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EDITOR: T.K. Viswanathan

The Journal of Parliamentary Information, a quarterly publication brought out by the Lok Sabha Secretariat, aims at the dissemination of authoritative information about the practices and procedures in Indian and foreign Legislatures. The Journal serves as an authentic recorder of important parliamentary events and activities. It provides a useful forum to members of Parliament and State Legislatures and other experts for the expression of their views and opinions, thereby contributing to the development and strengthening of parliamentary democracy in the country.

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EDITORIAL NOTE

On 20 December 2011, the Prime Minister of Bhutan, Mr. Lyonchhen Jigmi Y. Thinley, delivered the 4th Prof. Hiren Mukerjee Memorial Annual Parliamentary Lecture on "Gross National Happiness: A Holistic Paradigm for Sustainable Well-being" in the Central Hall of the Parliament House. Explaining the philosophy of Gross National Happiness, Mr. Thinley said that it enshrines a unique model of holistic development based on the four key strategies: sustainable and equitable socio-economic development; conservation of environment; preservation and promotion of culture and promotion of good governance.

Speaking on the occasion, the Vice-President of India and Chairman of Rajya Sabha, Shri Mohammad Hamid Ansari, highlighted the importance of such a system and even advocated the pursuit of happiness as an essential ingredient of a holistic approach to sustainable development. Emphasizing the importance of the concept of Gross National Happiness, the Prime Minister of India, Dr. Manmohan Singh said that "the power of this idea today finds increasing acceptance and I believe that we have a lot to learn from it". Delivering the Welcome Address, the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar observed that happiness is the ultimate end desired by all humans and all socio-economic policies and development strategies are means to achieve that end. We include the texts of these Addresses in this issue of the *Journal*.

The 22nd Annual Commonwealth Parliamentary Seminar was held in New Delhi from 25 to 29 November 2011. Inaugurating the Conference, the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar observed that as elected representatives, it is the responsibility of parliamentarians to restore and strengthen people's trust and confidence in democratic institutions and processes. The culture of ethical growth, self-correction and uprightness must emanate from our representative institutions. We include the text of the Inaugural Addresses of the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar in this issue of the *Journal.*

The Speaker, Lok Sabha Smt. Meira Kumar attended the 21st Conference of Speakers and Presiding Officers of Commonwealth in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago in January 2012 and was the keynote Speaker in the Workshop on 'The Role of Parliamentary Diplomacy in the era of globalization." We reproduce the Paper presented by her at the Conference in this issue of the *Journal.*

We also carry in this issue, the other regular features, *viz*. Parliamentary Events and Activities, Procedural Matters, Parliamentary and Constitutional Developments, Documents of Constitutional and Parliamentary Interest, Sessional Review, Recent Literature of Parliamentary Interest and Appendices.

In our constant pursuit of making the *Journal* more enriching and useful, we always invite and welcome suggestions for its further improvement. We also welcome practice and problem-oriented, non-partisan articles in the field of parliamentary procedures and institutions from members of Parliament and State Legislatures, scholars and all others interested in the field of parliamentary political science.

—T.K. Viswanathan
Editor

1

INAUGURAL ADDRESS BY THE SPEAKER, LOK SABHA, SMT. MEIRA KUMAR AT THE 22ND COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTARY SEMINAR ON 25 NOVEMBER 2011 AT PARLIAMENT HOUSE ANNEXE, NEW DELHI

The 22nd Annual Commonwealth Parliamentary Seminar was hosted jointly by the Parliament of India and the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) in Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi from 24 to 29 November 2011. The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar inaugurated the Seminar on 25 November 2011. Dr. William F. Shija, the Secretary-General of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association also addressed the distinguished gathering on the occasion.

We reproduce below the text of the Inaugural Address delivered by the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar.

—Editor

It is indeed an honour for me to welcome the Distinguished Delegates and Guests who have assembled here to participate in the 22nd Annual Commonwealth Parliamentary Seminar. On behalf of the people and the Parliament of India and on my own behalf, I extend my greetings and warm wishes to each one of you. I hope your stay in India will be extremely pleasant, stimulating and enriching.

I am delighted to have Dr. William F. Shija amidst us under whose dynamic stewardship the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) has been striving to nurture and foster democracy in the Commonwealth countries. I compliment the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association for their initiative in organizing this 22nd Annual Commonwealth Parliamentary Seminar together with the Parliament of India. These Seminars bring parliamentarians on a common platform to appreciate and understand the emerging challenges before democratic governments and define the roles and responsibilities of the parliamentary institutions in addressing them.

Parliamentary democracy is undoubtedly the most accepted, successful and ideal form of political system. It is perceived as the best form of governance to fulfill the hopes and aspirations of the people. In this Seminar, we will deliberate and discuss various topics of parliamentary interest including the role of the CPA in the Commonwealth in fourteen

sessions to be held over a period of three days. I am confident that this Seminar will help reinforce the representative character of parliamentary community in the Commonwealth.

Democratic institutions have flourished in India since time immemorial. After Independence, we have adopted this well proven form of governance to fulfill the dreams of our people. As the political nerve center of the largest democracy in the world, the two chambers of our Parliament reflect the sovereign will of the people of India. On it lies the onerous responsibility of transforming mindsets and creating an equitable and inclusive social order free of all forms of discrimination. Friends, our Parliament does not merely legislate, it is an agent of social change. In the session devoted to the theme '*Parliamentary and Political Scene in India'* the participants will have an insight into the operational dynamics of the Indian polity.

The Office of Presiding Officer occupies a key position in parliamentary democracy and is vital for the efficient and systematic transaction of business in the House. This institution represents the collective voice and opinion of the House and therefore remains crucial in maintaining people's faith in democratic institutions. By performing administrative, judicial, regulatory and supervisory functions, the Presiding Officer not only guides the proceedings but also safeguards the rights and privileges of the House, its Committees and its Members. It is, therefore, imperative to delve into the changing dimensions of the interface between Presiding Officers and various aspects of the functioning of the Chambers presided over by them. In this context, the discussion on '*The Role of the Presiding Officers vis-a-vis the Parliamentary Staff and the Standing Orders'* during this Seminar is a timely initiative.

In the contemporary parliamentary system, Committees have emerged as the best suited device for detailed scrutiny of administrative action and for ensuring executive accountability to the institution of Parliament. The Indian Parliament has three Financial Committees and twenty four Departmentally related committees apart from several other committees. These committees are vested with adequate powers and operate as sentinels of accountability. The unprecedented growth in the range, magnitude and complexity of governmental activities over the years, warrants further reinforcing of the Committee system in Parliaments to make them more meaningful and effective. By exchanging the experiences of our respective Parliaments, we can evolve ways and means to further enhance the efficacy of our Parliamentary Committees.

Ethics, transparency and accountability are basic attributes of public life. People expect their elected representatives to adhere to highest standards of ethical and moral values in the discharge of their public duties. However, a general deficit in peoples' faith in the hallowed institution of Parliament is being witnessed the world over.



The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar delivering the inaugural address. Dr. William F. Shija, Secretary-General of the CPA, and Shri T. K. Viswanathan, Secretary-General, Lok Sabha are also present on the dais

As elected representatives, it is our responsibility to restore and strengthen people's trust and confidence in democratic institutions and processes. The culture of ethical growth, self-correction and uprightness must emanate from our representative institutions. We must evolve self-disciplining mechanisms to ensure probity, values, ethics and transparency in the public life. The discussion session on *'Parliamentary Ethics, Transparency and Accountability'* will provide us an opportunity for self-introspection.

Our Parliaments reflect the hopes and aspirations of the people and are mandated to strive for their well-being and advancement. They are in a unique position to influence government decisions and mould public opinion for ensuring prosperity, peace, harmony and development. Freedom of knowledge and Right to Information are the keystones of parliamentary democracy. In this globalized era, it is of paramount importance that the Parliaments take the lead in disseminating information about their activities and enhance transparency in the functioning of the executive. The Right to Information Act enacted by the Indian Parliament not only empowers the people and but also ensures transparency in public institutions. The issues involved in creating an enabling environment for further advancing the cause of the people's right to information will be discussed during this Seminar which will generate ideas to further fine-tune our existing transparency legislations.

As public expectations from parliamentarians rise, the role of Parliaments cannot be restricted to the traditionally performed legislative, supervisory and deliberative functions only. Of late, their influence has increased and their work contours expanded to encompass several socio-economic and contemporary issues like gender equality, human rights, HIV/AIDS, terrorism and sustainable development. Parliaments the world over have been consistently engaging themselves on all these vital issues in their endeavour to address the concerns of the people.

I firmly believe that the parliamentary democracy cannot survive and flourish unless gender-based discriminatory practices are eradicated from the society. We have to move out of the folds of inequitable and patriarchal social system and conservative patterns of development. Parliaments have to proactively strive to transform social attitudes. Growth and development can never be achieved amidst instances of human rights violation and discrimination on grounds of gender, race, religion and language. Inclusive, equitable and sustainable growth is the need of the hour. It is, therefore, the prime responsibility of us parliamentarians to promote gender empowerment not only by focusing on issues of gender-based discrimination but also by enacting suitable forward looking legislations. This subject, of enormous socio-political importance, will be deliberated upon in this Seminar.

Amidst the expanding roles and responsibilities of the Parliaments and the global dimensions of the challenges before democracies, we parliamentarians have much to share and learn from one another. The 22nd Annual CPA Seminar, which we are honoured to host, is yet another occasion for the parliamentarians from across the Commonwealth to not only have thought provoking deliberations on issues of common concern but also to build consensus and chart out grounds for co-operation on matters warranting immediate attention from the representative institutions.

I am sure we will have serious introspective discussions and fruitful interactions during this seminar. With these words, I have great pleasure in inaugurating this Seminar.

Thank you.

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ADDRESSES AT THE FOURTH PROF. HIREN MUKERJEE MEMORIAL ANNUAL PARLIAMENTARY LECTURE HELD IN CENTRAL HALL OF THE PARLIAMENT HOUSE ON 20 DECEMBER 2011

Prof. Hiren Mukerjee Memorial Annual Parliamentary Lecture series was instituted in the year 2008 by the Parliament of India in honour of the outstanding parliamentarian, eminent scholar and veteran leader, Prof. Hiren Mukerjee to facilitate enlightened discourse on issues of contemporary relevance as well as challenges. Professor Mukerjee was a member of the Lok Sabha for five consecutive terms from 1952 to 1977.

The Fourth Prof. Hiren Mukerjee Memorial Annual Parliamentary Lecture was delivered by the Prime Minister of Bhutan, Mr. Lyonchhen Jigmi Y. Thinley, on *"Gross National Happiness: A Holistic Paradigm for Sustainable Well-being"* in the Central Hall of the Parliament House on 20 December 2011.

The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar delivered the Welcome Address. The Vice-President of India and Chairman of the Rajya Sabha, Shri Mohammad Hamid Ansari presided over the function while the Prime Minister of India, Dr. Manmohan Singh was the Chief Guest.

The Prime Minister of Bhutan, Mr. Lyonchhen Jigmi Y. Thinley was also presented Mementoes by the Vice-President, the Prime Minister and the Speaker, Lok Sabha on the occasion.

We reproduce below the texts of the Addresses delivered by the distinguished dignitaries on the occasion.

—Editor

WELCOME ADDRESS BY THE SPEAKER, LOK SABHA, SMT. MEIRA KUMAR

It is my privilege to welcome this distinguished gathering to the hallowed Central Hall of the Parliament of India on the occasion of the Fourth Prof. Hiren Mukerjee Memorial Annual Parliamentary Lecture. I thank Respected Vice-President Shri Mohammad Hamid Ansari and Respected Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh for being with us today. We are indeed grateful to His Excellency Lyonchhen Jigmi Y. Thinley, the Honourable Prime Minister of Bhutan, for accepting our request to deliver the Fourth Lecture in the series.

This Annual Parliamentary Lecture has been instituted in memory of the outstanding parliamentarian, late Prof. Hiren Mukerjee. During his career as a parliamentarian from the First Lok Sabha to the Fifth Lok Sabha, Prof. Mukerjee left a profound impact through his power of articulation, intellectual brilliance and erudition. His contribution to enlightened democratic discourse through parliamentary debates is emblematic of our vibrant parliamentary history.

For the Fourth Prof. Hiren Mukerjee Memorial Annual Parliamentary Lecture, we are extremely privileged to have His Excellency Lyonchhen Jigmi Y. Thinley amidst us who will speak on the theme–*Gross National Happiness: A Holistic Paradigm for Sustainable Well-being*.

His Excellency Lyonchhen Jigmi Y. Thinley joined the Royal Bhutan Civil Service in 1974 and went on to become the Administrator of the Eastern Zone. He has served as a Secretary in the Ministry of Home Affairs, Deputy Minister of Home Affairs and Bhutan's Permanent Representative to the United Nations. He has held the office of the Prime Minister twice and also headed various ministries before constitutional democracy was introduced in Bhutan in 2008. He is a much decorated leader, who has been awarded the title of *Dasho*, the Red Scarf and the Orange Scarf, the *Druk Thuksey* and the *Druk Wangyal,* for excellence in discharging his duties.

His Excellency became the first democratically elected Prime Minister of Bhutan in 2008 with an overwhelming majority. He has played a vital role since then in consolidation of democracy and democratic values in Bhutan. His success in responding to democratic and developmental aspirations of the people and his utmost sensitivity to popular, grassroot-level issues is indeed exemplary and inspiring. We also deeply appreciate Prime Minister Thinley's vital role over the years in strengthening friendship and cooperation between India and Bhutan.

The philosophy of Gross National Happiness was conceived in 1972 by His Majesty Jigme Singye Wangchuck, the Fourth King of Bhutan. It enshrines a unique model of holistic development based on the four key strategies or the four pillars: sustainable and equitable socio-economic development; conservation of environment; preservation and promotion of culture and promotion of good governance.

Gross National Happiness not only focuses on material advancement but also other key factors contributing to one's physical and mental well-being. Happiness is the ultimate end desired by all humans and all socio-economic policies and development strategies are means to achieve that end. The need for this holistic approach to development is particularly critical at a time when the world is beset by various challenges–from climate change to economic crises–all exacerbated

by the uncontrolled propensity to exploit natural resources for consumption and material greed. That is why the theme of Gross National Happiness (GNH) has increasingly caught the imagination of intellectuals and policy makers the world over for its emphasis on human happiness as an index for progress. As a close friend, we particularly cherish Bhutan's success in getting overwhelming endorsement by the international community in July this year of the concept of GNH when the United Nations General Assembly adopted a resolution recognizing "the pursuit of happiness" as "a fundamental human goal".

His Excellency has been an eloquent advocate of the concept of Gross National Happiness since its inception and has persistently strived towards realizing this vision in his country and passionately championed its cause as a development philosophy in the world.

I, on behalf of the Parliament and on my own behalf, thank His Excellency Lyonchhen Jigmi Y. Thinley for accepting our invitation to deliver the Fourth Prof. Hiren Mukerjee Memorial Annual Parliamentary Lecture. I am confident that His Excellency's words of wisdom would provide valuable insights into the model of Gross National Happiness as a development approach and enrich our understanding of it.

I take great pride in welcoming this distinguished gathering once again to the Fourth Professor Hiren Mukerjee Memorial Annual Parliamentary Lecture.

Thank you.

ADDRESS BY THE PRIME MINISTER OF INDIA, DR. MANMOHAN SINGH

I am delighted that Prime Minister Jigmi Y. Thinley is delivering the Fourth Prof. Hiren Mukerjee Memorial Parliamentary Lecture this year. He is the first democratically elected Prime Minister of perhaps the world's youngest democracy. He is also an alumnus of Delhi University. Most importantly, he is a great friend of India and has many admirers in our country. He is an eloquent and outstanding parliamentarian.

No one would have been happier to see the dawn of democracy rise in our neighbourhood than Prof. Hiren Mukerjee. He spent long years in these hallowed environs fighting for democratic values, speaking for the people and upholding the stature of our Parliament.

Since the parliamentary elections in Bhutan in 2008, Prime Minister Thinley has worked to fulfil the solemn mandate of his people with great distinction. Bhutan is also fortunate to have the benevolent and wise guidance of Their Majesties the Fourth and the Fifth King of Bhutan at a time of profound changes taking place in that country.

The people of India rejoice at Bhutan's success as it moves ahead on the path of greater progress, happiness and prosperity.

I have had the pleasure of working closely with Prime Minister Thinley. I recall how ably he guided the SAARC Summit in Thimphu last year, which had the theme 'A Green and Happy South Asia'. We signed a landmark Thimphu Declaration on Climate Change and a convention on cooperation in environment that have added new and important dimensions to processes of regional cooperation in South Asia.

Prime Minister Thinley is a passionate believer and eloquent advocate of Bhutan's seminal notion of Gross National Happiness. This concept was first articulated in the year 1972 by His Majesty the Fourth King, but Prime Minister Thinley has given practical meaning to it in the functioning of his government and restructuring of Bhutan's society. The power of this idea today finds increasing acceptance, and I believe that we have a lot to learn from it. I look forward to listening to Prime Minister Thinley's exposition on this theme.

Prime Minister Thinley's presence at this important event is of great significance because India and Bhutan are the closest of friends and neighbours. It is a relationship based on strong bonds of amity, affection, trust and mutual benefit, and one that the people of India deeply cherish.

My discussions with Prime Minister Thinley on different occasions give me great hope and confidence that our two democracies working together are poised to forge an even stronger partnership that will bring added prosperity to our people, promote our common security and strengthen our ancient ties of friendship.

I once again extend a warm welcome to Prime Minister Thinley.

ADDRESS BY THE VICE-PRESIDENT OF INDIA, SHRI M. HAMID ANSARI

A Memorial Lecture, by established custom, is instituted to recall the good deeds of those who are no longer with us.

Today, we have gathered to honour the memory of Hiren Mukerjee, a great parliamentarian of what is rightly known as the golden era of Indian democracy. His passion, ideological commitment and intellectual intensity remain an inspiration to those in public life who wish to do public good.

Our distinguished speaker today has chosen 'happiness' as the theme of the Fourth Hiren Mukerjee Memorial Lecture. He is eminently placed to do so since thinking people everywhere appreciate and commend the noble initiative of His Majesty the King of Bhutan in

drawing the attention of the world to the criticality of happiness in the promotion of human wellbeing.

This is evident from the overwhelming support given by the international community in July this year to General Assembly Resolution 65/309 advocating the pursuit of happiness as an essential ingredient of a holistic approach to sustainable development.

Many in this audience would recall Lord Buddha's dictum that the path to happiness starts from an understanding of the root causes of suffering. He attributed suffering to the human desire for craving which, in turn, emanates from ignorance and said each of these can be eliminated by following the Middle Path of attaining virtue.

Nor was Lord Buddha alone in considering happiness as an essential ingredient of virtue. The philosopher Aristotle devoted one of his treatises on ethics to the examination of four ingredients of virtue, namely goodness, friendship, pleasure and happiness. He considered happiness the highest of virtues, an end in itself, to be desired for itself and to be attained through contemplation.

And yet, as the human mind continues its quest for the receding horizons of perfection, there can be no finality to these ideas.

I hasten to invite His Excellency the Prime Minster of Bhutan to address the audience.

FOURTH PROF. HIREN MUKERJEE MEMORIAL LECTURE ON "GROSS NATIONAL HAPPINESS: A HOLISTIC PARADIGM FOR SUSTAINABLE WELL-BEING" DELIVERED BY THE PRIME MINISTER OF BHUTAN, MR. JIGMI Y. THINLEY

It is with immense humility that I have accepted the kind invitation of the Honourable Speaker of the Parliament of this great nation to deliver the Fourth Prof. Hiren Mukerjee Memorial Lecture here before this august assembly.

That the invitation should come from the Honourable Smt. Meira Kumar, who has achieved the rare feat of becoming the first lady Speaker of the world's largest democracy is an exceptional honour. We in Bhutan, who closely observe the Indian democracy at work, admire the wisdom and beatific serenity with which the Honourable Speaker has been steering the often stormy deliberations in the Lok Sabha. I am also mindful of the presence of yet another great lady, Smt. Sushma Swaraj, who has the singular distinction of leading democracy's indispensable alternate voice in the Lok Sabha. Then again, it was from this House that a daughter of India arose to become one of the most illustrious Prime Ministers in the world. That India should produce such women who elevate democracy is exemplary

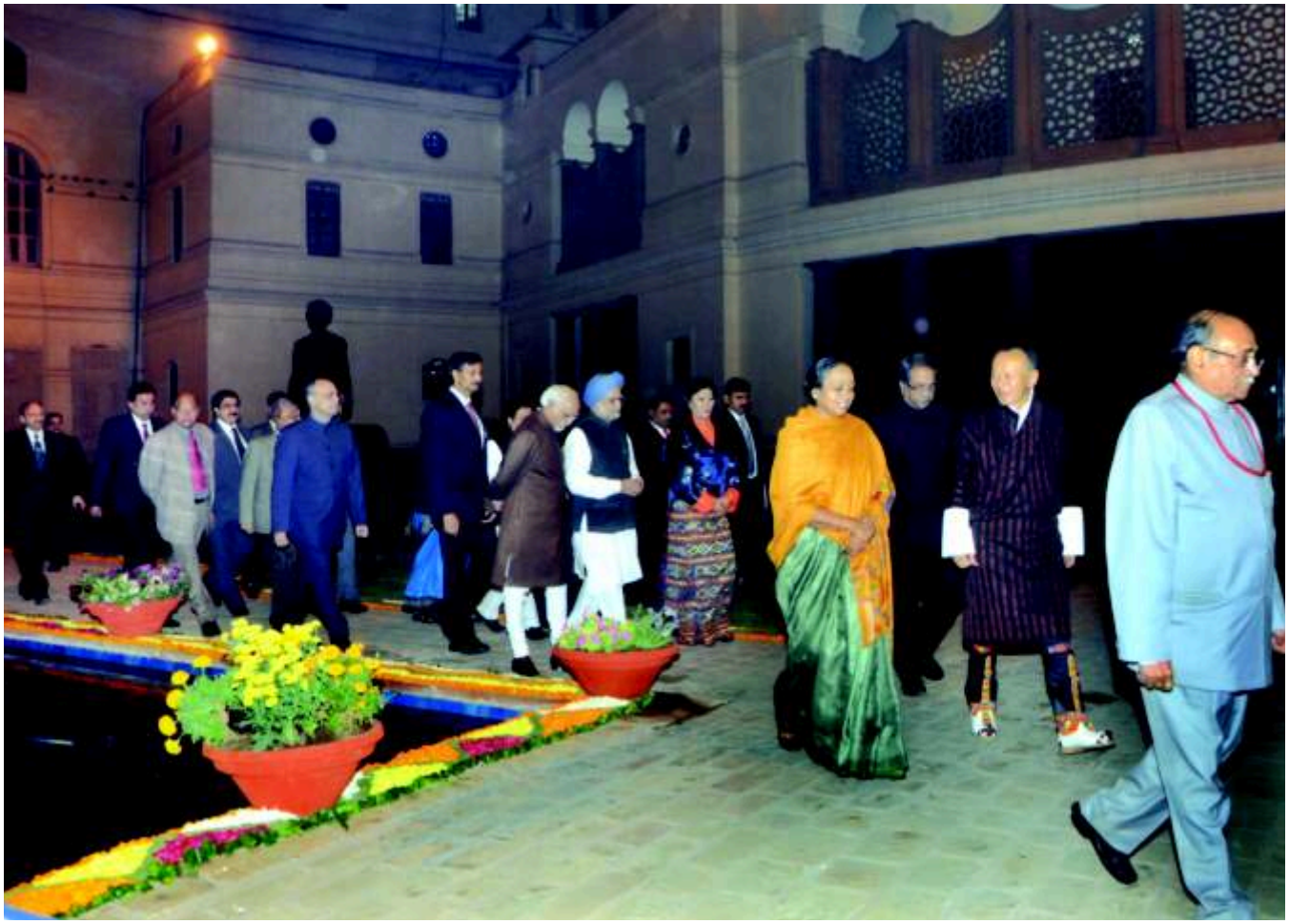
and inspirational in a world where women make up 40 percent of the global workforce but own only one percent of the world's wealth with not enough role in shaping even their own lives.

Speaking as I do after three extraordinary minds since the inception of this Memorial Lecture, it is not without trepidation that I stand before you. But it is my realization of the honour you bestow on my country and the value you attach to the unique friendship between our countries that give me the courage to present my humble thoughts on a subject that is gaining world acceptance and indeed merits your wise counsel and consideration. In so doing, I am fully aware that it would be too presumptuous on my part to even imagine that I have new knowledge or information to present to such a learned audience. My attempt shall, therefore, be to present a set of humble views based on our national experiences in pursuing Gross National Happiness.

Prof. Hiren Mukerjee was a passionate politician of the kind who ennobled politics in a world, where we as politicians suffer from an unshakeable irony. We come to positions of leadership, and representation, through an expression of trust at the time of elections. Yet, we are often the object of suspicion and scorn by the very same voters from the moment we assume our role. Too few among us carry the trust of the people we represent and, as a consequence, lack the conviction to do more.

Even upon having begun with the highest of ideals, we are disillusioned and discouraged by obstacles to our well-reasoned endeavours and ideas for change. Sadder yet is to find ourselves yielding to the common dye that moulds too many others. But Hiren Mukerjee was a man of conviction in his noble mission for the poor and voiceless. He refused to be cast by any mould or to be disillusioned and defeated. In both his oratory and prolific writing, the brilliant parliamentarian was unrelenting in his dogged pursuit of the highest ideals for his country and people. He spoke of politics as a suffering (passion) from which he sought no escape. But too many of our kind in the world mistake elected office as escape from suffering, seeing it instead, as positions of power and privilege and bear the guilt of denigrating the sacred words - politics and politicians. Prof. Hiren Mukerjee was a giant in his lifetime and his spirit lives on to guide us in the furtherance of good politics and happiness among those that we serve.

Honourable Vice-President, allow me to present the greetings of my King who only recently chose India to be the first country to visit after the royal wedding just as he did after his coronation in 2008. I bring to you also the good wishes of my fellow citizens whose gratitude and appreciation for the people of India will always be immeasurable. This is palpable in our affection for and pride in the people of India for the amazing achievements you continue to make



The Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Bhutan, Mr. Jigmi Y. Thinley, accompanied by distinguished dignitaries on his way to the Central Hall of the Parliament to deliver the Lecture



The distinguished dignitaries paying floral tributes at the portrait of Prof. Hiren Mukerjee



The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar delivering the Welcome Address



Address by the Prime Minister of India, Dr. Manmohan Singh



Address by the Vice-President and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri Mohammad Hamid Ansari



The Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Bhutan, Mr. Jigmi Y. Thinley delivering the Lecture



The Prime Minister of India, Dr. Manmohan Singh felicitating Mr. Jigmi Y. Thinley



The Vice-President and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri Mohammad Hamid Ansari presenting a memento to the Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Bhutan, Mr. Jigmi Y. Thinley



The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar presenting a memento to Mr. Jigmi Y. Thinley



A view of the distinguished gathering

ever since my esteemed friend, His Excellency Prime Minister Manmohan Singh introduced transformational policy and strategic changes while serving as the Finance Minister of India. From an economically poor country that was in danger of defaulting on its debts, the economy of India is today the ninth largest by nominal GDP and the fourth largest by purchasing power parity (PPP). I share with you the joy of the Bhutanese people as India and Indians take giant strides in science and technology, trade and industry, socio-economic development and international relations. Further buttressed by its unrivalled cultural wealth, India is now in her rightful place as a world leader.

With generous and unfailing assistance from India, Bhutan too has been making notable advancement in all fields of development. Today, we have reached a stage when we can reasonably declare poverty eradication not just as a long term aspiration but as a realizable immediate objective. Putting every Rupee of Indian tax payers' money to its intended purpose, I believe we have given successive governments of India reasons for satisfaction in the outcome of their well intended development assistance to their neighbour. In return, you have in my country a trusted ally and friend, with a growing capacity to contribute to mutually enriching and beneficial cooperation. In the process, we are together setting an enviable example of peaceful coexistence and cooperation between neighbours against the odds of various asymmetries and incongruities.

True friendship among nations is never conditioned by time and changing interests. Contrary to conventional thinking, it is selfless, enduring and transcends motives. It is founded on trust. Friendship raises national confidence and self esteem and it is uplifting. These are what Bhutanese see in our very special relations and that is why the Bhutanese will always have faith in our fraternity. Bhutan, I know, will always remain guided by her belief in a shared future of prosperity with India, to be realized through a common path paved with understanding, good will and mutual respect.

As I take joy in extolling the virtues of our exemplary relations, I am convinced that these bear testimony to India's sincere quest for greater understanding and partnership with all other neighbours as well. Surely, as our mutual gains become visible, the historical, psychological and emotional barriers behind the trust deficit in our sub-region will be overcome. I am confident, that the countries in our region will become more empathetic towards each other and more understanding of the inhibiting circumstances that have prevented greater regional cooperation. We must overcome the prejudices that influence us to read the worst of intentions in unfortunate incidents and find the wisdom for peaceful solutions to the wrongs that we may have suffered.

To this end, I pray that the Honourable parliamentarians of our region will strengthen the resolve of our governments to find wise and durable solutions even to the most violent provocations and injuries. I appeal to our able, loyal and highly capable bureaucrats who are in the frontline of diplomacy to breach the walls of doubt and suspicion that prevent them from doing what is not traditional - from defying the logics of sacred precedents. And to the media, I urge restraint and search for truths beyond what may excite the mind and stimulate the flow of adrenaline in our sentimental and admirably, patriotic citizens.

We must, together, contribute positively to the making of a harmonious and cooperative SAARC. We will together, with our people, find the muse, the poetry and the melody to inspire ourselves. All of our nations stand to benefit not only economically from growing trade in goods and services and investment flows but from the peace and stability each of us needs to attend to the challenges of delivering what our voters and constituencies need. To this end, India must show the way. She must lead not only the region but the world.

As the largest democracy and as a powerful and rapidly expanding economy representing 17 per cent of humanity, it is the destiny and, I dare say, obligation of India to be among those who, in a real sense, set the global agenda and have a profound role in shaping the destiny of mankind. That agenda is already becoming increasingly complex and challenging as never before. Issues of human security and survival will become an everyday subject, testing society's conscience, capacity and resolve in ways that demand immediate and acceptable solutions. With no representation for more than one-seventh of the world's population, I cannot see how such an awesome responsibility can be discharged by any group or body with legitimacy and competence.

In our globalized world, every national aspiration and its realization is conditioned more and more by what happens globally. Local initiatives and accomplishments will mean and matter less if not supported and facilitated by the global environment. It is for these reasons that Bhutan, like so many other countries, believes in the indisputable right of India to be permanently seated in an enlarged UN Security Council. It is, likewise, for the same reasons that we welcome India's active participation in G-20, BRICS and ASEAN consultations. These are the reasons why India must assume the burden of taking the centre stage in global decision making processes and fora with clarity of vision.

And the world that we live in, is in dire need of visionary and purposeful leadership. It is a deeply troubled world that we live in today. Without clarity of vision and strength of purpose to alter the course of our perilous journey on which we are embarked, not only the sustainability of what human society has achieved thus far but the very survival of life on earth is at risk. How did this come about?

The 20th century was a remarkable era that tested man and society's endurance and genius. And the human spirit has endured and prevailed. Since the latter half of the century in particular, it brought about amazing transformation through unprecedented advancements in science, technology, the arts, and every other sphere of life. We have fathomed the depths of the dark ocean, unlocked the secrets of the vast universe and we even dare to rival the gods in the creation of life itself. We have conquered time and space. Medical wonders never cease and the market is stocked with boundless means to material comfort. Art and architecture, music and literature are flourishing within new dimensions to ascend new peaks. Access to information is instantaneous and knowledge abounds.

But are we any wiser? Have we acted responsibly? Have we employed the miracles of science and technology to make our future safe and predictably better? Have our great strides in arts, literature and architecture refined our mind, furthered true civilization and are we more secure as individuals and as a race? Have we found just and equitable ways to share earth's scarce resources and is the wealth we are creating of real value? Does it last and give contentment? Are we creating a future of hope and confidence? Are we healthier of body and mind? Are we happier?

From the pains of the devastation of Europe and East Asia in the First World War, the Great Depression and the dust bowl of the United States in the 1930s and the ashes of the Second World War arose the aspiration for peace, stability and economic progress. This led to the agreement among the industrialized countries in the final stages of the WWII to establish the Bretton Woods institutions as the core of the new economic system to promote recovery and growth through investment, free trade and convertibility of currencies for payments.

The yard stick adopted by these institutions to monitor progress was GDP, an indicator developed by Nobel laureate Simon Kuznets for the US Department of Commerce. Intended to measure the market value of all goods and services produced within a country in a given period, it was never meant for anything more. However, fearing its misuse, Kuznets warned the US Congress that "the welfare of a nation can scarcely be inferred from a measure of national income."

But somewhere, along the way, we lost our nobler sense and let our greed take over to engender an obsession for creation of wealth at any cost. Economists or powers behind market forces and their flawed theories fuelled this obsession. This obsession was given a shade of ethical rationale with the misuse of the GDP indicator. Professor Kuznets watched helplessly as his limited metric was assigned far broader role with *GDP per capita* being employed as a measure of a country's standard of living and, by extension, the well being of its

people. The Bretton Woods Institutions convinced a blindly willing world that aggregate wealth creation, making the rich richer, will benefit everyone.

