporation (Nationalisation and Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1976.
1982	71	The Andhra Scientific Company Limited (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1982.
1983	17	The Delhi Motor Vehicles Taxation (Amendment) Act, 1983.
1994	13	The Air Corporations (Transfer of Undertakings and Repeal) Act, 1994.

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1	2	3
2018	1	The Companies (Amendment) Act, 2017.
2018	8	The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (Amendment) Act, 2018.
2018	21	The Requisitioning and Acquisition of Immovable Property (Amendment) Act, 2018.
2018	23	The Homoeopathy Central Council (Amendment) Act, 2018.
2018	26	The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (Second Amendment) Act, 2018.
2018	27	The Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Act, 2018.
2019	6	The Personal Laws (Amendment) Act, 2019.
2019	8	The Special Economic Zones (Amendment) Act, 2019.
2019	11	The Homoeopathy Central Council (Amendment) Act, 2019.
2019	14	The Aadhaar and Other Laws (Amendment) Act, 2019.
2019	24	The Right to Information (Amendment) Act, 2019.
2019	26	The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (Amendment) Act, 2019.
2019	36	The Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Amendment Act, 2019.
2019	37	The Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Amendment Act, 2019.
2020	19	The Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament (Amendment) Act, 2020.

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## THE SECOND SCHEDULE

(See Section 2)

## REPEALS

Year	Act No.	Short Title
1	2	3
2013	5	The Appropriation (Railways) Vote on Account Act, 2013.
2013	6	The Appropriation (Railways) Act, 2013.
2013	7	The Appropriation (Railways) No. 2 Act, 2013.
2013	8	The Appropriation (Vote on Account) Act, 2013.
2013	9	The Appropriation Act, 2013.
2013	10	The Appropriation (No. 2) Act, 2013.
2013	15	The Appropriation (Railways) No. 3 Act, 2013.
2013	16	The Appropriation (No. 3) Act, 2013.
2013	21	The Appropriation (No. 4) Act, 2013.
2014	2	The Appropriation (No. 5) Act, 2013.
2014	3	The Appropriation (Railways) No. 4 Act, 2013.
2014	4	The Appropriation (Railways) Vote on Account Act, 2014.
2014	5	The Appropriation (Railways) Act, 2014.
2014	12	The Appropriation (Vote on Account) Act, 2014.
2014	13	The Appropriation Act, 2014.
2014	21	The Appropriation (Railways) No. 2 Act, 2014.
2014	22	The Appropriation (Railways) No. 3 Act, 2014.
2014	23	The Appropriation (No. 2) Act, 2014.
2014	24	The Appropriation (No. 3) Act, 2014.
2014	38	The Appropriation (No. 4) Act, 2014.
2015	6	The Appropriation (Railways) Vote on Account Act, 2015.
2015	7	The Appropriation (Railways) Act, 2015.
2015	8	The Appropriation (Vote on Account) Act, 2015.

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1	2	3
2015	9	The Appropriation Act, 2015.
2015	13	The Appropriation (Railways) No. 2 Act, 2015.
2015	15	The Appropriation (No. 2) Act, 2015.
2015	24	The Appropriation (Railways) No. 3 Act, 2015.
2015	25	The Appropriation (No. 3) Act, 2015.
2016	7	The Appropriation (No. 4) Act, 2015.
2016	8	The Appropriation (No. 5) Act, 2015.
2016	14	The Appropriation (Railways) Vote on Account Act, 2016.
2016	15	The Appropriation (Railways) Act, 2016.
2016	19	The Appropriation (Vote on Account) Act, 2016.
2016	20	The Appropriation Act, 2016.
2016	26	The Appropriation (Railways) No. 2 Act, 2016.
2016	29	The Appropriation (No. 2) Act, 2016.
2016	46	The Appropriation (No. 3) Act, 2016.
2016	50	The Appropriation (No. 4) Act, 2016.
2016	51	The Appropriation (No. 5) Act, 2016.
2017	8	The Appropriation (Railways) Act, 2017.
2017	9	The Appropriation (Railways) No. 2 Act, 2017.

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THE THIRD SCHEDULE  
(See Section 3)  
AMENDMENT

Year	Act No.	Short Title	Amendment
1	2	3	4
2012	12	The Factoring Regulation Act, 2011.	In section 31A, in sub-section (3), for the words “that Central Government”, the words “that Government” shall be substituted.

***The Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation (Second Amendment)***

**Act, 2023:**The Parliament has enacted the Constitution (One Hundred and Sixth Amendment) Act, 2023 to pave way for reservation of one-third of the total number of seats for women in the House of the People; Legislative Assembly of every State; and the Legislative Assembly of the National Capital Territory of Delhi.

Consequent to the enactment of the Constitution (One Hundred and Sixth Amendment) Act, 2023, similar provisions for providing reservation for women in the Legislative Assembly of the Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir were also required to be made by Parliament by amending the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act, 2019.

In order to enable greater representation and participation of women as public representatives in law making processes of the Legislative Assembly of the Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir, it was decided to introduce the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation (Second Amendment) Bill, 2023 to provide for as nearly as may be, one-third of total seats in the Legislative Assembly of the Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir to be reserved for women.

The Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation (Second Amendment) Bill, 2023, which sought to achieve the above objectives was passed by the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2023 and 18<sup>th</sup> December 2023, respectively. The President of India assented to it on 20<sup>th</sup> December 2023.

The text of the above Act is reproduced below:

THE JAMMU AND KASHMIR REORGANISATION (SECOND  
AMENDMENT) ACT, 2023

An Act further to amend the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act, 2019.

BE it enacted by Parliament in the Seventy-fourth Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

1. Short title and commencement.(1) This Act may be called the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation (Second Amendment) Act, 2023.

(2) It shall come into force on such date as the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, appoint.

2. Insertion of new section 14A and 14B. In the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act, 2019, after section 14, the following sections shall be

inserted, namely:—

“14A. Reservation of seats for women in Legislative Assembly of Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir. (1) Seats shall be reserved for women in the Legislative Assembly of the Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

(2) As nearly as may be, one-third of the seats reserved under subsection (7) of section 14 shall be reserved for women belonging to the Scheduled Castes or the Scheduled Tribes in the Legislative Assembly of the Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

(3) As nearly as may be, one-third of the total number of seats to be filled by direct election to the Legislative Assembly of the Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir (including the number of seats reserved for women belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes) shall be reserved for women in such manner as Parliament may by law determine.”

“14B. Reservation of seats for women to take effect. (1) Notwithstanding anything contained in the provisions of this Act, the provisions relating to reservation of seats for women in the Legislative Assembly of the Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir shall come into effect after an exercise of delimitation is undertaken for this purpose after the relevant figures for the first census taken after the commencement of the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation (Second Amendment) Act, 2023 have been published and shall cease to have effect on the expiration of a period of fifteen years from such commencement.

(2) Subject to the provisions of section 14A, seats reserved for women in the Legislative Assembly of the Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir shall continue till such date as Parliament may by law determine.

(3) Rotation of seats reserved for women in the Legislative Assembly of the Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir shall take effect after such subsequent exercise of delimitation as Parliament may by law determine.

(4) Nothing in section 14A shall affect any representation in the Legislative Assembly of the Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir until the dissolution of the then existing Legislative Assembly of the Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir.”.

***The Government of Union Territories (Amendment) Act, 2023:***

The Parliament has enacted the Constitution (One Hundred and Sixth Amendment) Act, 2023 to pave way for reservation of one-third of the total number of seats for women in the House of the People; Legislative Assembly of every State; and the Legislative Assembly of the National Capital Territory of Delhi.

Consequent to the enactment of the Constitution (One Hundred and Sixth Amendment) Act, 2023, similar provisions for providing reservation for women in the Legislative Assembly of the Union territory of Puducherry were also required to be made by Parliament by amending the Government of Union Territories Act, 1963.

In order to enable greater representation and participation of women as public representatives in law making processes of the Legislative Assembly of the Union territory of Puducherry, it was decided to introduce 'The Government of Union Territories (Amendment) Bill, 2023' to provide for as nearly as may be, one-third of total seats in the Legislative Assembly of the Union territory of Puducherry to be reserved for women.

The Government of Union Territories (Amendment) Bill, 2023, which sought to achieve the above objectives was passed by the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2023 and 18<sup>th</sup> December 2023, respectively. The President of India assented to it on 20<sup>th</sup> December 2023.

The text of the above Act is reproduced below:

THE GOVERNMENT OF UNION TERRITORIES (AMENDMENT)  
ACT, 2023

An Act further to amend the Government of Union Territories Act, 1963.

BE it enacted by Parliament in the Seventy-fourth Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

1. Short title and commencement. (1) This Act may be called the Government of Union Territories (Amendment) Act, 2023.

(2) It shall come into force on such date as the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, appoint.

2. Insertion of new section 3A and 3B. In the Government of Union Territories Act, 1963, after section 3, the following sections shall be

inserted, namely:—

“3A. Reservation of seats for women in Legislative Assembly of Union territory of Puducherry. (1) Seats shall be reserved for women in the Legislative Assembly of the Union territory of Puducherry.

(2) As nearly as may be, one-third of the seats reserved for the Scheduled Castes in the Legislative Assembly of the Union territory of Puducherry shall be reserved for women.

(3) As nearly as may be, one-third of the total number of seats to be filled by direct election to the Legislative Assembly of the Union territory of Puducherry (including the number of seats reserved for women belonging to the Scheduled Castes) shall be reserved for women in such manner as Parliament may by law determine.”

“3B. Reservation of seats for women to take effect. (1) Notwithstanding anything contained in the provisions of this Act, the provisions relating to reservation of seats for women in the Legislative Assembly of the Union territory of Puducherry shall come into effect after an exercise of delimitation is undertaken for this purpose after the relevant figures for the first census taken after the commencement of the Government of Union Territories (Amendment) Act, 2023 have been published and shall cease to have effect on the expiration of a period of fifteen years from such commencement.

(2) Subject to the provisions of section 3A, seats reserved for women in the Legislative Assembly of the Union territory of Puducherry shall continue till such date as Parliament may by law determine.

(3) Rotation of seats reserved for women in the Legislative Assembly of the Union territory of Puducherry shall take effect after such subsequent exercise of delimitation as Parliament may by law determine.

(4) Nothing in section 3A shall affect any representation in the Legislative Assembly of the Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir until the dissolution of the then existing Legislative Assembly of the Union territory of Puducherry.”

**The Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners (Appointment, Conditions of Service and Term of Office) Act, 2023:** The matters regarding conditions of service of Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners, the procedure for transaction of business of the Election Commission, etc., are presently governed by the Election Commission (Conditions of Service of Election Commissioners and Transaction of Business) Act, 1991. The said Act do not contain provisions regarding the qualifications, search committee for preparing panel of persons for consideration and recommendation by the Selection Committee for appointment as Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) and other Election Commissioners (ECs) and other incidental provisions.

The Hon'ble Supreme Court in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 104 of 2015 (*Anoop Baranwal Vs Union of India*) declared that the appointment of CEC and ECs shall be made by the President on the basis of advice tendered by a Committee consisting of the Prime Minister, the Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha and in case, there is no such leader, the leader of the largest party in the opposition in Lok Sabha having the largest numerical strength; and the Chief Justice of India. It was clarified in the aforesaid judgment that the said norm provided by the Supreme Court will continue to hold good till a law is made by the Parliament.

The proposed Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners (Appointment, Conditions of Service and Term of Office) Bill, 2023, *inter alia*, provides for—

(a) defining various expressions used in the Bill;

(b) appointment, qualifications, Search Committee, Selection Committee, term of office, salary, resignation and removal, leave, pension, etc., of the Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners; and

(c) transaction of business and disposal of business of the Election Commission.

The Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners (Appointment, Conditions of Service and Term of Office) Bill, 2023, which sought to achieve the above objectives was passed by the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha on 21<sup>st</sup> December 2023 and 12<sup>th</sup> December 2023, respectively. The President of India assented to it on 28<sup>th</sup> December 2023.

The text of the above Act is reproduced below:

THE CHIEF ELECTION COMMISSIONER AND OTHER ELECTION  
COMMISSIONERS (APPOINTMENT, CONDITIONS OF SERVICE  
AND TERM OF OFFICE) ACT, 2023

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ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

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2. Definitions.

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APPOINTMENT AND TERM OF CHIEF ELECTION COMMISSIONER  
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5. Qualifications of Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners.
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8. Power of Selection Committee to regulate its own procedure.
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CHAPTER III

SALARY, ALLOWANCES AND OTHER CONDITIONS OF SERVICE  
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10. Salary, etc.
11. Resignation and removal.
12. Leave.
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14. Right to subscribe to General Provident Fund.
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##### TRANSACTION OF BUSINESS OF ELECTION COMMISSION

17. Transaction of business.
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19. Power to remove difficulties.
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#### THE CHIEF ELECTION COMMISSIONER AND OTHER ELECTION COMMISSIONERS (APPOINTMENT, CONDITIONS OF SERVICE AND TERM OF OFFICE) ACT, 2023

An Act to regulate the appointment, conditions of service and term of office of the Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners, the procedure for transaction of business by the Election Commission and for matter connected therewith or incidental thereto.

BE it enacted by Parliament in the Seventy-fourth Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

#### CHAPTER I PRELIMINARY

**1.** Short title and commencement.—(1) This Act may be called the Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners (Appointment, Conditions of Service and Term of Office) Act, 2023.

(2) It shall come into force on such date<sup>1</sup> as the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, appoint.

**2.** Definitions.—In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires,—

(a) “Chief Election Commissioner” means the Chief Election Commissioner appointed under clause (2) of article 324 of the Constitution and in accordance with this Act;

(b) “Election Commission” means the Election Commission referred to in clause (1) of article 324 of the Constitution;

(c) “Election Commissioner” means any other Election Commissioner appointed under clause (2) of article 324 of the Constitution and in accordance with this Act;

(d) “Search Committee” means the Search Committee for preparation of panel of persons for consideration for appointment as Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners; and

(e) “Selection Committee” means the Selection Committee that recommends appointment of Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners.

## CHAPTER II

### APPOINTMENT AND TERM OF CHIEF ELECTION COMMISSIONER AND OTHER ELECTION COMMISSIONERS

**3. Election Commission.**—The Election Commission shall consist of—

(a) Chief Election Commissioner; and

(b) such number of other Election Commissioners as the President may fix from time to time.

**4. Appointment of Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners.**—The Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners shall be appointed by the President by warrant under his hand and seal.

**5. Qualifications of Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners.**—The Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners shall be appointed from amongst persons who are holding or have held a post equivalent to the rank of Secretary to the Government of India and shall be persons of integrity, who have knowledge of and experience in management and conduct of elections.

**6. Search Committee.**—A Search Committee headed by the Minister of Law and Justice and comprising two other members not below the rank of Secretary to the Government of India, shall prepare a panel of five

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<sup>1</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> day of January, 2024, *vide* notification No. S.O. 35 (E), dated 2<sup>nd</sup> day of January, 2024, *see* Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, sec. 3 (ii).

persons for consideration of the Selection Committee, for appointment as the Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners.

**7. Selection Committee.**—(1) The Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners shall be appointed by the President on the recommendation of a Selection Committee consisting of—

- (a) the Prime Minister—Chairperson;
- (b) the Leader of Opposition in the House of the People—Member;
- (c) a Union Cabinet Minister to be nominated by the Prime Minister—Member.

*Explanation.*—For the purposes of removal of doubts, it is hereby declared that where the Leader of Opposition in the House of the People has not been recognised as such, the leader of the single largest party in opposition of the Government in the House of the People shall be deemed to be the Leader of Opposition.

(2) The appointment of Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners shall not be invalid merely by reason of any vacancy in or any defect in the constitution of, the Selection Committee.

**8. Power of Selection Committee to regulate its own procedure.**—(1) The Selection Committee shall regulate its own procedure in a transparent manner for selecting the Chief Election Commissioner or other Election Commissioners.

(2) The Selection Committee may also consider any other person than those included in the panel by the Search Committee.

**9. Term of office.**—(1) The Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners shall hold office for a term of six years from the date on which he assumes his office or till he attains the age of sixty-five years, whichever is earlier.

(2) The Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners shall not be eligible for re-appointment.

(3) Where an Election Commissioner is appointed as Chief Election Commissioner, his term of office shall not be more than six years in aggregate as the Election Commissioner and the Chief Election Commissioner.

## CHAPTER III

SALARY, ALLOWANCES AND OTHER CONDITIONS OF SERVICE  
OF CHIEF ELECTION COMMISSIONER AND OTHER ELECTION  
COMMISSIONERS

**10.** Salary, etc.—(1) The Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners shall be paid a salary which is equal to the salary of a Judge of the Supreme Court:

Provided that the salary, allowances and other conditions of service of the Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners, holding office immediately before the date of commencement of this Act shall not be varied to their disadvantage.

(2) If a person who, immediately before the date of assuming office as the Chief Election Commissioner or an Election Commissioner, was in receipt of, or being eligible so to do, had elected to draw, a pension (other than a disability or wound pension) in respect of any previous service under the Central Government or a State Government, his salary in respect of service as the Chief Election Commissioner or an Election Commissioner shall be reduced—

- (a) by the amount of that pension; and
- (b) if he had, before assuming office, received, in lieu of a portion of the pension due to him in respect of such previous service, the commuted value thereof, by the amount of that portion of the pension.

(3) The Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners shall be entitled to dearness allowance as may be admissible to Judge of the Supreme Court.

(4) The Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners shall be entitled to encashment of fifty per cent. of earned leave to his credit at the time of completion of tenure.

(5) Where the Chief Election Commissioner or an Election Commissioner had retired from the service of the Central Government or a State Government prior to appointment as such, the aggregate period for which the encashment of unutilised earned leave he shall be entitled, shall be subject to a maximum period as admissible in accordance with the rules for the time being applicable to the service to which he belonged before his appointment as Chief Election Commissioner or an Election Commissioner.

**11. Resignation and removal.**—(1) The Chief Election Commissioner or an Election Commissioner may, at any time, by writing under his hand addressed to the President, resign his office.

(2) The Chief Election Commissioner shall not be removed from his office except in like manner and on the like grounds as a Judge of the Supreme Court.

(3) The other Election Commissioners shall not be removed from office except on the recommendation of the Chief Election Commissioner.

**12. Leave.**—(1) The Chief Election Commissioner or an Election Commissioner may be granted leave in accordance with the rules for the time being applicable to the service to which he belonged before the date of his appointment and he shall be entitled to carry forward the leave standing at his credit on such date, irrespective of the provisions contained in section 13.

(2) The power to grant or refuse leave to the Chief Election Commissioner or an Election Commissioner and to revoke or curtail leave granted to him, shall vest in the President.

**13. Pension.** —(1) Where the Chief Election Commissioner or an Election Commissioner was in service of Government, he shall be deemed to have retired from the service on the date on which he enters upon office as the Chief Election Commissioner or an Election Commissioner, as the case may be.

(2) The Chief Election Commissioner or other Election Commissioners who at the time of his appointment as such, was in service of the Central Government or a State Government, shall at his option to be exercised within a period of six months from the date of such appointment, be entitled to draw his pension and other retirement benefits under the rules applicable to the service to which he belonged, with effect from the date of his appointment as the Chief Election Commissioner or other Election Commissioner.

(3) Except where the Chief Election Commissioner or an Election Commissioner demits office by resignation, he shall be deemed, for the purposes of this Act, to have demitted his office only if,—

(a) he has completed the term of office specified in section 9; or

(b) he has attained the age of sixty-five years; or

(c) his demission of office is medically certified to be necessitated by ill-health.

