FIRST SESSION
18th LOK SABHA



Lok Sabha Secretariat

June 2024

INTRODUCTION

The Seventeenth Lok Sabha was dissolved by the President of India, Smt. Droupadi Murmu, on 5 June 2024, marking the commencement of the Eighteenth Lok Sabha. Notably, 280 Members, representing a majority of the House, have been elected to the Lok Sabha for the first time. Of these new Members, 44 are women, bringing the total number of women in the present Lok Sabha to 74 - a significant milestone in the representation of women in Indian Parliament.

REGISTRATION OF NEWLY ELECTED MEMBERS

Elaborate arrangements were made by the Lok Sabha Secretariat for registration of the newly elected Members of Parliament. Arrangements were made for ensuring seamless and paperless registration of Members in Delhi. Guideposts were set up at major Railway Stations and at the Indira Gandhi International Airport Terminals from 4 June to 14 June 2024 to receive the Members and arrange for their registration. 20 digital registration counters, with necessary equipment were set up to facilitate the registration process. An online integrated software application was devised for the ease of Members. The software application was programmed to capture all relevant data including biometric data necessary for issuance of Parliament Identity Card, CGHS card, SIM card, Car Parking Label and Fastag and opening of bank account. A software was put in place for allotment of Transit Accommodation to the Members in the Western Court Annexe/Hostel or State Bhawans/Guest Houses. Members were also provided with a set of useful parliamentary publications in hard copies.

FIRST SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH LOK SABHA

The President of India, by summons dated 12 June 2024, convened the Eighteenth Lok Sabha to meet on 24 June 2024. Accordingly, the First Session of the Eighteenth Lok Sabha commenced on 24 June and concluded on 2 July 2024. During the Session, the House held seven sittings, transacting business for a total duration of 34 hours and 17 minutes. To complete the listed agenda, the House sat beyond the scheduled hours on

several occasions, devoting an additional seven hours and 32 minutes. The overall productivity of the House during the Session was approximately 105 per cent.

On 24 June 2024, the newly constituted Eighteenth Lok Sabha met for its first sitting at 11 a.m. The proceedings commenced with the playing of the National Anthem. Shri Bhartruhari Mahtab, who had been appointed Speaker pro tem by the President on 20 June 2024 and had already taken oath before the President, presided over the sitting. The Speaker pro tem welcomed Members to the new Lok Sabha and expressed confidence that they would extend their cooperation to the Chair in upholding the highest parliamentary traditions. Thereafter, the Secretary-General laid on the Table a list containing the names of Members elected to the Eighteenth Lok Sabha, as furnished by the Election Commission of India.

The sittings of the House held on 24 and 25 June 2024 were primarily devoted to the Members making and subscribing the Oath or Affirmation. The Speaker pro tem was assisted in this task by the Members of the Panel of Chairpersons, namely Shri Suresh Kodikunnil, Shri T. R. Baalu, Shri Radha Mohan Singh, Shri Faggan Singh Kulaste and Shri Sudip Bandyopadhyay, who had been appointed by the President on 20 June 2024 as persons before whom Members could make and subscribe the Oath or Affirmation. During the sittings on these two days, 534 Members took the Oath or made the Affirmation, signed the Roll of Members, and took their seats in the House. Additional Members completed this formality on subsequent days. In all, 539 Members made and subscribed the Oath or Affirmation during the Session.

Election of the Speaker

On 26 June 2024, the House took up the election of the Speaker. The motion proposing Shri Om Birla as Speaker was moved by Shri Narendra Modi and seconded by Shri Rajnath Singh. In all, 13 motions were submitted in support of Shri Om Birla's candidature. Shri Arvind Ganpat Sawant also moved a motion proposing Shri Kodikunnil Suresh as Speaker, which was seconded by Shri N. K. Premachandran. In total, three motions were moved in support of Shri Kodikunnil Suresh.

The Speaker pro tem put to vote the motion moved by Shri Narendra Modi and seconded by Shri Rajnath Singh. The motion was adopted, and Shri Om Birla was elected as the Speaker of the Lok Sabha. Following his election, the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, Shri Rahul Gandhi, and the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Minister of Minority Affairs, Shri Kiren Rijiju, escorted Shri Om Birla to the Chair. The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs then expressed appreciation on behalf of the House to the Speaker pro tem, the Panel of Chairpersons, the Secretary-General, and the staff of the Lok Sabha Secretariat for their valuable contribution in ensuring the timely completion of the proceedings. Upon assuming office, Shri Om Birla was felicitated by the Prime Minister and the Leaders of various parties and groups in the House.

Introduction of Ministers: After the reply of the Speaker to the felicitations, the Prime Minister introduced the members of the Union Council of Ministers to the House.

Address by the President and Motion of Thanks

Being the first Session of the newly constituted Lok Sabha, the President of India, Smt. Droupadi Murmu, addressed the Members of both Houses of Parliament assembled in the Chamber of the Lok Sabha on 27 June 2024 at 11.00 hrs. A copy of the President's Address was laid on the Table of the House half an hour after the commencement of the Address, following which the House was adjourned for the day.