The use of this indicator as the singular driver of development resulted in our pursuit of limitless growth in a finite world being measured, especially among so called developed and emerging economies, on a quarterly basis. It failed to take into account those aspects of development or changes that matter equally or more to human wellbeing. We ignored those mounting costs arising from activities to raise GDP. In the process, we have destroyed much of real and natural wealth that belong not only to our generations but to those unborn as well and all other life forms with whom we share this planet. We have done so for the sake of what we now begin to see are destructive illusions of prosperity, bringing upon ourselves an escalating number and magnitude of crises. These betrayed the very purpose for which the Bretton Woods Institutions were established. Here I am reminded of Economics Nobel Laureate, Joe Stiglitz, who remarked "what you measure is what you get." And what do we get?

- Our present GDP-based measures, literally report more fossil fuel combustion (and therefore more greenhouse gas emissions) as economic gain.
- The faster we cut down our forests and haul in our fish stocks to extinction, and the more excessively we consume and deplete scarce resources, the more GDP grows.
- Even pollution, crime, war, sickness, and natural disasters make GDP grow, simply because these ills cause money to be spent.
- And GDP grows even as inequality and poverty increase.

Consumed by endless desire at any cost, ours is a story of an intelligent life form that stopped thinking rationally about its own well-being. Under the dictum of GDP, the primary function in life is to be economically productive to earn more income so as to consume more. Having reduced ourselves to mindless, insatiable and voracious beasts, we are consumers above all else and our value lies in the power to spend.

Our world is the market place and its forces rule our lives. We have created institutions and instruments beyond those of the Bretton Woods for subservience to these forces. Even the quality of democracy is gauged by the extent to which the market is allowed to function freely. Any intervention is frowned upon as undemocratic and sacrilegious. But we are discovering that the market goddess is neither infallible nor omnipotent. In her domain there reside no principles or values of democracy. She is whimsical, unpredictable at best and she can be

cruel and unrepentant. She favours the rich against the poor and her unseen hand neglects those trapped in poverty. FAO reports that one in seven of the world's population are hungry people while 850 million people are malnourished and 1.1 billion do not even have access to drinking water. 20 per cent of the world's rich people consume 86 per cent of goods produced from our common heritage of natural resources, with the poorest 20 per cent consuming just 1.3 per cent.

With misplaced faith in GDP as the beacon for societal well-being, we have ceased to ponder the purpose of life. We speak of continuous and endless growth but never about its end purpose in relation to the ultimate purpose of life and desire of the human being. Our society is imperilled by the rising consequences of this irrational, irresponsible and reckless way of life. We are helpless hands aboard a rudderless ship in the middle of a tumultuous storm.

Ours is a world troubled by economic and financial chaos; food and energy crises; health predicaments; environmental calamities; political instability and conflicts; and unconscionable social injustices and poverty amid affluence and wanton profit making.

On 7th March 2009, Thomas Friedman wrote in *The New York Times*: "*What if the crisis of 2008 represents something much more fundamental than a deep recession? What if it's telling us that the whole growth model we created over the last 50 years is simply unsustainable economically and ecologically and that 2008 was when we hit the wall—when Mother Nature and the market both said: No more."*

With dramatic abruptness, major banks failed, iconic symbols of prosperity like General Motors went bankrupt, the stock market collapsed, life savings disappeared, the ranks of the unemployed swelled. These reminded us of how much of the wealth we create and accumulate is of no real value, for true wealth is what should provide security in difficult times of need. Europe is foundering in a gigantic debt crisis, the U.S. is deeply indebted, and years of sustained economic growth suddenly morphed—seemingly overnight—into the worst global economic downturn since the Great Depression.

But what proved bankrupt in 2008 was not only a failed economic paradigm but its most eminent theorists and practitioners, and the accounting system that sent them the wrong messages. The real moment of truth came when Alan Greenspan, former head of the U.S. Federal Reserve and chief of all bankers, confessed before Congress that he'd been fatally wrong in his prescriptions for the economy, and that he, economic *guru* of *gurus,* had no inkling of the impending financial catastrophe.

And bereft of ideas, the remedial measures taken were a recipe

for disaster. The collapse spurred by debt-fuelled growth was expected to be cured with yet more debt-fuelled growth.

Not only did the massive fiscal stimulus packages of 2008–2009 predictably fail to stimulate the economy in the longer term, but they hastened the systemic collapse. The impending double-dip recession in the West is now being ushered in with high unemployment rates and unprecedented national deficits. No more stimulus or bailouts now. The clarion call has changed from "stimulus" to "deficit reduction."

Not surprisingly, social unrest is brewing from Greece to London to "*occupy Wall Street movement by the 99%"*. Even during the prior two decades of apparent prosperity, young people lost ground, saw their median incomes drop and their debt loads increase, and they voted less—a sure warning sign of growing alienation from the established order.

And this is what Christine Legarde, the IMF boss had to say just last week, "*There is no economy in the world, whether low-income countries, emerging markets, middle-income countries or super-advanced economies that will be immune to the crisis that we see not only unfolding but escalating,"* she warned *that the global economy faces the prospect of "economic retraction, rising protectionism, isolation and . . . what happened in the US in the 30s. . . It is not a crisis that will be resolved by one group of countries taking action. It is going to be hopefully resolved by all countries, all regions, all categories of countries actually taking action".*

But even if all countries do come together, what would we do? What measures would we agree upon that would bring about a permanent cure?

On 26th September 2008, French President, Nicolas Sarkozy, said, "*we must rethink the financial system from scratch, as at Bretton Woods*." In March 2010, Prime Minister Papandreou of Greece wrote: "*Democratic Governments worldwide must establish a new global financial architecture, as bold in its own way as Bretton Woods, as bold as the creation of the European Community and European Monetary Union. And we need it fast*." Joseph Stiglitz, likewise, argued in *his article 'Towards a New Global Economic Compact'* that, *we are at another Bretton Woods moment … . We must not lose sight of our collective responsibility to do our best to prevent the recurrence of such devastating crisis and to ensure an international system to support sustained and equitable development.*

Amid such mindless economic growth and collapse of the economic system, if there ever was one, the nobler values of a civilized society are being eroded. Family, community and relationships that form the very core and basis of society are disintegrating.

We labour like robots to earn more, unaware that there can never be enough to feed the insatiable greed within us. Those of us who supposedly succeed in the rat race, and are 'ahead', soon become aware of its hollowness and suffer the terrible physical, emotional and psychological costs. Without the support of stable and caring family or relationships, these are all the more difficult to bear. The stresses and strains are deepened by the loss of trust, unbearable loneliness, hostile perceptions, and the culture of competition. These are what have brought about a world suicide rate of 10.07 per 100,000 people or 1 million suicides per year–an increase of 60 per cent in the last 45 years according to the WHO. Every 40 seconds, somebody takes his own life out of despair. And this does not include the 20 failed suicide attempts for each successful one. One in four people in the world is affected by mental or neurological disorder at some point in their life with about 450 million people currently suffering from such conditions.

As more of us use only our digits in this digital age, the calories we consume make us weaker and vulnerable to a host of life style diseases. We live in bigger homes but have no room for relatives, friends and even parents; drive big, fast cars but cannot reach our loved and dear ones in times of need; adorn our wrists with precision watches to manage time, but find no moment for rest and leisure.

And how many of us look forward to the much deserved retirement at the end of our stressful and strenuous life? Who among us has the comforting knowledge that, as in the past before the advent of consumerism and nuclear families, we will age in grace and dignity–that we will be venerated and cared for by our younger generations? How many of us have that confidence? As modern medicine gives us longer life, are we not fearful of a prolonged winter of indignities and loneliness on the fringes of society?

And as the younger and rich among us contemplate the modern-day convenience of consigning our aged parents to old-age homes, we need to accept the truth that the professional care they receive can never replace the love, respect and dignity they deserve. Dying amid family and loved ones, knowing there will be those who will grieve and mourn are part of ending life well. We need to ask whether India's growing prosperity will come at all these unthinkable costs. What might India be doing to preserve, among others, the integrity of her extended family network that is the most natural and therefore, sustainable social safety net unlike the artificial social security systems that are failing even among the wealthiest of nations.

Monbiot, an analyst and free thinker, wrote in the *Guardian,* "When the world's ecological debt comes due, no World Bank or IMF bailout package will save the day." For the first time, since the Industrial

Revolution, it is clear that the next generation will not be better off than previous ones–economically, socially, or ecologically.

In our obsession with growth, we are over producing through over extraction of our planet's limited resources. Ecological footprint analysis points out that, by 2006, humanity as a whole was using 40 per cent more than what the earth can regenerate. That means the living generations are already using up resources that belong to generations who are not here to fend for themselves. Yet, in recent years, the extractive industry has become even more exploitative to feed the soaring demands of the major emerging economies. Our excessive production of every conceivable item, from food to luxury goods, is beyond our actual needs. We know that starvation, malnutrition and preventable deaths are more the result of distributional failure than the absolute shortage of food and medicine.

The mountains of hazardous waste, environmental pollution, rapid depletion of natural resources and loss of bio diversity are the direct costs. These in turn are raising global temperatures, exposing life forms to harmful rays of the sun, with devastating and irreparable consequences of both the known and unknown kinds. Our climate is changing in ways that are confusing farmers and crops alike. Traditional wisdom is becoming irrelevant in farming, and crop failures and famines are becoming more frequent. Water sources, if not poisoned, are drying even in the high reservoirs of the Himalayas. Conflicts within and among nations for control of scarce resources are in the making with possible resolutions hindered by poor and often deteriorating neighbourly relations. Species are disappearing for ever and these bring closer the reality of the end of human life.

In my own country, there are alarming signs of climate change. Not the least of these is the 22 per cent withdrawal of the Himalayan glaciers in the last 30 years. These feed the 2,674 glacial lakes in Bhutan which, in turn, are the sources of our river systems. At the current rate of global warming, glaciologists predict that all of the glaciers in the Himalayas could disappear in a few decades causing immeasurable destruction of life and property by glacial lake outburst floods (GLOFs). But the costs for the Himalayan Kingdom's of Bhutan and Nepal would pale to insignificance in comparison to the consequences on the Indian subcontinent, China and the Mekong Delta region.

What if the glacier-fed rivers of the Brahmaputra and the Ganges were to stop flowing just as many other rivers around the world will and what there is no more ground water left to pump? How do we deal with the increasingly unpredictable weather conditions and the changing climate, not to speak of the rising frequency with which we are struck by natural calamities? How can mankind survive in a world without

natural resources and an environment that is poisonous and inhospitable?

Allow me Honourable Vice-President, at this point, to cite a heartening remark made by the Honourable Speaker last year at the 15th Radhakrishnan Memorial Lecture wherein you had said, "*History bears testimony to the fact that nature and environment have been central to our civilizational ethos. ... Respect for our rich biodiversity is deeply ingrained in our psyche*." Likewise, the Honourable Prime Minister Manmohan Singh said elsewhere that, "*The concern for ecological sustainability is not a new phenomenon. In fact, India has a long cultural tradition of frugality and simple living in harmony with nature. All great religions which have traversed in our country have preached the unity of humankind with nature*."

India has the wisdom and the capacity to make a difference. I believe this great nation can do more not only on the domestic front but in the international fora to bring about a more responsible international response to the threats of an ecological catastrophe from which mankind may never recover. I am confident that India will play a positive and decisive role at the RIO+20 where the fate of humanity may, very well, be determined.

We are at a crossroads. While accepting the many good that the GDP based development model has done, it is time, if not too late, to accept that we need to relegate GDP to its limited use and establish a new architecture for genuine and progressive development of human society. Taking time away from the delusions of the material world and its suicidal tendency, we need to engage in serious reflection and contemplation.

Honourable Prime Minister, you have said: "*In the final analysis, we have to recognize that the world must move away from production and consumption patterns which are carbon-intensive and energy-intensive. … We have to make changes in our lifestyles…that, charting these new pathways is not beyond our collective imagination. Life as we know it on our own beautiful planet is at stake*."

We need to be clear about what truly matters to us as human beings and live our life in ways that will give us contentment and happiness within a safe and supportive environment. We need to ensure that the good we have accomplished can be sustained and that meaningful societal progress can continue in ways that will ensure intergenerational equity. All we really need to do is let common sense and reason prevail. And measure what matters.

Recognizing such need, various attempts are being made to develop indices that are more comprehensive and promote sustainable human well-being. Some already in use are the:

- ❖ Human Development Index (HDI) of the UNDP which measures development by combining indicators of life expectancy, educational attainment and income;
- ❖ Genuine Progress Index (GPI) or sustainable economic welfare, which adjusts GDP for income distribution, adds value of household and volunteer work, and subtracts costs of crime and pollution;
- ❖ Happy Planet Index (HPI) by New Economics Foundation, which ranks countries along life expectancy, life satisfaction, and per capita ecological footprint.; Now most recently, the
- ❖ OECD Better Lives Dashboard – which is a compendium of indicators produced in 2011 to develop multi-dimensional approaches to welfare or well-being measurement.

But except for the UNDP's HDI, these conceptual frameworks to promote and measure genuine progress are still on the margins of public policy. In the meanwhile, societies are increasingly dissatisfied with failure of governments to provide long term solutions.

Then, of course, there has always been the philosophy of Gross National Happiness (GNH) that has guided Bhutan's development since the early 70s.

Premised on the belief that 'Happiness' is the purpose and ultimate desire of every human being, His Majesty Jigme Singye Wangchuck, the Fourth King of Bhutan established Gross National Happiness as the country's purpose of development. As human beings, we have needs not only for the body but of the mind and it is when these two needs are equally attended that one is able to enjoy a sustained state of being that is called happiness. Happiness is not ephemeral and is only partially conditioned by external stimuli. It is the ultimate desire of every human being and it is only natural that the primary role of the State must be to create enabling conditions for any citizen who chooses to pursue happiness. It is mainly for this role that the government must be held accountable.

Ever since GNH was introduced to the world as an alternate development paradigm at the UNDP Asia-Pacific Millennium Summit in 1998, more than 25 years after its application in Bhutan, it has become a subject of global discourse. In its wake, it has spawned a plethora of researches, books as well as various initiatives to translate its principles into action at the national, sub national, corporate and individual family levels. This led Bhutan, to collaborate with many thinkers and like-minded scholars across the world to develop robust measures, beyond the earlier initial four pillars of GNH, as the Honourable Speaker referred to, to assess the variations in happiness levels as a

result of public policies, programmes and resource allocations by government. This included five international conferences on GNH across three continents of North America, South America and Asia with numerous national and institutional level meetings being held in many countries across the world. Consequently, there is now in place a comprehensive set of indices comprising nine causes or domains of happiness. These provide for a holistic, sustainable and inclusive development model which can be measured through 72 variables.

The nine domains are:

1. Living Standard, which covers basic economic status of citizens, incidence of poverty, level of employment, income distribution and inequalities and so on;

2. Health Status, which measures all health related conditions, including life expectancy and morbidity rates;

3. Educational standard and relevance, which determines educational and skill access or attainment**;** integrity of family; civic, and cultural knowledge;

4. Ecological Diversity and Resilience, that will evaluate the status of land, water, forest, air, and biodiversity, including such determinants as production, waste, transportation, energy use, and ecological footprint;

5. Cultural Diversity and Resilience, as a measure of people's core values, local customs and traditions, and related changes;

6. Community Vitality, which will assess the strengths and weaknesses in relationships, trust, voluntarism, community life and general social capital, including the vitality of extended family network;

7. Time Use, will look into proportion of time accorded to work, travel, household chores, social, leisure and family vitalizing activities;

8. Psychological Well-being, the decline of which is among the biggest challenges of modern, urban life will look at various levels of mental illness, suicide and such other incidence; and lastly,

9. Governance Quality, that will measure participation; delivery of justice; freedom and quality of media; transparency, accountability, corruption; trust in media and government and so on.

The seriousness with which these indices are applied on the ground in Bhutan is to be found in the way all proposed government policies are subject to a screening process by the Gross National Happiness Commission. The process ensures that unless a policy contributes positively to each of the domains or is negative at neutral at the very least, it is rejected and can be reconsidered only if the

negative aspects are removed or replaced with positive ones. Likewise, it is rare for any public discourse on development to take place without invoking GNH. It is in keeping with this pervasive and conscious pursuit of happiness that even the annual State of the Nation Report of the Prime Minister to the Parliament is structured and presented on the basis of the four pillars of Gross National Happiness.

It may be of some interest to the distinguished gathering that the last national population housing and census reported the following levels of happiness among the Bhutanese:

- ❖ Not very happy = 3%
- ❖ Happy = 52%
- ❖ Very happy = 45%

Various comparative indices have similarly, shown Bhutan as being among the happiest country in the world. And therefore, it is no wonder that many visitors to Bhutan are people in quest of happiness believing that we are a happy people, a happy country. I am at pains to explain that Bhutan is far from happiness as a poor country that is still at a stage of development when providing basic services to the people is a major challenge and when a significant section of our people still live in squalor. What is however, different between Bhutan and most other countries is that we are serious about the pursuit of happiness, the ultimate purpose in life, and long term survival of humanity. Happiness in Bhutan is the basis of all public policies and allocation of resources.

The truth is that no country and no people anywhere can be complacent and claim to be happy. How can anyone be happy when all things are falling apart around us and when our future as a race is doomed, unless we start acting responsibly and sensibly - unless we are able to break out of the mould of consumerism to pursue not so much the unknown but the less trodden saner path.

However, I do not despair. I am encouraged by the dedication of President Sarkozy to the search for an alternate development paradigm that will promote happiness. I am heartened by Prime Minister David Cameron's policy and measures being taken to make well-being the central purpose of British governance. I am enthused by the Australian government's announcement that its ranking on the GNH index had risen by 0.3 points during 2010. Likewise, the Japanese government's announcement earlier this month, that it will soon launch a GNH survey was refreshing.

And in Brazil, sub-national governments and communities have already started implementing GNH metrics and programmes. Upon universities having started courses on GNH and Institutes of GNH

having popped up in various parts of the world, there is cause for hope. I certainly considered it very significant that the Indian magazine, *Outlook,* should bring out a cover story last month – I do not know whether anybody had read it – on "India's Happiest Cities" with Jaipur being the happiest, Ahmedabad the least happy and Delhi did not compare favourably with Mumbai.

And there in the United Nations, as the Honourable Prime Minister and the Honourable Speaker mentioned, the General Assembly unanimously passed a resolution in July this year, on the pursuit of Happiness as a timeless goal that provides the basis for a holistic, sustainable and inclusive development paradigm. In April 2012, that is the next year, Bhutan will be the coordinator for a high level meeting at the UN in New York at which, leaders, governments, thinkers, economists and scientists and civil society will come together to direct and establish an arrangement for the development of a holistic and inclusive paradigm for sustainable human well-being. This is required by that resolution on happiness.

India's direct and substantive role at the meeting to launch the endeavour toward a new paradigm is critical not only because of its demographic responsibility but because India and the people of India have the wisdom and capacity – I believe, they will – to make a big difference to the outcome. It is also because we can no longer delay our departure from what is just not sustainable and will end life on earth.

Just as the dark future will be of our own making, it is within the genius of mankind to make it bright and hopeful. What is needed is the will to do so.

I believe this is the kind of endeavour for the success of which Prof. Hiren Mukerjee would have lent his brilliant mind and winning oratory.

I thank you for your kind indulgence. And I wish you HAPPINESS!

Tashi Delek.

3

THE ROLE OF PARLIAMENTARY DIPLOMACY IN THE ERA OF GLOBALIZATION*

Smt. Meira Kumar, Speaker, Lok Sabha

Introduction

Parliament is central to the functioning of Government. The countries across the world have developed parliamentary institutions in a manner best suited to native needs. Despite the social, cultural and linguistic diversities, there is one common point that Parliaments of various countries represent people and serve their needs, hopes and aspirations; Parliaments provide a forum to the representatives of the people to freely express their views and scrutinize governmental activities. It is at this forum only that the matters of national and international importance are discussed at length and shaped into various laws, policies and programmes of governance.

Parliament and International Affairs

Though international negotiations, treaties and agreements are essentially a part of the functions of executive, Parliaments too have a leading role to play in the matters of foreign affairs. Apart from the task of ratification of international treaties, enactment of laws and sanctioning of budgetary allocation to meet commitments on various treaties and agreements, Parliaments discuss foreign matters through usual means of parliamentary control such as questions, various motions, resolutions, parliamentary committees, etc. In this way, they complement the efforts of the Governments in taking appropriate stand at various fora on global issues which have direct or indirect ramification on national polity.

In India, under article 246 of the Constitution of India, Parliament alone is competent to make laws with regard to foreign affairs; diplomatic, consular and trade representation; United Nations Organisation; participation in international conferences, associations and other bodies and implementing of decisions made thereof; entering into treaties and agreements with foreign countries and implementing of treaties, agreements

* Paper presented by the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar at the 21st Commonwealth Speakers and Presiding Officers Conference held at Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago from 7 to 12 January 2012.

and conventions with foreign countries; foreign loans; trade and commerce with foreign countries, etc. Under article 253 of the Constitution, the Parliament of India is also vested with the power to make laws for the whole or any part of the territory of India for implementing any treaty, agreement or convention with any other country or countries or any decision made at any international conference, association or other body.

By virtue of article 73 of the Constitution the executive power of the Union extends to the matters with respect to which Parliament has power to make laws and to the exercise of such rights, authority and jurisdiction as are exercisable by the Government of India by virtue of any treaty or agreement; and article 53 vests the executive power of the Union in the President of India, exercisable either directly or through officers subordinate to him in accordance with the Constitution of India, the task of international negotiations including all activities relating to external assistance is essentially a part of the functions of the executive. The said tasks come under the jurisdiction of our Ministry of External Affairs, who concludes all treaties and agreements with the approval of the Cabinet. The views of all concerned Ministries are also taken into account before becoming a party to any such move.

According to the present practice, the Parliament of India is kept fully informed of the initiatives by the Government in country's foreign affairs. The copies of treaties and agreements are placed on the Table of the Houses of Parliament after the instruments of ratification are exchanged. Wherever necessary, the Government brings forward legislation or a motion to give effect to the provisions of a treaty and an agreement. If the provisions involve financial commitments, the matter comes up before Parliament in the form of budgetary demands. All these place Parliament and the parliamentarians in close proximity to foreign policy matters.

Important matters of foreign affairs are often discussed on the floor of the House through various procedural devices also. Sometimes Resolutions are passed on the matters of crucial importance so as to reflect the collective will of the people and the nation. And there are several other channels such as the Departmentally Related Standing Committees including that on External Affairs through which Parliament gives its views and inputs to the Government. The Consultative Committees on External Affairs and those concerning to various other Ministries are yet another mode of involving Parliament and the members of Parliament in the task of country's foreign matters.

Parliaments and Globalization

The institution of Parliament is a living entity. It has to attune

itself to the emerging needs and ever changing scenario at national and international levels.

Today, globalization has established the significance of interdependence and inter-connectedness far more than at any time in human history. Fuelled by economic liberalization and rapid technological advancement, especially the phenomenal growth of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs), the web of transnational contacts has grown immensely over the years. The world has transformed into a global village in terms of trade, flow of capital, goods, services, labour and technologies, and circulation of information and knowledge through the information superhighway–the Internet. So much so, the whole of international community entered into a commitment in September 2000, to work together towards building a safer, prosperous and equitable world by meeting time-bound and measurable Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Ranging from eradicating poverty and hunger to achieving universal primary education to gender equality and empowerment of women to child and maternal health to combating HIV/AIDs, Malaria and other diseases to ensuring environmental sustainability, the MDGs have established the inevitability of global partnership in addition to national resources. Global partnership becomes all the more essential in view of the issues that transcend national boundaries such as the recent financial and economic crisis, peace and security, terrorism, human trafficking, climate change, cyber crimes and safety, trade and commerce, food and energy security, migration and transfer of population, etc.

Globalization has brought in significant changes in the hopes and aspirations of the people, their level of awareness, capacity to shape their lives and assert their rights. Parliaments are required to safeguard the interests of the people in the wake of new parameters and challenges of development. People expect their Parliaments to work for ensuring them better health, education, home, employment, basic amenities, climate, etc., and, above all, peace and security of life. In the multi-polar world, Parliaments are also expected to facilitate the growth of their nations' economies in tune with global standards. Besides, Parliaments also have a greater role for ensuring their nations a better place in the new world order. And as the parliamentarians are in a unique position to influence the Governments and mould public opinion in their respective countries, they have a special duty to perform in reducing regional and international tensions too, and to strive for peace and prosperity everywhere. In this connection, it is crucial to reinforce the role of Parliaments and their members as intermediaries between international processes and the peoples across the world so as to make decision-making at international fora more inclusive and representative.

The increased blurring of boundaries between national and foreign affairs have made it imperative that Parliaments and the parliamentarians consider issues before them with a global mindset. This has led to an exceptional increase in the activities of democratic institutions. The increasing complexity and globalization of developments require Parliaments and their members, more than ever before, to play their role in enabling citizens and society as a whole to understand and cope with the interconnections between globalization and their daily lives, and to transform their concerns into national and international policies. Actions to honour the commitments assumed in international and regional forums demand involvement of Parliaments as many issues addressed by Parliaments have an international dimension or have their origin in international developments or international structures.

The problems that are faced by one Parliament today may confront another tomorrow. Under these circumstances, it has become inevitable to strengthen political processes and links between peoples' representatives across the countries. Here comes the need for regular contacts and effective links among Parliaments of the world on bilateral and multilateral basis. In this backdrop, parliamentary diplomacy has gained popularity across the globe with dialogue, discussion, deliberation and conciliation of mutual interests among Parliaments as fundamentals.

Parliamentary Diplomacy

Today, multilateral cooperation has added a new dimension to international relations with different working methods and new participants. International relations are no longer confined to traditional diplomacy, which was the domain of the Executive (Government) only. Over the years, Open or Conference diplomacy is being given preference over traditional diplomacy. As the significance of international parliamentary contacts is growing with time, Parliaments across the world are becoming increasingly active participants in international relations. That being so, Parliamentary diplomacy has emerged as one of the successful variants of Open or Conference diplomacy.

The growing relevance of Parliamentary co-operation and diplomacy has led to the creation of international as well as regional organisations where under the parliamentarians from across the globe and regions could meet and discuss matters of common concern with solutions. As a result of all these, today parliamentary diplomacy has become an institutionalized device available to the members of Parliament. In addition to bilateral and multilateral contacts such as parliamentary visits, seminars and workshops, etc., organizations like Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) and the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) are playing an important role in bringing parliamentarians together with a view to promoting social, economic and political development collectively within the framework of international cooperation.

The Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) as the international organization of Parliaments of sovereign States is the oldest multilateral political organization created in 1889. The IPU has transformed itself from an association of individual parliamentarians into the international organization of the Parliaments of sovereign States. The Group has also been accorded the Permanent Observer status to the United Nations. Promoting the concepts of peace and international arbitration, the IPU provided the origins for today's form of institutionalized multilateral co-operation and advocated the establishment of institutions such as the Permanent Court of Arbitration in The Hague. It is a centre for dialogue and parliamentary diplomacy which brings together legislators from 159 member Parliaments representing various political systems.

Over a period of hundred years of its existence, the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) has proved to be a great success in strengthening and deepening democracies and in evolving the role of parliamentary community on issues of vital concern. Keeping pace with changing times and profiles, today the CPA has taken firm roots by bringing together approximately 17,000 parliamentarians from across the Commonwealth countries.

These organizations have justified their existence by furthering friendship, peace and prosperity through collective endeavour. Their value lies in their capacity to provide a basis for understanding and consensus which transcends the divisions on the basis of regional, ethnic or cultural diversities. Further, these organizations also provide basis for consensus on vital issues of global interest and make it easier for the wider international community to take it into account while considering similar problems at bigger forums such as the United Nations.

Time and again, Parliamentary diplomacy has also provided opportunities to Parliaments to examine their own roles and responsibilities. The search for new parliamentary procedures, practices and reforms is yet another area given greater attention in the quest to strengthen the capacity of Parliaments so as to meet the rising expectations of the people and to make Parliaments more effective in the task of ensuring executive accountability.

International parliamentary activity serves a variety of other goals also, from strengthening democracy to enhancing the role of media and various actors from civil society to ensuring transparency in governmental activities to increasing democratic legitimacy of governmental institutions to taking away misconceptions and promoting better inter-parliamentary or other types of cooperation. In fact, deliberations among parliamentarians are usually free and frank at Inter-Parliamentary congregations. They serve as a venue to put across the views of member States as well as the citizens from various walks of societies.

Although they do not guarantee an agreement or a treaty as in the case of traditional diplomacy, yet the importance of consensus reached here cannot be ignored. The growing public awareness and the expansion of democratic form of governance in more and more countries of the world have given further impetus to such forums of Parliamentary diplomacy.

Speakers of Parliaments and International Matters

In view of the basic principles associated with parliamentary democracy, the institution of Presiding Officer has a significant role to play. Entrusted with the task of ensuring that Parliament judiciously performs its functions, it is incumbent upon the Presiding Officer to act as the guardian of democracy on the floor of the Houses in various Parliaments. It is the Presiding Officer who is to protect the rights and privileges of Parliament, its committees and the members. Being the repository of the confidence of various sections of the House, it is the solemn duty of the Presiding Officer to be fair-minded, non-partisan and objective in the conduct of business and exercise of powers so as to facilitate threadbare and fair discussion on the issues of crucial importance to the nation.

Besides, the Speakers and Presiding Officers of Parliaments not only entertain an extensive network of foreign relations with diplomatic representatives who are accredited in the country, but also lead parliamentary Delegations to participate in the work and activities of international parliamentary structures such as the Inter-Parliamentary Union, Commonwealth Parliamentary Association and many others. Keeping with traditional relations between Parliaments at various regional and international parliamentary structures, bilateral invitations and visits have added yet another dimension to the role of the Speakers and Presiding Officers in strengthening democracies and inter-parliamentary relations.

In such a given situation, the formation of *the Conference of Speakers and Presiding Officers of the Commonwealth (CSPOC)* is undoubtedly a landmark in the history of the Commonwealth. The Conference has opened new vistas of dialogue and exchange among ambassadors of democracy in Parliaments. Beginning with a small strength, the Conference of Speakers and Presiding Officers of the Commonwealth has successfully evolved into a Forum that brings together the Speakers and Presiding Officers from more than 50 Commonwealth countries. The credit certainly goes to the Hon'ble Mr. Lucien Lamoureux, the then Speaker of the House of Commons of Canada, for having conceived the idea of such a forum of Speakers and Presiding Officers, which became a reality in 1969. It has added a new dimension to the Commonwealth spirit with the aims of fostering

and encouraging impartiality and fairness on the part of Speakers and Presiding Officers; promoting knowledge and understanding of parliamentary democracy in its various forms; and developing parliamentary institutions. The Forum really serves the need of today's age of inter-dependence and inter-connectedness. India is a proud nation to be one of its founder Members.

Parliament of India and Parliamentary Diplomacy

Indian Parliamentary Group

The Indian Parliamentary Group (IPG) is an autonomous body formed in the year 1949 in pursuance of a motion adopted by the Constituent Assembly (Legislative) on 16 August 1948. The Indian Parliamentary Group (IPG) with the Speaker of Lok Sabha as the *ex officio* President acts as a link between the Parliament of India and the various Parliaments of the world; as the National Group of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU); and also as the Main India Branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA). The aims and objects of the Group are to maintain political, social and cultural contacts with the other countries and to facilitate exchange of information and experiences on issues relating to parliamentary activities through exchange of parliamentary delegations, goodwill missions, correspondence, documents, etc.

The Parliament of India had been the host to various parliamentary conferences such as the 57th and 89th IPU Assemblies in 1969 and 1993; the CPA Conferences in 1957, 1975, 1991 and 2007. We have also hosted the Conferences of Speakers and Presiding Officers of the Commonwealth in 1971, 1986 and 2010. Besides, the India Group also hosted a Specialized IPU Conference on *'Towards Partnership between Men and Women in Politics'* in 1997; a regional Seminar for Asian Parliaments on '*Preventing and Responding to Violence against Women and Girls: From Legislation to Effective Enforcement'* in 2011 under the joint auspices of the Parliament of India and the Inter-Parliamentary Union; the First, Second and Fourth India and Asia Regions CPA Conferences in 2004, 2005 and 2010.

Parliamentary Exchanges

The efforts to promote parliamentary diplomacy in our country are not limited to multilateral level alone. Bilateral Parliamentary Delegations from and to India constitute the core of parliamentary exchanges. Upon my election as the Speaker in June 2009, I have already received Parliamentary Delegations from more than 15 countries and have also been to so many countries on such visits. Such exchanges facilitate the sharing of ideas, knowledge and experiences, ultimately contributing to strengthening of mutual ties.

Parliamentary Friendship Groups

To encourage bilateral relations and in order to have more focused and regular interactions with Parliaments of other countries and, the Parliament of India has set up Parliamentary Friendship Groups with a large number of countries. These Parliamentary Friendship Groups aim at maintaining political, economic, social and cultural contacts between the two countries; creating favourable conditions for continuous development of inter-parliamentary contacts, especially in the organization of talks, mutual exchanges and cooperation between the two Parliaments; assisting in having exchanges of information and experiences on issues related to parliamentary activities; promoting cooperation between the Delegations of the two countries while participating in the deliberations of international organizations and also in carrying out consultations on issues of mutual interest, as and when such opportunity arises; and increasing ties between member countries. At present, the Parliament of India has 78 such Parliamentary Friendship Groups.