**14. Right to subscribe to General Provident Fund.**—Every person holding office as the Chief Election Commissioner or an Election Commissioner shall be entitled to subscribe to the General Provident Fund under the General Provident Fund (Central Services) Rules, 1960.

**15. Other conditions of service.**— Save as otherwise provided in this Act, the President may by rules determine the conditions of service relating to travelling allowance, medical facilities, leave travel concession, conveyance facilities, and such other conditions of service relating to the Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners.

**16. Protection of Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners.**—Notwithstanding anything contained in any other law for the time being in force, no Court shall entertain or continue any civil or criminal proceedings against any person who is or was a Chief Election Commissioner or an Election Commissioner for any act, thing or word, committed, done or spoken by him when, or in the course of acting or purporting to act in the discharge of his official duty or function.

#### CHAPTER IV

##### TRANSACTION OF BUSINESS OF ELECTION COMMISSION

**17. Transaction of business.**—The business of the Election Commission shall be transacted in accordance with the provisions of this Act.

**18. Disposal of business.**—(1) The Election Commission may, by unanimous decision, regulate the procedure for transaction of its business and also allocation of its business amongst the Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners.

(2) All business of the Election Commission shall, as far as possible, be transacted unanimously, and if the Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners differ in opinion on any matter, such matter shall be decided according to the opinion of the majority.

#### CHAPTER V

##### MISCELLANEOUS

**19. Power to remove difficulties.**— (1) If any difficulty arises in giving effect to the provisions of this Act, the Central Government may, within a

period of five years from the date of commencement of this Act, by order not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, remove the difficulty.

(2) Every order made under sub-section (1) shall, as soon as may be after it is made, be laid before each House of Parliament.

**20. Laying.**—Every rule and order made under this Act shall be laid, as soon as may be after it is made, before each House of Parliament, while it is in session, for a total period of thirty days which may be comprised in one session or in two or more successive sessions, and if, before the expiry of the session immediately following the session or the successive sessions aforesaid, both Houses agree in making any modification in the rule or order, or both Houses agree that the rule or order should not be made, the rule or order shall thereafter have effect only in such modified form or be of no effect, as the case may be; so, however, that any such modification or annulment shall be without prejudice to the validity of anything previously done under that rule or order.

**21. Repeal and saving.**—(1) The Election Commission (Conditions of Service of Election Commissioners and Transaction of Business) Act, 1991 (11 of 1991) is hereby repealed.

(2) Anything done or any action taken or purported to have been done or taken under the Act hereby repealed shall, insofar as it is not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, be deemed to have been done or taken under the corresponding provisions of this Act.

(3) The mention of particular matters in sub-section (2) shall not be held to prejudice or affect the general application of section 6 of the General Clauses Act, 1897 (10 of 1897) with regard to the effect of repeal.

***The Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023:*** In the year 1834, the first Indian Law Commission was constituted under the Chairmanship of Lord Thomas Babington Macaulay to examine the jurisdiction, power and rules of the existing Courts as well as the police establishments and the laws in force in India.

The Commission suggested various enactments to the Government. One of the important recommendations made by the Commission was on, the Indian Penal Code, which was enacted in 1860 and the said Code is still continuing in the country with some amendments made thereto from time to time.

The Government considered it expedient and necessary to review the existing criminal laws with an aim to strengthen law and order and also focus on simplifying legal procedure so that ease of living is ensured to the common man. The Government also considered to make existing laws relevant to the contemporary situation and provide speedy justice to common man. Accordingly, various stakeholders were consulted keeping in mind contemporary needs and aspirations of the people with a view to create a legal structure which is citizen centric and to secure life and liberty of the citizens.

It was proposed to enact a new law, by repealing the Indian Penal Code, to streamline provisions relating to offences and penalties. It was proposed to provide first time community service as one of the punishments for petty offences. The offences against women and children, murder and offences against the State have been given precedence. Some offences have been made gender neutral. In order to deal effectively with the problem of organised crimes and terrorist activities, new offences of terrorist acts and organised crime have been added with deterrent punishments. A new offence on acts of armed rebellion, subversive activities, separatist activities or endangering sovereignty or unity and integrity of India has also been added. The fines and punishments for various offences have also been suitably enhanced.

Accordingly, a Bill, namely, the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 was introduced in the Lok Sabha on 11<sup>th</sup> August, 2023. The Bill was referred to the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs for its consideration and report. The Committee after deliberations made its recommendations in its report submitted on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2023. The recommendations made by the Committee were considered by the

Government and it was decided to withdraw the Bill pending in Lok Sabha and introduce a new Bill incorporating therein those recommendations made by the Committee that were accepted by the Government.

The Bharatiya Nyaya (Second) Sanhita, 2023, which sought to achieve the above objectives was passed by the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha on 20<sup>th</sup> December 2023 and 21<sup>st</sup> December 2023, respectively. The President of India assented to it on 25<sup>th</sup> December 2023.

The soft copy of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 is available on <https://sansad.in/lis/legislation/bills>.

***The Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023:*** The Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 regulates the procedure for arrest, investigation, inquiry and trial of offences under the Indian Penal Code and under any other law governing criminal offences. The Code provides for a mechanism for conducting trials in a criminal case. It gives the procedure for registering a complaint, conducting a trial and passing an order, and filing an appeal against any order.

Fast and efficient justice system is an essential component of good governance. However, delay in delivery of justice due to complex legal procedures, large pendency of cases in the Courts, low conviction rates, insufficient use of technology in legal system, delays in investigation system, inadequate use of forensics are the biggest hurdles in speedy delivery of justice, which impacts the poor man adversely. In order to address these issues a citizen's centric criminal procedure is the need of the hour.

The experience of seven decades of Indian democracy calls for a comprehensive review of the criminal laws, including the Code of Criminal Procedure and adapt them in accordance with the contemporary needs and aspirations of the people.

The Government with the mantra, "*Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas and Sabka Prayas*" is committed to ensure speedy justice to all citizens in conformity with these constitutional and democratic aspirations. The Government is committed to make a comprehensive review of the framework of criminal laws to provide accessible and speedy justice to all.

In view of the above, it was proposed to repeal the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 and enact a new law. It provides for the use of technology and forensic sciences in the investigation of crime and furnishing and lodging of information, service of summons, etc., through electronic communication. Specific time-lines have been prescribed for time bound investigation, trial and pronouncement of judgements. Citizen centric approach have been adopted for supply of copy of first information report to the victim and to inform them about the progress of investigation, including by digital means. In cases where punishment is 7 years or more, the victims shall be given an opportunity of being heard before withdrawal of the case by the Government. Summary trial has been made mandatory for petty and less serious cases. The accused persons may be examined

through electronic means, like video conferencing. The magisterial system has also been streamlined.

Accordingly, a Bill, namely, the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 was introduced in the Lok Sabha on 11<sup>th</sup> August, 2023. The Bill was referred to the Department related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs for its consideration and report. The Committee after deliberations made its recommendations in its report submitted on 10<sup>th</sup> November, 2023. The recommendations made by the Committee were considered by the Government and it was decided to withdraw the Bill pending in the Lok Sabha and introduce a new Bill incorporating therein those recommendations made by the Committee that were accepted by the Government.

The Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha (Second) Sanhita, 2023, which sought to achieve the above objectives was passed by the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha on 20<sup>th</sup> December 2023 and 21<sup>st</sup> December 2023, respectively. The President of India assented to it on 25<sup>th</sup> December 2023.

The soft copy of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 is available on <https://sansad.in/ls/legislation/bills>.

**The Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam, 2023:** The Indian Evidence Act, 1872 was enacted in the year 1872 with a view to consolidate the law relating to evidence on which the Court could come to the conclusion about the facts of the case and then pronounce judgment thereupon and it came into force on 1<sup>st</sup> September, 1872.

The experience of seven decades of Indian democracy calls for comprehensive review of the criminal laws including the Indian Evidence Act, 1872 and adopt them in accordance with the contemporary needs and aspirations of the people. The law of evidence (not being substantive or procedural law), falls in the category of “adjective law”, that defines the pleading and methodology by which the substantive or procedural laws are operationalised. The existing law does not address the technological advancement undergone in the country during the last few decades.

Accordingly, a Bill, namely, the Bharatiya Sakshya Bill, 2023 was introduced in Lok Sabha on 11<sup>th</sup> August, 2023. The Bill was referred to the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs for its consideration and report. The Committee after deliberations made its recommendations in its report submitted on 10<sup>th</sup> November, 2023. The recommendations made by the Committee were considered by the Government and it was decided to withdraw the Bill pending in Lok Sabha and introduce a new Bill incorporating therein those recommendations made by the Committee that were accepted by the Government.

The proposed legislation, *inter alia*, provides as under:—

(i) it provides that “evidence” includes any information given electronically, which would permit appearance of witnesses, accused, experts and victims through electronic means;

(ii) it provides for admissibility of an electronic or digital record as evidence having the same legal effect, validity and enforceability as any other document;

(iii) it seeks to expand the scope of secondary evidence to include copies made from original by mechanical processes, copies made from or compared with the original, counterparts of documents as against the parties who did not execute them and oral accounts of the contents of a document given by some person who has himself seen it and giving matching hash value of original record will be admissible as proof of evidence in the form of secondary evidence;

(iv) it seeks to put limits on the facts which are admissible and its

certification as such in the courts. The proposed Bill introduces more precise and uniform rules of practice of courts in dealing with facts and circumstances of the case by means of evidence.

The Bharatiya Sakshya (Second) Bill, 2023, which sought to achieve the above objectives was passed by the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha on 19<sup>th</sup> December 2023 and 20<sup>th</sup> December 2023, respectively. The President of India assented to it on 28<sup>th</sup> December 2023.

The soft copy of the Bharatiya Sakshya Adhinyam, 2023 is available on <https://sansad.in/lis/legislation/bills>.

## SESSIONAL REVIEW

### SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA

#### FOURTEENTH SESSION

The Fourteenth Session of the Seventeenth Lok Sabha commenced on 4<sup>th</sup> December, 2023 and concluded on 21<sup>st</sup> December, 2023.

The Fourteenth Session of the Seventeenth Lok Sabha had a total of 14 sittings, spread over 61 hours and 50 minutes, and transacted important Financial, Legislative, and other Businesses. The overall productivity of the House stood at 74 percent during the Session. During the session, 12 Government Bills were introduced in the Lok Sabha, and 18 Bills were passed.

A brief account of the important discussions and other business transacted during the Tenth Session is given below.

#### A. DISCUSSIONS/STATEMENTS

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#### B. LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

***The Advocates (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (As passed by Rajya Sabha)***: On 4<sup>th</sup> December 2023, the Minister of State of the Ministry of Law and Justice; Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Minister of State in the Ministry of Culture, Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal, moving the motion for consideration of the Bill, said that it was the Indian High Court Act, 1861 before Independence. It was enacted by the British Parliament and its purpose was to regulate the legal fraternity. He further said that the Legal Practitioner Act was enacted in 1879 which contains section 36 about touts, and after that, the Bombay Pleaders Act was enacted in 1920. The Minister also said that in 1936, the Indian Bar Council Act was also enacted, and in 1961, the Advocate Act was enacted. The main purpose of this Act was to regulate legal education. The Legal Practitioner Act, 1879 has been repealed because it was a colonial Act. He further said that the Government had brought an amendment to this Act (The Advocate Act, 1961) because it was essential to reign in the touts. He further informed that in the Act, there was a provision for a Committee,

consisting of a Judge of a High Court, a Judge of a District Court and even Collectors will be included. They will identify the touts involved in fraud and will prepare a list thereof, and if such a person is found in a court complex in that case too, he is liable to be punished with imprisonment of 3 months or a fine of rupees 500 or both.

*Initiating the discussion*, Shri Karti P. Chidambaram (INC), while supporting the Bill, said that intermediation is a part of our Indian culture, and injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere. He further said that an average person sometimes does not know how to navigate through the legal system and that was the reason why it was being exploited and some people came forward to help them. He further talked about the nexus between the touts and the lawyers and felt the need to break this nexus. While expressing his apprehension that this might also be misused, he also said that this should not be used as a weapon to disenfranchise and debar legitimate anti-establishment lawyers in the lower courts.

<sup>1</sup>*Participating in the discussion*, Shri Jagdambika Pal (BJP) said that touts are involved in exploitation and the Government has brought this Bill to reign in all the touts. He further recalled that the Hon'ble Prime Minister, in his speech on '*Panch Pran*' delivered from the Red Fort, talked about giving up the colonial legacy. Shri Pal also informed that this was not a single legislation, but part of the comprehensive mission of the Government to remove all the obsolete laws in this country, and the power to identify touts and take action against them has been conferred on the persons associated with the judicial process. He further said that this legislation was also recommended by the Law Commission of India, and the Hon'ble Minister himself said that he was only adding Section 36 to the Amendment Act of the year 1961.

*Replying to the discussion*, the Minister of State of the Ministry of Law and Justice; Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Minister of State in the Ministry of Culture, Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal said this is the Act of 1879, which was a colonial Act and should be repealed. He informed that the subject dealing with the touts, which was enacted

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<sup>1</sup> **Others who Participated in the discussion:** Sarvashri A. Raja, Kalyan Banerjee, N. Reddeppa, Bhartruhari Mahtab, Kodikunnil Suresh, P.P. Chaudhary, Malook Nagar, Hasnain Masoodi, E.T. Mohammed Basheer, Janardan Singh Sigrival, N.K. Premachandran, Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury, Syed Imtiaz Jaleel, Giridhari Yadav, Santosh Pandey, Dr. Sanjeev Kumar Singari, Shrimati Supriya Sadanand Sule, Shrimati Aparupa Poddar, and Shrimati Navneet Ravi Rana.

way back in 1936, was approved by the Committee, Law Department, Law Commission of India, and even by the Bar Council of India as a lot of people draped in Advocate's dress were not lawyers, and that their degrees are also fake and they enter the Court's premises to play false with the litigants necessitating some specific provision. The Minister also informed that this provision was already there in 1879, and when the Government brought it in 1961, a small amendment and 45(A) had been inserted. While talking about the issue of welfare of the advocate, Insurance, Lawyers' Chambers, and security, the Minister said that be it any class, any professional section, *Sabka Saath Sabka Vikas* is the Government's basic mantra and questions as to how can the lawyers be left behind. The Minister assured that if any issue of security comes up for them, the Government will do something for them too. While stating that the priority of this Government is ease of living, he informed that the Government has an e-court scheme running, and was moving towards providing the facility of presenting claims and granting bail through video conferencing.

*The Bill was passed.*

***The Jammu and Kashmir Reservation (Amendment) Bill, 2023 and the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation (Amendment) Bill, 2023:*** On 5<sup>th</sup> December 2023, the Minister of Home Affairs and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah moved the Bill for consideration.

*Initiating the discussion,* Dr. Amar Singh (INC) said that the words 'underprivileged classes' have been used in the Reservation Amendment Bill of 2004, and these have been changed to 'Other Backward Classes' in the new Bill. He stated that the real issue, when Article 370 was being abrogated, was that all these OBC classes, whose separate name was 'Under Privileged Classes', were promised that they would be provided 27% reservation as has been provided across India. He further mentioned the two percent reservation in Jammu and Kashmir at present and stated that the name has been changed and they will be able to apply for jobs in the Government of India. But now, Jammu and Kashmir is a UT and is administered by the Centre. Shri Singh asked the Government about the fate of the two percent reservation, and whether the Government will offer any scholarship scheme to the people of Jammu and Kashmir to get the education. He also questioned how the Government would enhance their education. While expressing his view on the need to revive democracy in the UT, he asked when the Government would hold elections. He further

questioned the measures taken by the Government to prevent suicides committed by students in ITIs and every institution.

<sup>2</sup>*Participating in the discussion*, Shri Jugal Kishore Sharma (BJP) said that after the abrogation of Article 370 in 2019, Jammu and Kashmir got justice and all the basic facilities to which the people of Jammu and Kashmir were entitled, but were deprived of 70 years, are also being provided with all such facilities now. He said that all such Bills and laws that are being implemented in Jammu and Kashmir, which should have been done earlier, are being implemented one after another. While stating that the Bill, which was being discussed, was a demand of a large section, he said that after the passage of this Bill, all these facilities would be available to those belonging to the Other Backward Classes. He further stated that the reservation will also increase and they will get all such facilities in the Centre too. Stating that apart from a large number of displaced Kashmiri Pandits, the migrants of Pakistan-occupied Jammu and Kashmir also live in Jammu and Kashmir, he also informed that a provision has been made in the Bill to reserve one seat for the displaced persons, and two seats for Kashmiri Pandits.

*Replying to the discussion*, the Minister of Home Affairs and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah said that the Delimitation Commission, Delimitation and Demarcated Assembly are the core of democracy. The Minister explained that for the first time in the history of the Delimitation Commission, 9 seats have been reserved for Scheduled Tribes (STs). He also said that earlier, there were 107 seats in the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly, and now the number has gone up to 114 seats, earlier there used to be 2 nominated Members, but now there will be 5 nominated Members. The Minister further said that 5,675 Kashmiri

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<sup>2</sup> **Others who participated in the discussion:** *Sarvashri* Kaushlendra Kumar, Mahesh Sahoo, Malook Nagar, Hasnain Masoodi, Jamyang Tsering Namgyal, Manish Tewari, Shrirang Appa Barne, N.K. Premachandran, Asaduddin Owaisi, Jasbir Singh Gill, Jagdambika Pal, Nama Nageswara Rao, Vinayak Bhaurao Raut, K. Navaskani, P.P. Chaudhary, Ravi Shankar Prasad, Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury, Adv. A.M. Ariff, Dr. Beesetti Venkata Satyavathi, Dr. Dnv. Senthilkumar S., Dr. Nishikant Dubey, Dr. Sanjeev Kumar Singari, Dr. K. Jayakumar, Prof. Sougata Ray, Shrimati Supriya Sadanand Sule, Shrimati Pratima Mondal and Dr. Jitendra Singh, the Minister of State of the Ministry of Science and Technology; Minister of State of the Ministry of Earth Sciences; Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office; Minister of State in the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions; Minister of State in the Department of Atomic Energy and Minister of State in the Department of Space.

displaced families are availing of the employment package as of date; cash relief of Rs. 3,250 per person is being given, subject to a maximum of Rs. 13,000 per family; and apart from this, the Government provides 9 kg of rice, 2 kg of flour and 1 kg of sugar per person. He further informed that the Government has given a lump sum amount of Rs. 5,50,000 to those people who came back from Pak-Occupied Kashmir. He expressed optimism that the removal of Article 370 is going to reduce separatism, and thereby curb terrorism-inducing feelings. While stating that from 2004 to 2014, there were 7,217 incidents of terrorism, he also said that during their Government, from 2014 to 2023, only 2,000 such incidents happened, and had come down by 70 percent; a 72 percent decline in the number of civilian deaths and a 59 percent decline in the casualty of security forces under this Government. The Minister further said that the Government has made tireless efforts to improve the safety and quality of life for the people of Jammu and Kashmir. He also informed that security is reviewed every month by the Ministry of Home Affairs and every three months, a quarterly review is conducted by visiting the UT, and that a Zero Terror Plan has been introduced. He also informed that a complete area domination plan was also chalked out which is scheduled to draw to a close by the year 2026. He further said that cases have been filed to exterminate the ecosystem of terror financing, and it was for the first time that Kashmiri, Dogri, Hindi, English, and Urdu have been accorded the status of Official Language of the State. The Minister further said that the Right to Education Act, the Land Acquisition and Compensation Act, the Forest Rights Act, the Prevention of Atrocities on SCs and STs Act, the Whistleblower Protection Act, the Juvenile Justice Act, and the Minority Commission Act, 1992 had not been brought into force in the UT to the huge detriment of the masses at large, and now all such Central Acts have come into effect. He further said that the term of the Assembly was 6 years, and has now been fixed for 5 years, and that several big changes have been introduced which are aimed at bringing in positive transformation in the lives of the people in the UT. He informed that before the abrogation of Article 370, the GST collection was only one lakh crore rupees, which has now gone up to Rs. 2,27,927 crore. In a way, it has grown twofold in merely 5 years. The first State where two AIIMS have been established happens to be Jammu & Kashmir. The Minister said that in the last 70 years since independence, there were four medical colleges in Jammu & Kashmir, but now 7 new medical colleges and 15 Nursing colleges have been established. The number of medical seats

was 500 and there has been an addition of 800 seats after the abrogation of Article 370. Likewise, Medical PG seats used to be 367 and 397 new seats have been included therein. Earlier, nearly 6 lakh people were the beneficiaries of Mid-Day Meal and now it is being made available to 9 lakh 13 thousand people. The average of *Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojna* was 158 Kilometres which has now gone up to 89 thousand 68 kilometres every year. The Smart City Mission was not even in existence earlier. In the last 70 years, 24 thousand houses have been offered whereas the present dispensation has offered houses to 1 lakh 45 thousand people. Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) was 22 which has now been reduced to 14.30. Earlier 47 Jan Aushadhi Kendras, which are aimed at making medicines available at affordable rates existed, which have now been increased to 227. The participation of youth in sports has increased from 2 lakh to 60 lakh in the five years' time. The beneficiaries of pension have significantly increased from 6 lakh to 10 lakh. All such transformations have been made after the abrogation of Article 370. He concluded by saying that the environment now is good and this can be attributed to a decrease in terror activities and all the positive developments can be attributed to a decline in terrorists' activities.