The Motion of Thanks to the President for her Address was moved by Shri Anurag Singh Thakur on 1 July 2024 and seconded by Kumari Bansuri Swaraj. The discussion on the Motion was held over 1 and 2 July 2024, during which 70 Members participated in a debate lasting 18 hours and 48 minutes. A total of 63 Members submitted their written speeches, which were laid on the Table of the House.

On 2 July 2024, the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, replied to the debate. The Motion of Thanks to the President for her Address was adopted on the same day, after all amendments moved had been negatived.

Introduction of the Leader of Opposition: On 27 June, Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha recognised Shri Rahul Gandhi as the Leader of the Opposition.

Panel of Chairpersons: On 1 July 2024, under Rule 9 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, the following Members were nominated to the Panel of Chairpersons: Shri Jagdambika Pal, Shri P. C. Mohan, Smt. Sandhya Ray, Shri Dilip Saikia, Kumari Selja, Shri A. Raja, Dr. Kakoli Ghosh Dastidar, Shri Krishna Prasad Tenneti, and Shri Awadhesh Prasad.

REFERENCES

Obituary References:

During the Session, references were made to the passing away of former Members, namely Sarvashri Manohar Joshi, Brahma Nand Mandal, Jai Bhadra Singh, D. Venugopal, C.P.M. Giriyappa, A. Ganeshamurthi, Kunwar Sarvesh Kumar, Rajveer Diler, V. Srinivas Prasad, M. Selvaraj, Sushil Kumar Modi, Prataprao B. Bhosale, P.M. Subba, and Dr. Shafiqur Rehman Barq.

On 1 July 2024, references were also made to the passing away of

- H.E. Dr. Seyyed Ebrahim Raisi, President of the Islamic Republic of Iran, along with the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Dr. Hossein Amir Abdollahian, and other Iranian officials in the tragic air accident on 19 May 2024;
- H.E. Alhaj Ali Hassan Mwinyi, former President of the United Republic of Tanzania, in Dar Es Salaam on 29 February 2024; and
- H.E. Dr. Saulos Klaus Chilima, Vice-President of the Republic of Malawi.

The House observed a short silence as a mark of respect in memory of the departed.

OTHER REFERENCES:

On 26 June 2024, reference was made to the proclamation of Emergency in the country on 25 June 1975, followed by a short silence by Members.

On 1 July 2024, reference was made to the two Air India planes flying from Canada to India that were targeted by terrorists on 23 June 1985. Members then stood in silence as a mark of respect.

Felicitation by the Speaker: The Speaker on behalf of the House congratulated the Captain and the Indian Cricket Team on their historic win in the Men's T-20 Cricket World Cup, 2024 defeating South Africa on 29 June 2024 in Barbados, West Indies.

Resignation by Member : Shri Rahul Gandhi, an elected Member of Lok Sabha from two Constituencies viz Wayanad and Rae Bareli Parliamentary Constituencies of Kerala and Uttar Pradesh respectively, resigned his seat in Lok Sabha from Wayanad Parliamentary Constituency of Kerala and his resignation was accepted by the Speaker with effect from 18 June 2024.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

- **Bills and Motions:** No Government Bill was introduced/discussed during the Session.
- **Private Members' Bills:** No day was allotted for the transaction of Private Members' Business during the first session of Eighteenth Lok Sabha. However, a total of 42 Private Members' Bills/Notices of Bills were received during the Session.
- **Statement made by Minister and Papers laid on the Table of the House:** Three Statements were made by Ministers under Direction 73 (A) and 338 papers were laid on the Table.
- **Matters under Rule 377:** During the session a total number of 41 matters were taken up under Rule 377.

CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAMMES

- **Parliamentary Research and Information Support to Members (PRISM):**

During the period, the Parliamentary Research and Training Institute for Democracies (PRIDE) organized several training programmes, including:

- Study Tour on Digitization in Lok Sabha Secretariat for Bihar Legislative Assembly officers (8–9 May 2024)
- Training for officials of People's Majlis, Maldives (6–10 May 2024)
- Capacity Building for officials of National Assembly Service Commission (NASC), Nigeria (7–9 May 2024)
- Drafting of Committee Reports and Committee Management for officers of Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha, and State Legislatures (14–17 May 2024)
- Training on Organizational Leadership and Team Building for supervisory officers of Lok Sabha Secretariat (22 May 2024)
- Protocol, Coordination and Liaison capacity building for officials of Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha, and State Legislatures (5–7 June 2024), among others.

Other Events

- **Inauguration of Prerna Sthal in Parliament Premises:** On 16 June 2024, the Vice President of India, Shri Jagdeep Dhankhar, inaugurated the Prerna Sthal at Samvidhan Sadan in the presence of Shri Om Birla, Shri Harivansh, Shri Kiren Rijiju, Members of both Houses, and officials of the Secretariat.

- **10th International Yoga Day:** On the occasion of the 10th International Yoga Day on 21 June 2024, Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Om Birla led Yoga Abhyas in the Parliament House Complex. Shri Birla also addressed the gathering on the occasion.

The First Session of the Eighteenth Lok Sabha was adjourned sine die on 2 July 2024 after playing of the National Song and the House was prorogued by the President of India on 4 July 2024.