Other Mechanisms

Yet another area which needs special attention in parliamentary diplomacy is that of imparting requisite orientation and training in the tenets, tools and operational techniques of parliamentary institutions to the legislators, policy makers, administrators and parliamentary functionaries of Parliaments across the countries. The Parliament of India has chosen to focus attention on capacity-building and the promotion of democratic institutions with a view to further the process of parliamentary diplomacy. The Bureau of Parliamentary Studies and Training in Lok Sabha is one of its kinds in the Commonwealth community, which is providing the legislators and parliamentary officials from foreign countries with institutionalized opportunities for problem-oriented studies and systematic training in various disciplines of parliamentary institutions, processes and procedures. Such Training Programmes, Attachment Programmes and Study Visits from foreign Parliaments play an integral part in facilitating greater inter-parliamentary relations. Since the Programmes are attended by participants coming from diverse political and constitutional systems, that in itself provides a learning platform in respect to the working of legislative institutions in a comparative format.

Summing up

In the ultimate analysis, Parliamentary Diplomacy facilitates Parliaments to perform their functions of law-making and overseeing the executive with a global perspective. Further, international affairs and global issues would also not be sufficiently representative of the ground political, economic and social realities if they are devoid of the contribution of lawmakers. In that sense, Parliaments across the world

have a crucial role to perform in the age of globalization, not only because of the present time when global issues have considerable impact on our lives, but also because they represent all the societal forces in their respective countries. It is worth recalling the IPU Resolution at the 97th Inter-Parliamentary Assembly in April 1997, which appealed to all Parliaments the world over to intensify parliamentary diplomacy in order to contribute to international and regional security and stability based on the universal principles of non-interference, equal status, territorial integrity, independence of all States and respect for human rights, as set out in the UN Charter.

4

UNVEILING OF THE PORTRAIT OF DR. TRISTAO DE BRAGANCA CUNHA IN THE CENTRAL HALL OF PARLIAMENT HOUSE

On 19 December 2011, the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar unveiled the portrait of Dr. Tristao De Braganca Cunha in the Central Hall of Parliament House.

Dr. Cunha is revered as the Father of the Goa Liberation Movement. A visionary and a nationalist, he was instrumental in giving identity, substance and purpose to the anti-colonial aspirations of the people of Goa, who were then under the Portuguese Rule. As an indomitable freedom fighter, he laid the foundation of an organized struggle against the colonial Government of Goa. He was also a great thinker, writer, socialist and humanist. Another aspect of his versatile personality was his keen interest in art, music and literature. A fine amateur painter, to his credit goes the choice of the valuable collection of modern paintings and sculptures in the Art Gallery of the Institute of Menezes Braganca at Panaji in Goa.

Dr. Cunha fought relentlessly for the freedom of Goa but was not alive to witness Goa's freedom. He passed away on 26 September 1958, three years before the liberation of Goa, which came on 19 December 1961.

The World Peace Council at its session in Stocklolm, 1959 posthumously awarded him the gold medal for peace in recognition of his eminent constitution to the cause of peace and friendship among peoples.

The portrait of Dr. Tristao De Braganca Cunha painted by eminent Goan artist Ms. Harshada Kerkar Sonak was donated by the Government of Goa. The Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh presented a shawl to Ms. Harshada Kerkar Sonak on the occasion.

The function unveiling the portrait of Dr. Tristao De Braganca Cunha was attended, among others, by the Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh; the Leader of the House, Lok Sabha and Union Finance Minister, Shri Pranab Mukherjee; the Leader of the Opposition, Lok Sabha, Smt. Sushma Swaraj; Chairperson of the United Progressive Alliance and the National Advisory Council, Smt. Sonia Gandhi; Chairman

of Bharatiya Janata Party Parliamentary Party, Shri L.K. Advani; Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha, Shri K. Rahman Khan; Union Ministers, members of Parliament, former members of Parliament and other dignitaries.

At the function, a booklet containing the profile of Dr. Tristao De Braganca Cunha, brought out in Hindi and English by the Lok Sabha Secretariat, was presented to the dignitaries.



Dignitaries at the unveiling of the portrait of Dr. Tristao De Braganca Cunha

5

PARLIAMENTARY EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

This feature outlines in brief important parliamentary events and activities that took place during the last quarter of 2011, *i.e.* 1 October and 31 December 2011.

CONFERENCES AND SYMPOSIA

The major conferences and symposia held during the period were: the 125th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, the 22nd Annual Commonwealth Parliamentary Association Seminar, New Delhi and the 9th Canada CPA Seminar.

125th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, Bern: An Indian Parliamentary Delegation led by Smt. Meira Kumar, Speaker, Lok Sabha attended the 125th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), held in Bern, Switzerland from 16 to 19 October 2011. The other members of the Delegation were Shri K. Rahman Khan, Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha; Sarvashri Uday Singh, Francisco Sardinha, Umashanker Singh and Jose K. Mani, all Members of Parliament; the Secretary-General of Lok Sabha, Shri T.K. Viswanathan and the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha, Dr. V.K. Agnihotri. Shri S. Bal Shekar, Additional Secretary, Lok Sabha Secretariat, was Secretary to the Delegation.

During the Assembly the three Standing Committees held panel discussions on the following subject items chosen for the debate in the 126th IPU Assembly to be held at Kampala, Uganda from 31 March to 5 April 2012: (i) Promoting and practicing good governance as a means of advancing peace and security: Drawing lessons from recent events in the Middle East and North Africa; (ii) Redistribution of power, not just wealth: Ownership of international agenda; and (iii) Promoting and practising good governance as a means of advancing peace and security: Drawing lessons from recent events in the Middle East and North Africa.

The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar participated in the Panel Discussion on "*Redistribution of power, not just wealth: Ownership*

of the International Agendas". Shri Francisco Sardinha, MP participated in the Panel Discussion on the subject, "*Access to Health as a Basic Right: The role of Parliaments in addressing key challenges to securing the health of women and children*". The Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri K. Rahman Khan, participated in the Panel Discussion on the subject, "*Promoting and practicing good governance a means of advancing peace and security: Drawing lessons from recent events in the Middle East and North Africa*" and also in the special panel discussion on the topic '*Reform of the financial markets*' and called for reforms and fine-tuning the processes of regulation, oversight and transparency in the supervision of diverse operations in the financial sector.

22nd Annual Commonwealth Parliamentary Association Seminar, New Delhi: The 22nd Annual Commonwealth Parliamentary Seminar was held in New Delhi from 25 to 29 November 2011. The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar inaugurated the Seminar in Parliament House Annexe on 25 November 2011. Dr. William F. Shija, the Secretary-General of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) welcomed the delegates, while Shri T.K. Viswanathan, Secretary-General, Lok Sabha, proposed the Vote of Thanks. About 30 Members of Parliaments from the Commonwealth countries attended the Seminar.

The following themes were deliberated at the Seminar: (i) The Commonwealth and the Role of CPA; (ii) The Parliamentary and Political Scene in India; (iii) The Role of the Presiding Officer, the Parliamentary Staff and Standing Orders; (iv) The Member of Parliament and Political Party; (v) Parliamentary Ethics, Transparency and Accountability; (vi) Parliamentary Committees and the Committee System; (vii) The Relationship between Parliament and the People; (viii) Financial Scrutiny of the Executive; (ix) Parliament, the Executive and the Public Service; (x) Services for MPs; (xi) Right to Information; (xii) Parliament, Gender and Human Rights; and (xiii) Parliament and HIV/AIDS.

9th Canada CPA Seminar: The 9th Canada CPA Seminar was hosted by the Canada Branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) in Ottawa from 16 to 22 October 2012. Shri Sharifuddin Shariq, MP and Botcha Jhansi Lakshmi, MP attended the Seminar.

UNVEILING OF PORTRAITS

The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar unveiled the portrait of Dr. Tristao De Braganca Cunha in the Central Hall of the Parliament

House on 19 December 2011. The Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh; the Leader of the House, Lok Sabha and Union Finance Minister, Shri Pranab Mukherjee; the Leader of the Opposition, Lok Sabha, Smt. Sushma Swaraj; Chairperson of UPA and the National Advisory Council, Smt. Sonia Gandhi; Chairman of BJP Parliamentary Party, Shri L.K. Advani; Union Minister for Parliamentary Affairs and Water Resources, Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal; and Deputy Chairman of Rajya Sabha, Shri K. Rahman Khan; members of Parliament; former members of Parliament; Secretaries-General of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha; Senior Officers of the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha Secretariats graced the occasion. Dr. Cunha is revered as the Father of the Goa Liberation Movement.

BIRTH ANNIVERSARIES OF NATIONAL LEADERS

On the birth anniversaries of national leaders whose portraits adorn the Central Hall of Parliament House, functions are organized under the auspices of the Indian Parliamentary Group (IPG) to pay tributes to the leaders. During the period from 1 October to 31 December 2010, birth anniversaries of the following leaders were celebrated: Mahatma Gandhi, Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, Deshbandhu Chittaranjan Das, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Smt. Indira Gandhi, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, Shri C. Rajagopalachari, Chaudhary Charan Singh, and Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya.

Mahatma Gandhi and Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: On the occasion of the birth anniversaries of Mahatma Gandhi and Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri, a function was held on 2 October 2011 in the Central Hall of Parliament House. The Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh; the Leader of Opposition (Lok Sabha), Smt. Sushma Swaraj; the Chairperson of UPA and National Advisory Council, Smt Sonia Gandhi; the Chairman, BJP Parliamentary Party, Shri L.K. Advani; Union Ministers; members of Parliament; former members of Parliament; Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha; Senior Officers of the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha Secretariats paid floral tributes to Mahatma Gandhi and Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri.

Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, a function was held on 31 October 2011 in the Central Hall of Parliament House. The Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh; the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar; Union Ministers, members of Parliament, former members of Parliament;

the Secretaries-General of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha; and officers of the Secretariats of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha paid floral tributes to Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.

Deshbandhu Chittaranjan Das: On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Deshbandhu Chittaranjan Das, a function was held on 5 November 2011 in the Central Hall of Parliament House. The Deputy Speaker of Lok Sabha, Shri Kariya Munda; Union Ministers, members of Parliament, former members of Parliament; and officers of the Secretariats of the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha paid floral tributes to Deshbandhu Chittaranjan Das.

Maulana Abul Kalam Azad: On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, a function was held on 11 November 2011 in the Central Hall of Parliament House. The Minister for Parliamentary Affairs and Water Resources, Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal; Union Ministers, members of Parliament, former members of Parliament; the Secretary-General, Rajya Sabha; and officers of the Secretariats of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha paid floral tributes to Maulana Abul Kalam Azad.

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru: On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, a function was held on 14 November 2011 in the Central Hall of Parliament House. The Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh; the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar; the Leader of House, Lok Sabha, and Minister of Finance, Shri Pranab Mukherjee; the Leader of Opposition, Lok Sabha, Smt. Sushma Swaraj; the Chairperson of UPA and National Advisory Council, Smt. Sonia Gandhi; Union Ministers; members of Parliament; former members of Parliament; the Secretaries-General of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha; and officers of the Secretariats of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha paid floral tributes to Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru.

Smt. Indira Gandhi: On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Smt. Indira Gandhi, a function was held on 19 November 2011 in the Central Hall of Parliament House. The Leader of House, Lok Sabha and Minister of Finance, Shri Pranab Mukherjee; the Leader of Opposition, Lok Sabha, Smt. Sushma Swaraj; the Chairperson of UPA and National Advisory Council, Smt. Sonia Gandhi; Union Ministers, members of Parliament, former members of Parliament; the Secretaries-General of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha; and officers of the Secretariats of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha paid floral tributes to Smt. Indira Gandhi.

Dr. Rajendra Prasad: On the occasion of the birth anniversary of

Dr. Rajendra Prasad, a function was held on 3 December 2011 in the Central Hall of Parliament House. The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar; Union Ministers, members of Parliament, former members of Parliament; the Secretary-General of Lok Sabha; and officers of the Secretariats of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha paid floral tributes to Dr. Rajendra Prasad.

Shri C. Rajagopalachari: On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Shri C. Rajagopalachari, a function was held on 10 December 2011 in the Central Hall of Parliament House. The Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh; the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar; the Chairman, BJP Parliamentary Party, Shri L.K. Advani; Union Ministers, members of Parliament, former members of Parliament; the Secretaries-General of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha; and officers of the Secretariats of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha paid floral tributes to Shri C. Rajagopalachari.

Chaudhary Charan Singh: On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Chaudhary Charan Singh, a function was held on 23 December 2011 in the Central Hall of Parliament House. The Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh; the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar; the Minister for Parliamentary Affairs and Water Resources, Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal; the Minister for Civil Aviation, Shri Ajit Singh; the Minister of State for Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions and Prime Minister's Office, Shri V. Narayanasamy; the Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs, Shri Rajeev Shukla; Union Ministers, members of Parliament, former members of Parliament; the Secretaries-General of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha; and officers of the Secretariats of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha paid floral tributes to Chaudhary Charan Singh.

Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya: On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya, a function was held on 25 December 2011 in the Central Hall of Parliament House. The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar; the Chairman, BJP Parliamentary Party, Shri L.K. Advani; Union Ministers, members of Parliament, former members of Parliament; the Secretaries-General of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha; and officers of the Secretariats of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha, paid floral tributes to Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya.

Tributes to Martyrs on Tenth Anniversary of terrorist attack on Parliament: On 13 December 2011, parliamentarians paid tributes to the Martyrs who laid down their lives while defending the Parliament

from the terrorist attack on 13 December 2001. Among the dignitaries who paid tributes to the martyrs included the Vice-President of India and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri Mohammad Hamid Ansari; the Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh; the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar; the Leader of the House in the Lok Sabha and Union Finance Minister, Shri Pranab Mukherjee; the Leader of the Opposition in Lok Sabha, Smt. Sushma Swaraj; the Leader of the Opposition in Rajya Sabha, Shri Arun Jaitley; Chairperson of UPA and Chairperson of National Advisory Council, Smt. Sonia Gandhi; the Chairman of BJP Parliamentary Party, Shri L.K. Advani; the Deputy Chairman of Rajya Sabha, Shri K. Rahman Khan; and the Deputy Speaker of Lok Sabha, Shri Kariya Munda. Among others who paid tributes were Union Ministers, and sitting and former members of Parliament and officers of the Secretariats of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha.

A blood donation camp was organized at Parliament House on the occasion by the Indian Red Cross Society, in which a large number of officers and staff from Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha Secretariats, allied agencies and officers in the office of the Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha, donated blood.

EXCHANGE OF PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATIONS

Foreign Parliamentary Delegations Visiting India

Bhutan: A Parliamentary Delegation from Bhutan led by the Speaker of the National Assembly of Bhutan, Hon'ble Mr. Lyonpo Jigme Tshultim visited India from 23 to 26 November 2011. On 24 November 2011, the Delegation called on the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar, who hosted a banquet in honour of the Delegation. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was also signed between the Speaker, Lok Sabha and the Speaker of the National Assembly of Bhutan. On 25 November 2011, the Delegation had meetings with the Leader of the Opposition in Lok Sabha, Smt. Sushma Swaraj and with the President and members of the India-Bhutan Parliamentary Friendship Group.

Bulgaria: A 17-member Parliamentary Delegation from Bulgaria led by H.E. Mrs. Tsetska Tsacheva, President of the National Assembly of Bulgaria visited India from 26 to 30 November 2011. On 28 November 2011, the Delegation called on the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar and had meeting with the Minister for Parliamentary

Affairs and Water Resources, Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal. On 28 November 2011, the Minister of State for External Affairs, Smt. Preneet Kaur hosted lunch in honour of the Delegation, while the Speaker, Lok Sabha hosted a banquet in the evening which was preceded by cultural programme. On 29 November 2011, the Delegation had meetings with the Chairman and members of the Standing Committee on External Affairs. The Delegation also had a meeting with the Chairman and members of the India-Bulgaria Parliamentary Friendship Group on 30 November 2011.

Italy: An 8-member Italian Parliamentary Delegation led by H.E. Mr. Sandro Gozi, Chairman, Italy-India Parliamentary Friendship Group visited India from 1 to 6 December 2011. On 1 December 2011, the Delegation had meetings with the Minister for Parliamentary Affairs and Water Resources, Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal and the Chairman and the members of the Standing Committee of External Affairs. The Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri K. Rahman Khan hosted dinner in honour of the Delegation on 1 December 2011. On 2 December 2011, the Delegation called on the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar and had meetings with the Minister of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation and Culture, Kumari Selja and the Leader of the Opposition in Lok Sabha, Smt. Sushma Swaraj.

Myanmar: A 31-member Parliamentary Delegation from Myanmar led by the Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw (Lower House of the Myanmar Parliament), H.E. Thura U. Shwe Mann visited India from 11 to 17 December 2011. On 12 December 2011, the Delegation called on the Vice-President of India and the Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri Mohammad Hamid Ansari, the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar and had meeting with the Minister for Parliamentary Affairs and Water Resources, Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal. In the evening the Delegation witnessed cultural programme and attended the banquet hosted by the Speaker, Lok Sabha.

On 13 December 2011, the Delegation had meetings with the Minister for External Affairs, Shri S.M. Krishna; with the Leader of the Opposition in Lok Sabha, Smt. Sushma Swaraj; and with the members of the Standing Committee on External Affairs. On 14 December 2011, the Delegation called on the President, Smt. Pratibha Devisingh Patil and had meeting with the Leader of the Opposition in Rajya Sabha, Shri Arun Jaitley. The Chairmen of the Myanmar Parliamentary Committees on Agriculture, Finance, External Affairs, and Commerce and Transport

had meetings with their counterparts, namely, Sarvashri Basudev Acharia, Yashwant Sinha, Ananth Kumar, Shanta Kumar and Sitaram Yechury on 14 December 2011.

Indian Parliamentary Delegations Visiting Abroad

Japan: An Indian Parliamentary Delegation led by the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar visited Japan from 2 to 6 October 2011. The other members of the Delegation were Sardar Sukhdev Singh Dhindsa, Shri Dilip Gandhi, Smt. Vasanthi Stanley, Smt. Ingrid Mcleod, Smt. Sarika D. Singh Baghel, Shri M.B. Rajesh, all Members of Parliament and Shri T.K. Viswanathan, Secretary–General, Lok Sabha. Shri A.K. Singh, Joint Secretary, Lok Sabha Secretariat, was the Secretary to the Delegation.

During the visit the Delegation called on His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of Japan, Mr. Akihito; H.E. Mr. Yoshihiko Noda, the Prime Minister of Japan; and held discussions with H.E. Mr. Takahiro Yokomichi, Speaker of the House of Representatives and H.E. Mr. Takeo Nishioka, President of the House of Councillors. The Delegation also had meeting with the Japan-India Parliamentary Friendship League.

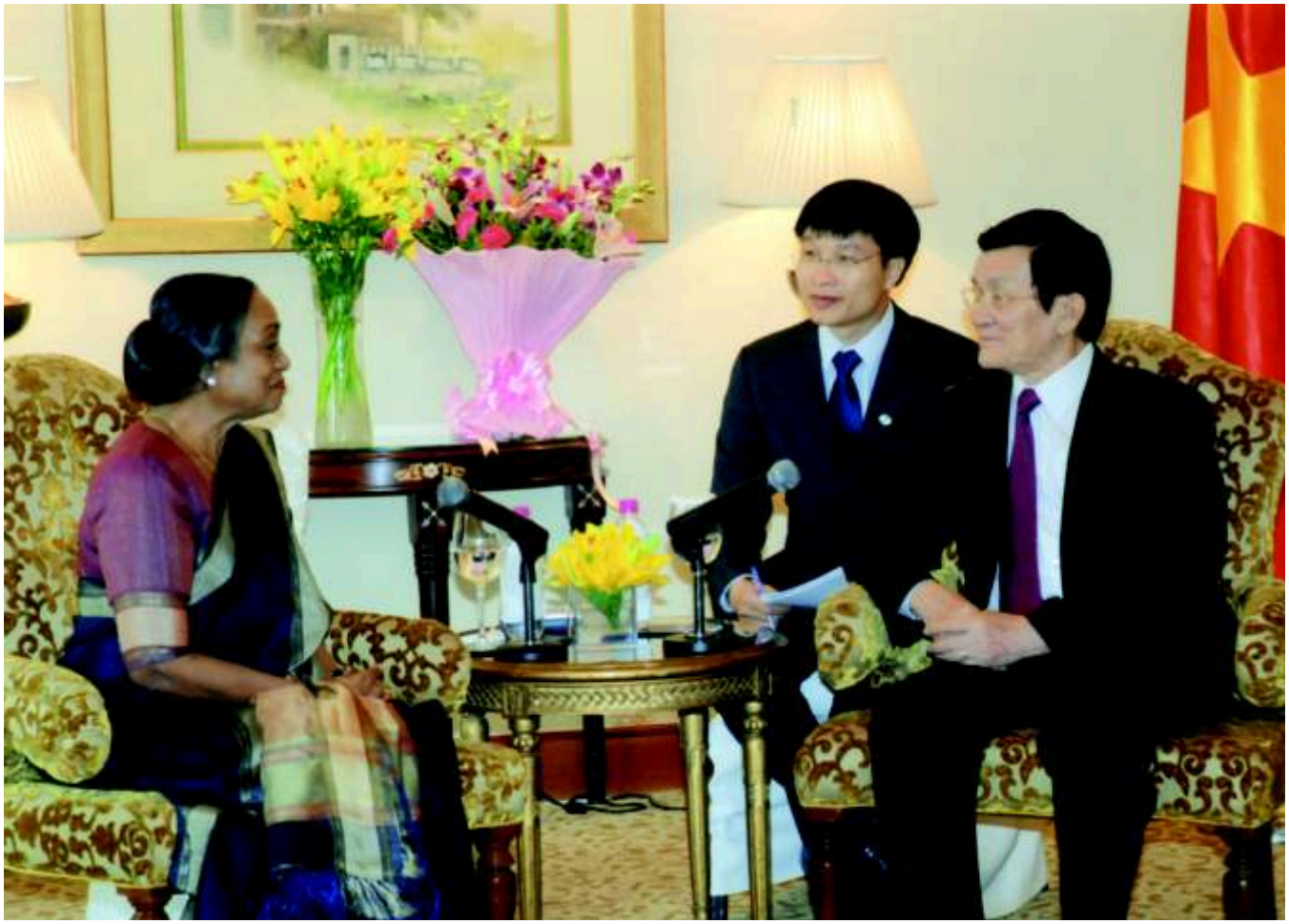
Iran: An Indian Parliamentary Delegation led by the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar visited Mexico from 2 to 6 November 2011. The other members of the Delegation were Shri Prabodh Panda, Smt. Bijoya Chakravarty, Dr. Monazir Hassan, Shri Shivanand Tiwari and Shri Ahmad Saeed Malihabadi, all members of Parliament and Shri T.K. Viswanathan, Secretary-General, Lok Sabha. Dr. Ravinder Kumar Chadha, Joint Secretary, Lok Sabha Secretariat was the Secretary to the Delegation.

During the visit, the Delegation called on the President of the Islamic Republic of Iran, H.E. Mr. Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, and held meetings with the Speaker of the Majlis, H.E. Mr. Ali Larijani, and with the Chairman and Members of the Iran-India Parliamentary Friendship Group.

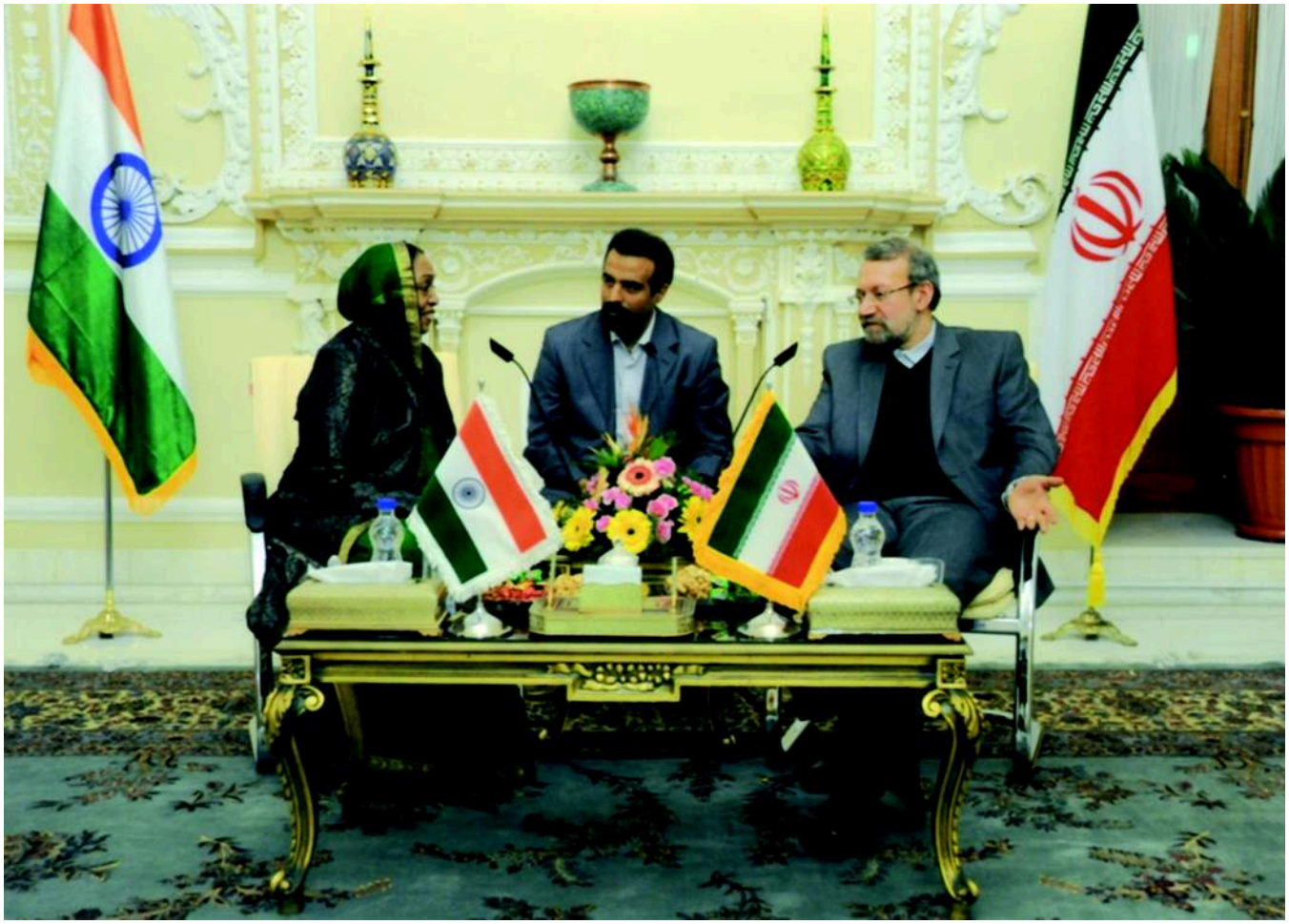
The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar, unveiled a tableau in the Iranian Majlis premises on 2 November 2011 of the poem on Iran written by Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore. On 5 November 2011, Smt. Kumar unveiled the statue of Acharya Jagdish Chandra Bose at Pardis Technology Park. The Delegation also visited Isfahan and the Kendriya Vidyalaya in Tehran.



The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar calling on the Prime Minister of Japan, Mr. Yoshihiko Noda on 4 October 2011



The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar calls on H.E. Mr. Truong Tan Sang, President of Vietnam in New Delhi on 12 October 2011



The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar meets the Speaker of the Parliament of Iran, Majlis, H.E. Dr. Ali Larijani in Tehran on 2 November 2011



The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar with the Delegates to the 22nd Annual CPA Seminar on 25 November 2011



The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine, H.E. Mr. Kostyantyn Gryshchenko calls on Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar on 25 November 2011



The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar calls on the Prime Minister of Bhutan, H.E. Jigmi Y. Thinley on 19 December 2011

Visit of Foreign Dignitaries to Parliament House

Vietnam: The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar called on the President of Vietnam, H.E. Mr. Truong Tan Sang on 12 October 2011.

Ukraine: The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine, H.E. Mr. Kostyantyn Gryshchenko called on the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar on 25 November 2011.

France: The France-India Friendship Group of the French National Assembly (Lower House of French Parliament) led by Mr. Nicolas Forissier, M.P., President of France-India Friendship Group called on the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar on 5 December 2011. The Delegation also had a meeting with Shri Yashwant Sinha, MP and President of the India-France Parliamentary Friendship Group on the same day.

PARLIAMENT MUSEUM

During the period 1 October to 31 December 2011, a total of 5,858 visitors visited the Museum. Apart from general visitors, 2,735 students from 42 schools/colleges from all over the country visited the Museum. A number of present and former members of Parliament, members of State legislatures and foreign dignitaries/delegations also visited the Museum. Among the foreign dignitaries, the Vice-President of the Senate of Trinidad and Tobago; Delegations from the Republic of Korea, Germany, Sweden, Bulgaria, Italy, Myanmar; and officials from Kenya and the Republic of Korea visited the Museum. As many as 1,38,475 visitors have visited the Museum from 5 September 2006 (*i.e.* the date of opening of the Museum for general public) to 31 December 2011.

BUREAU OF PARLIAMENTARY STUDIES AND TRAINING

The 4th Prof. Hiren Mukerjee Memorial Annual Parliamentary Lecture: On 20 December 2011, the Prime Minister of Bhutan, Mr. Lyonchhen Jigmi Y. Thinley, delivered the 4th Prof. Hiren Mukerjee Memorial Annual Parliamentary Lecture on "*Gross National Happiness: A Holistic Paradigm for Sustainable Well-being*" in the Central Hall of the Parliament House. The Vice-President of India and Chairman of Rajya Sabha, Shri Mohammad Hamid Ansari, presided over the function while the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Dr. Manmohan Singh was the Chief Guest. Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar, delivered the

Welcome Address and Shri T.K. Viswanathan, Secretary-General, Lok Sabha, proposed the Vote of Thanks.

The 27th Parliamentary Internship Programme: The 27th Parliamentary Internship Programme was organised from 2 November to 2 December 2011. The Union Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Water Resources, Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal, inaugurated the Programme on 3 November 2011. The programme was attended by 45 Parliamentary Officials from 24 countries.

Study Visits: During the period from 1 October to 31 December 2011, Study Visits were organized for: (*i*) 2 Officers of the Kenya National Assembly, from 19 to 21 October 2011; (*ii*) 3 officers of the National Assembly of Korea, on 18 November 2011; (*iii*) 30-member Parliamentary Delegation from Myanmar, on 13 December 2011; and (*iv*) 4 officers of the National Assembly of Korea, on 16 December 2011. Besides, 17 other Study Visits were conducted for the students, teachers and officials of various schools, and organizations in India. In all 688 participants attended these Study Visits.

Appreciation Courses: Appreciation Courses in Parliamentary Processes and Procedures were organized for the following participants: (*i*) 38 Probationers of the Indian Railway Service of Signal Engineers, from 17 to 19 October 2011; (*ii*) 171 Probationers of the Indian Revenue Service, from 14 to 18 November 2011; (*iii*) 17 Probationers of the Indian Foreign Service, from 28 November to 1 December 2011; (*iv*) 27 Indian Economic Service Officer Trainees of the 2010 and 2011 Batches, from 12 to 16 December 2011; (*v*) 49 Senior Accounts/Audit Officers and Audit/Accounts Officers from the Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India, from 12 to 16 December 2011; (*vi*) 35 Executives of GAIL (India) Ltd., from 21 to 22 December 2011.

Training Programmes: A Training Programme for 45 security officials of Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha and State Legislature Secretariats was organized from 31 October to 4 November 2011.

Lok Sabha Internship Programme: Five Interns have joined the Lok Sabha Internship Programme for the year 2011.

6

PRIVILEGE ISSUES

LOK SABHA

During the period 1 October 2011 to 31 December 2011, the Committee of Privileges held two sittings on 3 November and 21 December 2011 while the Committee on Ethics held one sitting on 21 October 2011. The Committee of Privileges presented one report. No report was presented by the Committee on Ethics during the period.

Committee of Privileges

The Committee of Privileges of the 15th Lok Sabha presented a Report on 30 November 2011 on the issues of (i) Protocol violation and discourteous behaviour displayed by the Government officers *vis a vis* the members of Parliament (MPs); (ii) Revision of the position of MPs in the Warrant of Precedence issued by the President's Secretariat; and the (iii) Inclusion of former Speakers of the Lok Sabha in the Warrant of Precedence, *etc*.

On the issue of Protocol violation and discourteous behaviour displayed by the Government officers *vis a vis* the members of Parliament, the Committee suggested that a consolidated circular reiterating the guidelines circulated from time to time, shall be issued by the Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT). The DoPT accepted and incorporated all the suggestions made by the Committee in a consolidated circular which was approved by the Committee. The DoPT was directed to issue the same to the Chief Secretaries of the States and the Union Territories (UTs). The Committee also recommended that the consolidated circular issued be specifically brought to the notice of the Chief Secretaries of the States and the Union Territories during the next Chief Secretaries Conference with particular reference to the provision for punishment for violation of guidelines contained in the consolidated circular.

The Committee recommended that members of Parliament should be upgraded and be placed at Serial No. 17 instead of their present placement at Serial No. 21 in the Warrant of Precedence. Further, the Chairpersons of Parliamentary Committees who were also MPs, were recommended for being placed at Serial No. 17 in the Warrant of Precedence before the members of Parliament. The Committee also

recommended that the former Speakers of the Lok Sabha should be placed at Serial No. 7 of the Warrant of Precedence.