*The Bill was passed.*

**The Central Universities (Amendment) Bill, 2023:** On 6<sup>th</sup> December 2023, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Education, Dr. Subhas Sarkar moved the motion for consideration of the Bill, and said that the Central Universities (Amendment) Bill, 2023 is for setting up of Sammakka Sarakka Central Tribal University in the State of Telangana. He informed that the Telangana Government has given the site for setting up the University in Mulugu District, and the State Government has offered 335.04 acres of land. The Minister further informed that the University of Hyderabad prepared the detailed project report for the University, and as per the detailed project report, the project cost is Rs. 889.07 crore. He said that the name of the University has been kept Sammakka Sarakka Central Tribal University, and this university will provide facilities for research in tribal art, culture, tradition, language, medicinal systems, customs, forest-based economic activities, etc.

*Initiating the discussion,* Shri Saptagiri Sankar Ulaka (INC) said that the Central Universities (Amendment) Bill, 2023 aims at amending the Central Universities Act, 2009 for the establishment of a Central Tribal University in Telangana. He was of the view that gross violation of reservation rules

is seen in Tribal University and observed that there is a drastic drop in the number of Adivasi students studying at Tribal University. He said that the entrance test of Central University is under the CBSE curriculum and the exam centers are very far off, and due to this, their enrollment has decreased. He further said that there is a Central University in Koraput, Odisha, where there are 23 professor posts, out of which 14 posts were advertised, but not a single recruitment has been done yet. Advertisement was made for 28 posts for Associate Professor, but recruitment was done on only two posts. He demanded the allocation of funds to the Central University, Odisha, to build infrastructure and grants through the Higher Education Financing Agency, HEFA. He further said that in IITs and IIMs, nearly 13,000 students have dropped out, and those who come into the mainstream face caste-based discrimination. He further observed that many incidents of suicide have happened in IITs, and it happened only with people from the SC-ST category. He was of the view that only the development of infrastructure would not be sufficient and that the complete tribal ecosystem needs to be developed and requested that the government to make efforts to preserve their culture and language and provide quality education to the tribal children.

<sup>3</sup>*Participating in the discussion*, Shri A. Raja (DMK) said that we must not only protect and patronage the reservation but also involve ourselves in the upliftment of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, OBCs and BCs. This is because they were oppressed for thousands and thousands of years in terms of education, in terms of economic progress. He said that frequent suicides are happening among Dalits and OBCs in IIT complexes. While providing the statistics, he said about 4,596 OBC students, 2,424 Scheduled Caste students, and 2,622 Scheduled Tribes students have dropped out in the last five years from the Central Universities. Observing

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<sup>3</sup> **Others who participated in the discussion:** *Sarvashri* Sri Krishna Devarayalu Lavu, Chandra Sekhar Sahu, B.B. Patil, Rajendra Dhedy Gavit, Rajiv Pratap Rudy, Kodikunnil Suresh, Rahul Ramesh Shewale, Hasnain Masoodi, Syed Imtiaz Jaleel, Tapir Gao, Jamyang Tsering Namgyal, Kaushlendra Kumar, Arvind Sawant, G. Selvam, Girish Chandra, Gajendra Umrao Singh Patel, Ramshiromani Verma, Raju Bista, N.K. Premachandran, Raghu Rama Krishna Raju, Ram Mohan Naidu Kinjarapu, Ve. Vaithilingam, Jagdambika Pal, Ritesh Pandey, Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury, Adv. Dean Kuriakose, Adv. A.M. Ariff, Dr. Alok Kumar Suman, Dr. M.P. Abdussamad Samadani, Dr. S.T. Hasan, Dr. Satya Pal Singh, Dr. Sanjeev Kumar Singari, Dr. Mohammad Jawed, Dr. Nishikant Dubey, Prof. Sougata Ray, Shrimati Aparupa Poddar, Shrimati Sangeeta Azad, Shrimati Supriya Sadanand Sule and Sushri Sunita Duggal.

that about 27 percent of reservation might have been given to Backward Classes, he noted that in the IITs, professors have been given only 14 percent, and the representation of people from the SC/ST/OBC was very low in higher teaching positions. He further said that Delhi University had 526 reserved category vacancies in March of this year, and out of the 526 vacancies, 123 vacancies are for Scheduled Castes, 61 vacancies for Scheduled Tribes, 221 vacancies for OBC, 86 vacancies for EWS and 42 vacancies are for PH category. In addition to this, he observed that 5000 teaching positions are lying vacant in central universities, and out of the 5000 posts, 4000 posts are reserved for OBC/SC/ST. He regrets to note that none of these posts were filled. He also said that Eklavya schools are in bad shape without due and appropriate amenities, and also requested that incidents of casteist bullying and ragging should be stopped altogether in IITs in the interests of SC students. Measures should be taken to remove all these inequalities in higher educational institutes.

*Replying to the discussion*, the Minister of Education and Minister of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Shri Dharmendra Pradhan said that the Members have expressed their concern over three or four issues during the discussion on the Bill, and also spoke about dropouts and the appointment of SC/ST/OBC teachers and discrimination with the students. While informing that the Government launched a campaign to appoint teachers recently, he also said that earlier, a Ph.D. degree was an essential qualification for appointment to the post of Assistant Professor and this kept person belonging to the SC and ST category from becoming Assistant Professors. So, the Government has removed that eligibility criteria and has included Postgraduate in it. So those who were doing Ph.D., and left, have joined as Assistant Professors. The Minister said that a Tribal University means that the University would be set up in a tribal area and there will be tribal topics and tribal challenges shall be dealt with and the number of students would be as per the constitutional provisions regarding tribal reservation in India. Today, more students are studying in such institutes. While noting that in 2014, the gross enrolment ratio in higher education was 23%, and according to the survey of the year 2021-22, this has increased to 28%., the Minister also said that new universities and colleges are being set up in India, and new qualitative higher education institutions are being set up and new courses are being introduced. Pointing out that earlier we did not have undergraduate courses in AI, and our medical institutes and engineering institutes did not offer joint collaborative courses, now owing to such new collaborative

institutions set up by many State and Central universities of India, the students are continuing with their studies and that has contributed to about 26.5% growth in the country in this regard from 2014 to 2021-22. He also noted that as compared to the number of female students in 2014, 31.6% more students are studying today, and the total growth of STs has increased by 65.2% and the highest growth is of the ST community. The Minister also said that the growth of ST girl students between 2014-15 and 2021-22, has recorded at 80 percent, the total growth of SC has been recorded at 43.8 percent, the growth of OBCs has been recorded at 45 percent, the number of scientists has increased by 81 percent, the number of women pursuing Ph.Ds has increased by 106 percent and in the last two months, there have been 11,272 appointments in higher education institutions, and informed that there are 1402 SCs, 572 STs and 2,321 OBCs out of the said appointments. The Minister also said that in the year 2014-15, there were 16 lakh 41 thousand tribal students, which has increased by 65%. In the year 2013-14, the expenditure on education was 3.84% of GDP, which has increased to 4.64% now. During the last few years, seven new IITs, seven new IIMs, two new IISERs, and 16 new IIITs have come up in our country. There are more than 40 new central universities. The Government has spent 24 thousand crore rupees for the education, employment, and health of the tribal people. Under the *Pradhan Mantri Janman Yojana*, more than 700 Eklavya schools are being set up in tribal concentrated blocks, on which Rs 28 thousand crore is likely to be spent. The Minister said that the Government of India is committed to making all the local languages a medium of instruction in India. This would become possible through technology. He is of the view that the purpose of today's education policy is not to create just job seekers but job creators also. Replying to the concern raised about ranking, he said that the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore has become one of the top five institutions in the world in the research sector. India's prestigious IIT Delhi is setting up its campus in Abu Dhabi and will start functioning there in a few days. Keeping in mind the African continent, IIT Madras has set up its campus in Zanzibar in Tanzania. While stating that India's private universities are going global, he also said that the Government is going to allow qualitative universities from other countries to come and set up their campuses in India. He concluded by saying that during their tenure, the participation of SC, ST, OBC, and people from deprived sections has increased in the education sector.

*The Bill was passed.*

***The Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation (Second Amendment) Bill, 2023 and the Government of Union Territories (Amendment) Bill, 2023:*** On 12<sup>th</sup> December 2023, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs, Shri Nityanand Rai moved the Bill for consideration.

*Initiating the discussion,* Shri Jugal Kishore Sharma (BJP) said that the passage of this Bill will pave the way for one-third reservation of seats for women in the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly. He also said that several steps have been taken for the upliftment of women in Jammu and Kashmir, whether it is granting political reservation to the people belonging to ST providing constitutional protection to the people belonging to OBC, or giving rights to adult refugees of PoK or enhancing the respect of people belonging to Valmiki society, the Union Government has enforced several changes in Jammu and Kashmir. Shri Sharma further said that the Union Government has set up a good number of medical colleges in Jammu as well as in Kashmir valley and has provided a lot of health sector facilities for Jammu and Kashmir, and all the educational institutions being run by the Jammu and Kashmir Government have waived off school fees for all the girls up to the Higher Secondary level. He also said that keeping menstrual hygiene in mind, sanitary pad vending machines have been installed in 89 Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas and 951 Balika Vidyalayas and more such machines will be installed in another 1482 schools in the next two months. To make women self-reliant, the '*Beti Hai Anmol*' scheme has been implemented in Jammu and Kashmir and 10,000 girls studying in different schools have benefited from this scheme. While stating that a slew of schemes has been implemented for the sake of our sisters, he said that more than 5,000 young women have applied through the '*Tejaswini*' scheme and 4668 units have been sanctioned. He also noted that entrepreneurship initiatives have been encouraged and the '*Mumkin*' scheme has been implemented, and mothers and sisters have also benefited a lot from the '*Har Ghar Nal Se Jal*' scheme. Seats have also been reserved for mothers and sisters in all educational institutions and medical colleges located in Jammu and Kashmir.

*Participating in the discussion,* Shri Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury (INC) said that the Government is bringing this Bill a second time to protect

<sup>4</sup> **Others who participated in the discussion:** Sarvashri A. Raja, Krupal Balaji Tumane, Kaushlendra Kumar, Bhartruhari Mahtab, Malook Nagar, Arvind Sawant, Gurjeet Singh Auja, Hasnain Masoodi, K. Navaskani, N.K. Premachandran, Jamyang Tsering Namgyal, Vaithilingam Ve., Adv. A.M. Ariff, Dr. Alok Kumar Suman, Dr. Nishikant Dubey, Prof. Sougata Ray, Shrimati Chinta Anuradha, Shrimati Supriya Sadanand Sule and Shrimati Jaskaur Meena.

women. While stating that the Minister of Home Affairs had committed in the House that elections would be held in Jammu and Kashmir and its statehood would also be restored, he said that the situation in Jammu and Kashmir is not normal. While noting that a 3,000-km-long China-Pakistan economic corridor is being built in PoK today, he said that PoK should be annexed. Pointing out to the latest findings of the National Family Health Survey (NFHS), he said that levels of malnutrition in J&K have increased at an alarming level, and the prevalence of anemia among children between 6 to 59 months of age increased from 53.8 percent in 2015-16 to 72.7 percent in 2019-20, and the prevalence of anemia among women between 15 to 49 years of age increased from 48.9 percent in 2015-16 to 65.9 percent in 2019-20. He further said that according to the report of 2021 by NITI Aayog, J&K has only 17 beds per lakh population which is far below the national average of 24 beds per lakh population, and J&K has the second lowest ratio of staff nurses to attend the population as per the Indian Public Health Standards set under the National Health Mission. He welcomed the Bill.

*Replying to the discussion*, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs, Shri Nityanand Rai said that the Bill aims to uplift women and enhance their participation. It includes a provision to reserve one-third of seats for women in both Legislative Assemblies, and he urged for its passage.

He further emphasized the esteemed social status of ancient Indian women, highlighting their financial independence and significant contributions to various sectors such as education and agriculture. He further said that the women of India have demonstrated their abilities in every field, not only in the country but at the global stage. The Minister further said that the enrollment of girls in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics is currently 43 percent, which is more than the US and Germany. He also said that every year, 50 percent of women successfully pass the medical examination, while 21 percent of professionals in India's software industry are women. The Minister also said that women have played a major role in the success achieved in the Chandrayaan-3 mission as well as in many missions of ISRO.

While referring to Baba Saheb Ambedkar's belief in measuring community progress through women's advancement, the Minister highlighted improvements in women-centric initiatives in Jammu and Kashmir since the revocation of Article 370. Concerning the work done

for women in Jammu and Kashmir, the Minister said that before Article 370, there was limited saturation of widow pension, but now has become 100 percent saturated. He also noted that widow pension coverage did not include those below the age of 40, but now they are fully covered and have achieved 100 percent saturation. While stating that there were only 6 One-Stop Centers for Women before, today there are 20 and Kashmir has become the first Union Territory in the entire country to have a District Hub working for women empowerment. Previously, it was zero, but now there are 20, and the District Special Women Cell also stands at 20. He further said that many schemes have been created for them.

The Minister concluded by saying that when future generations look back, they would see the era of struggle and progress, and emphasized that there was only one reason for this — the honourable Prime Minister Modi's respect for women and his efforts to provide them with opportunities and rights. He stated that through these efforts, women have benefited and progressed, and their future is set to be bright. He further requested that all members kindly support and pass the bill.

*The Bill was passed.*

***The Post Office Bill, 2023 (As Passed by Rajya Sabha):*** On 13<sup>th</sup> December 2023, the Minister of Railways; Minister of Communications, and Minister of Electronics and Information Technology, Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw, moved the motion for consideration of the Bill, said that over the past nine years, the post office has been converted from mail delivery to service delivery, and has been converted into a Banking system, and informed that arrangements have been made to make passports through the post office, and with the opening of Passport Office Seva Kendra in Kullu Main Post Office, a passport is made in a single day. Similarly, the passport of a resident of Adarshpara in the Bolangir district of Odisha was made at the Bolangir head office itself. He further said that through the Postal Export Centre, people living in remote areas can easily export their hand-made items or local items from that area through the post office. So, the post office has been converted from a post office to a Banking system. He informed that so far, more than 1.25 crore countrymen have benefited from Passport Seva Kendra. Between 2004 and 2014 about 660 post offices had been closed down. The Government took up the responsibility of strengthening this entire network and took several steps to strengthen it. The Government has opened 5000 new post offices. Recently 5,746 new post offices have also been sanctioned. About one

lakh twenty-eight thousand people have been given new employment in the postal network. Similarly, Aadhaar Seva Kendras have been opened in 13,500 Post Offices, and more than 3 crore Sukanya Samridhi accounts have been opened.

*Initiating the discussion*, Dr. Shashi Tharoor (INC) said that the Government through this Bill grants itself sweeping powers to infringe upon the citizens' rights to freedom of speech and expression as guaranteed under Article 19(1)(a) of the Indian Constitution. The Government assumes these powers through clause 9 of the Bill. Further through clause 9(3), the Government again by a simple notification may empower any officer of the post office to confiscate any item. He is of the view that the Bill is far more detrimental to the Fundamental Rights of Indian citizens than the colonial-era law it seeks to supplant. He further said that in some ways, the 1898 Act was less arbitrary because though it allowed interception, it specified, unlike this Bill, the circumstances under which interception could be carried out. In fact, by not even defining what sort of matter and material cannot be sent by post, something which the 1898 Act does, the Government has sought to make Indians yet more vulnerable to this attempted mass surveillance. By keeping Indians in the dark as to the interception, detention, or destruction of their correspondence and consignments and by not allowing them to contest these decisions, the Government has violated every principle of natural justice and due process of law. Today the private courier services in our country are far more accountable to the people of India than the Indian Postal Service. While the Consumer Protection Act of 2019 holds our private couriers to account, that does not apply to India Post. To send a letter or parcel through India Post is to fling it essentially into a black hole with no accountability whatsoever as to whether it will reach its destination. It would have been one thing to exempt postal workers from liability relating to intercepting items. He also said that the Bill does not even consider them liable for such blatant wrongs as loss, misdelivery, delay or damage is downright unacceptable, and under this law, if those items are damaged, misdelivered, or stolen, no one will come to know anything. Moreover, given that India Post is planning to add an array of financial services and products to its portfolio, it is imperative, especially while rendering services where citizens' sensitive data is involved, that we proceed with the utmost caution to protect our consumers and our citizens from fraud, data breaches, and similar transgressions. In the absence of a grievance redressal mechanism, the citizens will have no option but to seek justice by moving the courts by Articles 32 and 226 of our Constitution and that will merely increase the

pendency of cases piled on top of our already overburdened judiciary. The Indian Post Office Act of 1898, this colonial law, was far more accountable to the Indian people than this new law. If an officer does indeed willfully commit transgressions, the Bill does not specify what the punishment is, unlike the 1898 Bill. Without a complete digital overhaul of postal facilities, the survival of post offices is simply not feasible. Shri Tharoor was of the view that if this Bill envisages India Post as rendering e-commerce, e-government, and e-finance services, the Government ought to move towards its rapid digitization and diversification, and a simple step was the introduction of an encrypted, digital postbox service being introduced, like an India Post e-mail service which will save Indians quite a lot of money in postage costs. He concluded by saying that they should also be able to upload and store documents and receive important notices and reminders.

<sup>5</sup>*Participating in the discussion*, Shri Tapir Gao (BJP) said that after coming to power, this Government has opened 5,000 new post offices from the year 2014 to 2023. Through these post offices, all postal facilities are being made available in the villages located in remote and far-flung areas. He said that as of date, 28 crore accounts have been opened in Post Office Savings Bank in India and Rs 17 lakh crore have been deposited in those accounts. Through this, 3 crore accounts have been opened under *Sukanya Samridhi Yojana*, and Rs 1 lakh 41 thousand crore have been deposited. The Postal Service is citizen-centric. To date, 434 Passport Seva Kendras have been opened in the country, in which 1 crore 25 lakh applicants have availed themselves of this facility. A total of 13,500 centers for Aadhaar enrollment have been opened under it. He further said that the Department of Post has opened 650 Branches with 1.54 lakh access points, more than 8 crore accounts have been opened in India Post Payments Banks and Rs 8,800 crore have been deposited in it. Along with it, transactions worth Rs 10 crore have been made in Aadhaar Enabled Payments (AEPS) in the country and 3.5 crore DBT accounts have been opened. Many people, including the public and our countrymen, living in far-flung villages and the Himalayas, are getting facilities from this postal service. He concluded by requesting that through this postal service, postal service accounts should be opened in the remote villages of the Himalayan belt so that poor people can avail themselves of a plethora of services.

