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Title: Observation regarding dispensing with Question Hour.

MADAM SPEAKER: As the hon. Members would recall, I had allowed a Short Duration Discussion under Rule 193 on price rise yesterday. However, the discussion could not be taken up yesterday. The discussion has now been included in today's List of Business. Keeping in view the sentiments expressed by hon. Leaders of different political parties on this extremely important, serious and burning issue of price rise, I have decided that the discussion may be taken up immediately by dispensing with the Question Hour.

Hon. Members, Shri Ramesh Bais, who secured first priority in the ballot for raising the discussion, has requested me to allow Shrimati Sushma Swaraj, hon. Leader of Opposition to raise the discussion in his place. I have acceded to his request.

Before I request Shrimati Sushma Swaraj to raise the discussion we take up Papers to be Laid on the Table and statements by Ministers. First we take up Item No. 6 – Shri Pranab Mukherjee.