

Parliamentary Bulletin

PART - I

(TWO HUNDRED AND SIXTY SIXTH SESSION)

No. 5738]

MONDAY, DECEMBER 02, 2024

**Brief Record of the Proceedings of the Meeting of the Rajya Sabha held
on the 2nd December, 2024**

11-00 a.m.

1. Birthday Greetings

The Chairman extended greetings to the following Members on the occasion of their Birthday: -

1. Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda, *Leader of the House, Minister of Health and Family Welfare and Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers*; and
2. Shri Tejveer Singh.

11-06 a.m.

2. Papers Laid on the Table

1. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers under sub-section (1) (b) of Section 394 of the Companies Act, 2013: -

- (i) (a) Fifty-fifth Annual Report and Accounts of the REC Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2023-24, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Company.
- (ii) (a) Thirty-eighth Annual Report and Accounts of the Power Finance Corporation Limited (PFC), New Delhi, for the year 2023-24, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Corporation.
- (iii) (a) Forty-eighth Annual Report and Accounts of the North Eastern Electric Power Corporation Limited (NEEPCO), Shillong, Meghalaya, for the year 2023-24, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Corporation.
- (iv) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Grid Controller of India Limited (erstwhile POSOCO), New Delhi, for the year 2023-24, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Company.
2. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-Section (1) of Section 19 and sub-section (4) of Section 17 of the Coir Industry Act, 1953: -
- (a) Seventieth Annual Report of the Coir Board, Kochi, Kerala, for the year 2023-24.
 - (b) Annual Accounts of the Coir Board, Kochi, Kerala, for the year 2023-24, and the Audit Report thereon.
 - (c) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.
3. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Mines, under sub-section (1) of Section 28 of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957: -
- (1) S.O. 2936(E), dated the 24th July, 2024, notifying M/s Bhushilp Mines and Minerals Pvt Ltd under 'Category A Exploration Agencies'.
 - (2) S.O. 3054(E), dated the 31st July, 2024, proposing to undertake prospecting and mining operations in respect of mineral Gold and any other minerals in the State of Karnataka.
 - (3) S.O. 3847(E), dated the 9th September, 2024, notifying Smt. Farida M. Naik, Joint Secretary to the Government of India as the "Designated Officer".
 - (4) S.O. 3929(E), dated the 13th September, 2024, notifying M/s GMMCO Technology Services Limited under 'Category A Exploration Agencies'.
 - (5) S.O. 4561(E), dated the 17th October, 2024, notifying M/s Envirogreen Consultants (India) Private Limited under "Category 'A' Exploration Agencies".
4. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Mines, under sub-section (3) of Section 35 of the Offshore Areas Mineral (Development and Regulation) Act, 2002: -
- (1) G.S.R. 490(E), dated the 9th August, 2024, publishing the Offshore Areas Mineral Trust Rules, 2024.
 - (2) G.S.R. 502(E), dated the 14th August, 2024, publishing the Offshore Areas Mineral (Auction) Rules, 2024.
 - (3) G.S.R. 646(E), dated the 16th October, 2024, publishing the Offshore Areas Operating Right Rules, 2024.
5. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Mines Notification No. S.O. 3246(E), dated the 10th August, 2024, establishing the Offshore Areas Mineral Trust constituting the Governing Body and Executive Committee, issued under sub-section (1) of Section 16A of the Offshore Areas Mineral (Development and Regulation) Act, 2002.
6. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Mines Notification No. S.O. 3648(E), dated the 28th August, 2024, notifying Shri Vivek Kumar Bajpai, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Mines as the administering authority for the purpose of the Offshore Areas Mineral (Development and Regulation) Act, 2002, issued under clause (a) of Section 4 of the said Act.
7. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Mines Notification No. S.O. 4760(E), dated the 29th October, 2024, amending the First Schedule to the Offshore Areas Mineral (Development and Regulation) Act, 2002, issued under sub-section (2) of Section 16 of the said Act.

8. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Mines Notification No. S.O. 4819(E), dated the 6th November, 2024, declaring that various parts of the offshore area along with the coordinates of the boundary points, as mentioned therein, shall be available for grant of composite licence, issued under Section 10 of the Offshore Areas Mineral (Development and Regulation) Act, 2002.
9. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (1) (b) of Section 394 of the Companies Act, 2013: -
- (i) (a) Forty-third Annual Report and Accounts of the National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO), Bhubaneswar, Odisha, for the year 2023-24, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
 - (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Company.
 - (ii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Hindustan Copper Limited (HCL), Kolkata, West Bengal, for the year 2023-24, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
 - (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Company.
10. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (1) (b) of Section 394 of the Companies Act, 2013: -
- (i) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Balmer Lawrie and Co. Limited, Kolkata, West Bengal, for the year 2023-24, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
 - (b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.
 - (ii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Balmer Lawrie Investments Limited (BLIL), Kolkata, West Bengal, for the year 2023-24, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
 - (b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.
 - (iii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Engineers India Limited (EIL), New Delhi, for the year 2023-24, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
 - (b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.
11. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers: -
- (i) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas) and M/s Balmer Lawrie & Co. Ltd., Kolkata, West Bengal, for the year 2024-25.
 - (ii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas) and Engineers India Limited, for the year 2024-25.
12. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (1) (b) of Section 394 of the Companies Act, 2013: -
- (i) (a) Third Annual Report and Accounts of the India Optel Limited (IOL), Dehradun, Uttarakhand, for the year 2023-24, together with the Auditor's Report