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<sup>5</sup> **Others who participated in the discussion:** Sarvashri Bhola Singh, Prataprao Jadhav, Ramshiromani Verma and Dr. Beesetti Venkata Satyavathi.

*Replying to the discussion*, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Communications, Shri Devusinh Chauhan said this 170-year-old department is a part of the glorious cultural history of the country, And the Government is providing citizen-centric services to every village, every household, and every person through approximately 1 lakh 64 thousand post offices, and the role of the Department of Posts is commendable about *Antyodaya*. He further said that after starting the service of India Post Payments Bank, the department has done a lot of work to provide life insurance, and general insurance in every village and to empower women, youth, poor, and farmers. The Minister informed that the department has deposited Rs 1,41,000 crore in savings accounts by opening three crore accounts under '*Sukanya Samriddhi Yojana*' as of date. The Minister further said that the department has provided employment opportunities to more than 1,28,000 youth, more than 400 Passport Seva Kendras have been started, and the Aadhaar card services have been started. More than 28 crore beneficiaries are taking their benefits from the Postal Department through DBT, and out of more than 150 citizen-centric services, 90 plus citizen-centric services are provided by this department alone to the country. He concluded by saying that in the times to come, this Bill will prove to be a very transformative one in the interest of the country.

*The Bill was passed.*

***The Bharatiya Nyaya (Second) Sanhita, 2023 and the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha (Second) Sanhita, 2023, and the Bharatiya Sakshya (Second) Bill, 2023:*** On 19<sup>th</sup> December 2023, the Minister of Home Affairs and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah moved the Bill for consideration.

*Initiating the discussion*, Dr. Talari Rangaiah (YSRCP) said that the adoption of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita represents a significant shift from the India Penal Code (IPC) 1860 to create a more unified, equitable, responsive legal framework that aligns the current concerns and growing societal standards. He further said that the Bill is sensitive to today's serious challenges: the likes of terrorism, mob lynching, and cybercrimes. It is expanding the ambit of 'terrorist acts' to the offenses committed against the State and its citizens perpetrated outside of India. It is seeking to fill in the legal loopholes while strengthening the legal system against these rising threats. This legislative change is a key and cohesive step towards establishing a judicial system that is adaptable, just, and capable of protecting every citizen's right and security. He further said that the Bill's

provisions echo a collective desire to ensure fairness, expediency, and the safeguarding of individual rights. While acknowledging the positive strides made in this Bill, he is of the view that it is essential to advocate for measures ensuring compensation and redressal for individuals wrongfully detained or accused. About improved witness protection measures, the provision for audio-video recording of witness testimonies potentially enhances witness protection and augments the accuracy of recorded statements. He also said that judges and lawyers need adequate training to effectively implement the new procedures and interpret the law accurately to avoid confusion and inconsistency in legal application. While stating that the Bill widens the ambit of electronic records admissible as evidence and removes certain colonial references from the initial Act, he said that to enhance the effectiveness of police investigation and expedite case resolution, police stations require additional forensic resources, well-trained personnel, and increased staffing in dedicated investigation wings. The use of forensic techniques in evidence collection is crucial in building strong cases, especially in serious crimes like homicide, sexual assault, and burglary. While stating that the scarcity of evidence is a major reason for India's low conviction rates for offenses against human body including murder, sexual assault, kidnapping, and human trafficking, and significant deficiency in specialised training, he said that experts have stressed the importance of having personnel with expertise in forensic science engaged in every step of the criminal investigation.

<sup>6</sup>*Participating in the discussion*, Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad (BJP) said that the *Bhartiya Nyaya (Second) Sanhita, 2023* is replacing the Indian Penal Code. The Criminal Procedure Code is being replaced by the *Bhartiya Nagarik Suraksha (Second) Sanhita, 2023* and the Indian Evidence Act is being replaced by the *Bhartiya Sakshya (Second) Bill, 2023*. He further said that there was an emphasis on penalty in the Indian

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<sup>6</sup> **Others who participated in the discussion:** *Sarvashri* Gajanan Kirtikar, Bhartruhari Mahtab, Vishnu Dayal Ram, Prince Raj, Tejasvi Surya, P.P. Chaudhary, Dilip Saikia, Ganesh Singh, Ram Kripal Yadav, Jagdambika Pal, Pratap Chandra Sarangi, Asaduddin Owaisi, Ramesh Bidhuri, Rajiv Pratap Rudy, Lavu Sri Krishnadevarayalu, Jugal Kishore Sharma, Jamyang Tsering Namgyal, Dr. Satyapal Singh, Dr. Nishikant Dubey, Dr. Jayanta Kumar Roy, Dr. Pritam Gopinathrao Munde, Kumari Chandrani Murmu, Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel, Prof. Rita Bahuguna Joshi, Sadhvi Pragya Singh Thakur, Sardar Simranjit Singh Mann, Shrimati Sangeeta Kumari Singh Deo, Shrimati Jaskaur Meena, Shrimati Harsimrat Kaur Badal, Shrimati Poonam Mahajan, Shrimati Hemamalini and Sushri Sunita Duggal.

Penal Code, but the *Bhartiya Nyaya Sanhita* emphasizes delivering justice. The Indian Penal Code was enacted in 1860, the Evidence Act in 1872, and the CrPC in the year 1882. While reminding that there was an amendment in the CrPC in the year 1973, he said there was no deliberate effort to amend the three codes as per the needs of our country. He further said that the Government went through an intense dialogue process for bringing changes in the *Nyaya Sanhita* and the other two laws. Academicians, Judges, retired Judges, Lawyers, Law Professors, etc. were consulted, and the Hon'ble Minister for Home Affairs himself was present in 158 consultations in this regard. He further said that the old penal code had 511 provisions; the new one will contain 356 provisions; 175 Sections have been completely changed' 8 new Sections have been added; 22 Sections have been repealed, and the CrPC of the *Bhartiya Nagarik Suraksha* (Second) Sanhita will now have 533 provisions. While talking about the importance of technology, he said that special care has been taken to ensure the best use of technology available. He further explained that the entire trial and cross-examination will be conducted through electronic devices now, and there is a provision to digitise FIRs, case diaries, charge sheets, judgments, etc. Shri Prasad also said that videography is a must during search and seizure operations, and no charge sheet without video recording will qualify as being statutory. It establishes transparency. Changes in the provisions of summary trials will enable transferring thousands of cases pending in the courts of Additional District Judges and District Judges directly to the lower courts, it is an innovative idea. He further said that the Bill provides that after the charge sheet is filed within a specified period, the case shall be heard and the decision will have to be pronounced within 30 days after the hearing and it must be uploaded within seven days. In the Bills, mobile snatching and chain snatching have been accorded a separate offense and a separate provision has been made for this. The definition of terrorism has been laid out in great detail here. Shri Prasad concluded by saying that introducing the concept of community service for petty offenses is a very innovative idea and expressed his hope that this provision will give a lot of people a good opportunity to improve.

*Replying to the discussion*, the Minister of Home Affairs and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah said that through this epochal change, an attempt has been made to add soul to our criminal justice system. The Minister further said that earlier, there were laws with a centralised

idea of awarding punishment and now victim-centric justice is going to evolve and felt that ease of Justice should be implemented through simple, consistent, transparent, and accountable procedures. He informed that there will be fair, time-bound evidence-based speedy trials for enforcement, and this is going to reduce the burden on courts and prisons and the conviction ratio is also going to increase. Accountability of the police has been fixed in many cases. Now it has been decided that information about arrested persons will have to be kept at every police station and a police officer will be made responsible for it. Right to compensation for loss has been given and zero FIR has been introduced. He further explained that now the court cannot withdraw any case without the permission of the victim and without hearing it, merely at the behest of the state. The Minister further said that organised crime has also been defined for the first time. Hitherto, there was no special law for this. He also informed that the Government has brought a new provision against mob lynching, and also made a provision to send the rape victim's report directly to the police station and court within seven days. There was no time limit for the charge sheet earlier, but now the charge sheet cannot be kept pending after 180 days. The time limit as to when the proceedings will start before the Magistrate has also been fixed. The Government has made compulsory provision of video recording in all three evidence, search and seizure. Under this Bill, to improve the quality of investigation, so that investigation may be carried out using the scientific method and aiming at a 90 percent conviction rate, the Government has made a provision that in all the crimes in which the punishment is more than seven years, the FSL team's visit has been made compulsory. The Government has also come up with a new witness protection scheme. Every State will have to declare it. The Minister assured that in the event of its implementation in all the Police Stations located across the length and breadth of the country, our judicial system shall turn out to be an ultra-modern judicial system in the world. Under ICJS the integration of Forensic Science University, Police Stations, Department of Home Affairs, and Offices of the Public Prosecutor, Prisons, and Courts under one umbrella through the application of Software and making them accessible online is in its last leg. This will be of huge relief for those citizens seeking justice and the delivery of justice shall be fast. Smartphones, Laptops, Messages, Websites, and locational evidence have been brought within the definition of evidence. The Minister concluded by saying that the accused, experts, and victims have been permitted their appearance before the court through electronic

media and the entire procedure for the admissibility of electronic or digital records and its enforcement has been provided in the Bills.

*The Bill, as amended, was passed.*

***The Central Goods and Services Tax (Second Amendment) Bill, 2023:*** On 19<sup>th</sup> December 2023, the Minister of Finance and Minister of Corporate Affairs, Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman, moving the motion for consideration of the Bill, said that Section 109 of the Central Goods and Services Tax Act, 2017, that is, the CGST Act, provides for the constitution of the GST Appellate Tribunal. She further said that the Appellate Tribunal is the first forum at which the GST litigation process itself converges within the State, which means, the appellate orders passed by the Centre and the State GST officers become a part of the same appellate forum. As regards the GST Appellate Tribunal, benches were notified but the same was challenged in the High Courts. She said that the High Court of Madras struck down Sections 109 and 110 of the CGST Act, 2017. In August 2021, the Tribunal Reforms Act was enacted by which the qualification and the selection process itself were standardised for various tribunals. Given these developments, the CGST Act was amended by the Finance Act of 2023 wherein Sections 109 and 110 of the said Act were amended. The Minister informed that as amended by the Finance Act, 2023, the GST Appellate Tribunal shall contain one Principal Bench and various State Benches, which are to be notified. The Principal Bench shall have one President, a Judicial Member, a Technical Member, a Technical Member that belongs to the Centre, and a Technical Member of a State. The State Benches shall have two Judicial Members, a Technical Member of Centre and a Technical Member of a State. The provisions of sections 109 and 110 of the CGST Act are in line with the provisions of the Tribunal Reforms Act, 2021.

*Initiating the discussion,* Dr. Nishikant Dubey (BJP) said that 37 such taxes have been merged into it. Therefore, when the goods reach the consumer, they reach at a cheaper price and that is why our GDP seems to be growing. The most important of these is the second legislation, for which sections 109 and 110 have been amended. The Second Appellate Authority of GST has been created which is even more important. The litigation of tax is so huge that when after the Appellate Authority and Appellate Tribunal, the case goes to the High Court or the Supreme Court, and there is unnecessary delay leading to a lot of problems. The Government of India has done a great job to bring the tribunal under the

Tribunal Act. Second, a committee will be formed under the leadership of a sitting judge of the Supreme Court and that committee will decide who will be the president and who will be the member. Those who have authority on taxes and have ten years of experience can also be eligible for this. With this, the judgment will come very easily and the lengthy process of litigation that gets stuck in the High Court will be reduced. While noting that nearly 14000 cases are pending, he said to dispose of all these cases, the Government of India has brought in a big far-reaching legislation.

<sup>7</sup>*Participating in the discussion*, Smt. Sarmistha Sethi (BJD) said that in the last six years, the GST ensured compliance simplification with uniform processes across the country. But more needs to be done. Full compensation to the States for loss of revenue on account of GST implementation is getting delayed unduly. State revenues have taken a drastic fall due to the pandemic. She urged the Government to release the pending GST compensation to States on time. The Centre's November 2021 notification to increase the Goods and Services Tax (GST) on several textiles and apparel from 5 per cent to 12 per cent for items with a value slab of above Rs.1000 is a big blow to the handloom sector. She also requested the Government for consideration to the proposal of a flat five percent GST on all textile and apparel products. She further said that the GST Council has imposed a 28 per cent GST on the full-face value of bets placed on online gaming, and felt that there was a need to decide whether the amendment is clarificatory and, therefore, has a retrospective application, or whether it should be made effective only after 1st October 2023. This is important for estimating past-period liabilities. There is a need to simplify the tax regime to ease the compliance burden on small and medium businesses. She felt that simplifying tax rates would add to the MSMEs, make imports competitive, and improve export prospects. While noting that GST on Kendu leaves has been increased from five percent to 18 per cent, she said earlier, that the central tax on Kendu leaves was zero. The Central Government should place this matter in the GST Council and revise the rate to five per cent. The Public Accounts Committee in one of their reports has asked the Centre to provide a GST exemption for imported pharmaceutical products used by hospitals and research organisations. She requested that the recommendations of the Committee be implemented and it was vital to prioritise areas where immediate reforms are needed.

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<sup>7</sup> **Others who participated in the discussion:** *Sarvashri* Dhairyasheel Sambhajirao Mane, Shankar Lalwani and Lavu Srikrishna Devarayalu.

*Replying to the discussion*, the Minister of Finance and Minister of Corporate Affairs, Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman said that the glitches or difficulties that have been faced by many of the users of the GST portal have been raised. While addressing the issue raised by a member from Indore who expressed his concern that only one Tribunal has been announced for Bhopal in Madhya Pradesh, she said that every State is going to get one plus one Tribunal. The second one can be or may be or will be located in Indore. Regarding the topic of the GST rates for Tendu leaves, she said that there was no unanimity of views and, therefore, the Government is not able to arrive at any decision that Odisha might like. About the issue of taxation on online gaming with prospective effect, the Minister said that a clarification on that levy was issued and according to that 28 percent is the tax and said as to whom it will apply to and on whom the incidence will fall has been clearly explained. Replying to the issues raised by the Member from Andhra Pradesh, the Minister said that on rate rationalisation, there is a GoM which is formed within the GST. On the issue being faced by MSMEs, she said that the GST Council at the State level and the GST *per se* at the Central level also interact with various MSME groups. While admitting that there have been quite a few issues with which the Council's team has sat through and addressed their issues, she also said there are Central PSUs that owe money to the MSMEs. The Minister concluded by saying that all the Ministers are very keenly observing to see that the delay should not be beyond 45 days, and the Central PSUs largely now go by that understanding.

*The Bill was passed.*

***The National Capital Territory of Delhi Laws (Special Provisions) Second (Amendment) Bill, 2023:*** On 19<sup>th</sup> December 2023, the Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas and Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs, Shri Hardeep Singh Puri, moved the motion for consideration of the Bill, said that Delhi is both the Capital city of India and also a big cosmopolitan city, and it is one of the major engines of growth insofar as economic activity is concerned. Over some time, there has been a large influx of populations from rural areas, semi-rural areas, tier-II and tier-III cities in Delhi, there has been a fairly substantial amount of unauthorised building activity, there have been encroachments resulting in a situation that, by 2006, a process of sealing and demolitions commenced. The Union Cabinet took a historic decision on 23 October 2019 and the PM UDAY scheme was introduced but almost immediately thereafter we had to face

the pandemic. Around 1,17,340 households' applications for registration have been received. Authorization Slips/Conveyance deeds have been issued to 20,881 households. So, a lot more needs to be done. The Minister explained the need to extend the protection under this law for another three years. This is because otherwise, the population of Delhi which is vulnerable would be liable for sealing, demolitions, and displacements. In addition, he informed that the final stages of notifying the Master Plan 2041 have been reached, and the DDA and the MCD are also required to adopt measures to finalise norms, and policy guidelines to deal with the problem of encroachments and unauthorised colonies. While informing that his Ministry has been in dialogue with the stakeholders to monitor the progress and different actions taken under the 2011 Act, he sought approval of the House to extend this protection by another three years, that is from 1st January 2024 till 31st December 2026.

*Initiating the discussion*, Shri Ramesh Bidhuri (BJP) said that through PM UDAY Yojana, about 2-2.5 lakh people have received ownership rights after registering their properties. The Union Government has spent approximately one lakh thousand crore rupees through the Corporation and the DDA for the development of Delhi in the last two and a half to three years. An amount of Rs. 61 crore has also been released under the Swachh Bharat Mission, from which toilets have been constructed in the capital Delhi in the last seven years to protect 28,526 people from open defecation. 107 wastes to compost plants have been set up through this scheme of the Central Government through the DDA and MCD. He further said that the Hon'ble Prime Minister's resolve for a developed India by the year 2047 is that every person in the country should have a house by the year 2027. He also informed that subsidy has been provided on home loans worth Rs. 692 crore, and in Delhi, 29,976 families have received subsidy of Rs. 2.5 lakh to Rs. 3.5 lakh.

*Participating in the discussion*, Shri Rahul Ramesh Shewale (SS) said this Bill provides for further extension of validity of the provision for the protection of unauthorised development for a further period of 3 years. The unprecedented growth in Delhi over the last several years has led to an increase in demand for housing, commercial space, and other civic amenities. According to Delhi government figures, there are slums spread over 700 acres and around 10 lakh people live in them. Nearly 90 per cent of slums in Delhi are on government land in the form of unregulated colonies.

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<sup>8</sup> **Others who participated in the discussion:** Shri Parvesh Sahib Singh Verma.

The growing demand for cheaper urban housing and inadequate supply have encouraged slums. The earlier Governments have failed to include the urban poor slum dwellers in the welfare scheme run by them. While noting that the proposed three-year extension has brought great relief to property owners, he said that trade organisations had been demanding this from the Union Government for a long time. He was of the view that the Bill would give protection from any action in the city till the time the Government brings out the Master Plan of Delhi which will provide a roadmap for the provision of slums, unauthorised colonies, farmhouses, and village residential areas. While stating that settling foreign intruders in slums is a big problem, he noted that it was very important to identify foreign intruders to address this problem, and requested the Government to take steps to deal with this problem.

*Replying to the discussion*, the Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas and Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs, Shri Hardeep Singh Puri said that the Master Plan was at the stage of finalisation and would affect those who are living in the so-called unauthorised colonies which they have already provided *Malikana Haq*, *Jahan Jhuggi Vahin Makan*. Another issue was the urban regeneration of old developed colonies. Today, the population of Delhi is in the vicinity of two and 2.5 crores. Out of the population of about two and 2.5 crore, about 40 lakh people would benefit from *Malikana Haq*. Then, *Jahan Jhuggi Vahin Makan* will benefit about 10 lakhs of people. And, when the land pooling is finalised, it will cover something like 20,000 hectares in 138 sectors, and another 70-lakh people will benefit from that. So, these schemes will benefit about 1.20 crore people. The Minister said that Delhi is not only a city that is growing in population and economic strength but it is also virtually being rebuilt. Many projects have come up like Central Vista, Bharat Mandapam, and Yashobhoomi and if you see all around redevelopment is taking place at a massive scale. The Minister said that the Bill specifically seeks an extension for the next three years, and this extension would give them the time cushion and the flexibility to have wide-ranging consultations on policy matters and guidance on the orderly development of the unauthorised colonies. While informing that the Master Plan is at the stage of finalization, he also said that the Government has made a lot of progress in formulating this policy and will see that substantial benefits will accrue to the citizens of Delhi, all the stakeholders, who are there, the *kisan bhais* who own the land and all others.