The Committee also recommended that the Ministry of Surface Transport, Government of India should issue a notification under the provisions of the Central Motor Vehicles Act, permitting the use of red light beacons atop the vehicles of MPs throughout the country.

7

PROCEDURAL MATTERS

LOK SABHA

I

Observation from the Chair regarding disallowance of notices of Adjournment Motion on the ground that the motion shall not anticipate a matter, which has been previously appointed for consideration: On 24 November 2011, the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar made the following observation:—

> "Honourable members, I have received notices of Adjournment Motion from Sarvashri Shailendra Kumar, K.D. Deshmukh, Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh, Dr. Ram Chandra Dome, and Shri Nama Nageswara Rao regarding unprecedented rise in prices of essential commodities.
>
> As per rule 58(vi) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, the motion shall not anticipate a matter, which has been previously appointed for consideration. In determining whether a discussion is out of order on the ground of anticipation, regard shall be had by the Speaker to the probability of the matter anticipated being brought before the House within a reasonable time.
>
> A discussion under Rule 193 on the same subject, *i.e.* regarding the inflation situation in India is listed in today's Order Paper at Sl. No.9 in the name of Shri Gurudas Dasgupta and Shri Basudeb Acharia. I have, therefore, disallowed the notices of Adjournment Motion.
>
> The discussion under Rule 193 will be taken up at 2.00 P.M. today."

II

Observation from the Chair regarding disallowance of notices of Adjournment Motion on the ground that there is no element of urgency in the matter: On 7 December 2011, the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar made the following observation:—

> "Honourable members, I have received notices of adjournment

> motion from Sarvashri Shailendra Kumar, Basudeb Acharia, Sharad Yadav, Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi, Shri Gurudas Dasgupta, Prof. Sk. Saidul Haque, Sarvashri Bhartruhari Mahtab, Ramkishun, Arjun Charan Sethi, Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh, Dr. Munisamy Thambidurai, Sarvashri Dara Singh Chauhan and Nama Nagaswara Rao regarding the Government's decision to allow foreign direct investment in retail.
>
> Rule 56 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha provides that 'a motion for an adjournment of the business of the House for a purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance may be made with the consent of the Speaker.'
>
> After the statement made by Honourable Leader of the House, there is now no element of urgency in the matter.
>
> I am, therefore, inclined to withhold my consent. All the notices of adjournment motion are accordingly disallowed."

Instances when the Chair allowed members to lay their written speeches on the Table of the House: On 7 December 2011, during discussion on the Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) 2011-2012, the Chair permitted nine members (Shri Nalin Kumar Kateel, Dr. Mahendrasinh P. Chauhan, Shri Ganesh Singh, Dr. Charles Dias, Shri Naranbhai Kachhadia, Dr. Kirit P. Solanki, Dr. Nirmal Khatri, Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal and Shri Satpal Maharaj) to lay their written speeches on the Table of the House.

On 8 December 2011, during discussion under Rule 193 on the Statement laid on the Table of the House on 22 November 2011 by the Minister of Finance regarding inflation situation in India, the Chair permitted 27 members to lay their written speeches on the Table of the House.

On 13 December 2011, during discussion on the Supplementary Demand for Grant in respect of Budget (Railways) for the year 2011-2012, the Chair permitted 45 members to lay their written speeches on the Table of the House.

On 19 December 2011, during discussion under Rule 193 on situation arising out of threat being posed to very existence of River Ganga and Himalayas due to their ruthless exploitation, the Chair permitted 13 members (Dr. Kirit P. Solanki, Dr. Mahendrasinh P. Chauhan, Sarvashri Arjun Ram Meghwal, A.T. (Nana) Patil, Ramashankar Rajbhar, Sanjay Shamrao Dhotre, Rajendra Agrawal, Gorakh Nath Pandey, P.T. Thomas, Kapil Muni Karwariya, Jagdambika Pal, Hansraj

G. Ahir and Ratan Singh) to lay their written speeches on the Table of the House.

On 20 December 2011, the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar as a special case, permitted a member (Shri Shailendra Kumar) whose name was not included in the List of Business to ask clarificatory questions on Calling Attention regarding need to take adequate safety measures to protect the lives of *Safai Karamcharis* (sewer cleaners) and provide health insurance cover to them.

On 29 December 2011, the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar as a special case, permitted a member (Shri Jagdambika Pal) whose name was not included in the List of Business to ask clarificatory questions on Calling Attention regarding situation arising out of spread of Encephalitis and Brain Fever in various parts of the country, particularly in Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and Bihar and steps taken by the Government in this regard.

8

PARLIAMENTARY AND CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

(1 OCTOBER TO 31 DECEMBER 2011)

Events covered in this Feature are based primarily on reports appearing in the daily newspapers and, as such, the Lok Sabha Secretariat does not accept any responsibility for their accuracy, authenticity or veracity.

—Editor

INDIA

DEVELOPMENTS AT THE UNION

Parliament Session: The Ninth Session of the Fifteenth Lok Sabha and the Two Hundred and Twenty Fourth Session of the Rajya Sabha commenced on 22 November 2011. Both the Houses were adjourned on 29 December 2011. The President of India, Smt. Pratibha Devisingh Patil, prorogued both the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha on 5 January 2012.

Expansion of Cabinet: On 18 December 2011, the Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh inducted Shri Ajit Singh as the Cabinet Minister with the portfolio of Civil Aviation into his Union Council of Ministers.

Resignation of Rajya Sabha Member: On 23 November 2011, Shri Sabir Ali of the Lok Janshakti Party (LJP) from Bihar resigned from the Rajya Sabha.

Elections to Rajya Sabha: On 15 December 2011, Shri Pankaj Bora of the Indian National Congress (INC) and Shri Sabir Ali of the Janata Dal (United) [JD(U)] were declared elected from the State of Assam and Bihar, respectively. The term of both the members commenced on 16 December 2011. While Shri Sabir Ali took oath/ affirmation on 19 December 2011, Shri Pankaj Bora took the same on 27 December 2011.

Death of Rajya Sabha Member: On 10 October 2011, Shri Silvius Condpan, INC member from Assam in the Rajya Sabha passed away.

Lok Sabha Bye-election Results: On 17 October 2011, Shri Kuldeep Bishnoi, of the BJP-Haryana Janhit Congress (HJC) was declared elected from Hisar Lok Sabha Constituency (Haryana), bye-election to which was held on 13 October 2011.

On 4 December 2011, Shri Subrata Bakshi of the All India Trinamool Congress (AITC) was declared elected from Kolkata Dakshin Lok Sabha Constituency (West Bengal), bye-election to which was held on 30 November 2011.

Resignation of Lok Sabha Members: On 9 October 2011, the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar accepted the resignation of Kumari Mamata Banerjee, All India Trinamool Congress (AITC) member from Kolkata Dakshin Lok Sabha Constituency (West Bengal).

On 29 December 2011, Shri D.V. Sadananda Gowda, BJP member from Udupi Chikmagalur Lok Sabha Constituency (Karnataka) resigned his seat in the Lok Sabha.

Another Ally in UPA: On 12 December 2011, the Rashtriya Lok Dal (RLD) joined the United Progressive Alliance. The RLD has five members in the Lok Sabha.

AROUND THE STATES

ANDHRA PRADESH

Resignation of Minister: On 1 October 2011, the Minister for Infrastructure, Shri Komatireddy Venkat Reddy resigned from the Council of Ministers. The Governor accepted his resignation.

Assembly Bye-election Result: On 17 October 2011, Shri Pocharam Srinivasa Reddy of the Telangana Rashtra Samiti (TRS) was declared elected from Banswada Assembly Constituency, bye-election to which was held on 13 October 2011.

Change of Party: On 30 October 2011, two Indian National Congress (INC) MLAs, Sarvashri Jupally Krishna Rao and T. Rajaiah, and an independent MLA, Shri Somarapu Satyanarayana, who is also an associate member of that party in the State Legislative Assembly, joined the TRS.

ARUNACHAL PRADESH

Resignation of Chief Minister: On 31 October 2011, the Chief Minister, Shri Jarbom Gamlin resigned.

New Chief Minister: On 1 November 2011, Shri Nabam Tuki was sworn in as the Chief Minister.

BIHAR

Death of former Chief Minister: On 4 October 2011, the former Chief Minister, Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad, died at New Delhi.

Assembly Bye-election Results: On 17 October 2011, Ms. Kavita Singh of the JD(U) was declared elected from Daraunda Assembly Constituency, bye-election to which was held on 13 October 2011.

On 4 December 2011, Shri Sanjay Kumar Sah of the JD(U) was declared elected from Laukaha Assembly Constituency, bye-election to which was held on 30 November 2011.

HARYANA

Assembly Bye-election Results: On 4 December 2011, Smt. Renuka Bishnoi of the HJC and Shri Jarnail Singh of the INC were declared elected from Adampur and Ratia Assembly Constituencies, bye-elections to which were held on 30 November 2011.

Five MLAs Declared 'Unattached' Members: On 20 December 2011, the Punjab and Haryana High Court held that the Speaker of the Haryana Legislative Assembly, Shri Kuldeep Sharma had caused "unnecessary delay" in deciding disqualification petitions against the five MLAs, who switched to the INC after being elected on the Haryana Janhit Congress-BL tickets. The Court declared the five MLA's namely Sarvashri Satpal Sangwan, Vinod Bhayana, Narendra Singh, Zile Ram Sharma and Dharam Singh as "unattached members" of the House. The Court suspended the two orders of the Speaker issued in November 2009 allowing their merger with the INC.

HIMACHAL PRADESH

Assembly Bye-election Results: On 4 December 2011, Shri Hirdaya Ram of the BJP and Shri Lakhwinder Rana of the INC were declared elected from Renuka and Nalagarh Assembly Constituencies, bye-elections to which were held on 30 November 2011.

JHARKHAND

Assembly Bye-election Result: On 4 December 2011, Shri Jaiprakash Bhai Patel of the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM) was declared elected from Mandu Assembly Constituency, bye-election to which was held on 30 November 2011.

KARNATAKA

Assembly Bye-election Result: On 4 December 2011, Shri Sriramulu,

an Independent was declared elected from Bellary Assembly Constituency, bye-election to which was held on 30 November 2011.

KERALA

Death of Minister: On 30 October 2011, the Minister for Food and Civil Supplies, Shri T.M. Jacob passed away in Kochi.

MAHARASHTRA

Assembly Bye-election Result: On 17 October 2011, the BJP's Shri Bhimrao Tapkir was declared elected from Khadakwasla Assembly Constituency, bye-election to which was held on 13 October 2011.

ODISHA

Orissa officially renamed: On 4 November 2011, the State of Orissa was officially renamed *Odisha* and its language from *Oriya* to *Odia* following the President of India's assent to the Bill and issuance of the notification to the effect.

Assembly Bye-election Result: On 4 December 2011, Shri Subash Gond of the Biju Janata Dal was declared elected from Umerkote Assembly Constituency, bye-election to which was held on 30 November 2011.

PUDUCHERRY

Assembly Bye-election Result: On 17 October 2011, Shri A. Tamil Selvan of the All India Namathu Rajyam Congress (NR Congress) was declared elected from Indira Nagar Assembly Constituency, bye-election to which was held on 13 October 2011.

RAJASTHAN

Minister Removed: On 16 October 2011, the Chief Minister, Shri Ashok Gehlot removed the Water Resources Minister, Shri Mahipal Maderna from the Council of Ministers.

Maderna Suspended from Party: On 12 November 2011, the INC suspended former Minister Shri Mahipal Maderna from primary membership of the party

All Ministers Submit Resignation: On 14 November 2011, all members of the Council of Ministers submitted their resignation to the Chief Minister Shri Ashok Gehlot.

New Cabinet: On 16 November 2011, the Chief Minister, Shri Ashok Gehlot dropped five Ministers and inducted six new

Ministers in to his Council of Ministers. The dropped Ministers are: Sarvashri Bhanwarlal Meghwal, Ramlal Jat, Pramod Jain Baya, Bharosi Lal Jatav and Smt. Golma Devi. The new Ministers are: Sarvashri Amin Khan, Virendra Beniwal, Dayaram Parmar, Nasim Akhtar Insaf, Vinod Choudhary and Smt. Manju Meghwal.

The names of the Council of Ministers with their portfolios is as follows*: Shri Ashok Gehlot, Chief Minister, *Finance* and *Taxation, Planning, Personnel, Administrative Reforms* and *Co-ordination, Home, Program Implementation, Ministerial Secretariat, Rajasthan State Investigation Bureau, General Administration, Khadi* and *Rural Industries, Social Justice* and *Empowerment, IT* and *Communication, Civil Aviation* and *Others;* Sarvashri Aimaduddin Ahmad 'Duru Miyan', *Medical* and *Health, Family Welfare Ayurveda, Health Education;* Bharat Singh, *Public Works Department;* Smt. Beena Kak, *Tourism, Art* and *Culture, Archeology, Printing Stationery, Forest* and *Environment, Woman* and *Child Development (Additional Charge);* Sarvashri Brijkishore Sharma, *Primary* and *Secondary Education, Sanskrit Education, Language* and *Linguistic Minorities, Devsthan (Additional Charge);* Harji Ram Burdak, *Agriculture, Animal Husbandry* and *Fisheries;* Hema Ram Chaudhary, *Revenue, Colonisation* and *Water Resources;* Mahendrajeet Singh Malviya, *Tribal Area Development, Rural Development* and *Panchayati Raj (Additional Charge);* Parsadi Lal Meena, *Co-operative, Food* and *Civil Supply (Additional Charge);* Shanti Kumar Dhariwal, *Urban Development* and *Housing, Local Self Government, Law* and *Justice, Parliamentary Affairs, Election;* Dr. Jitendra Singh, *Energy, Non Conventional Energy Resources, PHED, GWD, Information* and *Public Relations;* Sarvashri Rajendra Pareek, *Industry, NRIs, Public Undertaking, Economics* and *Statistics, Excise* and *Mines (Additional Charge);* and Ashok Bairwa, *Social Justice* and *Empowerment.*

The Ministers of State are: Sarvashri Ramkishore Saini, *Jail (Independent Charge), Public Grievance Redressal, Technical* and *Engineering Education (Independent), Devsthan;* Vinod Kumar Lilawali, *Rural Development* and *Panchayati Raj, Agriculture, Animal Husbandry* and *Fisheries;* Virendra Beniwal, *Home, Transport (Independent Charge);* Babu Lal Nagar, *Khadi* and *Rural Industries (Independent Charge), Dairy (Independent Charge);* Smt. Manju Devi, *Women* and *Child Development;* Sarvashri Gurmeet Singh Kunnar, *Agriculture Marketing (Independent Charge), Water Resources;* Mangi Lal Garasia, *Labour* and *Employment, Youth Affairs* and *Sports, Factory* and *Boiler Inspection (Independent);* Ameen Khan, *Minority (Independent Charge), Waqf (Independent Charge);* Dayaram Parmar, *Higher Education*

* As on 12 December 2011

(Independent Charge); Murari Lal Meena, *Technical Education (Agriculture), Motor Garage, Estate, State Insurance, ESI (Independent), Public Works Department;* Brijendra Singh Ola, *IGNP, CAD, Sainik Kalyan, Disaster Management* and *Relief (Independent);* Dr. Rajkumar Sharma, *Science* and *Technology (Independent), Medical, Health* and *Family Welfare, Ayurveda, Medical Education;* Rajendra Singh Gudha, *Home Guard* and *Civil Defense, Planning (Manpower) (Independent), Public Undertaking, Economics* and *Statistics;* and Smt. Naseem Akhtar Insaf, *Primary* and *Secondary Education, Language* and *Linguistic Minorities.*

BJP MLA Suspended from Party: On 5 December 2011, the BJP suspended its party MLA, Shri Hanuman Beniwal for anti-party activities.

INC MLA Suspended from Party: On 20 December 2011, the INC suspended its party MLA Shri Malkhan Singh Vishnoi from the party for anti-party activities.

TAMIL NADU

Assembly Bye-election Result: On 17 October 2011, Shri M. Paranjothi of the AIADMK was declared elected from Tiruchirappalli (West) Assembly Constituency, bye-election to which was held on 13 October 2011.

UTTAR PRADESH

Disqualification of BSP MLA: On 4 October 2011, the Speaker of the State Legislative Assembly, Shri Sukhdev Rajbhar disqualified the Bahujan Samaj Party MLA from Jalalpur in Ambedkar Nagar district, Sher Bahadur Singh from the State Legislative Assembly under the anti-defection law. Shri Sher Bahadur Singh was disqualified with retrospective effect from 25 July 2011, the day he joined the Samajwadi Party.

Two Ministers Removed: On 5 October 2011, the Chief Minister, Kumari Mayawati removed the Education Minister, Shri Rangnath Mishra and the Labour Minister, Shri Badshah Singh from the Council of Ministers.

BSP MLA Suspended from Party: On 8 October 2011, the BSP President, Kumari Mayawati suspended Shri Yogesh Verma, party MLA from Hastinapur in Meerut district on charges of indiscipline and anti-party activities.

Disqualification of MLA: On 20 October 2011, the Election Commission disqualified the Rashtriya Parivartan Dal MLA from Bisauli

in Uttar Pradesh, Smt. Umlesh Yadav, from contesting any election for three years as she did not include in her poll expenditure the money spent on advertisements which were masqueraded as news items in the Hindi dailies *Dainik Jagran* and *Amar Ujala.*

MLC Expelled from Party: On 28 November 2011, the BSP expelled Shri Babu Singh Kushwaha, member of the State Legislative Council for indiscipline and anti-party activities.

Ministers Removed: On 1 December 2011, the Chief Minister, Kumari Mayawati removed the Minister for Rural Development Minister (Independent Charge), Shri Ratan Lal Ahirwar from the Council of Ministers.

On 25 December 2011, the Chief Minister removed four Ministers from the Council of Ministers. The Ministers are: Higher Education Minister Shri Rakesh Dhar Tripathi, Agricultural Education and Agricultural Research Minister, Shri Rajpal Tyagi, Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Backward Classes Welfare, Shri Avdesh Kumar Verma and the Minister of State for Home Guards and *Prantiya Rakshak Dal* (PRD), Shri Hari Om.

On 29 December 2011, the Chief Minister removed the Minister of State for Alternative Sources of Energy with Independent Charge, Shri Akabar Hussain and the Minister of State for Science and Technology Shri Yashpal Singh from the Council of Ministers.

On 30 December 2011, the Chief Minister removed four Ministers namely Sarvashri Fateh Bahadur Singh, Sadal Prasad, Anis Ahmed Khan *aka* Phool Babu and Shahjul Islam Ansari from the Council of Ministers.

On the same day, the Minister of State for *Ayurveda*, Shri Daddan Mishra resigned from the Council of Ministers.

WEST BENGAL

Oath as MLA taken by Mamata Banerjee: On 16 November 2011, the Chief Minister, Kumari Mamata Banerjee took oath as the member of the State Legislative Assembly.

EVENTS ABROAD

ARGENTINA

President Re-elected: The incumbent President, Ms. Cristina Fernandez de Kirchner was re-elected for a second consecutive four-year term in office, elections to which were held on 23 October 2011.

BULGARIA

Election of President: Mr. Rosen Plevneliev was elected as the President, elections to which were held on 30 October 2011.

CAMEROON

Re-election of President: The incumbent President, Mr. Paul Biya was re-elected for another term in office, elections to which were held on 9 October 2011.

CAPE VERDE

President Sworn in: On 9 September 2011, Mr. Jorge Carlos Fonseca was sworn in as the President.

CONGO

Re-election of President: The incumbent President, Mr. Joseph Kabila was re-elected for another five-year term in office, the elections to which were held on 28 November 2011.

DENMARK

Legislative Elections: The elections to the 179-seat *Folketing* (the unicameral legislature) were held on 15 September 2011. The party position following the elections is as follows: Liberal Party: 47; Social Democratic Party:44; Danish People's Party: 22; Social Liberals: 17; Socialist People's Party: 16; Red-Green Unity List: 12; Liberal Alliance: 9; Conservative People's Party: 8; and Regional Seats: 4.

New Prime Minister: On 3 October 2011, Ms. Helle Thorning-Schmidt was appointed as the new Prime Minister.

GREECE

New Prime Minister: On 11 November 2011, Mr. Lucas Papademos was appointed as the Prime Minister. He replaced Mr. George Papandreou who resigned from his post.

GUATEMALA

Legislative Elections: The elections to the 158-seat Congress (the unicameral legislature) were held on 11 September 2011. The party position following the elections is as follows: Patriotic Party: 56; National Unity of Hope and Grand National Alliance: 48; Nationalist Change Union: 14; Renewed Democratic Liberty: 14; Commitment Renovation and Order: 12; Vision with Values and Encounter for

Guatemala: 6; Broad Left Front (Winaq)—Guatemala National Revolutionary Unity-New Nation Alternative: 3; National Advancement Party: 2; Guatemala Republican Front:1; Unionist Party:1; and Victory: 1.

IRELAND

New President: Mr. Michael D. Higgins was elected to the post of President, elections to which were held on 27 October 2011.

ITALY

Resignation of Prime Minister: On 12 November 2011, the Prime Minister, Mr. Silvio Berlusconi resigned from his post.

New Prime Minister: On 16 November 2011, Mr. Mario Monti was sworn in as the Prime Minister.

JAMAICA

New Prime Minister: On 23 October 2011, Mr. Andrew Holness was sworn in as the new Prime Minister.

JORDAN

New Prime Minister: On 17 October 2011, King Abdullah II dismissed the Government of the Prime Minister Mr. Marouf Bakhet and appointed Mr. Awn Khasawneh as the Prime Minister.

KYRGYZSTAN

New President: Mr. Almazbek Atambayev was elected to the office of President, elections to which were held on 30 October 2011.

LATVIA

Legislative Elections: The elections to the 100-seat *Saeima* (the unicameral legislature) were held on 17 September 2011. The party position following the elections is as follows: Harmony Centre: 31; Zatlers Reform Party: 22; Unity: 20; National Alliance: 14; and Union of Greens and Farmers: 13.

LIBERIA

Legislative Elections: The elections to the 73-seat House of Representatives (the lower chamber of the bicameral legislature) were held on 11 October 2011. The party position following the elections is as follows: Unity Party: 24; Congress for Democratic Change: 11; Liberty Party: 7; National Union for Democratic Progress: 6;

National Democratic Coalition: 5; National Patriotic Party: 3; Alliance for Peace and Democracy: 3; Movement for Progressive Change: 2; Liberia Transformation Party: 1; Liberia Destiny Party: 1; National Reformation Party:1; and Independents: 9,

Re-election of President: The incumbent President, Ms. Ellen Johnson Sirleaf was re-elected as the President in the elections held to the post on 8 November 2011.

LIBYA

Death of Kadhafi: On 20 October 2011, ousted military dictator, Col. Moamer al-Kadhafi was captured and killed outside the coastal town of Sirte.

MADAGASCAR

New Prime Minister: On 28 October 2011, Mr. Omer Beriziky was appointed as the new Prime Minister. He replaced Col. Albert Camille Vital who resigned on 17 October 2011.

MOROCCO

Legislative Elections: The elections to the 395-seat Assembly of Representatives (the lower house of the bicameral legislature) were held on 25 November 2011. The party position following the elections is as follows: Justice and Development Party: 107; Istiqlal Party: 60; National Rally of Independents: 52; Authenticity and Modernity Party: 47; Socialist Union of Popular Forces: 39; Popular Movement: 32; Constitutional Union: 23; Party of Progress and Socialism: 18; Labour Party: 4; Party of Renewal and Equity: 2; Democratic and Social Movement: 2; Environment and Development Party: 2; Democratic Oath Party: 2; Front of Democratic Forces: 1; Action Party: 1; Union and Democracy Party: 1; Party of Liberty and Social Justice: 1; and Green Left Party: 1.

NEW ZEALAND

Legislative Elections: The elections to the 121-seat House of Representatives (the unicameral legislature) were held on 26 November 2011. The party position following the elections is as follows: National Party: 59; Labour Party: 34; Green Party: 14; New Zealand First: 8; Maori Party: 3; Mana Party: 1; ACT New Zealand: 1; and United Future: 1.

NORTH KOREA

Death of Kim Jong-il: On 17 December 2011, the Supreme Leader of North Korea Mr. Kim Jong-il passed away.

POLAND

Legislative Elections: The elections to the 460-seat *Sejm* (the lower house of the bicameral legislature) were held on 9 October 2011. The party position following the elections is as follows: Citizens' Platform: 207; Law and Justice: 157; Palikot's Movement: 40; Polish Peasants' Party: 28; Democratic Left Alliance: 27; and German Minority: 1.

The elections to the 100-seat Senate (the upper house of the bicameral legislature) were held on the same day. The party position following the elections is as follows: Citizens' Platform: 63; Law and Justice: 31; Polish Peasants' Party: 2; and Independents: 4.

RUSSIA

Legislative Elections: The elections to the 450-seat *State Duma* (the unicameral legislature) were held on 4 December 2011. The party position following the elections is as follows: United Russia: 238; Communist Party: 92; A Just Russia: 64; and Liberal Democratic Party: 56.

RWANDA

New Prime Minister: On 7 October 2011, the President, Mr. Paul Kagame appointed Mr. Pierre Damien Habumuremyi as the new Prime Minister.

SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE

President Sworn in: On 3 September 2011, Mr. Manuel Pinto da Costa was sworn in as the President.

SEYCHELLES

Legislative Elections: The elections to the 31-seat National Assembly (the unicameral legislature), were held on 29 October 2011. The People's Party won all the seats. (A total of 25 legislators were elected; an additional six seats were allocated on the basis of proportional representation).

SINGAPORE

President Sworn in: On 1 September 2011, Mr. Tony Tan Keng Yam was sworn in as the President.

SPAIN

Legislative Elections: The elections to the 350-seat Congress of Deputies (the unicameral legislature) were held on 20 November

2011. The party position following the elections is as follows: People's Party: 186; Spanish Socialist Workers' Party: 110; Convergence and Union: 16; United Left: 11; Amaiur: 7; Union, Progress and Democracy: 5; Basque Nationalist Party: 5; Republican Left of Catalonia: 3; Galician Nationalist Bloc: 2; Canarian Coalition: 2; Coalicio Compromis: 1; Asturian Forum: 1; and Yes to the Future: 1.

SWITZERLAND

Legislative Elections: The elections to the 200-seat *National Council* (the lower house of the unicameral legislature) were held on 23 October 2011. The party position following the elections is as follows: Swiss People's Party: 54; Social Democratic Party: 46; Radical Democratic Party. The Liberals [The Liberals was a grouping formed on 1 January 2009 after the Radical Democratic Party and the smaller Liberal Party of Switzerland merged]:30; Christian Democratic People's Party: 28; Green Party of Switzerland: 15; Green Liberal Party of Switzerland: 12; Conservative Democratic Party: 9; Protestant People's Party: 2; and Others: 4.

TUNISIA

Constituent Assembly Elections: The elections to the 217-seat Constituent Assembly were held on 23 October 2011. The party position following the elections is as follows: Ennahda Movement: 89; Congress for the Republic: 29; Popular Petition: 26; Democratic Forum for Labour and Liberties: 20; Progressive Democratic Party: 16; The Initiative: 5; Democratic Modernist Pole: 5; Afek Tounes: 4; Tunisian Workers' Communist Party: 3; People's Movement: 2; Movement of Socialist Democrats: 2; Free Patriotic Union: 1; Democratic Patriots' Movement: 1; Maghrebin Liberal Party: 1; Democratic Social Nation Party: 1; New Destour Party: 1; Progressive Struggle Party: 1; Equity and Equality Party: 1; Cultural Unionist Nation Party: 1; and Independent lists: 8.

ZAMBIA

Election of President: Mr. Michael Sata was elected to the office of President, elections to which were held on 20 September 2011. He was sworn in on 23 September 2011.

Legislative Elections: The elections to the 150-seat National Assembly (the unicameral legislature) were held on 20 September 2011. The party position following the elections is as follows: Patriotic Front: 60; Movement for Multiparty Democracy: 55; United Party for National Development: 28; Independent: 3; Alliance for Democracy

and Development: 1; Forum for Democracy and Development: 1; and Vacant: 2. (150 members are directly elected; an additional eight members are appointed by the President).

9

DOCUMENTS OF CONSTITUTIONAL AND PARLIAMENTARY INTEREST

The National Capital Territory of Delhi Laws (Special Provisions) Second Act, 2011: The Delhi Laws (Special Provisions) Act, 2006 was enacted to address several orders and directions passed by the Supreme Court and the High Court of Delhi in cases pending before them regarding contentious issues which were confronting the city of Delhi, namely, unauthorised constructions, commercial use of residential premises, encroachment on public land by slum dwellers and *jhuggi-jhompri* clusters, problems relating to urban street vendors, which were affecting the lives of millions of people.

The said Act, *inter alia,* required the Central Government with a time period of one year to take all possible steps to finalise norms, policy guidelines and feasible strategies to deal with the problems of certain forms of unauthorised development with regard to mixed land use not conforming to the Master Plan, construction beyond sanctioned plans, encroachment by slum and *jhuggi-jhompri* dwellers, hawkers and urban street vendors. It also provided for *status quo* as on 1 January 2006 to be maintained in respect of these categories of unauthorised development, subject to certain conditions notwithstanding any judgment, decree or order of any court. Similarly, it provided that all notices issued by the local bodies for initiating action against these categories of unauthorised developments shall be deemed to have been suspended and that no punitive action shall be taken during the said period of one year.

The Delhi Laws (Special Provisions) Act, 2006 remained effective for a period of one year and lapsed on 18 May 2007. In the intervening period, the Master Plan for Delhi 2021 was notified on 7 February 2007, incorporating extensive amendments in respect of provisions governing mixed land use, and for construction beyond sanctioned plans, thus providing much needed relief in the case of unauthorised development with regard to mixed land use not conforming to the Master Plan and construction beyond sanctioned plans.

In view of the fact that the provisions of the aforesaid Act ceased to operate on and after 19 May 2007, and that some more time was needed for making policy guidelines and feasible strategies or schemes to deal with the problems of unauthorised development in certain categories, such as, slum and *jhuggi-jhompri* dwellers, urban street vendors and hawkers, farm houses, schools, dispensaries, religious institutions, cultural institutions built in rural areas on agricultural land, the National Capital Territory of Delhi Laws (Special Provisions) Ordinance, 2007 was promulgated on 4 July 2007.

The National Capital Territory of Delhi Laws (Special Provisions) Second Ordinance, 2007 was replaced by the National Capital Territory of Delhi Laws (Special Provisions) Act, 2007 on 5 December 2007 and the provisions of that Act remained in force up to 31 December 2008.

Further, the National Capital Territory of Delhi Laws (Special Provisions) Act, 2009 was enacted on 16 March 2009 to make special provisions for the areas of the National Capital Territory of Delhi for a further period up to 31 December 2009. Again the National Capital Territory of Delhi Laws (Special Provisions) Second Act, 2009 was enacted for a period up to 31 December 2010 to make special provisions for the areas of the National Capital Territory of Delhi and that Act ceased to operate after 31 December 2010.

Subsequent to enactment of the National Capital Territory of Delhi Laws (Special Provisions) Second Act, 2009,—(i) a strategy and scheme prepared by the local authorities in the National Capital Territory of Delhi for regulation of urban street vendors in accordance with the National Policy for Urban Street Vendors and the Master Plan for Delhi, 2021 was being implemented; (ii) in pursuance of the guidelines and regulations for regularisation of unauthorised colonies, necessary steps were being taken which, *inter alia,* involved scrutiny of layout plans, assessment of built-up percentage existed as on 31 March 2002, identification of mixed use streets, approval of layout plans, fixation of boundaries, change of land use and identification of colonies not eligible for regularisation; (iii) the Delhi Urban Shelter Improvement Board, had been constituted under the Delhi Urban Shelter Improvement Board Act, 2010 for implementation of schemes for improvement of *jhuggi-jhompri* clusters and its redevelopment with a view to bring improvement in environment and living conditions and preparing housing schemes for *jhuggi-jhompri* dwellers; (iv) the draft policy regarding farm houses was under consideration of Delhi Development Authority; (v) pursuant to notification of Zonal Development Plans, steps for regularization of certain institutions which were rendering cultural, religious (including spiritual, health care and educational services) had been initiated and the policy framework in respect of storages, warehouses and godowns used for agricultural inputs or produce (including dairy and poultry) in rural areas built on agricultural land was under consideration in Delhi Development Authority.

In view of above, since more time was needed for orderly implementation of the programmes and formulation of strategies, schemes, guidelines, policies and plans, *etc.,* referred above, the National Capital Territory of Delhi Laws (Special Provisions) Act, 2011 was enacted for a period beginning from 1 January 2011 and ending on 31 December 2011 so as to give continued effect to the aforesaid programmes, strategies, schemes, guidelines, policies and plans, *etc.*

The Master Plan for Delhi, 2021 was notified on 7 February 2007 which provided for its review and revision every five years, to account for such modifications and corrections that emerged based on ground realities. For the first review of Master Plan for Delhi, 2021, had already commenced and was expected to lead to the necessary modifications in the existing guidelines for matters such as land use, notification of new commercial and industrial areas, regulations in influence zone along metro lines and industrial areas along with floor area ratio changes, *etc.* Besides this, the norms, policies and guidelines might also be needed to be appropriately modified to ensure their smooth implementation. The revised Master Plan for Delhi would not only cover unauthorised colonies, village *abadi* areas, *etc.,* but the whole of the National Capital Territory of Delhi.

