RAJYA SABHA

Parliamentary Bulletin

PART - I

(TWO HUNDRED AND SIXTY SIXTH SESSION)

No. 5743]

MONDAY, DECEMBER 09, 2024

Brief Record of the Proceedings of the Meeting of the Rajya Sabha held on the 9th December, 2024

11-00 a.m.

1. Birthday Greetings

The Chairman extended greetings to Shrimati Sonia Gandhi, Member, on the occasion of her birthday.

11-04 a.m.

2. Papers Laid on the Table

- 1. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers: -
 - (a) Annual Report of the National Statistical Commission (NSC), New Delhi, for the year 2022-23.
 - (b) Action Taken Report on the recommendations contained in the above said Report.
 - (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above.
- 2. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers: -
 - (a) Sixty-first Annual Report and Accounts of the National Institute of Labour Economics Research and Development (NILERD), Delhi, 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.
 - (c) Progress Report of the above Institute for the year 2023-24.
- 3. 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 Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL), 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.

- (ii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL), 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.
- (iii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL), 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.
- (iv) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Indian Strategic Petroleum Reserves Limited (ISPRL), 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.
- (v) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Bharat PetroResources Limited (BPRL), 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.
- (vi) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the ONGC Videsh Limited (OVL), 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.
- 4. 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-ninth Annual Report and Accounts of the India Tourism Development Corporation Limited (ITDC), 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.
- (ii) (a) Thirty-eighth Annual Report and Accounts of the Pondicherry Ashok Hotel Corporation Limited (PAHCL), UT of Puducherry, 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) Twenty-sixth Annual Report and Accounts of the Punjab Ashok Hotel Company Limited (PAHCL), Chandigarh, Punjab, 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) Forty-first Annual Report and Accounts of the Ranchi Ashok Bihar Hotel Corporation Limited (RABHCL), Patna, Bihar, 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.
- (v) (a) Forty-first Annual Report and Accounts of the Utkal Ashok Hotel Corporation Limited (UAHCL), Puri, 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 Corporation.
- (vi) (a) Twenty-third Annual Report and Accounts of the Kumarakruppa Frontier Hotels Private Limited (KFHPL), 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 Company.
- 5. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Statements showing action taken by the Government on the various assurances, promises and undertakings given during the Session shown against each: -

Statement No. XXXVIII Two Hundred Twentieth, 2010 Statement No. XXXV Two Hundred Twenty Third, 2011 3. Statement No. XXXI Two Hundred Twenty Fourth, 2011 4. Statement No. XXXI Two Hundred Twenty Seventh, 2012 Two Hundred Twenty Eighth, 2013 Statement No.XXXIII Statement No.XXVIII Two Hundred Thirty Eighth, 2016 7. Statement No.XIV Two Hundred Thirty Ninth, 2016 Statement No.XXI Two Hundred Fortieth, 2016 Two Hundred Forty first, 2016 Statement No.XXIII 10. Statement No.XXIII Two Hundred Forty Second, 2017 11. Statement No.XX Two Hundred Forty Fifth, 2018 12. Statement No.XXIII Two Hundred Forty Sixth, 2018 13. Statement No.XVII Two Hundred Forty Ninth, 2019 14. Statement No.XVIII Two Hundred Fiftieth, 2019 15. Statement No.XVIII Two Hundred Fifty First, 2020 Two Hundred Fifty Second, 2020 16. Statement No.XIV 17. Statement No.XVII Two Hundred Fifty Third, 2021 18. Statement No.XV Two Hundred Fifty Fourth, 2021 19. Statement No.VIII Two Hundred Fifty Fifth, 2021 20. Two Hundred Fifty Sixth, 2022 Statement No.XIII 21. Statement No.VIII Two Hundred Fifty Seventh, 2022 22. Statement No.VIII Two Hundred Fifty Eighth, 2022 23. Statement No.VII Two Hundred Fifty Ninth, 2023 24. Statement No.V Two Hundred Sixtieth, 2023 25. Statement No.IV Two Hundred Sixty Second, 2023 26. Statement No.III Two Hundred Sixty Third, 2024 27. Statement No.I Two Hundred Sixty Fifth, 2024

