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Title: Madam Speaker made Valedictory Reference on the conclusion of the 5th Session of the 16th Lok Sabha.

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, the fifth Session of the sixteenth Lok Sabha, which commenced on 21<sup>st</sup> July, 2015 is coming to a close today.

During this Session, we had 17 sittings spread over 47 hours and 27 minutes.

The Session saw the disposal of important Financial, Legislative and other Business. Discussion on Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) for 2015-16 lasted for 2 hours and 10 minutes before the demands were voted and the related Appropriation Bill was passed.

Discussion on the Demands for Excess Grants (Railways) 2012-13 was held on 4<sup>th</sup> August, 2015. The debate lasted for over 2 hours 40 minutes before the Demands were voted and the Appropriation Bill was passed.

During the Session, 10 Bills were introduced and 6 Bills were passed.

During the Session, 360 Starred Questions were listed, out of which 48 Questions were answered orally. Thus, on an average, about 2.82 Questions were answered per day. Written replies to the remaining Starred Questions along with 4370 Unstarred Questions were laid on the Table.

About 253 matters of urgent public importance were raised by the Members after the Question Hour and by sitting late in the evening. Hon. Members also raised 195 matters under rule 377.

The Standing Committees presented 46 Reports to the House.

One Adjournment Motion regarding action taken by the Government on the reported involvement and admission of the Union Minister and related acts and actions in assisting a fugitive and the stand taken by the Government in this regard was moved by Shri Mallikarjun Kharge. It was discussed over four hours and 47 minutes and was negated.

The House also held one short duration discussion under rule 193 on a subject of urgent public importance, namely, the Sustainable Development Goals. The discussion remained part discussed.

During the Session, one matter was raised by way of Calling Attention on the situation arising out of drought and flood condition in Karnataka resulting in suicide by farmers. In response to the Calling Attention, the Minister concerned made a statement and also replied to the clarifications sought by the Member, Shri B.S. Yediyurappa.

As many as 46 statements were made by Ministers on various other important subjects and four statements were made by the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs on Government Business.

During the Session, as many as 1,042 papers were laid on the Table of the House by the Ministers concerned.

Coming to the Private Members' Business, 45 Private Members' Bills on different subjects were introduced during the Session. The motion for consideration of the Bill seeking to provide for compulsory voting by every citizen in elections whenever called for by the Election Commission to elect the Members of the House of the People or a Legislative Assembly, moved by Shri Janardan Singh 'Sigrivali' on the 13<sup>th</sup> March, 2015 and discussed on the 24<sup>th</sup> April and 8<sup>th</sup> May, 2015 during the last Session was further discussed on the 7<sup>th</sup> August, 2015 during this Session and remained part discussed.

As regards, Private Members' Resolutions, the Resolution regarding immediate steps for rehabilitation and welfare of displaced persons from Kashmir, moved by Shri Nishikant Dubey on the 20<sup>th</sup> March, 2015 was further discussed on the 31<sup>st</sup> July, 2015 and remained part discussed.

In this Session, while we lost about 34 hours and four minutes of time due to interruptions followed by forced adjournments, the House sat late for five hours and 27 minutes to compensate the time lost to some extent. I thank you for that.

Hon. Members, I want to share my thought with you. Ever since the Session started, some Members have been coming into the well of the House and disrupting the procedures of the House. I was requesting them not to show placards and come to the well of the House though they have a right to register their protest but not in this way.

Since the House could not transact any business due to continued interruptions, I called for an all party meeting on the 30<sup>th</sup> July, 2015 and requested all parties not to come to the well of the House and display placards. I also impressed upon the Leaders that under the Parliamentary system, every issue can be discussed and a solution can be found out. But since the Members continued to persistently disrupt the proceedings, I had to resort to suspension of some Members from the service of the House on the 3<sup>rd</sup> August, 2015 for five days. You may kindly appreciate that I had to take this tough action as a last resort and last option. I am sure that the Chair will not be forced to resort to this step in the future.

Hon. Members, during the current Lok Sabha, I am proud to say that we have set a benchmark of high standards and the productivity ratio was well over 100 per cent. We had shown this achievement during the last Session. But in the current Session, However, I am pained to say that we lost more than 34 hours due to interruptions although we also sat late to transact business.

I am confident that in the coming Sessions we will continue to work better and more.

I would like to thank the hon. Deputy Speaker and my colleagues in the Panel of Chairmen for their cooperation in the smooth conduct of the House, as much as it was possible. I am extremely grateful to the hon. Prime Minister, Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, Leaders and Chief Whips of various Parties and Groups and the hon. Members for their cooperation. I would also like to thank on behalf of all of you our friends in the Press and the Media. I take this opportunity to thank the Secretary-General and the officers and staff of the Lok Sabha Secretariat for their dedicated and prompt

services to the House. I also thank the allied agencies for their able assistance in the conduct of the proceedings of the House.

I take this opportunity to extend my best wishes and greetings on the occasion of 69<sup>th</sup> Independence Day of our country.

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

**12.22 hrs.**

**NATIONAL SONG**

*The National Song was played.*

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

**12.23 hrs**

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned sine die.*