In the light of development referred to in foregoing paragraphs, further more time was needed to bring in orderly arrangements, keeping in view the current ground realities and the fast evolving nature of urbanisation in the National Capital Territory of Delhi. To complete the ongoing tasks relating to the existing Act and revision of the Master Plan for Delhi, 2021 and also to enable its application to the development of all the areas in the National Capital Territory of Delhi, a period of at least three years from 1 January 2012 is required.

It was, therefore, considered expedient to have a law in continuation of the aforesaid Act referred above for a period up to 31 December 2014,—(a) to provide for relief and to minimise avoidable hardships and irreparable loss to the people of the National Capital Territory of Delhi against any punitive action by any agency in respect of the persons covered by the policies referred to above; and (b) to complete the revision of the Master Plan and for facilitating its smooth implementation with certain new provisions which might be considered necessary and appropriate.

Accordingly, it was proposed to enact a law in continuation of the said Acts for a period beginning from 1 January 2012 and ending on 31 December 2014, to give effect to the aforesaid programmes, strategies, schemes, guidelines, policies and plans, *etc.*

The National Capital Territory of Delhi Laws (Special Provisions) Second Bill, 2011 which sought to achieve the above objects was passed by the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha on 12 December 2011 and 14 December 2011, respectively. The President of India assented to it on 23 December 2011.

The Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order (Amendment) Act, 2011: Clause (25) of article 366 of the Constitution defines "Scheduled Tribes" which means such tribes or tribal communities or parts of or groups within such tribes or tribal communities as are deemed under article 342 to be Scheduled Tribes for the purposes of this Constitution. Article 342 of the Constitution provides that—(1) The President may with respect to any State or Union territory, and where it is a State, after consultation with the Governor thereof, by public notification, specify the tribes or tribal communities or parts of or groups within tribes or tribal communities which shall for the purposes of this Constitution be deemed to be Scheduled Tribes in relation to that State or Union territory, as the case may be. (2) Parliament may by law include in or exclude from the list of Scheduled Tribes specified in a notification issued under clause (1) any tribe or tribal community or part of or group within any tribe or tribal community, but save as aforesaid a notification issued under the said clause shall not be varied by any subsequent notification.

The first list of Scheduled Tribes in Manipur was notified through the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) (Part C States) Order, 1951. It had further been modified through the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Lists (Modification) Order, 1956 and the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Orders (Amendment) Act, 2002. At present, there were 33 communities appearing in the list of the Scheduled Tribes in Manipur. To fulfil a long standing demand for considering grant of Scheduled Tribes status to the Inpui, Rongmei, Liangmai, Zeme, Thangal and Mate communities in the State of Manipur, the entries at 8, 9 and 10 of the Scheduled Tribes' list in Manipur had to be

amended and a new entry 34 was to be inserted to include these six communities.

Before its creation as a State, Arunachal Pradesh was part of the State of Assam. "Galong" was listed as the Scheduled Tribes in the State of Assam by the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order, 1950. After the creation of Arunachal Pradesh as a State, "Galong" community was mentioned in the list of the Scheduled Tribes in Arunachal Pradesh at entry 5 by the North Eastern Areas (Reorganisation) Act, 1971. Currently, 16 communities existed in the list of the Scheduled Tribes in Arunachal Pradesh including "Galong". The Government of Arunachal Pradesh had been recommending for long that the name "Galo" be substituted in place of "Galong" in the list of the Scheduled Tribes in the State since "Galong" was a distorted version of the original word "Galo". A change was, therefore, required in the list of Scheduled Tribes in Arunachal Pradesh in as much as in place of the existing entry "Galong", the name "Galo" was to be inserted in order to enable the "Galo" community to be listed by its correct name.

The Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order (Amendment) Bill, 2011 which sought to achieve the above objects was passed by the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha on 19 December 2011 and 22 December 2011, respectively. The President of India assented to it on 8 January 2012.

We reproduce here the texts of the above Acts.

— Editor

THE NATIONAL CAPITAL TERRITORY OF DELHI LAWS (SPECIAL PROVISIONS) SECOND ACT, 2011

An Act to take special provisions for the National Capital Territory of Delhi for a further period up to the 31st *day of December,* 2014 *and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto,*

WHEREAS there has been phenomenal increase in the population of the National Capital Territory of Delhi owing to migration and other factors resulting in tremendous pressure on land and infrastructure leading to encroachment or unauthorised developments which are not in consonance with the concept of planned development as provided in the Master Plan for Delhi, 2001 and the relevant Acts and building bye-laws made thereunder;

AND WHEREAS the Master Plan for Delhi, 2001 was extensively modified and notified by the Central Government on the 7th day of February, 2007 with the perspective for the year 2021 keeping in view the emerging new dimensions in urban development *vis-a-vis* the social, financial and other ground realities;

AND WHEREAS the Master Plan for Delhi with the perspectives for the year 2021 specifically provides for strategies for housing for urban poor as well as to deal with the informal sector;

AND WHEREAS a strategy and a scheme has been prepared by the local authorities in the National Capital Territory of Delhi for regulation of urban street vendors in accordance with the National Policy for Urban Street Vendors and the Master Plan for Delhi, 2021, and is being implemented;

AND WHEREAS based on the policy finalised by the Central Government regarding regularisation of unauthorised colonies, village *abadi* area and their extension, the guidelines and regulations for this purpose have been issued;

AND WHEREAS based on the policy finalised by the Central Government regarding regularisation of unauthorised colonies, village *abadi* area and their extensions, the Building Regulations for Special Area, Unauthorised Regularised Colonies and Village *Abadis,* have been made by the Delhi Development Authority under sub-section (*1*) of section 57 of the Delhi Development Act, 1957 notified in the Gazette of India *vide* S.O. 97(*E*), dated the 17th January, 2011;

AND WHEREAS in pursuance of the guidelines and regulations necessary steps are being taken for the regularisation of unauthorised colonies which, *inter alia,* involve scrutiny of layout plans, assessment of built-up percentage existed as on the 31st day of March, 2002, identification of mixed use of streets, approval of layout plans, fixation of boundaries, change in land use and identification of colonies not eligible for regularisation;

AND WHEREAS the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi has received one hundred forty redrafted layout plans and is in process of fixing the boundary on these layout plans and the complete process of redrafting or finalisation of layout plans is likely to take considerable time to regularise all the unauthorised colonies;

AND WHEREAS more time is required for proper implementation of the scheme regarding hawkers and urban street vendors and for the regularisation of unauthorised colonies, village *abadi* area and their extensions and special areas;

AND WHEREAS the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi is actively considering enactment of law with regard to hawkers and urban street vendors, which is likely to take considerable time due to the legal procedure to be followed in this regard;

AND WHEREAS the revised policy for proper arrangements for relocation and rehabilitation of slum dwellers *and jhuggi-jhompri* clusters in the National Capital Territory of Delhi has been formulated and accordingly,

the Delhi Urban Shelter Improvement Board Act, 2010 has been enacted by the Legislature of the National Capital Territory of Delhi and notified with effect from the 1st July, 2010 to provide for implementation of schemes for improvement of slums and *jhuggi-jhompri* clusters with a view to bring improvement in environment and living conditions, and to prepare housing scheme for such persons;

AND WHEREAS the Delhi Urban Shelter Improvement Board has identified about six hundred and eighty-five *jhuggi-jhompri* clusters in the National Capital Territory of Delhi and relocation thereof is likely to take considerable time;

AND WHEREAS the draft policy regarding farm houses is being prepared by the Delhi Development Authority and its finalisation is likely to take about two years;

AND WHEREAS pursuant to the Master Plan for Delhi, 2021, the Zonal Development Plans in respect of various Zones have been notified which provides for regularisation of schools, dispensaries, religious institutions and cultural institutions established on or before the 1st January, 2006 in non-conforming areas;

AND WHEREAS the policy with respect to storages, warehouses and godowns used for agricultural inputs or produce (including dairy and poultry) in rural areas built on agricultural land and guidelines for redevelopment of existing godown clusters in non-conforming areas (including those for a storage of non-agricultural goods) required to cater to the needs of the people of the National Capital Territory of Delhi are under consideration of the Central Government in consultation with the Delhi Development Authority;

AND WHEREAS with respect to special areas (being the areas consisting of walled city, walled city extention and area known as Karol Bagh and as such other areas as may be designated as special area) referred to in clause *(vi)* of regulation 2 of the Building Regulations for Special Area, Unauthorised Regularised Colonies and Village *Abadis,* 2010 notified in the Gazette of India *vide* S.O. 97(*E*), dated the 17th January, 2011, is being taken for formulation of redevelopment plan and schemes by concerned local authority which is likely to take considerable time;

AND WHEREAS rule 12 of the Delhi Development (Master Plan and Zonal Development Plan) Rules, 1959 provides for amendment of whole or any part of the Master Plan, if necessary, at the expiry of every five years and accordingly in pursuance of the aforesaid rule 12, the process of quinquennial revision of the provisions of the Master Plan notified on the 7th February, 2007, is being undertaken for such modifications and

updating that have emerged based on ground realities which is likely to take some time for finalisation;

AND WHEREAS in view of the foregoing paragraphs, it is expedient and in public interest that no hardship be caused (whether by way of sealing or demolition of the structures or otherwise), to the public until the revision of Master Plan as stated in the preceding paragraph is undertaken to facilitate the smooth review of the Master Plan;

AND WHEREAS the National Capital Territory of Delhi Laws (Special Provisions) Act, 2007 was enacted on the 5th day of December, 2007 to make special provisions for the areas of National Capital Territory of Delhi for a period of up to the 31st day of December, 2008 which ceased to operate after the 31st December, 2008;

AND WHEREAS the National Capital Territory of Delhi Laws (Special Provisions) Act, 2009 was enacted in continuation of the aforesaid Act for a period up to the 31st day of December, 2009 to make special provisions for the areas of the National Capital Territory of Delhi and that Act ceased to operate after the 31st day of December, 2009;

AND WHEREAS the National Capital Territory of Delhi Laws (Special Provisions) Second Act, 2009 was enacted in continuation of the aforesaid Act for a period up to the 31st day of December, 2010 to make special provisions for the areas of National Capital Territory of Delhi and that Act ceased to operate after the 31st day of December, 2010;

AND WHEREAS the National Capital Territory of Delhi Laws (Special Provisions) Act, 2011 has been enacted to give continued effect to provisions of the enactment specified in the preceding paragraph for a period up to the 31st day of December, 2011 and to make special provisions for the areas of the National Capital Territory of Delhi and that Act, shall cease to operate after the 31st day of December, 2011;

AND WHEREAS it is expedient to have a law in terms of the Master Plan for Delhi, 2021, in continuation of the said Acts for a period up to the 31st day of December, 2014 to provide for relief and to minimise avoidable hardships and irreparable loss to the people of the National Capital Territory of Delhi against any punitive action by any agency in respect of the persons covered by the policies referred to above.

BE it enacted by Parliament in the Sixty-second Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

1. *Short title, extent, commencement and duration*. (*1*) This Act may be called the National Capital Territory of Delhi Laws (Special Provisions) Second Act, 2011.

(2) It extends to the National Capital Territory of Delhi.

(3) It shall come into force on the 1st day of January, 2012.

(4) It shall cease to have effect on the 31st day of December, 2014, except as respects things done or omitted to be done before such cesser, and upon such cesser section 6 of the General Clauses Act, 1897, shall apply as if this Act had then been repealed by a Central Act.

2. *Definitions* (*1*) In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires,—

(a) "building bye-laws" means bye-laws made under section 481 of the Delhi Municipal Corporation Act, 1957 or the bye-laws made under section 188, sub-section (3) of section 189 and sub-section *(1)* of section 190 of the Punjab Municipal Act, 1911, as in force in New Delhi or the regulations made under sub-section *(1)* of section 57 of the Delhi Development Act, 1957, relating to buildings;

(b) "Delhi" means the entire area of the National Capital Territory of Delhi except the Delhi Cantonment as defined in clause *(11)* of section 2 of the Delhi Municipal Corporation Act, 1957;

(c) "encroachment" means unauthorised occupation of Government land or public land other than streets, lanes, footpath and parks, by way of putting temporary, semi-permanent or permanent structure for residential use or commercial use or any other use;

(d) "local authority" means the Delhi Municipal Corporation established under the Delhi Municipal Corporation Act, 1957, or the New Delhi Municipal Council established under the New Delhi Municipal Council Act, 1994 or the Delhi Development Authority established under the Delhi Development Act, 1957, legally entitled to exercise control in respect of the areas under their respective jurisdiction;

(e) "Master Plan" means the Master Plan for Delhi with the perspective for the year 2021, notified *vide* notification number S.O.141(*E*), dated the 7th day of February, 2007 under the Delhi Development Act, 1957;

(*f*) "notification" means a notification published in the Official Gazette;

(g) "punitive action" means action taken by a local authority under the relevant law against unauthorised development and shall include demolition, sealing of premises and displacement of persons or their business establishment from their existing location, whether in pursuance of court orders or otherwise;

(h) "relevant law" means in case of—

(i) the Delhi Development Authority, the Delhi Development Act, 1957;

(ii) the Municipal Corporation of Delhi, the Delhi Municipal Corporation Act, 1957; and

(iii) the New Delhi Municipal Council, the New Delhi Municipal Council Act, 1994;

(i) "special area", shall have the meaning assigned to it in clause *(vi)* of regulation 2 of the Building Regulations for Special Area, Unauthorised Regularised Colonies and Village *Abadis,* 2010 notified in the Gazette of India *vide* S.O.97(*E*), dated the 17th January, 2011;

(*j*) "unauthorised development" means use of land or use of building or construction of building or development of colonies carried out in contravention of the sanctioned plans or without obtaining the sanction of plans, or in contravention of the land use as permitted under the Master Plan or Zonal Plan or layout plan, as the case may be, and includes any encroachment.

(2) The words and expressions used but not defined herein shall have the meanings respectively assigned to them in the Delhi Development Act, 1957, the Delhi Municipal Corporation Act, 1957 and the New Delhi Municipal Council Act, 1994.

3. *Enforcement to be kept in abeyance*. (*1*)Notwithstanding anything contained in any relevant law or any rules, regulations or bye-laws made thereunder, the Central Government shall before the expiry of this Act, take all possible measures to finalise norms, policy guidelines, feasible strategies and make orderly arrangements to deal with the problem of encroachment or unauthorised development in the form of encroachment by slum dwellers and *Jhuggi-Jhompri* clusters, hawkers and urban street vendors, unauthorised colonies, village *abadi* area (including urban villages), and their extensions, existing farm houses involving construction beyond permissible building limits and schools, dispensaries, religious institutions, cultural institutions, storages, Ware houses and godowns used for agricultural inputs or produce (including dairy and poultry) in rural built on agricultural land, as mentioned below:-

(*a*) orderly arrangements for relocation and rehabilitation of slum dwellers and *jhuggi-Jhompri* clusters in Delhi in accordance with the provisions of the Delhi Urban Shelter Improvement Board Act, 2010 and the Master Plan for Delhi, 2021 to ensure its development in a sustainable, planned and humane manner;

(*b*) scheme and orderly arrangements for regulation of urban street vendors in Consonance with the national policy for urban street vendors and hawkers as provided in the Master Plan for Delhi, 2021;

(*c*) orderly arrangements pursuant to guidelines and regulations for regularisation of unauthorised colonies, village *abadi* area (including urban villages) and their extensions, as existed on the 31st day of March, 2002, and where construction took place even beyond that date and up to the 8th day of February, 2007;

(d) policy regarding existing farm houses involving construction beyond permissible building limits;

(e) policy or plan for orderly arrangement regarding schools, dispensaries, religious institutions, cultural institutions, storages, warehouses and godowns used for agricultural inputs or produce (including dairy and poultry) in rural areas built on agricultural land and guidelines for redevelopment of existing godown clusters (including those for a storage of non-agricultural goods) required to cater to the needs of the people of the National Capital Territory of Delhi ;

(*f*) orderly arrangements in respect of special areas in accordance with the Building Regulations for special Area, Unauthorised Regularised Colonies and Village *Abadis, 2010 within overall ambit of Master Plan in force; and*

(*g*) policy or plan for orderly arrangements in all other areas of the National Capital Territory of Delhi in consonance with the Master Plan on its review.

(2) Subject to the provisions contained in sub-section *(1)* and notwithstanding any judgment, decree or order of any court, *status quo*—

(*i*) as on 1st day of January, 2006 in respect of encroachment or unauthorised development;

(*ii*) in respect of unauthorised colonies, village *abadi* area (including urban villages) and their extensions, which existed on the 31st day of March, 2002 and where construction took place even beyond that date and up to the 8th day of February, 2007, mentioned in sub-section *(1);*

(*iii*) in respect of special areas as per the Building Regulations for Special Area, Unauthorised Regularised Colonies and Village *Abadis,* 2010; and

(*iv*) in respect of all other areas within the National Capital Territory of Delhi as on the 8th day of February, 2007,

shall be maintained.

Explanation.—For the purposes of this sub-section, it is hereby clarified that any development approved by the competent authority or the local authority under the relevant laws and the rules or regulations made thereunder, including repairs permissible under the building bye-laws in force, shall continue to remain permitted.

(*3*) All notices issued by any local authority for initiating action against encroachment or unauthorised development in respect of areas referred to in sub-section (*1*), shall be deemed to have been suspended and no punitive action shall be taken till the 31st day of December, 2014, if—

(a) it is constructed prior to the dates specified for different areas as enumerated in sub-section (*2*);

(b) it conforms to the safety standards as in force or such other safety requirements as may be notified by the Central Government; and

(c) it complies with the directions with respect to safety, if any, issued by the Central Government:

Provided that in case punitive action is required to be taken by any local authority, prior approval of the Administrator of the National Capital Territory of Delhi or the officer authorised by him in this behalf, shall be obtained by the authority or officer concerned.

(*4*) Notwithstanding any other provision contained in this Act, the Central Government may, at any time before the 31st day of December, 2014, withdraw the exemption by notification in respect of encroachment or unauthorised development mentioned in sub-section (2) or sub-section (*3*), as the case may be.

4. *Provisions of this Act not to apply in certain cases*. During the period of operation of this Act, no relief shall be available under the provisions of section 3 in respect of the following encroachment or unauthorised development, namely:—

(a) encroachment on public land except in those cases which are covered under clauses *(a), (b)* and *(c)* of sub-section (*1*) of section 3;

(b) removal of slums and *Jhuggi-Jhompri* dwellers, hawkers and urban street vendors, unauthorised colonies or part thereof, village *abadi* area (including urban villages) and their extensions in accordance with the relevant policies approved by the Central Government for clearance of land required for specific public projects.

5. *Power of Central Government to give directions*. The Central

Government may, from time to time, issue such directions to the local authorities as it may deem fit, for giving effect to the provisions of this Act and it shall be the duty of the local authorities, to comply with such directions.

6. *Validation of acts done or omitted to be done, etc. during 1st January, 2012 up to the date of enactment of this Act.* Notwithstanding any judgment, decree or order of any court, all things done, or, omitted to be done, and all action taken, or, not taken, during the period beginning on or after the 1st day of January, 2012 and ending immediately before the date of enactment of this Act, shall, in so far as they are in conformity with the provisions of this Act, be deemed to have been done, or, omitted to be done, or, taken, or, not taken, under these provisions as if such provisions were in force at the time such things were done or omitted to be done and action taken during the aforesaid period.

THE CONSTITUTION (SCHEDULED TRIBES) ORDER (AMENDMENT) ACT, 2011

An Act further to amend the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order, 1950 *to modify the list of Scheduled Tribes in the States of Manipur and Arunachal Pradesh.*

BE it enacted by Parliament in the Sixty-second Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

1. *Short title*. This Act may be called the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order (Amendment) Act, 2011.

2. *Amendment of Parts X and XVIII of Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order, 1950.* In the Schedule to the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order, 1950.

(*a*) in Part X.—*Manipur,*—

i) for entry 8 substitute—

"8. Kabui, Inpui, Rongmei";

ii) for entry 9, substitute—

"9. Kacha Naga, Liangmai, Zeme";

iii) for entry 10, substitute—

"10. Koirao, Thangal";

iv) after entry 33, insert—

"34. Mate";

b) in Part XVIII,—*Arunachal Pradesh,*—

for entry 5, substitute—

"5. Galo".

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SESSIONAL REVIEW

FIFTEENTH LOK SABHA

NINTH SESSION

The Ninth Session of the Fifteenth Lok Sabha commenced on 22 November 2011 and adjourned *sine-die* on 29 December 2011. In all, there were 24 sittings held during the Session. A resume of some of the important discussions held and other business transacted during the period 22 November to 29 December 2011 is given below:

A. DISCUSSIONS/STATEMENTS

Statement regarding suspension of decision to permit 51 per cent Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in Multi-Brand Retail Trade: Making a Statement in the House on 7 December 2011, the Minister of Finance, Shri Pranab Mukherjee stated that the decision to permit 51 per cent FDI in multi-brand retail trade is being suspended till a consensus is developed through consultation amongst various stakeholders- the Chief Ministers of the State Governments and the political parties.

Statement on Inflation in India: Making a Statement in the House on 22 November 2011**,** the Minister of Finance, Shri Pranab Mukherjee said that though there has been a steady improvement in the inflation situation in India, there are important tasks to be undertaken to get the desired outcomes. He stated that inflation is caused by a mismatch between domestic demand and supply, particularly demand overshooting supply. Under these circumstances, there are only two things to do – improve supply and moderate demand. But it is not always possible to increase supply to the desired levels in the short term. To increase supply, measures can be taken to promote imports and ban exports. On the demand side while in principle it is possible to restrict it through tighter fiscal control, the risk is that if it is done rapidly then growth may decline sharply creating unemployment.

He said that the sustained high economic growth in the recent past has led to improvements in purchasing power in both rural and urban areas. The 12th Five Year Plan Approach Paper says that average real wage rate between 2007 and 2010 has increased by 16 per cent at the all India level.

The Minister informed that a range of administrative, fiscal and monetary measures have been used to address the problem. A durable solution to inflation in an economy with rising income levels lies in improving agricultural productivity, strengthening food supply chains and augmenting capacities in the manufacturing sector to keep pace with the growth in demand. It requires a facilitative policy environment and, where required, increased public investments, so that these measures can be actively pursued. Both the Central Government and the State Governments have a specific role to play. While the Centre is addressing the policy lacunas and creating mechanisms to catalyse the required activities, the States also have to do the needful in several areas, particularly so in agricultural extension, public investment in agriculture and in agriculture marketing as it falls within their purview under the Constitutional division of responsibilities. More importantly, they have to come forward and take advantage of various initiatives that have been launched by the Central Government.

There is an urgent need to amend and enforce the Agriculture Produce Marketing Act to enable farmers to bring their products to retail outlets and also allow retailers to directly purchase from the farmers. This would bring better remuneration to farmers, check wastage and allow competitive prices in retail markets. Collectively, steps need to be taken that allow unhindered flow of food and other perishable items from one region to another. The Government is working to improve the delivery of benefits, including subsidies to the vulnerable sections of the population using the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) platform.

He further said that the Public Distribution System (PDS) is an important vehicle to address the price rise. In fact the moderate inflation in cereals has been facilitated by improved PDS operations in some States. Accelerated PDS reforms are essential and States need to take the necessary initiatives to insulate the poor and vulnerable from the impact of food inflation. As such expeditious action is being taken to create storage space for centrally procured food grains.

In conclusion, the Finance Minister assured the House that the Government is committed to bringing down inflation to more acceptable levels and hoped to see the March end inflation between 6 to **7** per cent. He further stated that while the Government is doing all it can do to address the issue; suggestions from the floor of the House that can help the Government address this concern are welcome.

Statement regarding the first meeting of Prime Minister's Committee on National e-Governance Plan (NeGP) held on 23 November 2011: Making a Statement in the House on 25 November 2011, the Minister of Human Resource Development and Communications and Information Technology, Shri Kapil Sibal informed the House that the first meeting of the Prime Minister's Committee on NeGP was held on 23 November 2011. He said that under the NeGP, initiatives like Income Tax, MCA 21, Passports, and Central Excise have started delivering online services to the citizens. It is the endeavour of the Government to expand the number of public services that are available to citizens in the electronic mode. Accordingly, the Committee also emphasized the urgent need for adoption of e-Governance in all walks of governance to enhance accountability, transparency and efficiency and to realize the objective of inclusive growth with equity.

He added that the above Committee had decided to introduce the Electronic Delivery of Services (EDS) Bill in the Winter Session of the Parliament to mandate e-Delivery of all Public Services within 5 years of the commencement of the Act in all Ministries of the Central Government. To give further impetus to e-Governance it has also been decided to constitute an Expert Group to review each Mission Mode Project and suggest measures to address critical issues including process re- engineering, augmentation of project teams where needed, standards, creation of common platforms and integration across projects.

The high growth rate of the economy has resulted in significant increase in Government procurement and keeping in view the policy of the Government to ensure maximum transparency and accountability in Government procurement, it has been decided that e-Procurement would be adopted mandatorily in a phased and time- bound manner.

In order to leverage the rapid growth in penetration of mobile technology and connectivity the PM's Committee on NeGP had decided that public services under all e-Governance projects will be delivered through Mobile Devices like Mobile phones and Aakash Tablets to ensure reach and accessibility of all services to the common man. Further, basic Banking Services such as cash withdrawal, cash deposit, balance inquiry and transfer of money from one account to another will be extended to every Panchayat through CSCs and money transfer facility will be extended to every village by December 2013 leveraging Information Communications technologies (ICT) and Mobile technology. This will ensure that Financial Inclusion becomes a reality.

These initiatives will have a significant impact on improving governance and reducing corruption and hardships that the citizens have to face in

accessing public services and will go a long way in ensuring inclusive growth with equity and transparency.

Statement regarding Policy on Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in Multi-Brand Retail Trading and Liberalization of FDI policy in Single Brand Retail Trading: Making a Statement in the House on 25 November 2011, the Minister of Commerce and Industry and Minister of Textiles, Shri Anand Sharma said that the Government has approved the proposal of the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion for allowing FDI in Multi-Brand Retail Trading and liberalization of the policy in Single-Brand Retail Trading. Some of the details of the proposals approved are as under:

- FDI in Multi-Brand Retail Trade may be permitted up to 51 per cent, with Government approval. Fresh agricultural produce, including fruits, vegetables, flowers, grains, pulses, fresh poultry, fishery and meat products, may be unbranded. Minimum amount to be brought in, as FDI, by the foreign investor, would be US $ 100 million.
- At least 50 per cent of total FDI brought in shall be invested in 'back-end infrastructure', where 'back-end infrastructure' will include capital expenditure on all activities, excluding that on front-end units; for instance, back-end infrastructure will include investment made towards processing, manufacturing, distribution, design improvement, quality control, packaging, logistics, storage, ware-house, agriculture market produce infrastructure etc. Expenditure on land cost and rentals, if any, will not be counted for purposes of backend infrastructure.
- Retail sales locations may be set up only in cities with a population of more than 10 lakh as per the 2011 Census and may also cover an area of 10 kms around the municipal/ urban agglomeration limits of such cities; retail locations will be restricted to conforming areas as per the Master/ Zonal Plans of the concerned cities and provision will be made for requisite facilities such as transport connectivity and parking. Government will have the first right to procurement of agricultural products.
- FDI in Single-Brand Retail Trading may be permitted up to 100 per cent with Government approval. Products to be sold should be of a 'Single Brand' only. Products should be sold under the same brand internationally *i.e.* products should be sold under the same brand in one or more countries other than India. 'Single Brand' product-retailing would cover only products which are branded during manufacturing. The foreign investor should be the owner of the brand.

Statement on United Nations Climate Change Conference held in Durban: Making a Statement in the House on 16 December 2012, the Minister of State, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Shrimati Jayanthi Natarajan said that the decisions taken in the Durban Conference have implications not only for the protection of global environment but also for sustainable growth in our country.

She said that key aim of the Durban Conference was to complete the ongoing work as per the Bali Road Map. At Bali in 2007, it had been decided that the implementation of the Convention will be enhanced by a series of steps on finance, technology, adaptation and mitigation. At the same time, it had been decided that the Parties to Kyoto Protocol will finalize their targets for the second commitment period commencing from 2013.

The negotiations in the two tracks have been going on for the last four years. The Copenhagen Conference held in 2009 which had to finalize the targets for developed countries during the second commitment period failed to take the necessary decisions. The situation was partially retrieved at Cancun last year when some of the decisions relating to Bali Action Plan could be finalized and some Parties agreed to indicate their voluntary pledges for emission reduction. However, the decisions regarding the Kyoto Protocol could not be taken and all aspects of the Bali Action Plan were not fully implemented.

According to the Minister, India has followed a clear, consistent and compassionate strategy on the climate change negotiations. The country's stand in these matters has always been based on equity and the principle of common but differentiated responsibility. At Durban, India was also conscious of the fact that the term of the Ad-hoc Working Groups on Kyoto Protocol and Long Term Cooperative Action was coming to an end.

The Minister informed the House that the Durban Conference has established the second commitment period for the developed countries that are Party to the Kyoto Protocol. The targets have been decided through a decision in Durban. These targets will now be converted into actual emission limits in 2012 at the next session of the parties in Qatar. A time frame of five years till 2017 has been given to the Kyoto Protocol Parties for ratification of the targets and the emission limits. This is a major achievement, considering the fact that this decision had been delayed by almost two years because of the insistence of the main Kyoto Protocol Parties on a single and comprehensive legally binding treaty, to be negotiated first and made applicable to all Parties of the Convention. Durban decisions have ensured that the only legally

binding protocol under the Convention *i.e.*, Kyoto Protocol will continue for another five years into its second commitment period till 2017.

Another major decision taken in Durban was to begin a process to negotiate on the future arrangements for enhanced actions under the Convention. The issue of an appropriate legal form for the future arrangements by 2020 was a matter of intense debate in Durban. As per the decision on the Durban Platform, the following options for the legal form of final arrangements were envisaged: a protocol, a legal instrument or legal outcome. Some Parties, led in particular by the European Union, pressed for a form of agreement that should be legally binding on all Parties.

The Minister said that India has always believed that legal form should follow the substance. A legally binding agreement, by itself, is no guarantee for increased ambition or its implementation. She further stated that Durban decisions have placed immense responsibility on the country. It is of paramount importance that the equity issue is brought to the centre-stage of future negotiations. Keeping in view this objective, India had proposed at Durban that issues of equity, unilateral trade measures and technology related intellectual property rights should be included in the agenda of the Conference of Parties.

Statement regarding creation of a sub-quota of 4.5 per cent for Centrally Notified Minority Communities within reservation quota of 27 per cent available to OBC in Government jobs and admission to educational institutions: Making a Statement on 28 December 2011, the Minister of Law and Justice and Minority Affairs, Shri Salman Khursheed said that although the backward sections of the minority population were included in the Central List of Other Backward Castes (OBCs), there has been a growing demand over the last two decades that a separate quota needs to be provided for the minorities, given the fact that major sections of the minorities are the most backward in the country.

This demand is based on the recommendations of the National Commission for Religious and Linguistic Minorities (NCRLM) constituted on 15 March 2005, under the Chairmanship of Justice Ranganath Mishra. The demand for a sub-quota for the minority communities within the OBC quota is also based on the findings and recommendations of the popularly called the Sachar Committee–a High Level Committee under the Chairmanship of Justice Rajindar Sachar set up in 2005 to prepare a report on the social, economic and educational status of the Muslim community of India.

The Sachar Committee has conclusively established that the Muslim

community in India is one of the most backward communities in the country and deserve special attention.

It may be clarified here that only backward sections of the minority communities can avail of the 4.5 per cent sub-quota. Therefore, inclusion or exclusion from the Central OBC list will be strictly on the basis of backwardness of the minorities, which include Muslims, Sikhs, Christians, Buddhists and Zoroastrians (Parsis), as has been provided under Section 2 (c) of the National Commission for Minorities (NCM) Act, 1992. The reservation will be applicable to Central Government jobs and services as per the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions O.M. No. 41018/2/2011 dated 22nd December, 2011 and also to admissions to the Central Government educational institutions as per the Notification of the Ministry of Human Resource Development No. F1-1/2005-U.1A1846 dated 22nd December, 2011.

DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

Statement laid on the Table on 22 November 2011 by the Minister of Finance regarding inflation situation in India: Shri Gurudas Dasgupta (CPI) while initiating the debate on 8 December 2011 said that the Government was not tackling inflation effectively. Now, the food prices have reached all time high. There is a widening gap between retail price and whole sale price. The Government must take upon itself the mandate of the people and undertake emergency measures to contain inflation. Further, he said that massive investments should be made by the Government to set up a productive social structure in the country. The Government must promote creation of jobs and must improve the quality of life of the poor people.

Shrimati Sushma Swaraj (BJP) said that despite repeated warnings to the Government on the issue of inflation, it has remained indifferent to the issue and is trying to confuse the people by resorting to statistical jugglery.

Referring to the argument presented by the Government for price increase at the international level, she said that it can be understood in terms of increase in the price of crude oil, but what about so many other things which have no correlation whatsoever, with international trends? She emphasized that the devaluation of the Rupee is attributable by and large to the economic policies of the Government. The price of petrol has been revised 24 times and the Reserve Bank of India had to increase the banking rates 13 times. As far as interest rate is concerned, everybody is aware that the increase in interest rates

impedes industrial development and also sounds a death knell for the housing sector. She suggested that if the Government brings back the black money stashed abroad and puts a check on the loot of the public exchequer, price rise will come to a halt in no time.