- 6. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (1) (b) of Section 394 of the Companies Act, 2013: -
 - (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL), Bengaluru, Karnataka, 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.
- 7. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers: -
- (i) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the National Institute of Mountaineering & Adventure Sports (NIMAS), Dirang, Arunachal Pradesh, 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.
- (ii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Himalayan Mountaineering Institute (HMI), Darjeeling, West Bengal, for the year 2023-24, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
 - (b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.
- 8. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs Notification No. G.S.R. 609(E)., dated the 8th October, 2024, notifying the pre-determined rates of premium chargeable for different uses/locations for the year 2022-23, as mentioned therein, framed under Rule 2 (i) of the Delhi Development Authority (Disposal of Developed Nazul Land) Rules, 1981.
- 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) Annual Report and Accounts of the Maharashtra Metro Rail Corporation Limited, 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 Corporation.
- (ii) (a) Sixty-fourth Annual Report and Account of the NBCC (INDIA) LTD., 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 Corporation.
- (iii) (a) Forty-first Annual Report and Accounts of the HSCC (India) Limited, NOIDA, Uttar Pradesh, [A subsidiary of NBCC (India) Limited], 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) Sixtieth Annual Report and Accounts of the Hindustan Steelworks Construction Limited (HSCL), 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.

- (v) (a) Eighteenth Annual Report and Accounts of the Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL), Bengaluru, Karnataka, 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.
- (vi) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the National Capital Region Transport Corporation Limited, (NCRTC), 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.
- (vii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation Limited (DMRC), 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.
- (viii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Noida Metro Rail Corporation Limited (NMRC), Noida, 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.
- (ix) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Uttar Pradesh Metro Rail Corporation Limited (UPMRCL), Lucknow, 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.
- 10. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under Section 19 and subsection (4) of Section 20 of the Delhi Urban Art Commission Act, 1973: -
 - (a) Annual Report of the Delhi Urban Art Commission (DUAC), New Delhi, for the year 2023-24.
 - (b) Annual Accounts of the Delhi Urban Art Commission (DUAC), New Delhi, for the year 2023-24, and the Audit Report thereon.
 - (c) Review by Government on the working of the above Commission.
- 11. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers: -
 - (a) Thirty-fourth Annual Report and Accounts of the Central Government Employees Welfare Housing Organisation (CGEWHO), New Delhi, for the year 2023-24, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
 - (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Organization.
- 12. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs) and the Housing and Urban Development Corporation Limited (HUDCO), New Delhi for the year 2024-25.

- 13. (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) Annual Report and Accounts of the Pawan Hans Limited, Noida, Uttar Pradesh, for the year 2022-23, 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 Rohini Heliport Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2022-23, 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.
- (2) Statement (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.
- 14. 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) Sixty-eighth Annual Report and Accounts of the NLC India Limited (NLCIL), 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) Twelfth Annual Report and Accounts of the Neyveli Uttar Pradesh Power Ltd., Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh a subsidiary company of the NLC India Limited, 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.
 - (c) Eighteenth Annual Report and Accounts of the NLC Tamil Nadu Power Limited (NTPL), Chennai, Tamil Nadu, a subsidiary company of the NLC India Limited, 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.
 - (d) First Annual Report and Accounts of the NLC India Green Energy Limited, Chennai, Tamil Nadu, a subsidiary company of the NLC India Limited, 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.
 - (e) First Annual Report and Accounts of the NLC India Renewables Limited, Chennai, Tamil Nadu, a subsidiary company of the NLC India Limited, 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.
 - (f) Review by Government on the working of the above Company and its subsidiaries.
- (ii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Coal India Limited (CIL), Kolkata, [Volume-I and Volume-II (Part 1, 2, 3 and 4)], along with its subsidiary companies, 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.

11-06 a.m.