*The Bill was passed.*

**The Telecommunications Bill, 2023:** On 20<sup>th</sup> December 2023, the Minister of Railways Minister of Communications and Minister of Electronics and Information Technology, Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw, moving the motion for consideration of the Bill, said that new Bills were introduced according to the culture and Constitution of India repealing the three Acts of far-reaching consequences with a colonial mindset. Continuing the same, a new Bill, which is a great promoter of this Digital Age, has been introduced as per today's economy and the aspirations of the citizens of India by repealing the Indian Telegraph Act. In the last nine and a half years, there has been a revolution in the form of Digital India, which has brought about a major change in the minds and lives of the people of the country. The fastest rollout of 5-G in the world has happened in India. The Telecom sector has emerged as a very good Sunrise sector, which brings tremendous momentum in the country's economy. A minor amendment will also be kept in this Bill with major structural reforms.

*Initiating the discussion,* Dr. Sanjeev Kumar Singari (YSRCP) said that the Bill proposes to repeal outdated Acts like The Indian Telegraph Act, 1885; Indian Wireless Telegraphy Act, 1933; the Telegraph Wires Unlawful Possession Act, 1950. A significant regulatory shift in the Bill is a replacement of license with authorisation. He said that one positive thing in the Bill is the interception of communication in the interest of national security. The second positive thing is national security against cyber attacks and other criminal activities. Citizen safety is also taken care of by this Bill. Another positive feature of the Bill is the revamped Universal Service Obligation Fund named *Digital Bharat Nidhi* which is proposed to take care of research, development, pilot projects, and new infrastructure for unserved areas. Another significant proposal in the Bill is to empower the Government to waive entry fees, license fees, penalties, etc. in the interest of consumers and ensure fair competition in the market. He suggested that the rural digital divide should be taken care of on a priority basis. Digital connectivity is undeniably the need of the hour. Pilferage in Government schemes can be prevented and services can be delivered promptly. He requested the Government to take care of establishing digital connectivity in all the rural areas of Andhra Pradesh on a priority basis. This Gram Sachivalayam system and volunteer service system are very exemplary. He also suggested that a credit system through UPI should be implemented. Regional language support is also essential for a diverse country like ours. Capacity building and training of staff in areas like cyber security, network maintenance, and digital innovation should be taken

care of. The filling of vacancies in BSNL has to be taken care of. From modernising infrastructure to bridging the digital divide, he felt that the Bill promises a holistic approach to India's telecom landscape.

<sup>9</sup>*Participating in the discussion*, Shri Jayant Sinha (BJP) said that the telecom sector contributes nine per cent to the GDP of our country. Today, about 40 lakh people are employed in this sector. Currently, 118 crore people are subscribers to telecom services. There has been a revolution in this sector in the last few years. Internet speed has now become 40, 50, or 75 megabytes per second, which earlier used to be 1.3 megabytes per second. Due to connectivity, today people's safety can be ensured through telecom as well. Structural reforms are going to bring more momentum to our telecom sector. The spectrum has been reformed. Now spectrum will be allocated through auctions only. Another structural reform pertains to telecom security and network protection. Now, SIM cards will be issued only after biometric identification and authentication. A very good structural reform of dispute resolution has also been implemented.

*Replying to the discussion*, the Minister of Railways; Minister of Communications and Minister of Electronics and Information Technology, Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw said that the major reform in the Bill is in user protection. Very strict provisions have been made regarding fraudulently getting a SIM. Apart from this, right-of-way reform has been brought through the District Magistrate and District Judge by fully involving the State Government. There is a reform of license and reform of spectrum in this Bill, and a digital by-design four-tiered dispute resolution framework has been created. The Minister explained that in the Bill, a legal framework has been created for the standard cyber security of protection of telecom networks, and the same provision for interception which is done as per the constitutional articles has been kept in this Bill and in the same way, the system of checks and balances has been made. He further informed that a system will be evolved to develop new technology and new products through the Digital India Fund and a system of a regulatory sandbox for innovation and technology development and lastly, the most important subject is that it is a huge industry. The technical and administrative reasons shown in this Bill are very specific and narrowly defined. Public utilities like the Power Grid, Metro and Railways, etc. are provided in the public interest and will be provided from an administrative point of view in

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<sup>9</sup> **Others who participated in the discussion:** *Sarvashri* Bhartruhari Mahtab and Shrirang Appa Barne.

the future also. The places where auctioning of spectrum is not possible due to technical reasons, all will be provided administratively. This system is being brought through the Bill. This will also end much litigation. Some major reforms of the spectrum are also being brought. The Minister concluded by saying that flexibility will come in the entire spectrum and there will be a new momentum of growth.

*The Bill, as amended, was passed.*

**The Chief Election Commissioner and Other Election Commissioners (Appointment, Conditions of Service and Term of Office) Bill, 2023 (As passed by Rajya Sabha):** On 21<sup>st</sup> December 2023, the Minister of State of the Ministry of Law and Justice; the Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Minister of State in the Ministry of Culture, Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal, moving the motion for consideration of the Bill, said that the decision of the Hon. Supreme Court came underscoring the need to enact certain laws governing the appointment of the Election Commissioners of India under Article 324 as had been envisaged by the framers of the Constitution. While noting that many years passed, but no law was enacted in this regard, he said that in the absence of such a law, the Supreme Court had made a stopgap arrangement pending the enactment of a law by the Parliament in this regard. Therefore, the Government has brought the Chief Election Commissioner and Other Election Commissioners (Appointment, Conditions of Service and Term of Office) Bill which has already been passed by the Rajya Sabha. He mentioned that an official amendment to this Bill was related to Clause Six. The Minister explained that earlier, the Search Committee was headed by a Cabinet Secretary, and through this official amendment, the Search Committee will now be headed by the Law Minister and two Secretaries will be its members. Thereafter, the Selection Committee will be headed by the Prime Minister. The Government has proposed an official amendment in Clause 10 of the Bill and that their salary will be equal to that of a judge of the Hon. Supreme Court. He further informed that an official amendment has been made in Clause Fifteen that the Hon'ble President will notify the rules to determine their conditions of service. The Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners have been provided safeguards against any action to be taken by the court of law for any decision taken by them while performing their duty.

*Initiating the discussion*, Smt. Chinta Anuradha (YSRCP) said that the Bill seeks to provide that the Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners will be appointed by the President on the recommendation of a Selection Committee, which shall consist of the Prime Minister as Chairperson, the Leader of the Opposition in Lok Sabha or the leader of the single largest Opposition party and a Union Cabinet Minister nominated by the Prime Minister as Members. The Bill also provides for a Search Committee, which will prepare a panel of five persons for the consideration of the Selection Committee. She said that the Bill must strengthen public trust in the electoral process and ensure that the integrity of the election system is protected.

<sup>10</sup>*Participating in the discussion*, Shri Bhartruhari Mahtab (BJD) said that the office of the Election Commission of India came into existence in the 1950s but it was in the year 1991 that the Parliament first framed the law in this regard. Article 324 of our Constitution states that the Election Commission will comprise the Chief Election Commissioner and such Election Commissioners as the President may decide. The Parliament had passed the Election Commission Act then setting the salary of the CEC and ECs at the same level as the Supreme Court Judge. But it did not provide for their appointment process. In March 2023, the Supreme Court declared that their appointment should not be done by the Executive. It mandated a selection process, which would hold until Parliament made a law. The court directed that the appointment should be done by the President on the recommendations of the Selection Committee and the Selection Committee will consist of the Prime Minister, the Leader of the Opposition in Lok Sabha, and the Chief Justice of India. Shri Mahtab further said that the Bill is correcting it. He also noted that the Bill has a Selection Committee, but instead of the Chief Justice of India, it has a Cabinet Minister proposed by the Prime Minister, and said that the appointments of CEC and ECs so far have been fair and politically neutral. Most of the CECs have dispensed justice with firmness. Shri Mahtab concluded by saying that for more than 70 years, the Election Commission has overseen and upheld the integrity of all national elections, and it has kept the nation's democratic nature untarnished.

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<sup>10</sup> **Others who participated in the discussion:** *Sarvashri* Rahul Ramesh Shewale, Shankar Lalwani, Sanjay Seth, Asaduddin Owaisi, Jayadev Galla, Sudhir Gupta, Dilip Ghosh, Rajiv Pratap Rudy, Dr. Sanjay Jaiswal and Dr. (Prof.) Kirit Premjibhai Solanki.

*Replying to the discussion*, the Minister of State of the Ministry of Law and Justice; Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs; and Minister of State in the Ministry of Culture, Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal said that when the country became independent, there was a discussion on how elections would be held in the country and then the framers of the Constitution introduced Article 324. But there was another provision in Article 324(2) that Parliament shall make an Act to appoint an Election Commissioner. An Act was enacted in 1991, but the matter of appointment was left out therein. The Supreme Court's decision on March 2, 2023, also did not say anything like this. The Minister said that the Government has brought this Bill as per the direction of the Supreme Court, and also informed that a committee has been formed in this direction and further action is being taken.

*The Bill was passed.*

***The Press and Registration of Periodicals Bill, 2023 (As passed by the Rajya Sabha)***: On 21<sup>st</sup> December 2023, the Minister of Information and Broadcasting and Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports, Shri Anurag Singh Thakur moved the Bill for consideration.

*Initiating the discussion*, Dr. Nishikant Dubey (BJP) said that according to the newspaper, there have been discussions regarding the establishment of the Press Registrar General of India. He emphasized the necessity of imposing stricter regulations through the Press Registrar General of India. While recalling that the Hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs introduced several laws such as the *Bhartiya Nyaya Sanhita*, the *Bhartiya Nagrik Suraksha Sanhita*, and the *Bhartiya Sakshya* Bill, he said that notably, he successfully instituted a separate post of Director of Prosecution in every district, empowering them to independently decide whether to pursue a case or not. Dr. Dubey advocated for the appointment of a nodal officer to monitor and prevent instances of blackmailing through YouTube channels or newspapers with negligible circulation attempting to secure advertisements. He urged for the implementation of these measures and it would significantly enhance the ease of doing business. While raising concerns about the ambiguity surrounding the consequences for repeated violations of fines imposed by the Press Registrar, he questioned whether there exists a mechanism to prevent such violations upon subsequent offenses, especially in cases where a newspaper falsely claims higher circulation figures. He urged for a defined timeline for addressing

complaints regarding inaccurate circulation and registration and said that setting deadlines would facilitate effective enforcement of the Act.

<sup>11</sup>*Participating in the discussion*, Shri Kuruva Gorantla Madhav (YSRCP) said that the Bill brings in the much-needed modernisation in the regulation of the Press, whether print or digital. He further said that the registration of digital media houses with the Press Registrar General will curb the menace of fake news in India by weeding out the arbitrary formation of new digital houses, apps, and websites. He felt that the establishment of the Press and Registration Appellate Board would hasten the justice delivery process in the registration and related disputes. He further said that the Act did not include within its scope forms of digital media, and this Bill was being seen as an attempt to expand regulatory control over the free press. While cautioning that fake news can cause severe chaos in society as seen during the COVID-19 Pandemic, he asked the concrete steps taken by the Government to reduce the instances of fake news in the country and also suggested that some safeguards should be provided against improper and arbitrary use of the Act. He requested the Government to take powerful steps to improve freedom of the press in the country. He concluded by stating the need for an independent financial audit authority to curb the cases of paid news and illegitimate interference by corporate houses.

*Replying to the discussion*, the Minister of Information and Broadcasting and Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports, Shri Anurag Singh Thakur said that the Government believes that the media has a very important role in democracy. The media should also be independent and it should also get opportunities. Nothing should be done to suppress the media. He further said that earlier there were eight steps for starting the publication of a newspaper. Now only once the online application has to be submitted to RNI (The Office of the Registrar of Newspapers for India) and a copy thereof needs to be forwarded to the DM. If the DM does not respond in sixty days, it will not make any difference because after sixty days registration certificate and title will be provided. The Bill provides that anybody involved in unlawful action or terrorist acts will not be allowed to publish a newspaper or magazine. Now, one has to just give an online intimation for setting up a press. The Government's commitment was

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<sup>11</sup> **Others who participated in the discussion:** *Sarvashri* Rahul Ramesh Shewale, Bhartruhari Mahtab, Ganesh Singh, Syed Imtiaz Jaleel, Ramesh Bidhuri, Bidyut Baran Mahato, Ram Kripal Yadav, Jugal Kishore Sharma and Kunwar Pushendra Singh Chandel.

that more and more people should come in the field of journalism, they should get opportunities and their government has brought a Bill to give that opportunity. Earlier, there was a provision of jail term for running the press without permission. Now the Government has made it very easy for people to give intimation about printing presses. Through this Bill, people are allowed to come and apply online and after two months their certificate, title verification, and registration will be done and given. If a foreign magazine wants to bring out an edition in India, it will have to first get permission from the Government of India. Through this Bill, the Press Registrar General has been empowered to take appropriate action on any publication and impose a fine of up to five lakh rupees. The Minister further explained that there is a provision to impose a fine from Rs 10,000 to Rs 20,000, and if it defaults repeatedly, then a penalty of about Rs 2 lakh will be imposed on it, and in the extreme case, a provision of five lakh rupees has been made. If a publication gives false information or makes a false representation, if it hides its license and any important information or fact, *i.e.* false representation and also conceals facts, the Press Registrar has the right to take action against such newspapers and magazines. He further explained that if someone has taken the license of the daily newspaper and if he publishes the paper less than 50 percent of the time, there is a provision to close it down. If someone asks to publish a newspaper or magazine once in 15 days and if he does not do so, a provision has been made to suspend after giving notice and cancel it later. If the publisher does not give the annual statement for two years, even after two years he is given notice and he can be suspended. If a publication is going on in one State with one name and another publication in another language in another State with the same name, the Press Registrar General may take action in a planned manner to stop either of the publications or ask it to publish a publication with a different name. If someone provides a wrong circulation figure and a wrong annual statement, he can be suspended. Its duration will be from 30 days to 180 days. If he has to go to an appellate authority, he can go to the Press and Registration Appellate Board. While informing that the Government has covered the content of the channels under the cable television network and the rest of the online news has been covered under IT rules, he also said that the Government has also brought the policy of advertising for the online digital platform so that they can also get an opportunity.

*The Bill was passed.*

### C. QUESTION HOUR

The Fourteenth Session of the Seventeenth Lok Sabha commenced on 4<sup>th</sup> December 2023, and was adjourned *sine-die* on 21<sup>st</sup> December 2023.

The actual number of notices of Starred and Unstarred Questions tabled by Members was 18165 (SQ 8367 + USQ 9798). However, as a result of the splitting of a few questions, where two or more Ministries were involved, the number of notices of Starred and Unstarred Questions increased to 18307. Four (04) Short Notice Questions (SNQs) were also received from the Members. The maximum number of notices of Questions included for Ballot in a day was 1365 (SQ 637 + USQ 728) for the Sitting held on 18<sup>th</sup> December, 2023. The minimum number of notices of Questions included for ballot in a day was 879 (SQ 377 + USQ 502) for the Sitting held on 4<sup>th</sup> December 2023. The minimum and maximum number of Members whose names were included for the Ballot were 203 and 310 for the Sittings held on 4<sup>th</sup> December 2023 and 18<sup>th</sup> December 2023, respectively.

Notices were examined in the light of Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, Directions by the Speaker, Parliamentary conventions and past precedents to decide their admissibility. Out of 18307 notices of Starred, Unstarred and Short Notice Questions received (including split questions), 267\* Questions were included in the lists of Starred Questions and 3065\* Questions in the lists of Unstarred Questions. Four (04) Short Notice Question notices were received during the Session and all the notices were disallowed.

The Ministry-wise break-up of admitted notices of Questions shows that the Minister of Health and Family Welfare answered the maximum number of questions (Starred and Unstarred), *i.e.* 1123, followed by the Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare who answered 796 Questions (Starred and Unstarred).

Names of 363 Members were included in the Lists of Starred and Unstarred Questions. The maximum number of Questions by any Member admitted/clubbed was 40 against the names of *Sarvashri* Shrirang Appa Barne, Sudheer Gupta, and Prataprao Jadhav.

The maximum and minimum number of Members whose names appeared in the Lists of Questions were 303 on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2023 and 201 on 4<sup>th</sup> December 2023.

One (01) Half-an-Hour Discussion Notice was received during the Session and the same was disallowed. Two (02) Statements were made by the Ministers correcting the replies already given to Questions in Lok Sabha.

A total of 55 Starred Questions were orally replied/taken up during the Session. The average number of Starred Questions answered orally per Sitting was 3.929. The maximum number of Starred Questions answered orally in a single day by a Minister (Housing and Urban Affairs) was Four on 21<sup>st</sup> December 2023 and the minimum number of Starred Questions answered orally in a single day was one on 19<sup>th</sup> December 2023. The average number of Unstarred Questions appearing in the Lists was 230 per day during the Session. 3277 (212\*+ 3065) written replies to Starred and Unstarred Questions were laid on the Table.

#### **D. OBITUARY REFERENCES**

During the Session, obituary references were made on the passing away of 8 former members of Lok Sabha, viz. *Sarvashri* Tarachand Shivaji, Vijoy Kumar Yadav, Sartaj Singh Chhatwal, Prabhatsinh Pratapsinh Chauhan, D.B. Chandre Gowda, Basudeb Acharia, Babanrao Dhakane and Dharmana Mandayya Sadul and the Amir of Kuwait H.H. Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad, Al-Jaber, Al-Sabah.

Members stood in silence for a short while as a mark of respect to the memory of the departed.

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\* Excluding questions deleted due to suspension/resignation of Members.

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**TWO HUNDRED AND SIXTY SECOND SESSION\***

A resume of the important business transacted by the Rajya Sabha during the 262<sup>nd</sup> Session of Rajya Sabha and other significant developments are given below:—

The Two Hundred and Sixty Second (262<sup>nd</sup>) Session (Winter) of the Rajya Sabha which commenced on 4<sup>th</sup> December 2023 was adjourned *sine die* on 21<sup>st</sup> December 2023, one day before schedule.

During the 262<sup>nd</sup> Session, the Rajya Sabha had a total of 14 sittings and the House sat around for 67 hours and 26 minutes. The House sat beyond the scheduled time for about 6 hours and 35 minutes to complete the legislative and other business.

**SHORT DURATION DISCUSSION ON “ECONOMIC SITUATION IN THE COUNTRY”**

On 5<sup>th</sup> December 2023, Shri Derek O’Brien raised a Short Duration Discussion on “Economic situation in the country” which continued on 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> December, 2023, beyond the stipulated time of 2 hours and 30 minutes considering the interest shown by the Members to participate in the Discussion. In all, 59 Members participated in the Discussion. The Discussion concluded with the reply by the Minister of Finance and Minister of Corporate Affairs, Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman.

**IMPORTANT DEVELOPMENTS / RULINGS—OBSERVATIONS ETC. BY THE CHAIR**

On 4<sup>th</sup> December 2023, the Hon’ble Chairman informed the House that based on the recommendations of the Business Advisory Committee, a procedure has been put in place that Members who wish to speak in a debate should give their names to Table Office not later than thirty minutes prior to the commencement of a debate with the approval of their party leader or whip. The procedure is also brought to the notice of the Hon’ble Members through issuance of a para in the Parliamentary Bulletin Part-II before the commencement of every Session. However, it has been observed that during the course of debates, requests are received from the Members from various parties to participate in such debates and, at times, without the approval of their party leader or whip. Members were requested to adhere to the stipulated procedure and send their names for

participation in a debate, at least, thirty minutes prior to its commencement through their party leader or whip.