Shri Dara Singh Chauhan (BSP) while emphasizing the role of Government *vis-à-vis* inflation said that the inflation is due to the economic policies followed by the Government. The value of rupee has fallen in comparison to the dollar. If we fail to arrest this fall, it will further increase the prices of fertilizer, petroleum etc. The prices of kerosene, petrol, LPG, diesel etc., all have witnessed spiraling rise in the last seven years. He said that 30 per cent of the subsidy given by the Government on diesel is being cornered by the owners of industry and vehicles. Instead, this subsidy should have gone to the farmers.

Shri Jose K. Mani (Kerala Congress-M) said that Inflation remained above 9 per cent for the past one year and is showing no signs of abatement despite efforts by the Government and the apex Bank. Since deregulation, there has been a 33 per cent increase in petrol prices. Deregulation has failed to pass cost benefits on to consumers.

Shri Mani lamented that increase in the prices of food crops has not helped farmers in any way and all the profits have been misappropriated by the middlemen. Importing food grain and curtailing export is not the solution. Eradicating middlemen from food grains procurement, introducing better means of production, storage and processing of crops is the need of the hour for combating food inflation.

Shri A. Ganeshamurthi (MDMK) said* that the steep increase in the price of essential commodities and price rise as a general trend has affected the poor and the middle class the most. He highlighted the inadequacy in production and manufacturing that has resulted in a gap between demand and supply. He added that the Government must concentrate on increasing production, especially agricultural production.

Shri Basu Deb Acharia (CPI-M) while referring to the statements made by the Finance Minister at the beginning of the Winter Session to contain the rising prices of essential commodities said that the so-called economic growth has not raised the income level of the vast majority of the people of the country. Seventy seven per cent of India's population earns only Rs. 20 per day. The prices of almost all essential commodities are increasing. He wanted to know why speculative trading

* Original in Tamil

has not yet been banned by the Government. He asserted that the Government should ban future trading practices in all commodities. He added that there is a genuine need to introduce universalisation of the public distribution system and to provide subsidy on all categories of fertilizers to the farmers.

Shri Prem Das Rai (SDF) said that price rise affects the poorest sections the most. He suggested that the FDI should be directed towards the area of supply chain improvement. This will guarantee better returns to farmers and will help salvage perishable goods like fruits and vegetables.

Dr. M. Thambidurai (AIADMK) said that there has been a continuous rise in the prices of essential commodities for so many years and the Finance Minister has cited global economic disturbances as the main reason behind price rise. Every month, the price of petrol is being increased. The Government should withdraw some part of the tax on petrol, if it intends to control inflation.

Shri Nama Nageswara Rao (TDP) said that on one hand, the Government insists that there is gap between demand and supply, and on the other hand, it boasts of extra stocks. If the procurement situation is so good, why are the prices of wheat and rice going up steadily?

Shri Narahari Mahato (AIFB) felt that the main reason for price rise is that middlemen are hoarding the crops produced by the farmers.

Replying to the discussion*, the Minister of Finance, Shri Pranab Mukherjee said that it is not possible to shut eyes to the developments that are taking place in the other parts of the world. If the international prices increase, it affects the economy. It has an adverse impact on inflationary pressure. The current strength of the inflationary pressure was substantial because of the constraints in the supply chain of agricultural products. For quite some time, the growth in agriculture has

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* Those who participated in the discussion were: Shri P.C. Chacko, Sarvashri Rewati Raman Singh, Sharad Yadav, Devji M. Patel, Kalyan Banerjee, Arjun Ram Meghwal, Ravindra Kumar Pandey, Satpal Maharaj, Naranbhai Kachhadia, Shailendra Kumar, Mahendrasinh P. Chauhan, Premdas, T.K.S. Elangovan, Ramashankar Rajbhar, Pratap Singh Bajwa, Virender Kashyap, Charles Dias, Bhartruhari Mahtab, S.S. Ramasubbu, P. Karunakaran, Anandrao Adsul, Anto Antony, K. Sugumar, P. Kumar, S. Semmalai, Ram Singh Kaswan, Hukmadeo Narayan Yadav, P.T. Thomas, Kameshwar Baitha, Pralhad Joshi, Dr. Kirit Premjibhai Solanki, Dr. Arvind Kumar Sharma, Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh, Dr. Ratna De, Smt. Jayshreeben Patel, Smt. Darshana Jardosh, Smt. Supriya Sule, Smt. Putul Kumari, and Km. Meenakshi Natrajan.

been slow. But it has started improving. Overall inflation is perilously close to double digits, which must be brought down. There is no coordination between growth and inflation. India has witnessed high inflation even when the growth rate was low.

The Minister said that one-third of all the taxes levied by the Central Government on various petroleum products is to be transferred to the States as per the 13th Finance Commission's recommendations. Shri Pranab Mukherjee concluded by saying that to overcome the slump in the economy, confidence must be created collectively by the whole country. Democratic institutions must be allowed to function, so that an atmosphere conducive to investment may be created.

The discussion was concluded.

B. LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

The Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2011: Moving the Motion for consideration of the Bill on 13 December 2011, the Minister of Information and Broadcasting, Shrimati Ambika Soni said that the Government is committed to bringing far reaching reforms in the Broadcasting Sector to bring India on par with other countries in the world. India has chosen the path of digitalization, which is characterized by a large number of benefits to every stakeholder. Digitalization will enable the consumer to exercise a selection of channels, get better picture quality and promote access to Value Added Services like Triple Play, Video on Demand, etc. For the Broadcasters and Cable Operators, who are both Service Providers, the system will ensure transparency, fairness and allow complete addressability, resulting in increase in subscription revenue and reducing their dependence on TRPs as also advertising revenue.

Similarly, the Government will stand to gain because Addressability will lead to the reporting of correct subscriber base and will enable collection of proper taxes. The process of digitalization will be completed by the 31 December 2014. It shall be implemented in the country in phases. The Government has also followed a careful policy of consultation, discussion and dialogue with all stakeholders and stakeholder representative bodies to address genuine concerns and to facilitate this transition.

Shri Nama Nageswara Rao (TDP) admitted that digitalization is the need of the hour in the country, but failed to appreciate why the Government is in such a hurry to push this legislation through. He was concerned about how the Government will control the contents of the pay channels because under the Bill, the operator is free to air any

contents with the permission of his subscribers and there is every likelihood of the contents being very vulgar. He stressed that a lot of illegal money and money laundering is entrenched in this area. Mafias are working in the cable network. A system has to be evolved to solve such type of activities. He felt strongly that the Bill should not be introduced in a hurry.

Replying to the discussion*, Shrimati Ambika Soni, the Minister of Information and Broadcasting said that if it had not been introduced through an Ordinance, it will not be possible to observe the time limit of 31 December 2014. This has to be completed in four phases and each cable operator has to be given a time of six months for completing digitalization work. The cable operator will not be required to invest more than 2-3 lakh rupees for digitalization.

Every month 10 lac new subscribers are being added by Direct to Home (DTH). The local cable operators are not in a position to compete with them. Thus, digitalization will benefit the local operators in a big way as well.

The Minister said that the Government is also trying to set up *Doordarshan* DTH by 31 December 2011 in which 150 free to air channels would be available. After the passage of this Bill, if a cable operator violates the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 his license may be cancelled. The Minister concluded by saying that this Bill will take India forward.

Finally, the Minister said that this Bill is not against the poor, nor it is against small operators or those who are earning their livelihood in the cable industry and it is certainly does not favour the big players. It is for the good of India and it will take the country forward in an organised fashion

The Bill was passed.

*The Constitution (One Hundred and Eleventh Amendment) Bill, 2009, (Insertion of new article 43B)***:** Moving the Motion for consideration of the Bill, the Minister of Agriculture and Minister of Food Processing Industries, Shri Sharad Pawar said this is a minor but a very important amendment. The Cooperative Societies is a State subject under Entry

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* Those who participated in the discussion were: Sarvashri Ijyaraj Singh, Shailendra Kumar, Ramashankar Rajbhar, Maheshwar Hazari, P.K. Biju, Tathagata Satpathy, P. Kumar, Prabodh Panda, Sanjay Nirupam, Kameshwar Baitha, Dr. Sanjeev Ganesh Naik, Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh, Dr. Ratna De, and Smt. Putul Kumari.

32 of the State List of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution. The States have enacted their own Cooperative Societies Acts for incorporation, regulation and winding up of cooperative societies within their territorial jurisdiction.

The Minister said that the Government of India is trying to evolve an appropriate policy and legislative framework to create an environment conducive to the healthy and sound growth of cooperatives. Therefore, a view has emerged in the cooperative sector, all over the country, to incorporate certain provisions in the Constitution to provide protection to cooperatives and to insulate them from avoidable political and bureaucratic interference. This was also endorsed by the Conference of State Cooperative Ministers held way back in December, 2004. These suggestions made by the Standing committee have been examined in the Department in consultation with the Ministry of Law and Justice. It is expected that these provisions will not only ensure the autonomous and democratic functioning of cooperatives, but enhance public faith in these institutions and also ensure the accountability of management to the Members and other stakeholders and also provide for deterrence for violation of the provisions of the law.

Dr. M. Thambidurai (AIADMK) opposed the Bill.

Replying to the discussion*, the Minister of Agriculture and Minister of Food Processing Industries, Shri Sharad Pawar on 22 December 2011 thanked the members for their keen interest and concern for strengthening the cooperative sector in the country. He said that about six lakh cooperatives are registered under the respective State Cooperative Societies Act. Only about 600 Multi-State Cooperative Societies are registered in the country under the Multi-State Cooperative Societies Act, 2002, which is a Central Act. Therefore, the States have to primarily take steps to strengthen the cooperatives in the country. The Government of India is always prepared to guide and support the States in this endeavour. He informed the members that the right to form cooperative societies is proposed to be made a Fundamental Right under Article 19 (1) (C) of the Constitution as recommended by the Standing Committee on Agriculture. It is expected that this would give

* Those who participated in the discussion were: Sarvashri Anto Antony, Shailendra Kumar, Jagdish Sharma, Ramashankar Rajbhar, Anandrao Adsul, R. Thamaraiselvan, A. Sampath, Rudramadhab Ray, S. Semmalai, Prabodh Panda, Shivarama Gouda, Jagdanand Singh, Prasanta Kumar Majumdar, Kameshwar Baitha, Ramkishun, Kaushalendra Kumar, Arjun Ram Meghwal and Dr. Ratna De.

boost to the cooperative movement and enthuse the people to actively participate in the cooperative as a matter of right.

The Bill, as amended, was passed.

The Export-Import Bank of India (Amendment) Bill, 2011: The Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance, Shri Namo Narain Meena, who moved the motion for the consideration of the Bill introduced in the Lok Sabha on 8 December 2011, said that the Export-Import Bank (EXIM) was set up by an Act of Parliament in 1981 for providing financial assistance to exporters and importers and for functioning as the principal financial institution for coordinating the working of institutions engaged in financing export and import of goods and services with a view to promoting the country's international trade.

The basic objective of the Bill is to carry out the amendments in the Export-Import Bank of India Act, 1981 to increase the authorized capital of the EXIM Bank from Rs. 2,000 crore to Rs.10, 000 crore with a provision empowering the Government of India to increase the authorized capital further through notification.

Shri Nama Nageswara Rao (TDP) said that the funds of the EXIM Bank should not be misutilized and it should fully focus on exports so that we can get more revenue. If the EXIM Bank supports export oriented units, they can compete in the world market. The Bank should also focus on small scale and medium industries.

Shri Prem Das Rai (SDF) suggested that the EXIM Bank should examine the Look-East policy in greater detail because it is the policy of the Government of India. There is a need for EXIM Bank to be much more aggressive in countries like the Myanmar and countries of the ASEAN and SAARC regions. This will help the North-Eastern States of India to be much more effective in getting business in these countries.

Replying to the discussion* Shri Namo Narain Meena said that the increased capital base of the EXIM Bank will enable it to sustain its growth momentum and to also meet its obligations under export Line of Credits (LOCs). As on 31 March 2011, the EXIM Bank had 118 operative LOCs to 53 countries, amounting to US dollar 6.3 billion. The

* Those who participated in the discussion were: Sarvashri Vijay Bahadur Singh, M.B. Rajesh, Bhartruhari Mahtab, S. Semmalai, Prasanta Kumar Majumdar, Dr. K.S. Rao, Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh and Smt. Meena Singh.

EXIM Bank has been consistently making profits since its inception and has paid dividend to the Government every year.

The Minister said that the proposal to increase the authorized capital to Rs. 10,000 crore is only an enabling provision. Increasing the capital and strengthening the management will help increase the objective of export also.

The Bill, as amended, was passed.

Petroleum and Minerals Pipelines (Acquisition of Right of User in Land) Amendment Bill, 2010: Moving the Motion for consideration of the Bill on 12 December 2012, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas and in the Ministry of Corporate Affairs, Shri R.P.N. Singh said that to eliminate, reduce pilferages and sabotage of oil pipelines, a need has been felt by the petroleum industry for amending Section 15 and 16 of the Petroleum and Minerals Pipelines (Acquisition of Right of User in Land) Act, 1962, to make them more stringent and enable the law enforcing agencies to award deterrent punishment to offenders.

Initiating the debate, Shri Hansraj G. Ahir (BJP) highlighted the pilferage of petroleum and gas from the pipelines which results in considerable loss to the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, attributing the pilferage to the Government handling and to its policies. He suggested that the Government should use modern technologies like censors, CCTV cameras and satellite monitoring etc. to discourage pilferage. He also suggested that the concerned department should have more powers and an independent security force to check pilferage.

Supporting the objects and reasons of the Bill, Shri Anant Gangaram Geete (Shiv Sena) suggested that the farmers be paid due compensation, as most of the gas pipelines pass through fertile land in rural areas. He requested the Government to increase the amount of such compensation, because the land through which pipelines pass do not yield much produce. He also suggested that the responsibility to protect such plants should be given to the village Panchayats in the villages through which such pipelines pass. This will provide employment to local people and incidents of pilferage will come down.

Shri Nama Nageswara Rao (TDP) said that there are different types of damages. The provision for such damages should be different. The proposals in this regard are equalized in respect of different types of damages. These provisions should be evaluated further. Moreover, the safety and security including the specifications of the pipelines as per new technology should be evaluated from time to time.

Shri Prem Das Rai (SDF) while citing the need for a comprehensive law to prevent Pilferage of petroleum and gas from the pipelines, suggested that a financial memorandum is absolutely necessary when the Bill is taken up.

Replying to the discussion* on 12 December 2012, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas and in the Ministry of Corporate Affairs, Shri R.P.N. Singh said that the transportation of petroleum products–crude oil and gas–through pipelines is the cheapest, safest and the most environment-friendly mode of transportation. The network of pipelines in the country has grown in a big way in the recent past. However, petroleum and crude oil products are hazardous and highly inflammable materials. To check incidents of pilferage and sabotage, regular patrolling and inspection of the pipeline is carried out by the respective oil companies. The help of State Government is also taken through regular interaction with the police and local authorities. The villagers and land owners along the route of the pipeline are also sensitized about the consequences of pilferage attempts. While pilferage is done by organized criminal gangs, using improvised technology to puncture high-pressure pipelines and by fixing tapping gadgets, there have been sabotage attempts on the trunk pipelines by using explosives. The Petroleum and Minerals Pipelines (Acquisition of Right of User in Land) Act provides for the acquisition of right of user in land to lay pipelines. However, the existing provisions do not provide sufficient deterrence to criminals. Even if a person is arrested for committing pilferage, he is prosecuted under the provisions of Sections 379 and 380 of the IPC. Usually, due to the non-availability of witnesses in such cases, it is difficult to ensure conviction of the culprits in a timely manner.

In view of the above, the Ministry has, therefore, introduced the Bill for amendment of Section 15 and 16 of the Act with the following objectives: provide a stringent punishment regime; the quantum of rigorous imprisonment is proposed to be extended up to ten years in the case of first offence, and for subsequent offence, the minimum period of imprisonment shall not be less than three years, except where the

* Those who participated in the discussion were: Sarvashri Ninong Ering, Shailendra Kumar, Gorakhnath Pandey, Bhartruhari Mahtab, P.R. Natarajan, Harish Choudhary, Smt. Bijoya Chakravarty, Kameshwar Baitha, Prabodh Panda, S.S. Ramasubbu, Hukmadeo Narayan Yadav, Dr. Monazir Hassan, Dr. Ratna De, Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh, S. Semmalai, and Smt. Putul Kumari.

court may, for any adequate and special reasons to be mentioned in the judgement, impose a sentence of imprisonment for a term of less than three years; provide exemplary punishment for life imprisonment or death sentence for sabotage, terrorist acts; being made cognizable and non-bailable; bail to be granted only after hearing the Public Prosecutor; putting the onus on the accused to prove that the pilfered product recovered from him/his premises does not belong to him. He stated that as per available figures no pilferage from oil refineries has been reported so far in the last three years. 217 cases of oil pilferages through oil pipelines and 13 cases of pilferages from oil depots have come to the notice of the Government. No case of pilferage from LPG depot has been reported during the last three years. About pilferage from railway wagons, action is initiated as per law.

The Bill, as amended, was passed.

Lokpal and Lokayuktas Bill, 2011: Moving the motion for consideration of the Bill on 27 December 2011, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions and in the Prime Minister's Office, Shri V. Narayanasamy said that after a discussion on the Lokpal Bill in the House in August 2011, the sense of the House was that there should be a Citizen's Charter, the lower bureaucracy should be brought within the ambit of the Lokpal through appropriate mechanisms and Lokayuktas in the States should be established on the lines of the Lokpal. The institution of Lokpal will consist of a Chairman and eight other members. Fifty per cent of those members will be judicial members, and the others are to be eminent persons. For the purpose of reservation, a provision has been made that 50 per cent reservation should be there for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Backward Classes, Minorities and Women. The Hon'ble President of India is the appointing authority of the Selection Committee to select the Lokpal. The Selection Committee is headed by the Hon'ble Prime Minister and it comprises the Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha; Leader of the Opposition; Hon'ble Chief Justice of India or a sitting judge of the Supreme Court nominated by the Chief Justice, and an eminent jurist nominated by the President of India. There is also a Search Committee consisting of eminent persons with reservation for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Backward Classes, Minorities and Women. The Director of Inquiry will be appointed by the Lokpal. There will be a Prosecution Wing, the Director of which will be appointed by the Lokpal. All the four categories of employees – Group 'A', 'B', 'C' and 'D' – have been covered in the Lokpal Bill. A mechanism has been worked out. The sanction for prosecution has been done away with. Fine balance of

the Legislature, the Executive and the Judiciary has been kept in place. A time frame has been mentioned for investigation. The maximum punishment has been increased to ten years. The Prime Minister has been brought under the ambit of the Bill. In no other legislation except this Lokpal Bill, there is provision to confiscate the property before punishment. The Lokpal has powers to request the Government to transfer or suspend an officer. A fine balance has been maintained in this Bill.

Further, he said that the government is committed to uphold the Constitution of this country. The House is supreme and government will go by whatever the House decide.

The Public Interests Disclosure and Protection to Persons Making the Disclosures, Bill 2011 has been reworded as the Whistle Blowers Bill which also may be taken up for consideration.

Shrimati Sushma Swaraj (BJP) initiated the debate and emphasizing the various provisions of the Bill like the reasons of bringing it under article 253 instead of Article 252, the provision of reservation, bringing CBI under it and bringing the lower bureaucracy under its ambit etc., asserted that this Bill should be brought under Article 252 and since religion-based reservation is not compatible with the Constitution, reservation on the grounds of religion must be rejected. She alleged that the Bill is very weak and that the CBI should be free from the clutches of the Government; instead, the Lokpal has come under the control of the Government. Further, questioning the need of the jurist in appointing the Lokpal when the Chief Justice of India is in the appointing panel of the Lokpal, sh e suggested that the Leader of Opposition in Rajya Sabha should be included in it. Stressing on the Bill, she further said that the Prime Minister has been brought under the purview of the Lokpal with so many safeguards and riders that no one can even touch him. If there is any complaint against the Prime Minister then the full bench of Lokpal will sit in judgement and 3/4th of the judges will decide whether an action should be initiated on it or not. Rejecting the arbitrary provision of 3/4th of the members, she moved an amendment to make it 2/3rd. She said Section 24 was added to the Bill, though no discussion was held in the Standing Committee about this provision. She also lamented that instead of becoming free from the clutches of the Government, the CBI must now report to four different authorities *i.e*, the Lokpal for cases related to Group 'A' and Group 'B' officers, the Central Vigilance Commission for Group 'C' and Group 'D' and the Courts for the cases referred to it by the respective courts. She suggested that the investigation and prosecution wings of CBI should

be separated and it should be brought under the financial and administrative control of the Lokpal so that it may be free from the influence of the Government and work as an independent investigative agency to help create a strong mechanism to fight corruption.

The Minister of Human Resource Development and Minister of Communications and Information Technology, Shri Kapil Sibal intervening in the debate *inter alia* said that Article 252 has absolutely no application in this particular case. Article 253 has an absolute application in this case because Article 253 relates to implementation of international conventions to which India is a signatory.

If Article 252 is applied, there will be a Lokpal for the Union but no Lokayuktas for States. No concrete steps have been taken by the States to fight against corruption. He further said that when the Resolution was passed on 27 August in this House, the sense of the House was to provide three things through this Bill i.e, a Citizen's Charter, lower bureaucracy would be brought under appropriate mechanism through Lokpal, and Lokayukta will be appointed. All these three provisions have been incorporated in this Bill. To the argument that the provision for reservation in the appointment of the Lokpal is unconstitutional, he said that the Articles 15 and 16, under which reservation is given, are not applicable in this case as the Lokpal is not a Government service. If the SCs, STs, OBCs, women and minorities do not have representation, then justice could not be delivered to the public.

Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav (SP) said that there should be an effective law to protect people's interests. He requested the Governments to incorporate all the amendments moved by the Opposition with regard to Lokpal Bill.

Shri Dara Singh Chauhan (BSP) said that this country needs an effective and strong Lokpal Bill in order to root out corruption. He requested the Government to bring CBI under the ambit of Lokpal. Referring to Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's view on federal structure, he suggested that the matter of creating *lok ayuktas* should be left fully to the State Governments, as this will strengthen the federal structure of the country.

Shri Basu Deb Acharia (CPI-M) demanded a strong, effective and credible Lokpal. Asserting that the Prime Minister should come under the ambit of Lokpal, he suggested that in addition to the safeguards like internal security, national security and public order, a fourth safeguard should also be added that any agreement signed between India and the head of the State of another country should come under the ambit of

the Lokpal. He was of the opinion that the corporate houses should also be brought under the ambit of the Lokpal and the Lokpal should also be made accountable to either Parliament or the Supreme Court.

Shri Anant Gangaram Geete (Shiv Sena) said that by creating the institution of Lokpal, the country will be creating a powerful monster which may pose a formidable threat to democracy. He asserted that bringing the Prime Minister within the ambit of the Lokpal will lower the dignity of the office of the PM.

Intervening in the debate, *the Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh* said that the broad provisions of Lokpal and Lokayuktas Bill, 2011 have been vigorously debated both in the public domain and by political parties. The task of legislation is very serious business and must eventually be performed by all of us who have been constitutionally assigned this duty. Others can persuade and have their voices heard. But the decision must rest with the Parliament. The Central Government is responsible for providing a limited number of public services directly to the citizens. The real problem lies in the domain of State Governments where the *aam aadmi* feels the pinch of petty corruption on a daily basis. It is for this reason that Group C and Group D employees have been brought within the ambit of Lokayuktas in States. Federalism cannot be an impediment in the war against corruption. The PM believed that the CBI should function independently of the Lokpal and the Government. But independence does not mean absence of accountability. The bill therefore, proposed a process of appointment of the CBI Director. As far as the issue of CBI functioning under the Lokpal is concerned, the Government believes that this would create an executive structure outside Parliament, which is accountable to none.

Dr. M. Thambidurai (AIADMK) said that the Prime Minister's office must not be included in the Lokpal. It is the highest office. He has to run the Government and deliver. The C & D categories of employees who are brought under Lokayukta have to be included in Lokpal. He opposed the inclusion of the Lokayukta stating that it amounts to infringing on the powers of the States. We must preserve the federal set up. He further said that bringing provision for making the Speaker, Lok Sabha and the Chairman Rajya Sabha accountable to the Lokpal is not right.

Shri Nama Nageswara Rao (TDP) raised the issue of corruption and said that concerted efforts must be made to bring an effective Bill to weed out corruption. The C.B.I should either be brought under Lokpal or it should act as an autonomous body.

Welcoming the Bill and emphasizing the core issue of corruption *inter alia* Shri Gurudas Dasgupta (CPI) said it is beyond anyone's understanding why the private sector has been left out. He also stated that the Government should show political will to draft a powerful, effective and mature Bill.

Shri Lalu Prasad (RJD) said that a ceiling should be imposed on 'right to property' in order to root out corruption. In this Bill, sitting members of Parliament have been granted immunity but ex-MPs have been included. According to it, complaint or case can be filed against ex-MPs even after seven years. This provision should be removed. The CBI should not be included in this Bill at all.

Shri Asaduddin Owaisi (AIMIM) suggested two amendments to the Bill. First, the Prime Minister should be kept out of the Lokpal's purview and second, the limitation period for proceeding against MPs should be reduced from seven years to six months. He also emphasized that under section 24, the Speaker will be answerable to the Lokpal. When the Speaker is included in the committee that will appoint the Lokpal, how can the same Speaker be answerable to the Lokpal? He feared that under section 14, those who take donations including mosque trusts will be under the ambit of the Lokpal. So far as giving representation to minorities in the Lokpal is concerned, it is not a good idea to leave 19 per cent people of the country out of the Lokpal institution.

Shri Narahari Mahato (AIFB) stated that Corruption is increasing by leaps and bounds so we need a strong, credible and effective Lokpal Bill. He said the CBI should be independent.

Shri Joseph Toppo (AGP) said that in view of large-scale corruption the Government should bring such a bill so that the millions of rupees deposited in the foreign banks is brought back to our country and is fully able to eradicate corruption in real sense.

Shri Thol Thirumaavalavan (VCK) mentioning about the provisions of reservation in the Bill, he suggested the Chairpersons of the National Commissions of SCs, STs, Women and Minorities must be consulted before the selection of members to the Lokpal. A person with religious, caste and gender bias should not be selected for any post in the Lokpal. He also suggested to amendment to include all the NGOs under the Lokpal whether they receive foreign money or not. Corporates also should be under the purview of the Lokpal including the corporate media.

Shri Sansuma Khunggur Bwiswmuthiary (BPF) suggested that the Prime Minister should not be brought within the ambit of this Bill.

Replying to the discussion*, the Minister of Finance, Shri Pranab Mukherjee, said that the Government had several dialogues with Anna Hazare and the Civil Society. That on 31st May, 2011, he wrote as Chairman of the Joint Drafting Committee to 25 Chief Ministers and major political parties and later received their responses. The Government received the mandate from the All-Party meeting that it should draft the legislation. Then again, a meeting of all political parties was convened on 3rd July, 2011. The mandate received was the same. He said that he did not find anything wrong in entering into a dialogue with the representatives of the civil society. That he did not find anything wrong in joining their *dharna manch*, but at the same time he cannot claim exclusivity that only one group and nobody else should do it. The Prime Minister appealed to Shri Anna Hazare from the ramparts of the Red Fort that Parliament was seized of the matter and the Government was trying to work out something and that he should not go on a fast. But his appeal went in vain. There were three fresh demands: First, to bring the Lokpal and the Lokayukta together; second, to have a citizen's Charter and third to bring the lower bureaucracy under the purview of the Lokpal. The Minister added that it was just to accommodate the sentiments of the representatives of the civil society that the Government took the unprecedented step of requesting the Hon'ble Speaker of the Lok Sabha and the Hon'ble Chairman of the Rajya Sabha that the entire proceedings of that day's debate in both the Houses be forwarded to the Standing Committee for their perusal. All the ten important items were discussed in detail. The suggestions coming from various sections including those given by the civil society were incorporated in the interactions within the Joint Drafting Committee. The Bill was, therefore, formulated after giving due consideration to the recommendations of the Standing Committee. The salient features of the Bill are as follows:

There shall be a single legislation for setting up the institution of Lokpal for the Union and the Lokayuktas for the States and they shall be given constitutional status. Lokpal will consist of a Chairperson and a maximum of eight members of which 50 per cent shall be judicial members. The Selection Committee for the selection of the Chairperson

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* Those who participated in the discussion were: Sarvashri Sharad Yadav, T.K.S. Elangovan, Bhartruhari Mahtab, Smt. Supriya Sule, Kalyan Banerjee, Jayant Chaudhary, Smt. Harsimarat Kaur Badal, H.D. Devegowda, Yashwant Sinha, Dr. Shashi Tharoor, S.D. Shariq, Inder Singh Namdhari, Ajay Kumar, Kameshwar Baitha, Prasanta Kumar Majumdar, Dr. Tarun Mandal, Om Prakash Yadav, Smt. Putul Kumari, Raju Shetti, Kirti Azad, J.M. Aaron Rashid, Shailendra Kumar

and members of the Lokpal shall consist of the Prime Minister, the Speaker of Lok Sabha, the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, the Chief Justice of India or a sitting Supreme Court judge nominated by the Chief Justice of India, and an eminent jurist to be nominated by the President of India. The Prime Minister is proposed to be brought under the purview of the Lokpal. It is being provided that the Lokpal may not hold any inquiry against the Prime Minister that impinges on international relations, external and internal security of the country, maintenance of public order, atomic energy and space. It is also now proposed that all Government employees, starting from Group A to Group D will be within the purview of the Lokpal.

India has a vibrant civil society, media, independent judiciary, independent election machinery, independent watch-dog of Government expenditure, in the form of the CAG, and a vibrant Parliament. These institutions have strengthened the democratic structure. When some representatives of the Civil Society were involved in agitation, the Prime Minister expressed the opinion that other views should get reflected in the decision-making process. Thus, the Government went out of its way to accommodate the representatives of civil society. That is why, the Prime Minister appointed as many as five senior Ministers to talk to them. The Government is not insensitive to the suggestions made by the members. The Government is not insensitive even to the demand coming from outside. But it cannot allow the established healthy system to be destroyed. The Government may bring the Bill but the majority of the members must decide whether to accept it or not. They may deliberate on it, judge it. The Minister appealed to the Hon'ble Members who had moved a large number of amendments to withdraw their amendments, because the Government is bringing 10 amendments.

The Bill, as amended, was passed.

C. QUESTION HOUR

The Ninth Session of the Fifteenth Lok Sabha commenced on 22 November, 2011 and adjourned *sine-die* on 29 December 2011. In all, 31,171 notices of questions were received, out of which 20,935 were Starred, 10,228 *Unstarred* and 8 *Short Notice Questions***.** The maximum number of notices of *Starred* and *Unstarred Questions* included for ballot were 1320 and 619, respectively, on 13 December, 2011. The minimum number of notices of *Starred* and *Unstarred* Questions included for ballot were 684 on 22 November 2011 and 339 on 23 November 2011. The maximum number of members whose name was included in the ballot process was 455 for 13 December 2011 and the minimum

number of members included in the ballot was 264 for 22 November 2011.

All the notices received were examined for their admissibility. Out of these 400 and 4,600 were included in the lists of *Starred* and *Unstarred Questions*, respectively. None was included in the list of Short Notice Question.

A total of 356 members were included in the lists of *Starred* and *Unstarred* Questions. The maximum number of 71 questions were admitted /clubbed in the name of Shri Dharmendra Yadav, MP**.**

A total of 41 Starred Questions were orally replied during the Session and 6 hrs 25 Minutes consumed in the process. The average number of Starred Questions answered orally during each sitting of the House was 2.05. The maximum number of Starred Questions answered orally on a single day was 8 on 20 December, 2011. The average number of *Unstarred* Questions appeared in the List was 230 per day during the entire session.

The Question Hour could not be taken up on 24, 25, 28, 29 November and 1, 2, 9, December 2011, due to interruptions in the House. The replies to all the *Starred* Questions listed for those days were treated as *Unstarred* and their answers together with the answers to *Unstarred* Questions were printed in the official report for the day.

Due to interruptions in the House only 1 Starred Question each was called for oral answer on 22, 23, 30 November and 8, 16 and 21 December 2011. In all, 17 notices of Half-an-Hour Discussions were received during the Session. All the notices were disallowed. A total of 4 statements were made by the Ministers correcting the replies already given by them to questions in the Lok Sabha.

D. OBITUARY REFERENCES

During the Session, obituary references were made on the passing away of Sarvashri Ataur Rahman, Vasant Sathe, Dal Chander Jain, Bhagwat Jha Azad, Sushil Chandra Varma, Moti Lai Malviya, Harish Kumar Gangawar, Chiranji Lal Sharma, R.L. Kureel, S. Bangarappa and Dr. Bapu Kaldate, all former members.

The members stood in silence for two minutes as a mark of respect to the memory of the deceased.

RAJYA SABHA

TWO HUNDRED AND TWENTY FOURTH SESSION*

The Rajya Sabha met on 22 November 2011 for its Two Hundred and Twenty Fourth Session and was adjourned *sine die* on 29 December 2011. The Rajya Sabha was then prorogued by the President on 6 January 2012. In all, the House sat for 24 days during the Session.

A resume of some of the important discussions held and business transacted during the Session is given below:

A. STATEMENTS/DISCUSSIONS

Short Duration Discussion on growing incidents of corruption in the country: A Short Duration Discussion on the situation arising out of unprecedented rise in prices of food and other essential commodities and its effects on common man took place on 7 December 2011.