3. Statement of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Rural Development and Panchayati Raj

Shri Sant Balbir Singh laid on the Table, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Statement on Thirty-Sixth Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Rural Development and Panchayati Raj on Action Taken by the Government on recommendations contained in Thirty-second Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) on "Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana - (PMGSY)" (2022-23) pertaining to the Ministry of Rural Development (Department of Rural Development).

11-07 a.m.

4. Statements of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

Shrimati Sumitra Balmik laid on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Statements of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (2024-25):-

- (i) Final action taken statement of the Government on the recommendations contained in chapter I of the Twenty-eighth Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee on "Reservation for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Public Sector Oil Companies and Status of allotment of Petrol and Gas agencies (CNG, PNG, LPG etc) and other related Agencies/ Units to Schedule Castes and Scheduled Tribes"; and
- (ii) Final action taken statement of the Government on the recommendations contained in chapter I of the Twenty-ninth Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee on "Review of Functioning of National Scheduled Castes Finance & Development Corporation (NSFDC)."

11-08 a.m.

5. Observations by the Chair

The Chairman made the following observations: -

(i) "Hon'ble Members, as we gather in this august House today, from the Chair I seek to reflect upon a historic milestone in our country's journey towards democracy.

The first sitting of the Constituent Assembly of India was held on this very day, the 9th of December in the year 1946, after its constitution on the 6th December, 1946. This moment mark the beginning of the profound task of crafting the Constitution of India, a document that stands as a corner-stone of our Democratic Republic.

The first meeting of the Constituent Assembly was chaired by Dr. Sachchidananda Sinha who was then the oldest Member and also the oldest parliamentarian in India having served as Member of the Imperial Legislative Council from the year 1910 and also in the Central Legislative Assembly from 1921.

The Constituent Assembly received three messages of felicitations from America, China and Australia which were read out by the Chairman then.

Under the leadership of stalwarts, such as Dr. Rajendra Prasad, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, the Assembly undertook the monumental task of debating and drafting provisions that would guide the destiny of an independent India.

They did so with unwavering commitment, often transcending personal and ideological differences in the spirit of nation-building.

This House, the Rajya Sabha, derives its strength and purpose from the very principles enshrined in the Indian Constitution. It is our duty and constitutional ordainment, as Members of Parliament, to uphold and protect these principles, ensuring that the aspirations of those who came before us continue to resonate in the policies and practices of today.

Let us take inspiration from the vision and dedication that the Members of the Constituent Assembly exemplified. Their debates remind us of the value of constructive dialogue, mutual respect and harmony in the House, which are essential for the functioning of parliamentary democracy.

Hon'ble Members, as we recall the import and significance of this momentous and seminal situation in our history, let us also renew our pledge and commitment to serve the people of India with integrity and diligence, ever mindful of the sacrifices that made our democratic journey possible.

It is an occasion for us to commit and resolve that our actions will be exemplified keeping in view the Preamble of the Indian Constitution, and our dialogue and discourse will be attended with respect for one another in a spirit of deep understanding. I am sure the Hon'ble Members will display very high standards in parliamentary proceedings and functioning so as to be a role model for legislatures all over the country."

 $^{\Psi}$ (ii) "I would appeal to all the Members of the House to carefully consider the oath of the Constitution they have taken. Their oath is very specific. They have to ensure integrity of the nation on a priority basis. Any challenge to the unity of the nation, to the integrity of the nation, from within or outside, requires all of us to offer united challenge. This is not a challenge to one section or the other. This is a challenge to our very existence. We, as a nation, are committed to fight these sinister forces, these forces that are inimicable to India. This inimical force mechanism, a deep state that is evolving, is required to be neutralized by all of us.