On 8<sup>th</sup> December 2023, on a point of order was raised by a Member stating that on Friday, the House meets at 2.30 PM and that this practice is in vogue since the last many years. The Hon'ble Chairman ruled that Members of Parliament are drawn from all sections of society and that the other House sits at 2.00 PM after lunch recess. There are Members from every segment. After due deliberation, it was indicated to the House and this was already in place in the last Session. The House will meet after lunch at 2.00 PM to bring uniformity of time schedules followed by both the House.

On 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> December, 2023, the Chair allowed the approved text of the permitted Special Mentions for the day to be treated as laid on the Table of the Houses.

### **GOVERNMENT LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS**

During the Session, the following Government Bills were passed/ returned/withdrawn: Thirteen Bills namely (i) The Post Office Bill, 2023; (ii) The Jammu and Kashmir Reservation (Amendment) Bill, 2023, as passed by Lok Sabha; (iii) The Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation (Amendment) Bill, 2023, as passed by Lok Sabha; (iv) The Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners (Appointment, Conditions of Service and Term of Office) Bill, 2023; (v) The Central Universities (Amendment) Bill, 2023, as passed by Lok Sabha; (vi) The Repealing and Amending Bill, 2023, as passed by Lok Sabha; (vii) The Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation (Second Amendment) Bill, 2023, as passed by Lok Sabha; (viii) The Government of Union Territories (Amendment) Bill, 2023, as passed by Lok Sabha; (ix) The National Capital Territory of Delhi Laws (Special Provisions) Second (Amendment) Bill, 2023, as passed by Lok Sabha; (x) The Telecommunications Bill, 2023; (xi) The Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023, as passed by Lok Sabha; (xii) The Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023, as passed by Lok Sabha; and (xiii) The Bharatiya Sakshya Bill, 2023, as passed by Lok Sabha, were passed by the House.

Four Bills namely (i) The Appropriation (No.3) Bill, as passed by Lok Sabha; (ii) The Appropriation (No.4) Bill, as passed by Lok Sabha; (iii) The Central Goods and Services Tax (Second Amendment) Bill, 2023,

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\* As provided by the Table Office, Rajya Sabha Secretariat.

as passed by Lok Sabha; and (iv) The Provisional Collection of Taxes Bill, 2023, as passed by Lok Sabha, were returned by the House.

One Bill namely, the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (Amendment) Bill, 2008, was withdrawn.

### **PRIVATE MEMBERS' LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS**

The Private Members' Legislative Business was held on 8<sup>th</sup> December 2023 during the Session and the time fixed was 2.00 PM to 4.50 PM. 62 Private Members' Bills were introduced on that day. As considerable time was taken up for the motions for introduction of the Private Members' Bills, the House agreed to the suggestion of the Chairman to continue with the consideration of Private Members' Bills beyond 4.30 PM, *i.e.* till 5.15 PM.

### **STATISTICAL INFORMATION**

During the Session, 198 Starred Questions, and 2107 Unstarred Questions were admitted and answered/laid. Of these, 52 Starred Questions were orally answered. Question Hour could not be held on two days due to forced adjournment of the House due to interruptions etc.

In all, 21 hours and 3 minutes were lost owing to disruptions. The House, however, made up about 6 hours and 35 minutes by skipping lunch recess and sitting beyond the scheduled time.

81 Special Mentions on matters of public importance were made / laid during the session and 161 matters (zero-hour submission) were raised with the permission of the Chair.

### **OBITUARY REFERENCE**

During the Session, the Hon'ble Chairman made references to the passing away of five former Members, namely, *Sarvashri* Lalitbhai Mehta, D.B. Chandre Gowda, Dr. M.S. Gill, Prof. M.S. Swaminathan and Smt. Basanti Sarma, and also to the passing away of foreign State Head Sheikh Nawaf al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, the Emir of Kuwait. The House observed silence with all the Members standing as a mark of respect to the memory of the departed.

### **Resignation by Members**

On 6<sup>th</sup> December 2023, the Hon'ble Chairman informed the House that he had received a letter dated 6<sup>th</sup> December 2023 from Dr. Kirodi Lal

Meena, Member representing the State of Rajasthan, resigning his seat in the Rajya Sabha and that his resignation was accepted with immediate effect.

### **Reference by the Chair**

On 13<sup>th</sup> December 2023, the Chairman made a reference to the 22<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary of the terrorist attack on the Parliament Building on the 13<sup>th</sup> December, 2001 in the House.

### **Withdrawal/Suspension of Members and Reference to Committee of Privileges**

On 14<sup>th</sup> December 2023, due to his grossly disorderly conduct of entering the well of the House, approaching the Table aggressively and gesticulating at the Chair; shouting slogans and defying the directives of Chair, the Chairman directed Shri Derek O' Brien, Member to withdraw immediately from the Council, under rule 255 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Council of States (Rajya Sabha).

As Shri Derek O' Brien, Member defied the directives and refused to leave the Council, the Chair made the following observations:—

*“Hon'ble Members, gross defiance to the directions imparted by the Chair was noticed when Shri Derek O'Brien, despite being named and the direction being given to withdraw from the Council immediately, continued to not only remain in the Chamber but shouted slogans, gesticulated aggressively and even reached the Table from the well of the House. Such gross misconduct on part of Shri Derek O'Brien cannot be countenanced. I again name Shri Derek O'Brien for violating the directions of the Chair.”*

Thereafter, on a motion moved by Shri Piyush Goyal, Leader of the House and adopted by the House, Shri Derek O'Brien, Member was suspended from the service of the Council for the remaining period of the 262<sup>nd</sup> Session under rule 256 (2).

As Shri Derek O' Brien, Member continued to remain in his seat defying repeated directives of the Chair to leave the precincts of the Council, as required under rule 256 (3), Shri Piyush Goyal, Leader of the House sought leave of the Council to move a question of privilege against him. On objections taken to the leave being granted, the Chairman, under Rule 190(2), requested those Members, who were in favour of leave being granted, to rise in their places. The Chairman observed that more than

25 Members have risen in their places and informed that the Leader of the House had the leave of the Council to move the motion.

The Leader of the House moved the following motion:—

*“That the House takes a serious note of the conduct of Shri Derek O’ Brien, Member, who was suspended from the service of the Council under Rule 256(2), to deliberately continue in the Chamber in gross violation of Rule 256(3) and disregarding repeated directions imparted by the Chair thereby compounding his offence and committing a serious contempt of the House and breach of privilege of Members and agrees that the matter be referred to the Committee of Privileges of Rajya Sabha for examination, investigation and report within a period of three months.”*

The motion was adopted by the House and the Chairman announced that the matter stands referred to the Committee of Privileges, Rajya Sabha for examination, investigation and report within a period of three months.

The Chairman also urged Shri Derek O’ Brien, Member to withdraw from the House, so that listed Business can be taken up. Since, the Member continued to be defiant and continued the disruption, the House was adjourned for the day.

On 18<sup>th</sup> December, 2023, on a motion moved by Shri Piyush Goyal, Leader of the House, 34 Members, who continuously shouted slogans and entered the ‘Well’ of the House, thereby disrupting the proceedings of the House, in gross violation of the Rules of the House and utter disregard to the authority of the Chair, were suspended from the service of the Council for the remainder of the 262<sup>nd</sup> Session.

Later during the day, on leave being granted by the Council under Rule 190 and a motion moved by Shri Piyush Goyal, Leader of the House under Rules 191 and 256 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Council of States (Rajya Sabha), and adopted by the House, the cases of the eleven Members who continuously shouted slogans and displayed placards, thereby disrupting the proceedings of the House, in gross violation of the Rules of the House and utter disregard to the authority of the Chair were referred to the Committee of Privileges under Rule 191 for examination, investigation and report within a period of three months and the said Members were suspended from the service of the Council till the House has the benefit of the Report of the Committee of Privileges.

**Termination of Suspension of Member**

On 4<sup>th</sup> December 2023, Shri G.V.L. Narasimha Rao moved a motion under proviso to Rule 256 (2) that Shri Raghav Chadha, Member, be held guilty of breach of privileges and the suspension suffered by him so far be taken as sufficient punishment and the House may consider discontinuance of suspension of Shri Raghav Chadha, Member, from the service of the Council. The motion was adopted.

**Panel of Vice-Chairpersons**

On 4<sup>th</sup> December 2023, the Panel of Vice-Chairpersons was re-constituted with the following Members, Smt. Phulo Devi Netam; Smt. S. Phangnon Konyak; Smt. Darshana Singh; Dr. Sonal Mansingh; Dr. Sasmit Patra; Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy; Shri Sukhendu Sekhar Ray; and Shri Kartikeya Sharma.

On 11<sup>th</sup> December 2023, the Panel of Vice-Chairpersons was re-constituted with the following Members, Shrimati Kanta Kardam; Ms. Saroj Pandey; Smt. Jaya Bachchan; Smt. Priyanka Chaturvedi; Dr. C.M. Ramesh; Shri Akhilesh Prasad Singh; Shri Tiruchi Siva; and Shri Sushil Kumar Gupta.

**Visit of Parliamentary Delegation**

On 18<sup>th</sup> December 2023, the Hon'ble Chairman welcomed H.E. Mr. Mahinda Yapa Abeywardana, Speaker of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka and the accompanying Members of the Parliamentary Delegation, who were seated in the Special Box to witness the proceedings of the House. The Hon'ble Chairman, on behalf of all the Members of the House conveyed greetings and best wishes to the Members of Parliament of Sri Lanka, the Government and the friendly people of Sri Lanka.

**Setting of Help Desk / Kiosks Regarding New MPLADS Guidelines and new Web Solutions for All Members of Rajya Sabha**

The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation set up a Help-Desks/Kiosks near State Bank of India, Parliament House Annexe on all working days from 09:30 am to 05:30 pm *w.e.f.* 04.12.2023 to 22.12.2023 to facilitate necessary information and material to the Hon'ble Members and their PAs regarding new MPLADS Guidelines and fund-flow system through web-application and to resolve the queries instantly.

The Rajya Sabha Chamber in the new Building is equipped with a Multi-media Device installed at each seat of the Members to allow them electronic access to the day's business papers, reference Documents, information about all the Members of the House and to raise requests to speak during discussion/debate in the House and also to vote electronically in case of Division. A User Guidebook and Video Tutorial was circulated through the Hon'ble Members Portal and also made available on the device itself to facilitate them.

Parliamentary papers were made available to Hon'ble Members, on real time basis, in ten other regional languages besides Hindi and English viz. Assamese, Bengali, Gujarati, Kannada, Malayalam, Marathi, Odia, Punjabi, Tamil, and Telugu.

### **Conclusion of the Session**

The Session was adjourned *sine die* on 21<sup>st</sup> December 2023. The Rajya Sabha was prorogued by the President of India on 29<sup>th</sup> December 2023.

## SESSIONAL REVIEW STATE LEGISLATURES

### DELHI LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY<sup>1</sup>

The Fourth part of the Fourth Session of the Seventh Delhi Legislative Assembly commenced on 15<sup>th</sup> December 2023 and was adjourned *sine die* on 18<sup>th</sup> December 2023. There were two sittings in all.

*Legislative Business:* During the Session, the following Bills were introduced, considered and passed: (i) The Delhi Goods and Services Tax (Second Amendment) Bill, 2023; and (ii) The Delhi Appropriation (No. 4) Bill, 2023.

*Financial Business:* On 15<sup>th</sup> December 2023, the Minister of Finance, Smt. Atishi presented the First Batch of Supplementary Demands for Grants for the Year 2023-24. The Demands were considered and passed by voice vote.

### MIZORAM LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY<sup>2</sup>

The First Session of the Ninth Mizoram Legislative Assembly commenced on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2023 and was adjourned *sine die* on 14<sup>th</sup> December 2023. There were three sittings in all.

*Election of Speaker:* On 12<sup>th</sup> December 2023, Shri Lalbiakzama was elected as the Speaker of the Mizoram Legislative Assembly.

*Address by the Governor:* Being the First Session of the year, the Governor, Dr. Hari Babu Kambhampati addressed the Members of the House on 13<sup>th</sup> December 2023.

On the same day, the Motion of Thanks to the Governor for the Address was moved by the Member of Legislative Assembly, Lt. Col. Clement Lalhmingthanga and seconded by Smt. Baryl Vanneihsang. The Motion of Thanks to the Address of the Governor was discussed and passed by the House on 14<sup>th</sup> December 2023.

*Election of Deputy Speaker:* On 14<sup>th</sup> December 2023, Shri Lalfamkima was elected as the Deputy Speaker of the Mizoram Legislative Assembly.

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<sup>1</sup> Material provided by the Delhi Legislative Assembly Secretariat.

<sup>2</sup> Material provided by the Mizoram Legislative Assembly Secretariat.

*Obituary References:* During the Session, obituary references were made on the passing away of Shri Lalbiakzuala, the former Minister.

### **NAGALAND LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY<sup>3</sup>**

The Third Session of the Fourteenth Nagaland Legislative Assembly commenced on 9<sup>th</sup> November 2023 and was adjourned *sine die* on the same day.

*Legislative Business:* During the Session, the Nagaland Municipal Bill, 2023 was introduced, considered and passed.

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<sup>3</sup> Material provided by the Nagaland Legislative Assembly Secretariat.

## RECENT LITERATURE OF PARLIAMENTARY INTEREST

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## APPENDIX I

### STATEMENT SHOWING THE WORK TRANSACTED DURING THE FOURTEENTH SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA

1. PERIOD OF THE SESSION	04.12.2023 to 21.12.2023
2. NUMBER OF SITTINGS HELD	14
3. TOTAL NUMBER OF SITTING HOURS	61 Hours 50 Minutes
4. TIME LOST DUE TO INTERRUPTIONS/ FORCED ADJOURNMENTS	27 Hours 36 Minutes
5. HOUSE SITTING LATE TO COMPLETE LISTED BUSINESS	08 Hours and 09 Minutes
6. GOVERNMENT BILLS	
(i) Pending at the commencement of the Session	12
(ii) Introduced	12
(iii) Laid on the Table as passed by the Rajya Sabha	02
(iv) Returned by the Rajya Sabha with any amendment/Recommendation and laid on the Table	Nil
(v) Discussed	18
(vi) Passed	18
(vii) Withdrawn	03
(viii) Negatived	Nil
(ix) Part-discussed	Nil
(x) Returned by the Rajya Sabha without any Recommendation	04
(xi) Pending at the end of the Session	05
7. PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS	
(i) Pending at the commencement of the Session	713

(ii)	Introduced	Nil
(iii)	Discussed	Nil
(iv)	Passed	Nil
(v)	Withdrawn	Nil
(vi)	Negatived	Nil
(vii)	Part-discussed	01 <sup>1</sup>
(viii)	Pending at the end of the Session	673
8.	NUMBER OF DISCUSSIONS HELD UNDER RULE 184	
(i)	Notice received	Nil
(ii)	Admitted	Nil
(iii)	Discussed	Nil
9.	NUMBER OF MATTERS RAISED UNDER RULE 377	265
10.	NUMBER OF MATTERS RAISED ON URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE DURING ZERO HOUR	182
11.	NUMBER OF DISCUSSIONS HELD UNDER RULE 193	
(i)	Notice received	16
(ii)	Admitted	Nil
(iii)	Discussion held	Nil
(iv)	Part-discussed	Nil
12.	NUMBER OF STATEMENTS MADE UNDER RULE 197	Nil

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<sup>1</sup> At the end of 10th Session.

13.	STATEMENTS MADE BY MINISTERS	34
14.	ADJOURNMENT MOTION	
(i)	Notice received	--
(ii)	Brought before the House	--
(iii)	Admitted	--
15.	NUMBER OF MATTERS RAISED BY WAY OF CALLING ATTENTION	Nil
16.	GOVERNMENT RESOLUTIONS	
(i)	Notice received	Nil
(ii)	Admitted	Nil
(iii)	Moved	Nil
(iv)	Adopted	Nil
(v)	Negatived	Nil
(vi)	Part-discussed	Nil
17.	PRIVATE MEMBERS' RESOLUTIONS	
(i)	Notice received	03
(ii)	Admitted	03
(iii)	Discussed	--
(iv)	Moved	Nil
(v)	Adopted	Nil
(vi)	Negatived	Nil
(vii)	Part-discussed	01 <sup>2</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> At the end of 11th Session.

18.	GOVERNMENT MOTIONS	
(i)	Notices received	Nil
(ii)	Admitted	Nil
(iii)	Moved & Discussed	Nil
(iv)	Adopted	Nil
(v)	Negatived	Nil
(vi)	Withdrawn	Nil
(vii)	Part-discussed	Nil
19.	PRIVILEGES MOTIONS	
(i)	Notice received	02
(ii)	Brought before the House	Nil
(iii)	Consent withheld by Speaker	Nil
(iv)	Observation made by Speaker	Nil
20.	TOTAL NUMBER OF VISITOR PASSES ISSUED DURING THE SESSION	7044
21.	TOTAL NUMBER OF VISITORS TO THE PARLIAMENT MUSEUM DURING THE SESSION	--
22.	TOTAL NUMBER OF QUESTIONS ADMITTED	
(i)	Starred	267 <sup>3</sup>
(ii)	Unstarred	3065 <sup>4</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> 13 Questions deleted due to Resignation/Suspension of Members.

<sup>4</sup> 155 Questions deleted due to Resignation/Suspension of Members.