Initiating the discussion, Shri Venkaiah Naidu of Bharatiya Janata Party, stated that despite claiming to ease off the high food inflation in a span of four months, the Hon'ble Finance Minister had failed to do so. He stated that all fiscal, monetary and market intervention measures taken by the Government could yield no results. He enumerated the main reasons for the price rise as lack of foresight, proper planning and leadership, wrong economic policies, massive corruption in export and import. He was critical of the fact that instead of taking poverty alleviation measures, the Government fixed daily earnings of a person at Rs.32/- only, to suffice his basic needs. He criticised the Government for not taking any action on the recommendations made by the Committee set up to suggest measures to control high food prices by the National Development Council (NDC) and headed by Shri Narendra Modi, Chief Minister of Gujarat. He stated that since UPA government came to power, price of petrol had increased 24 times which directly affected the price of essential commodities. Referring towards the plight of farmers he said that prices of agricultural inputs were increasing manifold, as a result farmers were leaving agriculture or were committing suicides. He stressed the need for more spending on agriculture research and to enhance proper storage facility for food grains. He suggested that the Agriculture, Finance and

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* Contributed by the General Research Unit, LARRDIS, Rajya Sabha Secretariat

Consumer Affairs Ministries to come together to work out a long term strategy to address the problem.

Speaking on the issue Smt. Prabha Thakur§, of Indian National Congress appreciated the efforts made by the Government and said that the Government had rolled back the price of petrol and diesel; maximum possible subsidy was being given on LPG; Central Government and the Congress Governments in States were ensuring that farmers get proper Minimum Support Price (MSP) for their produce. She added that, increase in MSP automatically increases the price of produce in retail market, as remedial measure to this Government had opened Kendriya Bhandars where food items are priced cheaper than the market. She urged the State Governments to act against the black marketeers, hoarders and profiteers. She, also, requested them to regulate the Value Added Tax (VAT) being imposed on petroleum products. She stated that State Governments should ensure that the huge amounts of money that Central Government provides them for various schemes reach the poor people.

Participating in the discussion, Shri Sitaram Yechury, of Communist Party of India (Marxist), said that it was third consecutive Session that they had been discussing the issue of 'price rise' and the Government, till now, had not taken any step in this regard. He wished that the discussion should be held under Rule 168, followed by voting, to exert pressure on the Government to take corrective measures. He mentioned that in two years food inflation had increased more than 20 per cent. He stated that the Finance Minister had mentioned in his Statement, laid in the House at the beginning of the Session, that the steady rise in the incomes of the people, resulting in excessive demand, was the reason of price rise, whereas the Economic Survey said that the growth of private final consumption expenditure had fallen from 8.6% in 2005-06 to 7.3% in 2010-11. He, further, referred towards the report of Organisation of Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) which reflected the increasing gap between the rich and the poor. He stressed that forward trading and speculative trading in all commodities should be banned, as it put pressure on prices to rise without which such trading would not be profitable. He

§ Others who took part in the discussion: Sarvashri N.K. Singh, Mangala Kisan, D. Bandyopadhyay, Mahendra Mohan, D. Raja, A.W. Rabi Bernard, M.V. Mysura Reddy, Ganga Charan, Rajniti Prasad, Vijay Jawaharlal Darda, Dr. K.P. Ramalingam, Dr. Yogendra P. Trivedi, Dr. Ashok S. Ganguly, Dr. Bharatkumar Raut, Dr. Barun Mukherji, Shrimati Maya Singh, and Ms. Mabel Rebello

stated that oil prices should be linked with production of domestic oil companies, rather than international prices, whose audited accounts show that they were reaping rich profits. He requested the Government to release the surplus foodgrain stock, at Below Poverty Line (BPL) rates, to the States to distribute it under Public Distribution System (PDS) to bring down foodgrain prices to some extent.

Replying to the points raised by the Members, Minister of Finance, Shri Pranab Mukherjee stated that mismatch between demand and supply was the basic reason of increase in prices of commodities. Along with this, complexities of the world economy, expectation of the market and sentiments of the investments were, also, manifested in inflation. Explaining the background of inflationary situation of the country, he informed that the adverse impact of the international financial crisis of 2008 was reflected on the country's growth scenario, also, as decelerating quarterly Gross Domestic Product (GDP). Thus, to give boost to the economy Government decided to impose no new taxes, and no heavy expenditure was proposed in the budget. Deceleration of GDP was arrested; however, this caused financial expansion and excess liquidity. RBI (Reserve Bank of India) tried to control it by revising the interest rates, gradually. However, during this period another European financial crisis had hit the world which impacted the Indian economy also, resulting in price rise.

On the issue of price hike of crude oil he mentioned that the country required about 108 million tonnes of crude every year whereas the indigenous production was only of 38 million tonnes. This forced the country to rely on imported petroleum products whose price had increased manifold, thus affecting their domestic cost also. On the appeal of some Members to remove taxes on them, he informed that from July 2011 excise duty, customs duty and some other duties on petrol had been removed; however, State Governments were continuing with the duties imposed by them which could not be controlled by the Centre. Regarding MSP, he said that in the year 1990 Minimum Support Price (MSP) of wheat was Rs.440 and currently it was Rs.1080. He stated that after one-third of the total wheat and rice was procured on MSP, benchmark for the market price was fixed and prices could not go below that. He mentioned that for proper implementation of schemes like Antayodya Anna Yojana (AAY), wherein BPL people were provided wheat at two rupees and rice at three rupees per kilogram, better infrastructure and networking was needed. On opposition to Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) he said that it was supported and promoted by the opposition Government, also, in 2004 to enhance

growth in trade and employment. He said that 26 per cent FDI in retailing would be allowed and sourcing of Indian products by foreign retail chain would be encouraged. He further, mentioned that by 31 March 2010, 40,000 square feet additional space would be added to godowns. He concluded by saying that at this time of world's economic slowdown, everybody should come together to resolve the problem.

Short Duration Discussion on Situation Arising Out of Present Agrarian Crisis Resulting in Suicides in the Country: A Short Duration Discussion on the situation arising out of present agrarian crisis resulting in suicides in the country took place on 15 December 2011.

Raising the issue Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu of Bharatiya Janata Party said that the problem in question was of long term nature and thus, wished that the Parliament should hold a special session for seven days to discuss the issue in detail. He pointed out that 42 per cent of the agriculture community did not want to continue in the profession as it had become totally unviable and unremunerative. He attributed the situation to natural calamities, vagaries of monsoon, spurious seeds and pesticides, non-availability of adequate and timely credit at affordable rates, lack of remunerative prices and unnecessary restriction on the foodgrains' movement between different States. Another reason of this, he explained that the implementation of Mahatma Gandhi Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) during the agriculture season make it difficult to get the agriculture labour. He stated that the rate of fertilizers had increased manifold and fuel prices had also increased many times in the past. State Governments were also not focusing on providing uninterrupted power supply to agriculturists. He alleged that the Agriculture Commission had been calculating the Minimum Support Price on the basis of prices which prevailed three years back whereas in present situation, the input cost of agriculture had gone up by three to five times due to which farmers were incurring losses. All these factors forced farmers to commit suicide.

He, also suggested that crop insurance should be modified into crop income insurance scheme. He stressed that the capacity of godowns and cold storage facilities should be augmented under a time-bound programme. He appealed to the Government to make proper assessment of the production and also requirement for PDS. Accordingly, permission should be given for export of remaining produce, on time, so that farmers could get good price of their produce. He

urged the Government to create proper infrastructure in rural areas and also to make structural changes with regard to policies and programmes of the Government about agriculture.

Participating in the discussion*, Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar, of Indian National Congress, said that the agrarian crisis of farmer suicides was prevalent in the section of farmers who were involved in cultivating cash crops and not those who cultivate ordinary foodgrains or other nutrition-related crops. He pointed out that most of such cases were found in cotton growing farmers of Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, region of Madhya Pradesh adjacent to Vidarbha and Andhra Pradesh. He stated that in case of food grains, even if there was not a proper market they can be consumed which was not the case with cotton. He said that the foremost problem of the cotton growing farmers appeared that only 60 percent of seeds marketed by foreign companies germinate. Further, there was no appropriate arrangement of credit for these people. He pointed towards the first entry of the Eleventh Schedule of the Constitution relating to article 243(G), which specified that the role of Panchayats as institution of self-government should be economic development and social welfare. Its first line referred to agriculture, especially agriculture extension. As a result of extension work, he said that Green Revolution could be made possible. He said that, in this respect Gram Sabhas should be organised to sensitise farmers about the risks involved in choosing a particular cash crop. They should be informed about the requirements of quality seeds, quantity of pesticides or fertilizers needed and minimum amount of water required for cash crop like cotton. He hoped that Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Panchayati Raj would work together in this direction.

Speaking on the issue Shri D. Raja, of Communist Party of India, said that the total expenditure on agriculture and allied activities had fallen by 4.3 per cent between 2010-11 and 2011-12, *i.e.* by Rs. 5422 crores. He stated that the main cause for agricultural distress was rising cost of cultivation with high dependence on external inputs, unremunerative prices of the produce and unsustainable cropping patterns on production practices. He asserted that trade liberalization and

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* Others who took part in the discussion: Sarvashri Naresh Chandra Agrawal, Moinul Hassan, Shivanand Tiwari, T.M. Selvaganapathi, Ranjitsinh Vijaysinh Mohite-Patil, Mangala Kisan, Sukhendu Sekhar Roy, A.W. Rabi Bernard, M.V. Mysura Reddy, Vikram Verma, Shreegopal Vyas, Ashk Ali Tak, D. Bandyopadhyay, Rudra Narayan Pany, Ram Kripal Yadav, Prakash Javadekar, Jai Prakash Narayan Singh, Prof. Ram Gopal Yadav, Sardar Sukhdev Singh Dhindsa, Dr. Gyan Prakash Pilania, Dr. M.S. Gill, Dr. Barun Mukherji, Dr. Bharatkumar Raut, Dr. Vijaylaxmi Sadho and Ms. Sushila Tiriya.

export-import policies, also, had adverse impact on agriculture. He added that farmers should be encouraged to adopt allied activities such as dairy, fishery, poultry etc. along with farming activities. He said that there was need for diversification or crop rotation in agricultural production in the changed scenario. He stated that there should be adoption of upgraded technology inputs, along with provisions of infrastructure inputs like power and subsidized cost, supply of seeds, fertilizers, tractors and credit provisions through all nationalized banks.

Replying to the points raised by the Members, Minister of Agriculture, Shri Sharad Pawar stated that the average holding in the country as a whole had come down to 1.2 hectares per family. Also, 60 per cent agriculture was totally dependent on erratic monsoon. There was pressure of population on land and urbanization on the agricultural land. Due to all these basic reasons farmers were finding this profession unprofitable or risky. He, however, expressed doubt over the figures of suicides given by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB). He informed that out of 26 States who were requested to inform about the farmers suicide, 16 States had conveyed that there was not a single case of suicide and other States informed that reasons of such cases were manifold and not specifically agrarian reasons. He informed that for the first time in the history of this country a special meeting of the National Development Council was convened on 29 May 2007 to discuss the problems being faced by Indian agriculture. All Chief Ministers gave many constructive suggestions and the Government of India accordingly took many decisions and introduced various programmes and schemes *viz. Rashtriya Kisan Vikas Yojana* for which Rs.25,000 crores were provided. Simultaneously, many other schemes were taken up like National Horticulture Mission, National Food Security Mission, National Mission on Micro-irrigation, etc.

Regarding crop loan he informed that in the year 2004-05 the total agricultural credit provided as crop loan to the farming community in the entire country was Rs.46,000 crores which in 2010-11 had increased to Rs.4,47,000 crores. On the issue of high interest loan he stated that in 2011-12, the crop loan had been brought down to four percent, from 7 per cent, for those who pay in time. On the question of Minimum Support Price he stated that in 2004-05 MSP for wheat was Rs.640 per quintal and in 2011-12 it was Rs.1,285. He informed that similar decisions had been taken for oil seeds, pulses, cotton and sugarcane. Regarding high prices and shortage of fertilizers he stated that for a big part of fertilizers the country had to depend on imports and the countries supplying them were charging more price. On

provision of electricity, he stated that every State Government was providing subsidized electricity for agriculture. On the criticism that sufficient money was not being spent on research, he mentioned that in the year 2007-08 Rs.903 crores were provided to the Indian Council for Agriculture Research, which was prime organization working in the area of research in agriculture sector and agriculture education, whereas in 2011-12 the money sanctioned had gone up to Rs. 2,800 crores. Regarding suicides in cotton producing areas, he stated that cotton required at least two to three watering, whereas entire Vidarbha area was rain-fed area. He said that farmers would have to be convinced to shift to some other crop for farming. He further informed that in many cities massive programme of construction of warehouses had been initiated on Public Private Partnership (PPP) model. On the objection of Members over the view of Agriculture Minister regarding divergence of data of NCRB relating to farmers' suicides, Shri Pawar appealed to the Chairman and the House to appoint a House Committee of both the Houses, to look into the matter.

B. LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

*The National Capital Territory of Delhi Laws (Special Provisions) Second Bill, 2011**: On 14 December, 2011 the Minister of Urban Development, Shri Kamal Nath moved the Bill to make the special provisions of the National Capital Territory of Delhi applicable for a further period upto 31 December 2014 for considerations. While introducing the Bill, he mentioned that the Delhi Laws (Special Provisions) Act, 2006 was introduced on 9 May, 2006 for one year with the objective of not only protecting certain forms of unauthorised developments from punitive action in the National Capital Territory of Delhi but also to provide an opportunity to the governmental agencies to finalize the norms, policy guidelines and feasible strategies as well as their orderly implementation. The Act of 2006 had been followed by subsequent legislations. He further stated that the Delhi has added about 30 lakh to its population in the last decade and 44 lakh during the period from 1991 to 2011. The Minister mentioned that keeping in view the current ground realities and fast evolving nature of urbanisation in Delhi more time of atleast three years is needed to bring an orderly arrangement. He stated that the Master Plan for Delhi (MPD-2021) notified on 7 February 2007 has provided for its review and revision every five years to modify and correct according to the emerging ground realities.

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* The Bill as passed by Lok Sabha was placed on the Table on 12 December, 2011. Extract from the 'Objects and Reasons' of the Bill.

Therefore, he said, it is expedient to introduce a legal framework to ensure that no hardship is imposed on the people until the revision of the Master Plan is completed besides facilitating the smooth implementation on the ground.

Replying to the debate*, the Minister for Urban Development stated that urbanisation in Delhi has led to infrastructure deficit. He mentioned that the Master Plan of Delhi of 2007 provided that every five years there would be revision taking into account the realistic aspects of Delhi's growing demands. The efforts of the new Master Plan of Delhi is to look at the future and not just making corrections of the past. Re-development of traditional areas like *Karol Bagh* poses a huge challenge; in this regard, he said that the people living in these areas will have to participate in the process of re-development. He mentioned that a fresh look has to be taken at the so called 'agricultural areas' as they had become 'urban villages'. Providing solutions the Minister stated that since the Government was not able to fund all the projects required for urban infrastructure, a PPP (Public Private Partnership) model has been developed. On the issue of addressing the emerging *jhuggis jhopries,* he mentioned that the DDA (Delhi Development Authority) has been directed to make a plan for one lakh Economic Weaker Section (EWS) houses of which 30,000 units are under construction. Concluding his reply he stated that Delhi in the next three years will see a realistic, clear, user-friendly and visionary Master Plan.

The motion for consideration of the Bill and clauses, etc. was adopted and the Bill was passed.

*The Petroleum and Minerals Pipelines (Acquisition of Right of User in Land) Amendment Bill, 2011***:* On 21 December 2011, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Oil and Natural Gas, Shri R.P.N. Singh moved the motion that the Bill to amend the Petroleum and Minerals Pipelines (Acquisition of Right of User in Land) Act, 1962 as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration. The Petroleum and Minerals Pipelines (Acquisition of Right of User in Land) Act, 1962 provided for the acquisition of right of users in land for laying pipelines, however the Minister stated that the existing provisions were not

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* Those who took part in the discussion were: Sarvashri S.S. Ahluwalia, N.K. Singh, Prasanta Chatterjee, Kishore Kumar Mohanty, Syed Azeez Pasha, Ram Kripal Yadav, Ravi Shankar Prasad, Prof. S.P. Singh Baghel and Shrimati Vasanthi Stanley.

** The Bill as passed by Lok Sabha was placed on the Table on 19 December, 2011. Extract from the 'Objects and Reasons' of the Bill.

sufficient to deter the criminals. He said that Sections 15 and 16 of the Petroleum and Minerals Pipelines (Acquisition of Right of User in Land) Act, 1962 did not provide adequate provisions for the enforcement authorities to arrest or detain any person unless he is caught red-handed during pilferage or sabotage. Usually due to non-availability of witness in such cases it was difficult to ensure that the conviction of the culprits is done in a timely manner.

Replying to the debate*, the Minister stated that transportation of petroleum products, crude oil and gas through pipeline is the cheapest, safest and environmental friendly mode of transportation since they are highly inflammable and costly items and spillage would cause not only financial loss to the Company but also endanger life and property. To check incidents of pilferage and sabotage, regular patrolling and inspection of pipelines is carried out by the respective Oil Companies for law enforcement. The Minister further stated that there are 33,066 kilometers of pipeline running throughout the country. On the issue of penalty, he mentioned that the punishment was such that it deters the criminals from committing the pilferages and it would be increased for committing it repeatedly.

The motion for consideration of the Bill and clauses, etc. was adopted and the Bill was passed.

*The Constitution (One Hundred and Eleventh Amendment) Bill, 2009***:* On 28 December 2011, the Minister of Agriculture, Shri Sharad Pawar introduced the Bill to amend the Constitution of India as passed by Lok Sabha. The Minister stated that this Bill has been introduced to strengthen the cooperative movement in the country. Informing about the background of the Bill, the Minister stated that 'Cooperative societies' is a State subject under Entry 32 of the State list of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution. The Multi-state Cooperative Societies Act, 1984 for incorporation of the cooperative societies with objects and area of operation not confined to one State and serving the interests of members in more than one State has since been replaced by the Multi-State Cooperative Societies Act, 2002. The Minister stated that inspite of the felt need for amendments in the State Acts, the pace of reforms in cooperative legislations by

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* Those who took part in the discussion were: Sarvashri Rajiv Pratap Rudy, Birender Singh, Avtar Singh Karimpuri, P. Rajeeve, Pyarimohan Mohapatra, D. Bandyopadhyay, R.C. Singh, Kumar Deepak Das, Mani Shankar Aiyar, and Prof. Ram Gopal Yadav.

** The Bill as passed by Lok Sabha was placed on the Table on 27 December, 2011. Extract from the 'Objects and Reasons' of the Bill.

the States was not encouraging. Hence, the Constitution (One Hundred and Eleventh Amendment) Bill, 2009 endeavours to give boost to the cooperative movement and enthuse people to actively participate in the cooperative movement by making the right to form cooperative societies a fundamental right under article 19(1)(c) of the constitution recommended by the Committee on Agriculture. The object of the Bill was to ensure that the cooperative societies in the country function in a democratic, professional, autonomous and economically sound manner. The proposed amendment in the Constitution, *inter-alia*, sought to empower the Parliament in respect of multi-State cooperative societies and the State Legislatures in case of other cooperative societies to make appropriate laws.

Replying to the debate*, the Minister for Agriculture, Shri Sharad Pawar thanked the Members for supporting the Constitution Amendment Bill. He underlined the importance of the cooperative movement in the country by stating that it touched the underprivileged in the society and helped them lead a respectable life. He further said that 18 to 20 per cent of agricultural credit is disbursed through the cooperative societies. Hence to make the cooperative movement more democratic and to usher professionalism into its management the election process of the members of the cooperative societies had to be improved. He informed the House that the State has been vested with the right to formulate legislation specific to each State for the election process. The current Bill sought to revive the entire sector as per the recommendations of Prof. Vaidyanathan Committee. The Minister stated that decentralised approach of the cooperative sector has been undertaken by the Government. Hence, while following the reservation policy, it has to be ensured that the sanctity of the cooperative as an institution is not lost.

The motion for consideration of the Bill and clauses, etc. was adopted and the Bill was passed.

C. QUESTION HOUR

During the Session, 10,151 notices of Question (6,875 Starred and

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* Those who took part in the discussion were: Sarvashri Balavant *alias* Bal Apte, P. Rajeeve, Pyarimohan Mohapatra, D. Bandyopadhyay, Veer Pal Singh Yadav, M.P. Achuthan, Birendra Prasad Baishya, Jesudasu Seelam, Vijay Kumar Rupani, Mani Shankar Aiyar, Biswajit Daimary, Mohammed Adeeb, Ram Kripal Yadav, Prof. S.P. Singh Baghel, Prof. Anil Kumar Sahani, Prof. Ram Gopal Yadav, Dr. E.M. Sudarsana Natchiappan, Dr. Janardhan Waghmare, Dr. Prabhakar Kore, Dr. Barun Mukherji, Dr. K.P. Ramalingam and Shrimati Maya Singh.

3,276 Unstarred) were received. Out of these, 420 Questions were admitted as Starred and 3,255 Questions were admitted as Unstarred. 47 Starred Questions were orally answered. The total number of Questions received in Hindi was 2,100.

Daily average of Questions: All the list of Starred Questions contained 20 Questions each. On an average, 2.24 Questions were orally answered, for all the sittings having Question Hour. The maximum number of Questions orally answered was 9 on 19th December, 2011 and the minimum number of Questions orally answered was 1 on 30th November, 2011.

All the lists of Unstarred Questions contained 155 Questions.

Half-an-Hour Discussion: 7 notices of Half-an-Hour Discussion were received but none of them was admitted.

Short Notice Question: 13 notices of Short Notice Question were received and 2 of them were admitted and answered.

D. OBITUARY REFERENCES

During the Session, obituary references were made in respect of Dr. Ram Dayal Munda, Shri Silvius Condpan, Sitting Members and Shri Ghulam Rasool Mattoo, Dr. Bapu Kaldate, Dr. Bhupen Hazarika, Shri Dev Anand and Dr. Raj Bahadur Gour, all former Members.

Members stood in silence for a short while as a mark of respect to the memory of the deceased.

STATE LEGISLATURES

ARUNACHAL PRADESH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY*

A One day Special (Seventh) Session of the Fifth Arunachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly was held on 8 December 2011.

Election of Deputy Speaker: On 8 December 2011, Shri Jomde Kena was unanimously elected as the Deputy Speaker of the State Legislative Assembly.

Obituary references: During the Session, obituary references were made on the passing away of Dr. Bhupen Hazarika, legendary musician and Shri Dev Anand, Actor.

ASSAM LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

A One day Special (Third) Session of the Thirteenth Assam Legislative Assembly was held on 17 October 2011.

Obituary references: During the Session, obituary references were made on the passing away of 19 leading personalities.

The Fourth Session of the State Legislative Assembly commenced on 19 December 2011 and was adjourned *sine die* on 23 December 2011.

Obituary references: During the Session, obituary references were made on the passing away of 9 leading personalities.

DELHI LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY***

The Second Part of the Eighth Session of the Fourth Delhi Legislative Assembly commenced on 30 November 2011 and was adjourned *sine die* on 1 December 2011. There were two sittings in all.

Obituary references: During the Session, obituary references were made on the passing away of Shri Radhey Shyam Khanna, member of the Second Delhi Legislative Assembly (1998-2003).

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* Material contributed by the Arunachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly Secretariat
** Material contributed by the Assam Legislative Assembly Secretariat
*** Material contributed by the Delhi Legislative Assembly Secretariat

GOA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY*

The Fifth Goa Legislative Assembly which commenced its Fourteenth Session on 5 October 2011 was adjourned *sine die* on 7 October 2011. The House was prorogued by the Governor on 19 October 2011. There were two sittings in all.

Legislative business: During the period, the motion for suspension of Rule under Rule 306 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business of the Goa Legislative Assembly, that Rule 147 and the relevant rule in the application of the re-consideration and passing of the Goa Lokayukta Bill, 2003 (Bill No. 23 of 2003) as amended was moved, put to vote and adopted. The motion for leave for re-consideration of the Goa Lokayukta Bill, 2003 (Bill No. 23 of 2003) was moved in the House. The amendments to the Goa Lokayukta Bill, 2003 (Bill No. 23 of 2003) were moved, discussed, put to the vote of the House and passed. The motion for the passing the Goa Lokayukta Bill, 2011 (Bill No. 23 of 2003) as amended was put to the vote and passed by the House on 5 October 2011.

Financial business: The Supplementary Demands for Grants for the year 2011-2012 (First Batch) were presented, discussed and voted and passed by the House and the corresponding—The Goa Appropriation (No. 4) Bill, 2011 [relating to the Supplementary Demands for Grants for the year 2011-2012 (First Batch)] was introduced, considered and passed after discussion on 5 October 2011.

Obituary references: During the Session, obituary references were made on the passing away of Dr. Luis Proto Barbosa, former Chief Minister, former Speaker and former member of the State Legislative Assembly; Shri Pandurang Bhatale, former member of the Second Goa Legislative Assembly; and Mr. Steve Jobs, former Chief Executive Officer of the Apple company.

HIMACHAL PRADESH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

The Thirteenth Session of the Eleventh Himachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly commenced on 19 December 2011 and was adjourned *sine die* on 23 December 2011. The Governor prorogued the House on 24 December 2011. There were five sittings in all.

Obituary references: During the Session, obituary references were

* Material contributed by the Goa Legislative Assembly Secretariat
** Material contributed by the Himachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly Secretariat

made on the passing away of Dr. Prem Singh, sitting member of the State Legislative Assembly; Sarvashri Damoder Dass, Sadhu Ram and Prem Dass Pakhrolvi, all former members of the State Legislative Assembly.

MANIPUR LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY*

The Twelfth Session of the Ninth Manipur Legislative Assembly commenced on 20 December 2011 and was adjourned *sine die* on 22 December 2011. There were three sittings in all.

Obituary references: During the Session, obituary references were made on the passing away of Dr. H. Borajao, sitting member of the State Legislative Assembly and Shri K. Wungnaoshang, member of the Eighth and Ninth State Legislative Assembly.

* Material contributed by the Manipur Legislative Assembly Secretariat

11

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APPENDIX I

STATEMENT SHOWING THE WORK TRANSACTED DURING THE NINTH SESSION OF THE FIFTEENTH LOK SABHA

1.	PERIOD OF THE SESSION	22 November to 29 December 2011
2.	NUMBER OF SITTINGS HELD	24
3.	TOTAL NUMBER OF SITTING HOURS	85 hours and 1 minute
4.	TIME LOST DUE TO INTERRUPTIONS/ FORCED ADJOURNMENTS	76 hours 21 minutes
5.	HOUSE SITTING LATE TO COMPLETE LISTED BUSINESS	22 hours 12 minutes
6.	GOVERNMENT BILLS	
	(i) Pending at the commencement of the Session	36
	(ii) Introduced	27
	(iii) Laid on the Table as passed by the Rajya Sabha	5
	(iv) Returned by the Rajya Sabha with any amendment/ Recommendation and laid on the Table	1
	(v) Discussed	20
	(vi) Passed	18
	(vii) Withdrawn	2
	(viii) Negatived	1
	(ix) Part-discussed	2
	(x) Returned by the Rajya Sabha without any Recommendation	2
	(xi) Pending at the end of the Session	47
7.	PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS	
	(i) Pending at the commencement of the Session	205
	(ii) Introduced	Nil
	(iii) Discussed	Nil
	(iv) Passed	Nil
	(v) Withdrawn	Nil
	(vi) Negatived	Nil
	(vii) Part-discussed	1
	(viii) Pending at the end of the Session	205
8.	NUMBER OF DISCUSSIONS HELD UNDER RULE 184	Nil
	(i) Notice received	—
	(ii) Admitted	—
	(iii) Discussed	—

9.	NUMBER OF MATTERS RAISED UNDER RULE 377	314
10.	NUMBER OF MATTERS RAISED ON URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE DURING ZERO HOUR	169
11.	NUMBER OF DISCUSSIONS HELD UNDER RULE 193	3
	(i) Notice received	287
	(ii) Admitted	3
	(iii) Discussion held	2
	(iv) Part-discussed	1
12.	NUMBER OF STATEMENTS MADE UNDER RULE 197	—
13.	STATEMENTS MADE BY MINISTERS	39
14.	ADJOURNMENT MOTION	1
	(i) Notice received	—
	(ii) Brought before the House	—
	(iii) Admitted	1
15.	NUMBER OF MATTERS RAISED BY WAY OF CALLING ATTENTION	3
16.	GOVERNMENT RESOLUTIONS	
	(i) Notice received	6
	(ii) Admitted	6
	(iii) Moved	Nil
	(iv) Adopted	Nil
	(v) Negatived	Nil
	(vi) Part-discussed	Nil
17.	PRIVATE MEMBERS' RESOLUTIONS	
	(i) Notice received	5
	(ii) Admitted	5
	(iii) Moved	Nil
	(iv) Adopted	Nil
	(v) Negatived	Nil
	(vi) Part-discussed	1
18.	PRIVILEGES MOTIONS	
	(i) Notice received	8
	(ii) Brought before the House	3
	(iii) Consent withheld by Speaker	Nil
	(iv) Observation made by Speaker	3
	(v) Report Presented	1
19.	TOTAL NUMBER OF VISITOR PASSES ISSUED DURING THE SESSION	13,820

20. TOTAL NUMBER OF VISITORS TO THE PARLIAMENT MUSEUM DURING THE SESSION — 3,334

21. NUMBER OF PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE CONSTITUTED, IF ANY, DURING THE SESSION — —

22. TOTAL NUMBER OF QUESTIONS ADMITTED

- (i) Starred — 400
- (ii) Un-starred — 4,600
- (iii) Short Notice Questions — Nil
- (iv) Half-an-Hour discussions — Nil

23. PRIVILEGE MOTIONS

- (i) Notices received — —
- (ii) Brought before the House — Nil
- (iii) Consent withheld by the Speaker, Lok Sabha — Nil
- (iv) Observations made by the Speaker, Lok Sabha — Nil

24. WORKING OF PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES

Sl. No.	Name of the Committee	No. of Sitting held during the period	No. of Reports presented
1	2	3	4
i)	Business Advisory Committee	4	4
ii)	Estimates Committee	4	2
iii)	Public Accounts Committee	7	12
iv)	Committee on Public Undertakings	5	2
v)	Committee on Absence of Members from the sittings of the House	1	1
vi)	Committee on Subordinate Legislation	1	2
vii)	Committee on Petitions	3	1
viii)	Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions	1	1
ix)	Committee on Government Assurances	3	—
x)	Committee on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes	4	3
xi)	Joint Committee on Office of Profit	—	—
xii)	Joint Committee on Papers Laid on the Table	1	—
xiii)	Rules Committee	—	—
xiv)	Railway Convention Committee	1	—
xv)	Committee of Privileges	2	1
xvi)	Committee on Ethics	1	—
xvii)	Committee on Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS)	1	1

xviii)	Committee on Empowerment of Women	2	2
DEPARTMENTALLY-RELATED STANDING COMMITTEES			
i)	Committee on Agriculture	15	1
ii)	Committee on Information Technology	4	3
iii)	Committee on Defence	2	1
iv)	Committee on Energy	4	5
v)	Committee on External Affairs	6	—
vi)	Committee on Finance	6	8
vii)	Committee on Food, Consumer Affairs & Public Distribution	5	1
viii)	Committee on Labour	5	3
ix)	Committee on Petroleum & Natural Gas	4	2
x)	Committee on Railways	3	—
xi)	Committee on Urban Development	2	—
xii)	Committee on Water Resources	3	—
xiii)	Committee on Chemical & Fertilizers	2	—
xiv)	Committee on Rural Development	9	—
xv)	Committee on Coal & Steel	3	—
xvi)	Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment	3	1

25. CELL ON PARLIAMENTARY FORUMS

Sl. No.	Name of Forum	No. of Meetings held during the period	No. of Lectures held
1.	Parliamentary Forum on Water Conservation and Management	1	1
2.	Parliamentary Forum on Youth	1	1
3.	Parliamentary Forum on Global Warming and Climate Change	1	1
4.	Parliamentary Forum on Population and Public Health	1	1
5.	Parliamentary Forum on Children	1	1
6.	Parliamentary Forum on Disaster Management	1	—

APPENDIX II

STATEMENT SHOWING THE WORK TRANSACTED DURING THE TWO HUNDRED AND TWENTY-FOURTH SESSION OF THE RAJYA SABHA

1.	PERIOD OF THE SESSION	22 November 2011 to 30 December 2011
2.	NUMBER OF SITTINGS HELD	24
3.	TOTAL NUMBER OF SITTING HOURS	74 hours and 22 minutes
4.	NUMBER OF DIVISIONS HELD	5
5.	GOVERNMENT BILLS	
	(i) Pending at the commencement of the Session	50
	(ii) Introduced	3
	(iii) Laid on the Table as passed by the Lok Sabha	14
	(iv) Returned by Lok Sabha with any amendment	NIL
	(v) Referred to Select Committee by the Rajya Sabha	NIL
	(vi) Referred to Joint Committee by the Rajya Sabha	NIL
	(vii) Referred to the Department-related Standing Committees	3
	(viii) Reported by Select Committee	1
	(ix) Reported by Joint Committee	NIL
	(x) Reported by the Department-related Standing Committees	5
	(xi) Discussed	20
	(xii) Passed	18
	(xiii) Withdrawn	NI
	(xiv) Negatived	NIL
	(xv) Part-discussed	2
	(xvi) Returned by the Rajya Sabha without any Recommendation	2
	(xvii) Discussion postponed	1
	(xviii) Pending at the end of the Session	49
6.	PRIVATE MEMBERS BILLS	
	(i) Pending at the commencement of the Session	170
	(ii) Introduced	NIL
	(iii) Laid on the Table as passed by the Lok Sabha	NIL