on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Company.
- (ii) (a) Third Annual Report and Accounts of the Armoured Vehicles Nigam Limited (AVNL), Chennai, Tamil Nadu, for the year 2023-24, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Company.
- (iii) (a) Third Annual Report and Accounts of the Gliders India Limited (GIL), Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh, for the year 2023-24, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Company.
- (iv) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Troop Comforts Limited (TCL), Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh, for the year 2023-24, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Company.
- (v) (a) Third Annual Report and Accounts of Yantra India Limited (YIL), Nagpur, Maharashtra, for the year 2023-24, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Foundation.
- (vi) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Limited (GRSE), Kolkata, West Bengal, for the year 2023-24, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
(b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.
- (vii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Goa Shipyard Limited (GSL), Vasco-da-Gama, Goa, for the year 2023-24, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
(b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.
- (viii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL), Mumbai, Maharashtra, for the year 2023-24, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
(b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.
- (ix) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Hindustan Shipyard Limited (HSL), Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh, for the year 2023-24, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

- (b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.
 - (x) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Mishra Dhatu Nigam Limited (MIDHANI), Hyderabad, Telangana, for the year 2023-24, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
 - (b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.
 - (xi) (a) Fifty-fourth Annual Report and Accounts of the Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL), Hyderabad, Telangana, for the year 2023-24, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
 - (b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.
 - (xii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the BEL Optronics Devices Limited, Pune, Maharashtra, for the year 2023-24, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
 - (b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.
 - (xiii) (a) Third Annual Report and Accounts of Munitions India Limited (MIL), Pune, Maharashtra, for the year 2023-24, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
 - (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Company.
13. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the following papers: -
- (i) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of National Maritime Foundation (NMF), New Delhi, for the year 2022-23, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
 - (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Foundation.
 - (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above.
 - (ii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Defence Institute of Advanced Technology, (DIAT), Pune, Maharashtra, for the year 2023-24, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
 - (b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.
 - (iii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Nehru Institute of Mountaineering, (NIM), Uttarkashi, Uttarakhand, for the year 2023-24, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
 - (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute.
 - (iv) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Jawahar Institute of Mountaineering and Winter Sports, (JIM&WS), Pahalgam, U.T. of Jammu and Kashmir, for the year 2023-24, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
 - (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute.
 - (v) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Aeronautical Development Agency (ADA), Bengaluru, Karnataka, for the year 2022-23, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

- (b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above.
14. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers: -
- (i) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Department of Defence Production, Ministry of Defence) and the Hindustan Shipyard Limited, (HSL), Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh, for the year 2024-25.
 - (ii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Department of Defence Production, Ministry of Defence) and the Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL), Bengaluru, Karnataka, for the year 2024-25.
 - (iii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Department of Defence Production, Ministry of Defence) and the Goa Shipyard Limited (GSL), Goa, for the year 2024-25.
 - (iv) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Department of Defence Production, Ministry of Defence) and the Mishra Dhatu Nigam Limited, Hyderabad, Telangana, for the year 2024-25.
 - (v) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Department of Defence Production, Ministry of Defence) and the Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers Limited (GRSE), Kolkata, West Bengal, for the year 2024-25.
 - (vi) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Department of Defence Production, Ministry of Defence) and Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL), Hyderabad, Telangana, for the year 2024-25.
 - (vii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Department of Defence Production, Ministry of Defence) and the Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDSL), Mumbai, Maharashtra, for the year 2024-25
15. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Annual Statement of discretionary out of turn allotments made in accordance with the guidelines issued *vide* Directorate of Estates O.M. No.12035/2/97-Pol.II (Pt. II) dated the 17th November, 1997, for 5% vacancies occurring in each type of General Pool Residential Accommodation in a calendar year, for the year ending 2023.
16. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Minority Affairs Notification No. G.S.R. 369(E)., dated the 5th July, 2024, publishing the Haj Committee (Amendment) Rules, 2024, under sub-section (3) of Section 44 of the Haj Committee Act, 2002.
17. (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (4) of Section 34 of the Haj Committee Act, 2002: -
- (a) Administrative Report of the Haj Committee of India, Mumbai, Maharashtra, for the year 2022-23.
 - (b) Annual Accounts of the Haj Committee of India, Mumbai, Maharashtra for the year 2022-23, and the Audit Report thereon.
 - (c) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.
- (2) Statement (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

18. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue), together with Explanatory Memoranda:—

- (1) Notification No. 29/2024-Central Excise dated 2nd December, 2024 seeking to rescind notification No. 03/2022-Central Excise to 07/2022- Central Excise and No. 9/2022 -Central Excise all dated 30th June, 2022 to withdraw Special Additional Excise Duty (SAED) on production of Petroleum Crude falling under heading 2709 and on export of Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF) falling under heading 2170, motor spirit, commonly known as petrol, falling under heading 2710 and high speed diesel oil falling under heading 2710, under sub-section 2 of Section 38 of Central Excise.
- (2) Notification No. 30/2024- Central Excise dated 2nd December, 2024 seeking to rescind notification No. 10/2022-Central Excise and No. 11/2022 Central Excise both dated the 30th June, 2022 to withdraw rate of Road and Infrastructure Cess (RIC) on export of motor spirit, commonly known as petrol, falling under heading 2710 and high speed diesel oil falling under heading 2710, under sub-section 2 of Section 38 of Central Excise.

11-09 a.m.

3. Reports of the Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Consumer Affairs, Food And Public Distribution (2024-2025)

Shrimati Ranjeet Ranjan laid on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Reports of the Department related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution:-

- (i) First Report on Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/ Recommendations contained in the Thirty Seventh Report of the Committee (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) on 'Initiatives in the North- East in the field of Consumer Rights Protection' pertaining to the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (Department of Consumer Affairs);
- (ii) Second Report on Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/ Recommendations contained in the Thirty Eighth Report of the Committee (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) on 'Functioning of Warehousing Development and Regulatory Authority (WDRA)' pertaining to the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (Department of Food and Public Distribution);
- (iii) Third Report on Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/ Recommendations contained in the Thirty Ninth Report of the Committee (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) on 'Regulation of Weights and Measures with specific reference to Dispensing Machines at Fuel Stations' pertaining to the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (Department of Consumer Affairs); and
- (iv) Fourth Report on Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/ Recommendations contained in the Fortieth Report of the Committee (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) 'Transforming Fair Price Shops' pertaining to the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (Department of Food and Public Distribution).

11-10 a.m.

4. Leave of Absence

Dr. Medha Vishram Kulkarni, Member was granted Leave of Absence from 27th November to 20th December, 2024 during the current 266th Session of Rajya Sabha due to personal reasons.

⊗11-14 a.m.

5. Observations by the Chair

The Chairman made the following observations: -

“Hon’ble Members may recall that the issue has been adverted by me on several occasions and at great length as regards operational areas of Rule 267. This was done first on 8th December, 2022 and then elaborately later on 19th December, 2022. The reiteration has taken place on a number of occasions. Having bestowed attention on these notices, I find they do not call for admittance at my end, and, therefore, are not acceded to. Hon’ble Members, you all are undoubtedly cognizant of Murphy's law, which indicates that “Anything that can go wrong will go wrong”. It appears that there exists a deliberate algorithm to actualize Murphy's Law in this august House consequently impeding the proper functioning of Parliament. We find ourselves achieving precisely the antithesis of what our Constitution ordains in reverence to the framers of our Constitution and the innumerable patriots who made supreme sacrifice. I implore this House to permit me to proceed with the Business listed on today's agenda. Hon’ble Members, what we are doing is a spectacle to people's absolute distaste. I appeal to you in the name of framers of the Constitution, people of this country, to allow the Parliament to function. Don't make it dysfunctional.”

△11-16 a.m.

The House adjourned and re-assembled at 12-00 Noon

12-00 Noon

6. Starred Questions

Answers to Starred Question Nos. 61 to 75 were laid on the Table.

Answers to Starred Question Nos. 46 to 60 put down in the List of Questions for oral answers for November 29, 2024, were also laid on the Table.

7. Unstarred Questions

Answers to Unstarred Question Nos. 641 to 800 were, laid on the Table.

Answers to Unstarred Question Nos. 481 to 640 put down in the List of Questions for written answers for November 29, 2024, were also laid on the Table.

⊗From 11-11 a.m. to 11-14 a.m. – some points were raised.

△From 11-15 a.m. to 11-16 a.m. – some points were raised.

&12-02 p.m.

The House adjourned till 11-00 a.m. on Tuesday, 3rd December, 2024.

(Due to gross disorderly conduct in violation of the rules and etiquette of Rajya Sabha by some Members, who disobeyed the instructions of the Chair and obstructed the proceedings of the House, the Chair adjourned the House at 11-15 a.m. and at 12-02 p.m. for the day)

P. C. MODY,
Secretary-General

&From 12-00 Noon to 12-02 p.m. – some points were raised.