- (iii) Short Notice Questions Nil
- (iv) Half-an-Hour discussions Nil

23. WORKING OF PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES

S.No.	Name of the Committee	No. of Sittings	No. of Reports
1	2	3	4
(i)	Business Advisory Committee	02	02
(ii)	Committee on Absence of Members from the Sitting of the House	-	-
(iii)	Committee on Empowerment of women	06	-
(iv)	Committee on Estimates	05	01
(v)	Committee on Ethics	03	01
(vi)	Committee on Government Assurances	03	07
(vii)	Committee on Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS)	-	-
(viii)	Committee on Papers Laid on the Table	03	06
(ix)	Committee on Petitions	01	08
(x)	Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions	-	-
(xi)	Committee on Privileges	02	-
(xii)	Committee on Public Accounts	-	-
(xiii)	Committee on Public Undertakings	12	01
(xiv)	Committee on Subordinate Legislation	04	06

1	2	3	4
(xv)	Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes	05	01
(xvi)	General Purpose Committee	-	-
(xvii)	House Committee	-	-
(xviii)	Library Committee	01	-
(xix)	Railway Convention Committee	-	-
(xx)	Rules Committee	-	-

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**JOINT/SELECT COMMITTEE**


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S.No.	Name of the Committee	No. of Sittings	No. of Reports
(i)	Joint Committee on Offices of Profit	-	-
(ii)	Joint Committee on Salaries and Allowances of Members of Parliament	01	-

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**DEPARTMENTALLY RELATED STANDING COMMITTEES**


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S.No.	Name of the Committee	No. of Sittings	No. of Reports
1	2	3	4
(i)	Committee on Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Food Processing	03	01
(ii)	Committee on Chemicals and Fertilizers	-	-
(iii)	Committee on Coal, Mines and Steel	-	-
(iv)	Committee on Defence	02	05
(v)	Committee on Energy	08	03

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1	2	3	4
(vi)	Committee on External Affairs	07	03
(vii)	Committee on Finance	05	-
(viii)	Committee on Food, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution	07	06
(ix)	Committee on Information Technology	02	02
(x)	Committee on Labour, Textiles and Skill Development	06	01
(xi)	Committee on Petroleum and Natural Gas	03	01
(xii)	Committee on Railways	05	01
(xiii)	Committee on Rural Development and Panchayati Raj	03	01
(xiv)	Committee on Social Justice & Empowerment	03	03
(xv)	Committee on Housing and Urban Affairs	02	01
(xvi)	Committee on Water Resources	02	02

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## APPENDIX II

### STATEMENT SHOWING THE WORK TRANSACTED DURING THE TWO HUNDRED AND SIXTY SECOND SESSION OF THE RAJYA SABHA

1.	PERIOD OF THE SESSION	04.12.2023 to 21.12.2023
2.	NUMBER OF SITTINGS HELD	14
3.	TOTAL NUMBER OF SITTING HOURS	67 Hours 26 Minutes
4.	NUMBER OF DIVISIONS HELD	1
5.	GOVERNMENT BILLS	
(i)	Pending at the commencement of the Session	25
(ii)	Introduced	Nil
(iii)	Laid on the Table as passed by the Lok Sabha	14
(iv)	Returned by the Lok Sabha with any amendment	Nil
(v)	Referred to Select Committee by the Rajya Sabha	Nil
(vi)	Referred to Joint Committee by the Rajya Sabha	Nil
(vii)	Referred to Department-related Standing Committee	Nil
(viii)	Reported by Select Committee	Nil
(ix)	Reported by Joint Committee	Nil
(x)	Reported by the Department-related Standing Committees	Nil

(xi)	Discussed	17
(xii)	Passed/Returned	17
(xiii)	Withdrawn	1
(xiv)	Negatived	Nil
(xv)	Part-discussed	Nil
(xvi)	Returned by the Rajya Sabha without any Recommendation	04
(xvii)	Discussion postponed	Nil
(xviii)	Pending at the end of the Session	21
6. PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS		
(i)	Pending at the commencement of the Session	111
(ii)	Introduced	62
(iii)	Laid on the Table as passed by the Lok Sabha	Nil
(iv)	Returned by the Lok Sabha with any amendment and laid on the Table	Nil
(v)	Reported by Joint Committee	Nil
(vi)	Discussed	Nil
(vii)	Withdrawn	Nil
(viii)	Passed	Nil
(ix)	Negatived	Nil
(x)	Circulated for eliciting opinion	Nil
(xi)	Part-discussed	01

(xii)	Discussion postponed/adjournment/deferred/ terminated	Nil
(xiii)	Motion for circulation of Bill negatived	Nil
(xiv)	Referred to Select Committee	Nil
(xv)	Lapsed due to retirement/resignation/death of Member-in-charge of the Bill	6 <sup>1</sup>
(xvi)	Pending at the end of the Session (upto 08.08.2022)	154
7.	NUMBER OF DISCUSSIONS HELD UNDER RULE 176 (MATTERS OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE)	
(i)	Notice received	25
(ii)	Admitted	01
(iii)	Discussions held	Nil
8.	NUMBER OF STATEMENT MADE UNDER RULE 180 (CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTERS OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE)	
(i)	Statement made/laid on the Table by Ministers	Nil
(ii)	Half-an-hour discussions held	Nil
9.	STATUTORY RESOLUTIONS	
(i)	Notices received	NIL
(ii)	Admitted	NIL
(iii)	Moved	NIL
(iv)	Adopted	NIL
(v)	Negatived	NIL

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<sup>1</sup> In addition, 13 pending PMBs proposing amendments to the IPC, 1860; CrPC, 1979 and Indian Evidence Act, 1872 were removed from the Register of Bills pending in Rajya Sabha in view of the repeal of the principal Acts.

(vi)	Withdrawn	NIL
10.	GOVERNMENT RESOLUTIONS	
(i)	Notices received	NIL
(ii)	Admitted	-
(iii)	Moved	-
(iv)	Adopted	-
11.	PRIVATE MEMBERS' RESOLUTIONS	
(i)	Received	05
(ii)	Admitted	05
(iii)	Discussed	NIL
(iv)	Withdrawn	-
(v)	Negatived	-
(vi)	Adopted	-
(vii)	Part-discussed	-
(viii)	Discussion Postponed	-
12.	GOVERNMENT MOTIONS	
(i)	Notices received	NIL
(ii)	Admitted	-
(iii)	Moved & discussed	-
(iv)	Adopted	-
(v)	Part-discussed	-
13.	PRIVATE MEMBERS' MOTIONS	
(i)	Received	NIL

(ii)	Admitted	-
(iii)	Moved	-
(iv)	Adopted	-
(v)	Part-discussed	-
(vi)	Negatived	-
(vii)	Withdrawn	-

14. MOTIONS REGARDING MODIFICATION OF STATUTORY RULE

(i)	Received	NIL
(ii)	Admitted	NIL
(iii)	Moved	NIL
(iv)	Adopted	NIL
(v)	Negatived	NIL
(vi)	Withdrawn	NIL
(vii)	Part-discussed	NIL
(viii)	Lapsed	NIL

15. NUMBER, NAME AND DATE OF PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE CREATED, IF ANY

- (i) Re-constitution of the Committee on Empowerment of Women (2023-2024) *w.e.f.* 09.10.2023 (*vide* Rajya Sabha Parliamentary Bulletin Part-II, No. 63650 dated 18.10.2023)
- (ii) Re-constitution of the Library Committee (2023-2024) *w.e.f.* 09.10.2023 (*vide* Rajya Sabha Parliamentary Bulletin Part-II, No. 63651 dated 18.10.2023)

16.	TOTAL NUMBER OF VISITORS' PASSES ISSUED	6194
17.	MAXIMUM NUMBER OF VISITORS' PASSES ISSUED ON ANY SINGLE DAY, AND DATE ON WHICH ISSUED	202 on 12.12.2023
18.	TOTAL NUMBER OF QUESTIONS ADMITTED	
(i)	Starred	198
(ii)	Unstarred	2170
(iii)	Short-Notice Questions	Nil
19.	DISCUSSIONS ON THE WORKING OF MINISTRIES	Nil
20.	WORKING OF PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES	

S.No.	Name of the Committee	No. of Sittings	No. of Reports
1	2	3	4
(ii)	Committee on Ethics	Nil	Nil
(i)	Business Advisory Committee	04	02
(iii)	Committee on Government Assurances	04	01
(iv)	Committee on Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS)	01	Nil
(v)	Committee on Papers Laid on the Table	01	Nil
(vi)	Committee on Petitions	02	Nil
(vii)	Committee on Privileges	07	01
(viii)	Committee on Subordinate Legislation	01	02

1	2	3	4
(ix)	General Purpose Committee	Nil	Nil
(x)	House Committee	Nil	Nil
(xi)	Committee on Information and Communication Technology Management in Rajya Sabha	01	Nil
(xii)	Rules Committee	Nil	Nil

#### 20. DEPARTMENTALLY RELATED STANDING COMMITTEES

S.No.	Name of the Committee	No. of Sittings	No. of Reports
(i)	Commerce	04	03
(ii)	Home Affairs	06	05
(iii)	Education, Women, Children, Youth and Sports	03	03
(iv)	Industry	02	01
(v)	Science and Technology, Environment, Forests and Climate Change	01	NIL
(vi)	Transport, Tourism and Culture	06	04
(vii)	Health and Family Welfare	03	02
(viii)	Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice	06	07
22.	NUMBER OF MEMBERS GRANTED LEAVE OF ABSENCE		03
23.	PETITIONS PRESENTED		NIL

## 24. NAME OF NEW MEMBERS SWORN IN WITH DATES

S.No.	Name of Members sworn	Party Affiliation	Date on which sworn
	Nil	--	--

## 25. OBITUARY REFERENCES

S.No.	Name	Sitting Member/ ex-Member
1.	Shri Lalitbhai Mehta	Ex-Member
2.	Shrimati Basanti Sarma	Ex-Member
3.	Prof. M.S. Swaminathan	Ex-Member
4.	Dr. M.S. Gill	Ex-Member
5.	Shri D.B. Chandre Gowda	Ex-Member
6.	Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah	Emir of Kuwait

**APPENDIX III**  
**STATEMENT SHOWING THE ACTIVITIES OF THE LEGISLATURES OF THE STATES AND**  
**UNION TERRITORIES DURING THE PERIOD FROM 1<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER TO 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2023**

Legislatures	Duration	Sittings	Govt. Bills [Introduced (passed)]	Private Bills [Introduced (passed)]	Starred Questions [Received (admitted)]	Unstarred Questions [Received (admitted)]	Short Notice Questions [Received (admitted)]
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Andhra Pradesh L.A.**	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Andhra Pradesh L.C.**	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Arunachal Pradesh L.A.**	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Assam L.A.*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bihar L.A.	06.11.2023 to 10.11.2023	5	6(6)	-	729(617)	(89)	73(33)
Bihar L.C.	06.11.2023 to 10.11.2023	5	6(6)	-	275(239)	6(6)	66(60)
Chhattisgarh L.A.	19.12.2023 to 21.12.2023	3	1	1	-	-	-
Goa L.A.**	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gujarat L.A.	-	-	-	-	-	537(456)	-
Haryana L.A.**	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Himachal Pradesh L.A.**	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Jharkhand L.A.	15.12.2023 to 21.12.2023	5	4(5)	-	-	(28)	305(247)
Karnataka L.A.	04.12.2023 to 15.12.2023	10	17(17)	-	150(150)	2206(2206)	-
Karnataka L.C.	04.12.2023 to 15.12.2023	10	17(17)	-	869(150)	350(719)	-
Kerala L.A.*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Madhya Pradesh L.A.	08.12.2023 to 12.12.2023	4	-	-	-	-	-

Maharashtra L.C.	17.12.2023 to 20.12.2023	10	(18)	-	1819(452)	89(18)	-
Manipur L.A.*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meghalaya L.A.**	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mizoram L.A.	12.12.2023 to 14.12.2023	3	-	-	-	-	-
Nagaland L.A.	09.11.2023	1	1(1)	-	-	-	-
Odisha L.A.	21.11.2023 to 24.11.2023	4	1(1)	5	320(296)	419(619)	-
Punjab L.A.	28.11.2023 to 29.11.2023	3	6(6)	-	157(59)	66(26)	2
Rajasthan L.A.**	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sikkim L.A.	02.11.2023 to 03.11.2023	2	6(6)	-	-	-	-
Tamil Nadu L.A.	09.10.2023 to 11.10.2023 18.11.2023	3	13(23)	-	(245)	(7605)	-
Telangana L.A.*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Telangana L.C.	15.02.2023 to 16.12.2023	1	-	-	-	-	-
Tripura L.A.*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Uttar Pradesh L.A.	28.11.2023 to 01.12.2023	4	9(9)	-	1196(547)	1575(1493)	53(1)
Uttar Pradesh L.C.	28.11.2023 to 01.12.2023	4	9(9)	-	95(92)	64(60)	6(6)
Uttarakhand L.A.**	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
West Bengal L.A.	24.11.2023 to 07.12.2023	10	3(3)	-	675(428)	16(9)	-
				UNION TERRITORIES			
Delhi L.A.	15.12.2023 to 18.12.2023	2	2(2)	-	40(40)	188(188)	-
Puducherry L.A.*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

\*\* Information not received from State/Union Territory Legislature.

\* Information received from the State/Union Territory Legislature contained Nil Report.

**APPENDIX III (Contd.)**  
**COMMITTEES AT WORK/ NUMBER OF SITTINGS HELD AND NUMBER OF REPORTS PRESENTED**  
**DURING THE PERIOD FROM 1<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER TO 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2023**

State/Union Territory	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Andhra Pradesh L.A.**	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Andhra Pradesh L.C.**	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Arunachal Pradesh L.A.**	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Assam L.A.	-	1	3	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-
Bihar L.A.	1(1)	12	12	10	-	19(1)	19(3)	10	26	-	10	10	14	-	-	170(a)
Bihar L.C.	1(1)	11	10	9(1)	-	-	10	10	-	10	10	10	-	-	-	112(b)
Chhattisgarh L.A.	1(1)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Goa L.A.**	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gujarat L.A.	-	3	1	-	-	2	1	4	2	-	1	-	13	-	-	9(c)
Haryana L.A.**	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Himachal Pradesh L.A.**	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Jharkhand L.A.	-	-	1	-	-	-	10	10	9	9	-	-	11	-	-	26(1)(d)
Karnataka L.A.	1	11	10	1(1)	10	7(1)	9	9(1)	10	-	10	-	6	1	-	39(e)
Karnataka L.C.	-	9	10	1	10	-	-	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	7(f)
Kerala L.A.	-	9	9	-	1	11	2	9	7	-	6	-	11	2	-	70(g)



- (a) Question & Calling Attention Committee-10, Zila Parishad & Panchayati Raj Committee-10, Nivedan Committee-12, Internal Resource Committee-22, Women & Child Welfare Committee-10, Agricultural Development Industries Committee-9, Tourism Development Committee-39, Zero Hour Committee-12, Ethic Committee-11, Bihar Heritage Development Committee-12, Minority Welfare Committee- 10 and Environment Conservation and Pollution Control Committee-13
- (b) Paper laid on the Table-10, Question & Call Attention Committee-10, Human Rights Committee-10, Committee on Zila Parishad-10, Zero Hour Committee-10, Ethics Committee-10, Nivedan Committee-12, Rajghasha Committee-10, Committee on Disaster Management and Rehabilitation-10, Financial Management and Internal Resources Committee-10 and Implementation Committee-10
- (c) Members Pay & Allowance Rules Committee-1, Panchayati Raj Committee-3, Welfare of Socially and Educationally Backward Classes Committee-3 and Papers Laid on the Table Committee-2
- (d) Internal Resources Revenue and Central Aid Committee-2, Government Undertaking Committee-11(1), Environment and Pollution Control Committee-9 and Woman Welfare & Children Development Committee-4
- (e) Committee on Welfare of Women & Children-9, Committee on Papers Laid on The Table-13, Committee on Welfare of Backward Classes and Minorities-8 and Committee on Local Bodies and Panchayat Raj Institutions-9
- (f) Club Committee-3, Special House Committee (Nursing Committee)-3 and Ganga Kalyana House Committee-1
- (g) Committee on the Welfare of Senior Citizens-10, Committee on Environment-10, Committee on Papers Laid on the Table-6, Committee on the Welfare of Backward Class Communities-7, Committee on the Welfare of Women, Transgenders, Children & Differently Aabled-6, Committee on the Welfare of Fishermen and Allied Workers-3, Committee on the Welfare of Youth and Youth Affairs-4, Committee on Official Language-2, Committee on Local Fund Accounts-12, Committee on the Welfare of Non-Resident Keralites-6 and Subject Committee-4
- (h) Others Committee-1
- (i) House Committee on Ethics-3, Standing Committee-II-2, Standing Committee-IV-4, Standing Committee-VI-2, Standing Committee-VII-1, Standing Committee-IX-2 and Standing Committee-X-1
- (j) Committee on Question & References-2, Committee on Local Bodies-6, Committee on Panchayati Raj Institutions-14, Committee on Co- Operation and Its Allied Activities-6, Committee of Agriculture and its Allied Activities for the Year 2023-2024-6 and Committee on Buddha Nala and Ghaggar River for the Year 2023-2024-5
- (k) Committee on Delegated Legislation-(2) and Committee on Papers Laid on the Table-11(2)
- (l) Committee Relating to Examination of Audit Reports of the Local Bodies of the State-7, Joint Committee Relating to Women & Child Welfare-4(1), Panchayati Raj Committee-8(5) and Parliamentary Monitoring Committee-8
- (m) Committee on Question & Reference-4, Committee on Financial & Administrative Delayed-5, Parliamentary Study-3 Committee

- on Enquiry of Housing Complaints of U.P. Legislature-2, Parliamentary & Social Welfare Committee-10, Committee on Control of Irregularities in Development Authorities, Housing Board, Jila Panchayats & Municipal Corporation-8, Committee on Enquiry of Provincial Electricity Arrangement-4, Committee on Regulation Review-4, Divine Disaster Management Investigation Committee-5, Committee on Commercialization of Education-3(1), Legislative Empowerment Committee-3 and Committee on Prevention of Health Problems of Life due to the Adulteration of Food Items and the Practice of Counterfeit Drugs-17
- (n) Committee on Bidhayak Elaka Unnayan Prakaipa-7, Committee on Local Fund Accounts-9, Committee on Papers Laid on the Table-6, Committee on Reforms and Functioning of the Committee System-6, Standing Committee on Agriculture, Agricultural Marketing and Food Processing Industries & Horticulture-8, Standing Committee on Industry, Commerce and Enterprises-11, Standing Committee on Fisheries and Animal Resources Development-11, Standing Committee on Higher Education-13(2), Standing Committee on School Education-7(1), Standing Committee on Environment, Forests and Tourism-7, Standing Committee on Finance and Planning-6, Standing Committee on Food & Supplies-8, Standing Committee on Health & Family Welfare-10, Standing Committee on Home, Personnel & Administrative Reforms, Correctional Administration, Law and Judicial-8, Standing Committee on Housing, Fire & Emergency Services and Disaster Management-7, Standing Committee on Information & Cultural Affairs and Youth Services & Sports-9(1), Standing Committee on Irrigation & Waterways and Water Resources Investigation & Development-7, Standing Committee on Labour-11, Standing Committee on Urban Development and Municipal Affairs-7, Standing Committee on Panchayats and Rural Development and Sunderban Affairs-11, Standing Committee on Power & Non-Conventional Energy Sources-6(1), Standing Committee on Public Works and Public Health Engineering-11, Standing Committee on Information Technology and Technical Education-6, Standing Committee on Self Help Group & Self Employment-12, Standing Committee on Women & Child Development and Social Welfare-6, Standing Committee on Transport-11, Standing Committee on Backward Classes Welfare-12(1), Standing Committee on Minority Affairs-8, Standing Committee on Land & Land Reforms-12(1) and Standing Committee on Co-Operation and Consumer Affairs-12
- (o) Committee on Other Backward classes-4(1)

**Select/JointCommittees:**

- Nagaland LA – Select Committee to Examine the Nagaland Municipal (Bill) 2023 - 3(1)

## APPENDIX IV

### LIST OF BILLS PASSED BY THE HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT AND ASSENTED TO BY THE PRESIDENT DURING THE PERIOD 1<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER TO 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2023

Sl. No.	Title of the Bill	Date of Assent by the President
1	2	3
1.	The Advocates (Amendment) Bill, 2023	08.12.2023
2.	The Jammu and Kashmir Reservation (Amendment) Bill, 2023	15.12.2023
3.	The Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation (Amendment) Bill, 2023	15.12.2023
4.	The Central Universities (Amendment) Bill, 2023	17.12.2023
5.	The Repealing and Amending Bill, 2023	17.12.2023
6.	The Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation (Second Amendment) Bill, 2023	20.12.2023
7.	The Government of Union Territories (Amendment) Bill, 2023	20.12.2023
8.	The Appropriation (No. 3) Bill, 2023	24.12.2023
9.	The Appropriation (No. 4) Bill, 2023	24.12.2023
10.	The National Capital Territory of Delhi Laws (Special Provisions) Second (Amendment) Bill, 2023	24.12.2023
11.	The Post Office Bill, 2023	24.12.2023
12.	The Telecommunication Bill, 2023	24.12.2023
13.	The Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023	25.12.2023
14.	The Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023	25.12.2023

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1	2	3
15.	The Bharatiya Sakshya Bill, 2023	25.12.2023
16.	The Central Goods and Services Tax (Second Amendment) Bill, 2023	28.12.2023
17.	The Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners (Appointment, Conditions of Service and Term of Office) Bill, 2023	28.12.2023
18.	The Provisional Collection of Taxes Bill, 2023	28.12.2023
19.	The Press and Registration of Periodicals Bill, 2023	28.12.2023