I would appeal to the Hon'ble Members to share the sentiments of the people at large. People at large are extremely concerned. All divisive forces, all forces that are pernicious to the concept of Bharat, all forces that have sinister design to run down our democracy, to bring down our progress, to impede our economic upsurge, have to be defeated by us. That is the sentiment which 1.4 billion people share. That sentiment has to emanate from this House also. This House, at this critical moment, when the country is facing such serious challenges, must send a united voice to motivate the people at large, inspire the people, so that these forces are defeated. We, in this country, that is rising at a very fast pace, cannot afford to either countenance or overlook such kind of evil designs, and our conduct should be such that people get more interest in our Parliament. If dialogue in Parliament does not share the sentiments of the people at large, the Parliament will get into irrelevance. It is fundamental for Parliament to debate such serious challenges that the nation is facing from forces that are determined to run down our country by employing various mechanisms. The functioning of the deep state

^ΨAt 3-02 p.m.

has been noticed. It affects us more perniciously than COVID disease. This is an occasion where the entire nation needs to speak in one voice. The nation must give a direction to the people at large, so that all enemies of Bharat, within or outside, are taught a lesson never to venture in a misadventure to challenge our integrity, our sovereignty, and impede our progress. I am sure the Members from both sides will soul-search themselves, live up to their oath, and set an example to the nation that we are first Indians and the nation is first for us. Our commitment to nationalism has to be 100 per cent. We shall not allow our nationalism to go down. We will not bear any challenge to our unity, integrity and sovereignty."

≠11-15 p.m.

6. Ruling by the Chair

Hon'ble Members, a point of order collaterally has been raised that Rule 267 of our Rules is invokeable not by the Treasury Benches. This is a matter on which I seek to give my ruling. If you go through Rule 267, the Rule is very explicit. The Rule bestows a Member of this House to give notice and does not make any distinction whatsoever between a Member on account of she or he belonging to a political party and, therefore, I have not declined notices on the premise that they come from the Treasury Benches, nor have I ever declined notice on the premise that they come from the Opposition Benches. There can be conceivable situations when a Member belonging to the Treasury Benches – these are the combinations which are there – can also feel it expedient to invite the attention of the Chair that the Business of the House should not be taken up and precedence be given to the subject matter of Rule 267. As a matter of fact, let me remind Hon'ble Members, and I have put it in one of my rulings also, that there have been occasions when all sections of the House have felt it expedient to suspend working of the House as regards the normal Business and take up an issue of great import. Therefore, declining of notices is on account of procedural failures and not enough to invoke my discretion."

 Ψ 11-37 a.m.

7. Matters raised with Permission

1. Dr. Laxmikant Bajpayee raised a matter demand to constitute a special Commission to protect the rights of patients and doctors.

∆11-42 a.m.

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

[≠]From 11-11 a.m. to 11-15 a.m. – some points were raised.

^ΨFrom 11-17 a.m. to 11-37 a.m. – some points were raised.

[∆]From 11-38 a.m. to 11-42 a.m. – some points were raised.

12-00 Noon

8. Starred Questions

Answers to Starred Question Nos. 136 to 150 were, laid on the Table.

9. Unstarred Questions

Answers to Unstarred Question Nos. 1441 to 1600 were, laid on the Table.

∀12-14 p.m.

The House adjourned and re-assembled at 2-00 p.m.

#2-01 p.m.

10. Government Bill — Under Consideration

The Banking Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2024

Shri Pankaj Chaudhary, Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance moved motion for consideration of the Bill.

The discussion had not commenced.

&2-09 p.m.

The House adjourned and re-assembled at 3-00 p.m.

Ø3-08 p.m.

The House adjourned till 11-00 a.m. on Tuesday, 10th 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 11-42 a.m., 12-14 p.m., 2-09 p.m. and 3-08 p.m. for the day)

P. C. MODY, Secretary-General

[∀]From 12-00 Noon to 12-14 p.m. – some points were raised.

[#] From 2-00 p.m. to 2-01 p.m. – some points were raised.

[&]amp;From 2-02 p.m. to 2-09 p.m. – some points were raised.

[∞]From 3-00 p.m. to 3-02 p.m. – some points were raised, From 3-02 p.m. to 3-04 – pl. see item no. 5(ii) and From 3-04 p.m. to 3-08 p.m. – some points were raised.