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## APPENDIX V

### LIST OF BILLS PASSED BY THE LEGISLATURES OF THE STATES AND THE UNION TERRITORIES DURING THE PERIOD 1<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER TO 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2023

#### BIHAR

1. *Bihar Sachivalaya Seva (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 2023*
2. *Bihar Maal aur Seva Kar (Dwitiya Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 2023*
3. *Bihar Viniyog (Sankhya-4) Vidheyak, 2023*
4. *Bihar Panchayat Raj (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 2023*
5. *Bihar Padon evam Sevaon ki Rikhtiyon mein Aarakshshan (Anusoochit Jaatiyon, Anusoochit Janjatiyon evam Anya Pichde Vargon ke liye) (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 2023*
6. *Bihar (Sanshodhan Sansthanon mein Namankan mein Aarakshshan (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 2023*

#### CHHATTISGARH

1. *Chhattisgarh Viniyog (No.-4) Vidheyak, 2023*

#### JHARKHAND

1. *Jharkhand Viniyog (Sankhya-04) Vidheyak, 2023*
2. *Jharkhand Sthaniya Vyaktiyon ki Paribhasha aur Parinami Samajik, Sanskritik aur Anya Laabhon ko Aise Sthaniya Vyaktiyon tak Vistaarit karne ke liye Vidheyak, 2023*
3. *Jharkhand Padon evam Sevaon ki Rikhtiyon Mein Aarakshshan (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 2023*
4. *Shine National Vishwavidyalaya Vidheyak, 2023*
5. *Pragyan International Vishwavidyalaya (Nirsan) Vidheyak, 2023*

**KARNATAKA**

1. The Karnataka Gram Swaraj and Panchayat Raj (Amendment) Bill, 2023
2. The Karavali Development Board Bill, 2023
3. The Karnataka Compulsory Service by Candidates Completed Medical Courses (Amendment) Bill, 2023
4. The Karnataka Goods and Services Tax (Second Amendment) Bill, 2023
5. The Karnataka Bill, 2023
6. The Karnataka Stamp (Amendment) Bill, 2023
7. The Karnataka Motor Vehicles Taxation (Second Amendment) Bill, 2023
8. The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (Amendment) Bill, 2023
9. Shree Renuka Yellamma Kshetra Tourism Development Board Bill, 2023
10. The Karnataka Scheduled Castes Sub-Allocation and Tribal Sub-Allocation (Planning, Allocation and Utilization of Financial Resources) (Amendment) Bill, 2023
11. The Hampi World Heritage Area Management Authority (Amendment) Bill, 2023
12. The Karnataka Appropriation (No. 4) Bill, 2023
13. The Karnataka Prohibition of Violence Against Advocates Bill, 2023
14. The Karnataka High Court (Amendment) Bill, 2023
15. The Karnataka Civil Courts (Amendment) Bill, 2023
16. The Karnataka Hindu Religious Institutions and Charitable Endowments (Amendment) Bill, 2023
17. The Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurements (Second Amendment) Bill, 2023

**MAHARASHTRA**

1. The Maharashtra Lokayukta Bill, 2022
2. The Maharashtra Casinos (Control and Tax) (Repeal) Bill, 2023
3. The Maharashtra Public Universities (Amendment) Bill, 2023
4. The Maharashtra Apartment Ownership (Amendment) Bill, 2023
5. The Maharashtra Goods and Services Tax (Second Amendment) Bill, 2023
6. The Chit Funds (Maharashtra Amendment) Bill, 2023
7. The Maharashtra Bovine Breeding (Third Supplementary) Appropriation Bill, 2023
8. The Maharashtra (Third Supplementary) Appropriation Bill, 2023
9. The Maharashtra Agricultural Lands Ceiling on Holding (Amendment) Bill, 2023
10. The Maharashtra International Sports University (Amendment) Bill, 2023
11. The Maharashtra Private Universities (Establishment and Regulation) Bill, 2023
12. G.H. Rasoni International Skill Tech University, Pune, Bill, 2023
13. G.H. Rasoni Skill Tech University, Nagpur Bill, 2023
14. The Maharashtra Marathi Bhasha Vidyapeeth Bill, 2023
15. The Maharashtra State Board of Art Education Bill, 2023
16. The Maharashtra Electricity Duty (Amendment) Bill, 2023
17. Universal Skill Tech University, Vasai Bill, 2023
18. The Maharashtra Slum Areas (Improvement, Clearance and Redevelopment) (Second Amendment) Bill, 2023

**NAGALAND**

1. The Nagaland Municipal (Bill), 2023

**ODISHA**

1. The Odisha Land Reforms (Second Amendment) Bill, 2023

**PUNJAB**

1. The Transfer of Property (Punjab Amendment) Bill, 2023
2. The Registration (Punjab Amendment) Bill, 2023
3. The Punjab Goods and Services Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2023
4. The Punjab Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management (Amendment) Bill, 2023
5. The Indian Stamp (Punjab Amendment) Bill, 2023
6. The Punjab Canal and Drainage Bill, 2023

**SIKKIM**

1. The Sikkim Aerial Ropeway Bill, 2023
2. The Sikkim Goods & Services Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2023
3. The Sikkim, Guru Padmasambhaya University Bill, 2023
4. The Sikkim Sardar Patel University Bill, 2023
5. The Edteck Skills University Sikkim Bill, 2023
6. The National Council for Skill Education Bill, 2023

**TAMIL NADU**

1. The Tamil Nadu Payment of Salaries (Amendment) Bill, 2023
2. The Tamil Nadu Private Universities (Amendment) Bill, 2023
3. The Tamil Nadu Prohibition (Amendment) Bill, 2023
4. The Tamil Nadu Silkworm Seed (Production, Supply and Distribution) Amendment Bill, 2023

5. The Tamil Nadu Taxes (Settlement of Arrears) Bill, 2023
6. The Tamil Nadu Goods and Services Tax (Second Amendment) Bill, 2023
7. The Chit Funds (Tamil Nadu Amendment) Bill, 2023
8. The Tamil Nadu Agricultural Produce Marketing (Regulation) Second Amendment Bill, 2023
9. The Tamil Nadu Protected Agricultural Zone Development (Amendment) Bill, 2023
10. The Tamil Nadu Motor Vehicles Taxation (Amendment) Bill, 2023
11. The Tamil Nadu Appropriation (No. 3) Bill, 2023
12. The Tamil Nadu Appropriation (No. 4) Bill, 2023
13. The Tamil Nadu Appropriation (No. 5) Bill, 2023
14. The Tamil Nadu Fisheries University (Amendment) Bill, 2020
15. The Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences University (Amendment) Bill, 2020
16. The Tamil Nadu Universities Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2022
17. The Tamil Nadu Dr. Ambedkar Law University (Amendment) Bill, 2022
18. The Tamil Nadu Dr. M.G.R. Medical University, Chennai (Amendment) Bill, 2022
19. The Tamil Nadu Agricultural University (Amendment) Bill, 2022
20. The Tamil Nadu Universities Laws (Second Amendment) Bill, 2022
21. The Tamil Nadu (Second Amendment) Bill, 2022
22. The Tamil Nadu Fisheries University (Amendment) Bill, 2023
23. The Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences University (Amendment) Bill, 2023

**UTTAR PRADESH**

1. *The Uttar Pradesh Sheera Niyamtran (Dwitiya Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 2023*
2. The Uttar Pradesh Inland Waterways Authority Bill, 2023
3. *The Uttar Pradesh Shree Ayodhya Jee Teerath Vikas Parishad Bill, 2023*
4. The Uttar Pradesh Shree Shuk Teerth Vikas Parishad Bill, 2023
5. The Uttar Pradesh Shree Devipatan Dham Teerth Vikas Parishad Bill, 2023
6. The Uttar Pradesh Goods and Services Tax (Second Amendment) Bill, 2023
7. The Uttar Pradesh Private Universities (Fourth Amendment) Bill, 2023
8. The Uttar Pradesh State Universities (Amendment) Bill, 2023
9. The Uttar Pradesh Appropriation (Supplementary 2023-2024) Bill, 2023

**WEST BENGAL**

1. The Bengal Legislative Assembly (Members; Emoluments (Amendment) Bill, 2023
2. The West Bengal Salaries and Allowances (Amendment) Bill, 2023
3. The West Bengal Goods and Services Tax (Second Amendment) Bill, 2023

**DELHI**

1. The Delhi Goods and Services (Second Amendment) Bill, 2023
2. The Delhi Appropriation (No. 4) Bill, 2023

**APPENDIX VI**  
**ORDINANCES PROMULGATED BY THE UNION AND STATE GOVERNMENTS DURING THE**  
**PERIOD 1<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER TO 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2023**

Sl. No.	Title of Ordinance	Date of Promulgation	Date on which laid before the House	Date of Cessation	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6
	STATE GOVERNMENTS				
	BIHAR				
1.	Bihar Maal aur Seva (Sanshodhan) Adhyadesh, 2023	28.09.2023	06.11.2023	17.11.2023	-
	JHARKHAND				
1.	Jharkhand Maal aur Seva Kar (Sanshodhan) Adhyadesh, 2023	01.12.2023	15.12.2023	--	-
	KARNATAKA				
1.	The Karnataka Compulsory Service by Candidates Completed Medical Courses (Amendment) Ordinance, 2023	08.11.2023	--	--	-
	KERALA				
1.	The Kerala Municipality (Amendment) Ordinance, 2023	-	--	--	-
2.	The Kerala Panchayat Raj (Amendment) Ordinance, 2023	-	--	--	-
	MAHARASHTRA				
1.	The Maharashtra Goods and Services Tax (Amendment) Ordinance, 2023	26.09.2023	07.12.2023	18.01.2024	Replaced by Legislation

2.	The Maharashtra Public Universities (Amendment) Ordinance, 2023	20.10.2023	07.12.2023	18.01.2024	Replaced by Legislation
3.	The Maharashtra Apartment Ownership (Amendment) Ordinance, 2023	23.10.2023	07.12.2023	18.01.2024	Replaced by Legislation
UTTAR PRADESH					
1.	Uttar Pradesh Sheera Niyantra (Dwitiya Sanshodhan) Adhyadesh, 2023	01.09.2023	28.11.2023	--	Replaced by Legislation
2.	Uttar Pradesh Goods and Services Tax (Second Amendment) Adhyadesh, 2023	30.09.2023	28.11.2023	--	Replaced by Legislation
3.	Uttar Pradesh Private Universities (Sixth Amendment) Adhyadesh, 2023	20.10.2023	28.11.2023	--	Replaced by Legislation
4.	Uttar Pradesh State Universities (Amendment) Adhyadesh, 2023	08.11.2023	28.11.2023	--	Replaced by Legislation
5.	Indian Stamp (Uttar Pradesh Amendment) Ordinance, 2023	28.12.2023	--	--	Replaced by Legislation
6.	Uttar Pradesh Private Universities (Seventh Amendment) Ordinance, 2023	31.12.2023	--	--	Replaced by Legislation













## C. PARTY POSITION IN THE STATE/UNION TERRITORY LEGISLATURES

State/Union Territory	Seats	INC	BJP	CPI (M)	CPI	NCP	BSP	Janata Dal (U)	Janata Dal (S)	Other Parties	Independent	Total	Vacancies
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Andhra Pradesh L.A.**	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Andhra Pradesh L.C.**	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Arunachal Pradesh L.A.**	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Assam L.A.	126	27	63	1	-	-	-	-	-	34 <sup>(e)</sup>	1	126	-
Bihar L.A.	243	19	78	2	2	-	-	45	-	96 <sup>(b)</sup>	1	243	-
Bihar L.C.	75	4	24	-	1	-	-	23	-	17 <sup>(c)</sup>	6	75	-
Chhattisgarh L.A.	90	35	54	-	-	-	-	-	-	1 <sup>(d)</sup>	-	90	-
Goa L.A.**	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gujarat L.A.	182	16	156	-	-	-	-	-	-	5 <sup>(e)</sup>	3	180	2
Haryana L.A.**	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Himachal Pradesh L.A.**	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Jharkhand L.A.	82	16	25	-	1	1	-	-	-	37 <sup>(f)</sup>	2	82	-
Karnataka L.A.	224	134	66	-	-	-	-	-	19	3 <sup>(g)</sup>	2	224	-
Karnataka L.C.	75	29	34	-	-	-	-	-	8	1 <sup>(h)</sup>	1	73	2
Kerala L.A.	-	21	-	62	17	2	-	-	2	36 <sup>(i)</sup>	-	140	-
Madhya Pradesh L.A.	230	66	163	-	-	-	-	-	-	1 <sup>(j)</sup>	-	230	-
Maharashtra L.A.	288	44	104	1	-	53	-	-	-	71 <sup>(k)</sup>	13	286	2
Maharashtra L.C.	78	8	22	-	-	9	-	1	-	13 <sup>(l)</sup>	4	57	21

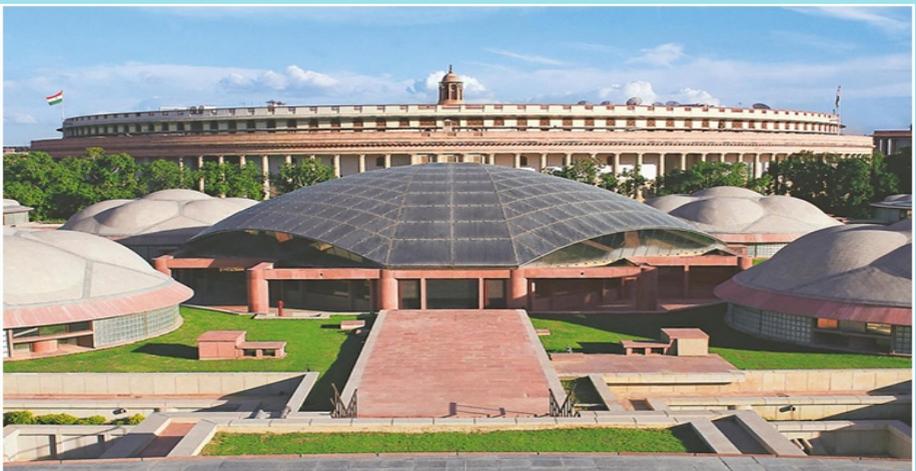
Manipur L.A.	60	5	37	-	-	-	1	-	14 <sup>(m)</sup>	3	60	-
Meghalaya L.A.**	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mizoram L.A.	40	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	37 <sup>(n)</sup>	-	40	-
Nagaland L.A.	60	-	12	-	-	7	1	-	36 <sup>(o)</sup>	4	60	-
Odisha L.A.	147	9	22	1	-	-	-	-	113 <sup>(p)</sup>	1	146	1
Punjab L.A.	117	18	2	-	-	-	1	-	95 <sup>(q)</sup>	1	117	-
Rajasthan L.A.**	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sikkim L.A.	32	-	12	-	-	-	-	-	20 <sup>(r)</sup>	-	32	-
Tamil Nadu L.A.	234	18	4	2	2	-	-	-	208 <sup>(s)</sup>	-	234	-
Telangana L.A.	120	64	8	-	1	-	-	-	46 <sup>(t)</sup>	-	120	-
Telangana L.C.	40	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	31 <sup>(u)</sup>	1	34	6
Tripura L.A.	59	3	32	10	-	-	-	-	14 <sup>(v)</sup>	-	58	1
Uttar Pradesh L.A.	403	2	253	-	-	-	1	-	145 <sup>(w)</sup>	-	401	2
Uttar Pradesh L.C.	100	-	81	-	-	-	1	-	15 <sup>(x)</sup>	2	99	1
Uttarakhand L.A.**	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
West Bengal L.A.**	294	1	74	-	-	-	-	-	217 <sup>(y)</sup>	1	293	1
UNION TERRITORIES												
Delhi L.A.	70	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	62 <sup>(z)</sup>	-	70	-
Puducherry L.A.	33	2	9	-	-	-	-	-	16 <sup>(aa)</sup>	6	33	-

\*\*Information not received from State/Union Territory Legislature.

- (a) AGP-9, UPPL-7, AUDE-15 and BPF-3  
 (b) Rashtriya Janata Dal-79, Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist) (Liberation)-12, All India Majalis-e-Itehadul Muslimeen-1 and Hindustani Aavam Morcha (Secular)-4  
 (c) Chairman-1, Deputy Chairman-1, R.J.D.-13, R.L.J.P.-1 and HAM (Secular)-1

- (d) Gondwana Ganatantra Party-1
- (e) Aam Adami Party-4 and Samajwadi Party-1
- (f) Speaker-1, Jharkhand Mukti Morcha-29, Aajso Party-3, Jharkhand Vikas Morcha (Prajantrik)-2, Rashtriya Janta Dal-1 and Nominated-1
- (g) Kalyana Rajya Pragathi Paksha (KRPP)-1 and Sarvodaya Karnataka Paksha (SKP)-1
- (h) Chairman-1
- (i) Kerala Congress(M)-5, Congress(Secular)-1, Kerala Congress (B)-1, Loktantrik Janaitha Dal-1, Janadhipathiya Kerala Congress-1, Indian National League-1, National Secular Conference-1, LDF Independents-5, Indian Union Muslim League-15, Kerala Congress-2, Kerala Congress(Jacob)-1, Revolutionary Marxist Party of India-1 and UDF Independent-1
- (j) Bharat Adivasi Party-1
- (k) Shivsena Party-56, Bahujan Vikas Aaghad-3, Peasant's and Workers Party-1, Samajwadi Party-2, All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen-2, Prahar Janshakti Party-2, Maharashtra Navnirman Sena-1, Rashtriya Samaj Party-1, Swabhimani Party-1, Jansurajiya Shakti Party-1 and Kranikari Shetkari Party-1
- (l) Shivsena-11, Peasants and Workers Party of India-1 and Rashtriya Samaj Paksh-1
- (m) National People's Party (NPP)-7, Naga People's Front (NPF)-5 and Kuki People's Alliance (KPA)-2
- (n) Zoram People Movement (ZPM)-27 and Mizo National Front (MNF)-10
- (o) Nationalist Democratic Progressive Party (NDPP)-25, Naga Peoples Front (NPF)-2, Lok Janshakti Party(RV)-2, National People's Party-5 and Republican Party of India (A)-2
- (p) B.J.D.-113
- (q) Aam Aadmi Party-92 and Shiromani Akali Dal-3
- (r) Sikkim Kranikari Morcha-19 and Sikkim Democratic Front-1
- (s) Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam-132, All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam-66, Pattail Makkal Katchi-5, Viduthala Chiruthaigal Katchi-4 and Speaker-1
- (t) Bharat Rashtra Smaiti-39 and All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen-7
- (u) Telangana Rashtra Samithi-24, All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen-2, Independents (PRTU)-1 and Nominated-4
- (v) I.P.F.-1 and T.M.P.-13
- (w) Samajwadi Party-109, Apna Dal (Soneyal)-13, Rashtriya Lok Dal-9, Nirbal Indian Shoshit Humara Aam Dal-6, Suheidev Bhartiya Samej Party-6, and Jansatta Dal Loktantrik-2
- (x) Samajwadi Party-9, Apna Dal (Soneyal) Party-1, Nirbal Indian Shoshit Hamara Aam Dal-1, Jansatta Dal Loktantrik-1 Shikshak Dal (Non-Political)-2 and Independent Group-2
- (y) All India Trinamool Congress-216 and Rashtriya Secular Majlis Party-1
- (z) Aam Aadmi Party-62
- (aa) All India N.R.Congress-10 and Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam-6

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