(iv)	Returned by the Lok Sabha with any amendment and laid on the Table	NIL
(v)	Reported by Joint Committee	NIL
(vi)	Discussed	NIL
(vii)	Withdrawn	NIL
(viii)	Passed	NIL
(ix)	Negatived	NIL
(x)	Circulated for eliciting opinion	NIL
(xi)	Part-discussed	NIL
(xii)	Discussion postponed	NIL
(xiii)	Motion for circulation of Bill negatived	NIL
(xiv)	Referred to Select Committee	NIL
(xv)	Lapsed due to retirement/death of Member-in-charge of the Bill	NIL
(xvi)	Pending at the end of the Session	170
7.	NUMBER OF DISCUSSIONS HELD UNDER RULE 176 (Matters of Urgent Public Importance)	
(i)	Notices received	95
(ii)	Admitted	3
(iii)	Discussions held	2
	NUMBER OF STATEMENT MADE UNDER RULE 180 (Calling Attention to Matters of Urgent Public Importance)	
8.	STATEMENT MADE BY MINISTERS	NIL
9.	HALF-AN-HOUR DISCUSSIONS HELD	NIL
10.	STATUTORY RESOLUTIONS	
(i)	Notices received	NIL
(ii)	Admitted	NIL
(iii)	Moved	NIL
(iv)	Adopted	NIL
(v)	Negatived	NIL
(vi)	Withdrawn	NIL
11.	GOVERNMENT RESOLUTIONS	
(i)	Notices received	5
(ii)	Admitted	5
(iii)	Moved	NIL
(iv)	Adopted	NIL
12.	PRIVATE MEMBERS' RESOLUTION	
(i)	Received	9
(ii)	Admitted	9
(iii)	Discussed	NIL
(iv)	Withdrawn	NIL

(vi)	Negatived	NIL
(vii)	Adopted	NIL
(viii)	Part-discussed	NIL
(ix)	Discussion Postponed	NIL
13.	GOVERNMENT MOTIONS	
(i)	Notices received	NIL
(ii)	Admitted	NIL
(iii)	Moved & discussed	NIL
(iv)	Adopted	NIL
(v)	Part-discussed	NIL
14.	PRIVATE MEMBERS' MOTIONS	
(i)	Received	177
(ii)	Admitted	173
(iii)	Moved	NIL
(iv)	Adopted	NIL
(v)	Part-discussed	NIL
(vi)	Negatived	NIL
(vii)	Withdrawn	NIL
15.	MOTIONS REGARDING MODIFICATION OF STATUTORY RULE	
(i)	Received	5
(ii)	Admitted	5
(iii)	Moved	NIL
(iv)	Adopted	NIL
(v)	Negatived	NIL
(vi)	Withdrawn	NIL
(vii)	Part-discussed	NIL
(viii)	Lapsed	NIL
16.	NUMBER, NAME AND DATE OF PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE CREATED, IF ANY	
17.	TOTAL NUMBER OF VISITORS' PASSES ISSUED	1,543
18.	TOTAL NUMBER OF VISITORS	2,686
19.	MAXIMUM NUMBER OF VISITORS' PASSES ISSUED ON ANY SINGLE DAY, AND DATE ON WHICH ISSUED	239 on 29.12.2011
20.	MAXIMUM NUMBER OF VISITORS ON ANY SINGLE DAY AND DATE	239 on 29.12.2011
21.	TOTAL NUMBER OF QUESTIONS ADMITTED	
(i)	Starred	420
(ii)	Unstarred	3,255
(iii)	Short-Notice Questions	2
22.	DISCUSSIONS ON THE WORKING OF THE MINISTRIES	NIL

23. WORKING OF PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES

Sl. No.	Name of Committee	No. of meetings held during the period from 1 October – 31 December 2012	No. of Reports presented during the 224th Session
(i)	Business Advisory Committee	5	NIL
(ii)	Committee on Subordinate Legislation	3	2
(iii)	Committee on Petitions	3	2
(iv)	Committee of Privileges	2	1
(v)	Committee on Rules	NIL	NIL
(vi)	Committee on Government Assurances	3	1
(vii)	Committee on Papers Laid on the Table	5	3
(viii)	General Purposes Committee	NIL	NIL
(ix)	House Committee	2	NIL
Department-related Standing Committees:			
(x)	Commerce	5	1
(xi)	Home Affairs	7	5
(xii)	Human Resource Development	7	2
(xiii)	Industry	1	NIL
(xiv)	Science and Technology, Environment and Forests	4	NIL
(xv)	Transport, Tourism and Culture	2	NIL
(xvi)	Health and Family Welfare	7	NIL
(xvii)	Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice	12	1
Other Committees:			
(xviii)	Committee on Ethics	NIL	NIL
(xix)	Committee on Provision of Computer Equipment to Members of Rajya Sabha	1	NIL
(xx)	Committee on Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme	1	NIL
(xxi)	Select Committee on Wakf (Amendment) Bill, 2010	3	1

24.	NUMBER OF MEMBERS GRANTED LEAVE OF ABSENCE	2
25.	PETITIONS PRESENTED	2

26. NAME OF NEW MEMBERS SWORN IN WITH DATES

SL. No.	Name of Members sworn	Party Affiliation	Date on which sworn
1	2	3	4
1.	Shri Sabir Ali	JD(U)	19.12.2011
2.	Shri Pankaj Bora	INC	27.12.2011

APPENDIX III

STATEMENT SHOWING THE ACTIVITIES OF THE LEGISLATURES OF THE STATES AND UNION TERRITORIES DURING THE PERIOD FROM 1 OCTOBER TO 31 DECEMBER 2011

Legislature	Duration	Sittings	Govt.	Private Bills	Starred Questions	Unstarred Questions	Short Notice Questions
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
STATES							
Andhra Pradesh L.A.*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Andhra Pradesh L.C.*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Arunachal Pradesh L.A.	8.12.2011 to 8.12.2011	1	—	—	—	—	—
Assam L.A.	19.12.2011 to 23.12.2011	5	5(5)	—	391(388)	241(234)	112(107)
Bihar L.A.	2.12.2011 to 9.12.2011	5	11(11)	—	726(484)	(174)	210(24)
Bihar L.C.*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chhattisgarh L.A.	5.12.2011 to 23.12.2011	7	7(7)	—	772(338)	307(268)	—
Goa L.A.	5.10.2011 to 7.10.2011	2	1(2)	—	108(102)	441(425)	—
Gujarat L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	928(791)	—
Haryana L.A.*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Himachal Pradesh L.A.	19.12.2011 to 23.12.2011	5	7(7)	—	214(158)#	86(81)	—
Jammu & Kashmir L.A.	26.9.2011 to 4.10.2011	7	8(5)	—	274(216)	240(192)	1
Jammu & Kashmir L.C.*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jharkhand L.A.	19.12.2011 to 23.12.2011	5	9(11)	—	120(124)	(67)	328(176)
Karnataka L.A.	5.12.2011 to 16.12.2011	9	19(16)	—	135(135)	1,044(1,044)	—
Karnataka L.C.	5.12.2011 to 16.12.2011	9	17(17)	—	524(137)	117(496)	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Kerala L.A.	29.9.2011 to 4.11.2011 9.12.2011 to 9.12.2011	26 1	18(15)	10	(4,514)	(9,845)	3
Madhya Pradesh L.A.*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Maharashtra L.A.*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Maharashtra L.C.*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Manipur L.A.	20.12.2011 to 22.12.2011	3	2(2)	—	11(10)	(2)	2(1)
Meghalaya L.A.*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mizoram L.A.	13.12.2011 to 14.12.2011	2	4(4)	—	51(29)	1(1)	—
Nagaland L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Odisha L.A.	9.12.2011 to 24.12.2011	13	9(4)	—	1,359(1,069)	1,557(1,968)	7
Punjab L.A.*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rajasthan L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sikkim L.A.	21.12.2011	1	1(1)	—	—	—	—
Tamil Nadu L.A.	15.12.2011	1	—	—	(369)	(987)	—
Tripura L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Uttarakhand L.A.	27.9.2011 to 1.11.2011	5	6(5)	—	325(52)	(233)	36(2)
Uttar Pradesh L.A.*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Uttar Pradesh L.C.	21.10.2011	1	(2)	—	716(425)	177(135)	30(18)
West Bengal L.A.*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
UNION TERRITORIES							
Delhi L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puducherry L.A.*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

* Information not received from the State/Union territory Legislatures

APPENDIX III (Contd.)

COMMITTEES AT WORK / NUMBER OF SITTINGS HELD AND NUMBER OF REPORTS PRESENTED DURING THE PERIOD FROM 1 OCTOBER TO 31 DECEMBER 2011

	Business Advisory Committee	Committee on Government Assurances	Committee on Petitions	Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions	Committee of Privileges	Committee on Public Undertakings	Committee on Subordinate Legislation	Committee on the Welfare of SCs and STs	Committee on Estimates	General Purposes Committee	House/Accommodation Committee	Library Committee	Public Accounts Committee	Rules Committee	Joint/Select Committee	Other Committees
	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
STATES																
Andhra Pradesh L.A.*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Andhra Pradesh L.C.*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Arunachal Pradesh L.A.	1(1)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Assam L.A.	3(3)	2	—	—	2	1(1)	—	1	3	—	—	1	2	1	—	7[a]
Bihar L.A.	1(1)	12(6)	10(3)	11	—	11(3)	11	11	29	—	11	12	17	—	—	69(5)[b]
Bihar L.C.*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chhattisgarh L.A.	1(1)	—	2(3)	3(2)	—	—	2(1)	3	2	—	2	1	5	—	—	3[c]
Goa L.A.	1(1)	—	1(2)	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	1(1)	—	—	—
Gujarat L.A.	—	3	1	—	—	4	1	3-SC 4-ST	6	—	2	—	3	—	—	12[d]
Haryana L.A.*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Himachal Pradesh L.A.	1(1)	—	—	—	3	10(2)	6	—	8(2)	—	—	—	10(17)	—	—	28(10)[e]
Jammu & Kashmir L.A.		4	—	—	2	6	3	—	7	—	—	—	4	—	—	13[f]
Jammu & Kashmir L.C.*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jharkhand L.A.	—	9(1)	37	—	—	7(1)	5	6	10	8	—	9	8	—	—	70(1)[g]
Karnataka L.A.	1	7	6(1)	1	8(1)	9(2)	11(1)	7	5	—	6	2	6(3)	—	—	27(3)[h]
Karnataka L.C.	1	7(1)	8(1)	1	7(2)	—	—-	—	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	—
Kerala L.A.	3(3)	6	6	7(3)	2	8	5	4	5	—	5	2	7	—	—	57(23)[i]
Madhya Pradesh L.A.*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Maharashtra L.A.*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Maharashtra L.C.*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Manipur L.A.	1(1)	—	—	1(1)	—	—	—	1	—	—	2(1)	—	2(1)	—	—	1(1)[j]
Meghalaya L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mizoram L.A.	1	—	1	—	—	—	3(1)	—	2	—	—	—	8	—	—	19(3)[k]
Nagaland L.A.	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Odisha L.A.	2(2)	4	8	—	—	4	1	2	2	—	1	5	7(2) 6(1)	3	—	45[l]

Punjab L.A.*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rajasthan L.A.*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sikkim L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—
Tamil Nadu L.A.	—	6	9	—	—	4	—	—	7	—	1	—	5	—	—	2[m]
Tripura L.A.	—	1	—	—	2	3	1	2-SC 3-ST	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Uttarakhand L.A.	5	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	14(1)[n]
Uttar Pradesh L.A.*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Uttar Pradesh L.C.	2	4	6	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	37[o]
West Bengal L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
UNION TERRITORIES																
Delhi L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puducherry L.A.*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

* Information not received from the State/Union territory Legislatures

a) Employment Review Committee-2; Act Implementation Committee-1; Welfare of Women & Children-3 and Ethics Committee-1

b) Agricultural Industries Development Committee-11; Internal Resources Committee-11; Nivedan Committee-10; Question & Calling Attention Committee-11; Tourism Development Committee-11; Women & Child Welfare Committee-11 and Zero Hour Committee-14(5)

c) Question & Reference Committee-1; Committee relating to the Exam of the papers laid on the Table-1 and Women & Children Welfare Committee-1

d) Members Pay & Allowance Rules Committee-1; Panchayati Raj Committee-6; Welfare of Socially and Educationally Backward Classes Committee-4 and Absence of Members Committee-1

e) Welfare Committee-8(1); Public Administration Committee-5(3); Human Development Committee-5(2); General Development Committee-6(1); Rural Planning Committee-4(3)

f) Committee on Environment-3; Ethics Committee-4; House Committee constituted to look into the process of up gradation/creation of Health Institutions in the State and to see the norms/criteria evolved for such Upgradations/creations from the year 2002 onwards-1 and House Committee constituted to look into the causes of frequent road accidents taking place on Batote-Kishtwar Road and suggest measures for prevention of such accidents-5

g) Members Convenjencal House Committee-2; Nivedan Committee-8; Vidhayak Nidhi & Anushanrwan Committee-5; Zero Hour Committee-8; Zila Parisad & Panchayati Raj Committee-9; Minority Backward and Feeble Class Welfare Committee-5; Internal Resources/Revenue and Central Assistance Committee-8; Ethics Committee-9; Environment and Pollution Central Committee-9 and Women and Child Development Committee-7

h) Committee on Welfare of Women and Children-7; Committee on Papers Laid on the Table-7(1); Committee on Backward Classes and Minorities-6(1) and Committee on Local Bodies and Panchayat Raj-7(1)

i) Committee on the Welfare of Women, Children & Physically Handicapped-5; Committee on the Welfare of Non-Resident Keralites-4; Committee on Official Language-5; Committee on Environment-5; Committee on the Welfare of Youth and Youth Affairs-3; Committee on Papers Laid on the Table-5; Subject Committees-I-2(2); Subject Committees-II-3(2); Subject Committees-III-2(1); Subject Committees-IV-3(2); Subject Committees-V-1(1); Subject Committees-VI-2(2); Subject Committees-VII-2(2); Subject Committees-VIII-3(3); Subject Committees-IX-3(2); Subject Committees-X-1(1); Subject Committees-XI-2; Subject Committees-XII-1(1); Subject Committees-XIII-4(2) and Subject Committees-XIV-1(2)

j) Select Committee-1(1)

k) Subject Committee-I-4; Subject Committee-II-2; Subject Committee-III-1; Subject Committee-IV-8(2); Subject Committee-V-4(1) and Ethics Committee-0

l) Ethics Committee-3; Select Committee-2; P.L. Committee-3; Standing Committee-I-2; Standing Committee-II-1; Standing Committee-III-1; Standing Committee-IV-1; Standing Committee-V-2; Standing Committee-VI-1; Standing Committee-VII-2; Standing Committee-VIII-2; Standing Committee-IX-2; Standing Committee-X-1; House Committee on Environment-4; House Committee on Railway-2; House Committee on Power Generation-0; House Committee on Women and Child Development-3; House Committee on Linguistic (Sub-Committee, I to IV)-8; House Committee on Rehabilitation-1; House Committee on Boundary Dispute-0 and Submission Committee-4

m) Committee on Papers Laid on the Table-2

n) Select Committee on Uttarakhand-1; Committee on Site Selection for Capital-5 and Committee on Issuance of Cast certificate to SCS/STS & OBC-8(1)

o) Committee on Reference & Question-4; Committee on Financial & Administrative delayed-4; Committee on Rules Revision-1; Committee on Parliamentary Study-5; Committee on Enquiry of Housing Complaints of U.P. Legislature-2; Committee on Parliamentary & Social Welfare-6; Committee on Control of Irregularities in Development Authorities, Housing Board, Jila Panchayats & Municipal Corporation-8; Committee on Enquiry of Provincial Electricity Arrangement-1; Committee on Regulation Review-0; Committee on Commercialization of Education-3 and Daivee Aapada Prabandhan Samiti-3

APPENDIX IV

LIST OF BILLS PASSED BY THE HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT AND ASSENTED TO BY THE PRESIDENT DURING THE PERIOD

1 OCTOBER TO 31 DECEMBER 2011

Sl. No.	Title of the Bill	Date of Assent by the President
1.	The State Bank of India (Subsidiary Banks Laws) Amendment Bill, 2011	12.10.2011
2.	The National Council for Teacher Education (Amendment) Bill, 2011	12.10.2011
3.	The Appropriation (No.4) Bill, 2011	19.12.2011
4.	The National Capital Territory of Delhi Laws (Special Provisions) Second Bill, 2011	23.12.2011
5.	The Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2011	30.12.2011

APPENDIX V

LIST OF BILLS PASSED BY THE LEGISLATURES OF THE STATES AND THE UNION TERRITORIES DURING THE PERIOD

1 OCTOBER TO 31 DECEMBER 2011

ASSAM LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Assam Appropriation (No.III) Bill, 2011
2. The Cotton College State University (Amendment) Bill, 2011
3. The National Law School and Judicial Academy, Assam (Amendment) Bill, 2011
4. The Assam Medicare Service Persons and Medicare Service Institutions (Prevention of Violence and Damage to Property) Bill, 2011
5. The Assam Venture Madrassa Educational Institutions (Provincialisation of Services) Bill, 2011

BIHAR LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Bihar Lokayukta Vidheyak, 2011
2. The Bihar Vishesh Sarvekshan evam Bandobast Vidheyak, 2011
3. The Bihar Bhumi Dakhil Kharij Vidheyak, 2011
4. The Patna Vishwavidyalaya (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 2011
5. The Bihar Rajya Vishwavidyalaya (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 2011
6. The Bihar Apartment Swamitwa (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 2011
7. The Bihar Nagarpalika (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 2011
8. The Bihar Sahkari Society (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 2011
9. The Bihar Aakasmikta Nidhi (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 2011
10. The Bihar Viniyog (Sankya-4) Vidheyak, 2011
11. The Bihar Viniyog (Aadikai Vya 1999-2000, 2000-2001, 2001-2002, 2002-2003 evam 2003-2004) Vidheyak, 2011

CHHATTISGARH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Chhattisgarh Vidhan Sabha Sadsya Vetan, Bhatta tatha Pension (Amendment) Bill, 2011
2. The Chhattisgarh University (Amendment) Bill, 2011
3. The Chhattisgarh Private University (Amendment) Bill, 2011
4. The Chhattisgarh Krishik Pashu Parirakshan (Amendment) Bill, 2011
5. The Chhattisgarh Appropriation (No.2) Bill, 2010
6. The Chhattisgarh Lok Sewa (Anusuchit Jati, Anusuchit Janjati evam Anya Pichhade Varg ke Liye Arakshan) (Amendment) Bill, 2011
7. The Chhattisgarh Land Revenue Code (Amendment) Bill, 2011

DELHI LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Delhi Value Added Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2011
2. The Appropriation No.1 Bill, 2011
3. The Appropriation No.2 Bill, 2011
4. The Delhi Geo-Spatial Data Infrastructure (Management, Control, Administration, Security and Safety) Bill, No.2, 2011
5. The Delhi (Right to Citizen to Time Bound Delivery of Services) Bill, 2011
6. The Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill, 2011
7. The Delhi Value Added Tax (Second Amendment) Bill, 2011
8. The Members of the Legislative Assembly of the National Capital of Territory of Delhi (Salaries, Allowances, Pension, etc.) Bill, 2011
9. The Ministers of the Legislative Assembly of the National Capital of Territory of Delhi (Salaries, Allowances, Pension, etc.) Bill, 2011
10. The Delhi Municipal Corporation Bill, 2011

GOA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Goa Appropriation (No.4) Bill, 2011
2. The Goa Lokayukta Bill, 2011

HIMACHAL PRADESH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Himachal Pradesh Societies Registration (Amendment) Bill, 2011
2. The Himachal Pradesh Municipal Services (Amendment) Bill, 2011
3. The Punjab Excise (Himachal Pradesh Amendment) Bill, 2011
4. The Himachal Pradesh Excise Bill, 2011
5. The Himachal Pradesh Advocates Welfare Fund (Amendment) Bill, 2011
6. The Himachal Pradesh Municipal Corporation (Second Amendment) Bill, 2011
7. The Himachal Pradesh Public Premises and Land (Eviction and Rent Recovery) Bill, 2011

JHARKHAND LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Jharkhand Vritiyoan, Vayaparoan, Aajiwikaoan aour Rojgaroan par Kar Vidheyak, 2011
2. The Shahari Kshetra mein kiye gaye Anadhikrit/Vichalit Nirman ko Niyamitikaran Shulk ke madhyam se Niyamitikaran hetu Jharkhand Vidheyak, 2011
3. The Jharkhand Rai Viswavidyalaya, Vidheyak, 2011
4. The Rastriya Vidhi Adhyayan evam Shodh Vishwavidyalaya, Ranchi (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 2011
5. The Jharkhand Viniyog (Sankhya-4) Vidheyak, 2011
6. The Jharkhand Nagarpalika Vidheyak, 2011
7. The Jharkhand Apartment (Flat) Swamitwa Vidheyak, 2011
8. The Khanij Kshetra Vikas Pradhikar (Sanshodan) Vidheyak, 2011
9. The Jharkhand Bhawan (Patta, Kiraya evam Bedakhali) Niyantran Vidheyak, 2011
10. The Jharkhand Rajya ka Jamakartawaon ke Hitton Kaa Sanrakshan (Vittiya Sthapanaon main) Vidheyak, 2011

11. The Jharkhand Go Sewa Aayog (Sanshodan) Vidheyak, 2011

KARNATAKA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Visvesvaraya Technological University (Amendment) Bill, 2011
2. The Karnataka Land Revenue (Amendment) Bill, 2011
3. The Karnataka Forest (Amendment) Bill, 2011
4. The Karnataka Maritime Board Bill, 2011
5. The Kitturu Development Authority Bill, 2011
6. The Karnataka Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other Backward Classes (Reservation of Appointment etc.) (Amendment) Bill, 2011
7. The Karnataka Regulation of Stone Crushers Bill, 2011
8. The Karnataka Guarantee of Services to Citizens Bill, 2011
9. The Karnataka Appropriation (No.5) Bill, 2011
10. The Karnataka Stamp (Second Amendment) Bill, 2011
11. The Karnataka Motor Vehicles Taxation (Second Amendment) Bill, 2011
12. The Karnataka Appropriation (No.6) Bill, 2011
13. The Karnataka Land Revenue (Third Amendment) Bill, 2011
14. The Karnataka Land Revenue (Second Amendment) Bill, 2011
15. The Karnataka Land Grabbing Prohibition Bill, 2011
16. The Karnataka Town and Country Planning (Amendment) Bill, 2011
17. The Karnataka Societies Registration (Amendment) Bill, 2011
18. The Karnataka Janapada Vishwavidyalaya Bill, 2011
19. The Karnataka Hindu Religious Institutions and Charitable Endowments (Second Amendment) Bill, 2011

KARNATAKA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

1. The Karnataka Janapada Vishwavidyalaya Bill, 2011
2. The Karnataka Hindu Religious Institutions and Charitable Endowments (Second Amendment) Bill, 2011
3. The Mysore (Religious and Charitable) Inams Abolition (Karnataka Amendment) Bill, 2011
4. The Karnataka Maritime Board Bill, 2011
5. The Karnataka Town and Country Planning (Amendment) Bill, 2011
6. The Karnataka Guarantee of Services to Citizens Bill, 2011
7. The Karnataka Regulation of Stone Crushers Bill, 2011
8. The Karnataka Motor Vehicles Taxation (Second Amendment) Bill, 2011
9. The Karnataka Appropriation (No.6) Bill, 2011
10. The Karnataka Appropriation (No.5) Bill, 2011
11. The Karnataka Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other Backward Classes (Reservation of Appointment, etc.) (Amendment) Bill, 2011
12. The Karnataka Land Grabbing Prohibition Bill, 2011
13. The Karnataka Societies Registration (Amendment) Bill, 2011
14. The Karnataka Stamp (Second Amendment) Bill, 2011

15. The Kitturu Development Authority Bill, 2011
16. The Karnataka Land Revenue (Second Amendment) Bill, 2011
17. The Karnataka Land Revenue (Third Amendment) Bill, 2011

KERALA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Kerala Finance Bill, 2011
2. The Kerala Fiscal Responsibilities (Amendment) Bill, 2011
3. The Kerala Appropriation (No.2-14) Bill, 2011

MANIPUR LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Manipur Lok Ayukta Bill, 2011*
2. The Loktak Lake (Protection) (2nd Amendment) Bill, 2011

ODISHA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Orissa Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management (Amendment) Bill, 2011
2. The Orissa Protection of Interest of Depositors (In financial establishments) Bill, 2011
3. The Orissa Entry Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2011
4. The Odisha Appropriation (No.2) Bill, 2011

SIKKIM LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Sikkim Online Gaming (Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2011*

UTTARAKHAND LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Uttarakhand Appropriation (First Supplementary 2011-12) Bill, 2011
2. The Uttarakhand Special Courts Bill, 2011
3. The Uttarakhand Right to Service Bill, 2011
4. The Uttarakhand Annual Transfer Form Public Servants Bill, 2011
5. The Uttarakhnad Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyay Uttarakhand University Bill, 2011

UTTAR PRADESH LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

1. The Uttar Pradesh Viniyog (Lekanudaan) Vidheyak, 2011
2. The Dr. Shakuntala Mishra Punarvas Viswavidyalaya (Vhinnarupen Yogya Hetu) Uttar Pradesh (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 2011

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* Bills awaiting assent

APPENDIX VI

ORDINANCES PROMULGATED BY THE UNION AND STATE GOVERNMENTS DURING THE PERIOD

1 OCTOBER TO 31 DECEMBER 2011

Sl. No.	Title of Ordinance	Date of Promulgation	Date on which laid before the House	Date of Cessation	Remarks (Whether subsequently withdrawn or disapproved or replaced by legislation)
		UNION GOVERNMENT			
1.	The Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Amendment Ordinance, 2011 (Ordinance No.3 Of 2011)	25.10.2011	22.11.2011		Replaced by an Act of Parliament
		STATE GOVERNMENTS			
		HIMACHAL PRADESH			
1.	The Punjab Excise (Himachal Pradesh Amendment) Ordinance, 2011	19.10.2011	19.12.2011	Assent awaited	Replaced by "The Punjab Excise (Himachal Pradesh Amendment) Bill, 2011
		KERALA			
1.	The Legislative Assembly (Removal of disqualifications) Amendment Ordinance, 2011	10.11.2011	—	19.1.2012	—

2.	The Kerala Panchayat Raj (Third Amendment) Ordinance, 2011	18.11.2011	—	19.1.2012	—
3.	The Kerala Advocate Clerks Welfare Fund (Amendment) Ordinance, 2011	18.11.2011	—	19.1.2012	—
4.	The Kerala University (Amendment) Ordinance, 2011	18.11.2011	—	19.1.2012	—
5.	The Kerala Co-operative Societies (Third Amendment) Ordinance, 2011	18.11.2011	—	19.1.2012	—
6.	The Kerala Municipality (Second Amendment) Ordinance, 2011	25.11.2011	—	19.1.2012	—
7.	The Kerala Lifts and Escalators Ordinance, 2011	25.11.2011	—	19.1.2012	—
8.	The Kerala Tolls (Amendment) Ordinance, 2011	25.11.2011	—	19.1.2012	—
9.	The Kerala State Water Resources Regulatory Authority Ordinance, 2011	28.11.2011	—	19.1.2012	—
10.	Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit (Amendment) Ordinance, 2011	30.11.2011	—	19.1.2012	—
11.	The Kannur University (Amendment) Ordinance, 2011	1.12.2011	—	19.1.2012	—
12.	Mahatama Gandhi University (Amendment) Ordinance, 2011	1.12.2011	—	19.1.2012	—
13.	The Cochin University of Science and Technology (Amendment) Ordinance, 2011	1.12.2011	—	19.1.2012	—
14.	The Kerala Head Load Workers (Amendment) Ordinance, 2011	1.12.2011	—	N.A.	—

TAMIL NADU

1.	The Tamil Nadu Co-operative Societies (Second Amendment) Ordinance, 2011	20.11.2011	Dispatched to Members on 24.11.2011 and entry made in the Agenda dated 15.12.2011	—	Not replaced by Bill
2.	The Tamil Nadu Transparency in Tenders (Amendment) Ordinance, 2011	20.11.2011	Dispatched to Members on 24.11.2011 and entry made in the Agenda dated 15.12.2011	—	Not replaced by Bill

APPENDIX VII

A. PARTY POSITION IN 15TH LOK SABHA (STATE-WISE) (AS ON 1.3.2012)

S No.	States	No. of Seats	INC	BJP	SP	BSP	JD (U)	AITC	DMK	CPI (M)	BJD	SHIV SENA	NCP	AIA DMK	TDP	RLD	CPI	SAD	RJD	JKNC	JD (S)	AIFB
1.	Andhra Pradesh	42	31	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	6	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2	2	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
3.	Assam	14	7	4	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
4.	Bihar	40	1*	12	–	–	20	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	4	–	–	–
5.	Chhattisgarh	11	1	10	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
6.	Goa	2	1	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
7.	Gujarat	26	11	15	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
8.	Haryana	10	9	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
9.	Himachal Pradesh	4	1	3	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	6	2	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	3	–	–
11.	Jharkhand	14	1	7	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
12.	Karnataka	28	6	18	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	3	–
13.	Kerala	20	13	–	–	–	–	–	–	4	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
14.	Madhya Pradesh	29	12	16	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
15.	Maharashtra	48	17	9	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	11	8	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
16.	Manipur	2	2	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
17.	Meghalaya	2	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
18.	Mizoram	1	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
19.	Nagaland	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
20.	Odisha	21	6	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	14	–	–	–	–	–	1		–	–	–	–
21.	Punjab	13	8	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	4	–	–	–	–
22.	Rajasthan	25	20	4	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
23.	Sikkim	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
24.	Tamil Nadu	39	8	–	–	–	–	–	18	1	–	–	–	9	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–
25.	Tripura	2	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	2	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
26.	Uttarakhand	5	5	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
27.	Uttar Pradesh	80	22	10	22	20	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	5	–	–	–	–	–	–
28.	West Bengal	42	6	1	–	–	–	19	–	9	–	–	–	–	–	–	2	–	–	–	–	2
	UNION TERRITORIES																					
29.	A & N Islands	1	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
30.	Chandigarh	1	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
31.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
32.	Daman & Diu	1	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
33.	NCT of Delhi	7	7	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
34.	Lakshadweep	1	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
35.	Puducherry	1	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
	Total	543	204*	114	22	21	20	19	18	16	14	11	9	9	6	5	4	4	4	3	3	2

APPENDIX VII (CONTD.)

States	JMM	MLK SC	RSP	TRS	AIM EIM	AGP	AIUDF	BVA	BPF	HJC (BL)	JVM (P)	KC (M)	MD MK	NPF	SDF	SP	VCK	YSR Cong.	IND	TOTAL	VACA-NCIES
Andhra Pradesh	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	41	1
Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Assam	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	14	—
Bihar	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	39*	—
Chhattisgarh	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11	—
Goa	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Gujarat	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	26	—
Haryana	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	—
Himachal Pradesh	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—
Jammu & Kashmir	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	6	—
Jharkhand	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	14	—
Karnataka	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	27	1
Kerala	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	20	—
Madhya Pradesh	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	29	—
Maharashtra	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	48	—
Manipur	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Meghalaya	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Mizoram	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Nagaland	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Odisha	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	21	—
Punjab	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	13	—
Rajasthan	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	25	—
Sikkim	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
Tamil Nadu	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	39	—
Tripura	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Uttarakhand	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—
Uttar Pradesh	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	80	—
West Bengal	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	42	—
UNION TERRITORIES																					
A & N Islands	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Chandigarh	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Daman and Diu	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
The NCT of Delhi	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	—
Lakshadweep	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Puducherry	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Total	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	9	540*	2

* Excluding Speaker, LS

Abbreviations used for Parties :

AGP-Asom Gana Parishad; AIFB-All India Forward Bloc; AIADMK-All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam; AIMEIM-All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen; AITC-All India Trinamool Congress; AUDF-Assam United Democratic Front; BJD-Biju Janata Dal; BJP-Bharatiya Janata Party; BPF-Bodoland Peoples Front; BSP-Bahujan Samaj Party; BVA-Bahujan Vikas Aaghadi; CPI(M)-Communist Party of India (Marxist); CPI-Communist Party of India; DMK-Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam; HJC(BL)-Haryana Janhit Congress(BL); INC-Indian National Congress; IND-Independents; J&KNC-Jammu & Kashmir National Conference; JD(S)-Janata Dal (Secular); JD(U)-Janata Dal (United); JMM-Jharkhand Mukti Morcha; JVM(P)-Jharkhand Vikas Morcha (Prajatantrik); KC(M)-Kerala Congress(M); MDMK-Marumalarchi Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam; MLKSC-Muslim League Kerala State Committee; NCP-Nationalist Congress Party; NPF-Nagaland Peoples Front; RJD-Rashtriya Janata Dal; RLD-Rashtriya Lok Dal; RSP-Revolutionary Socialist Party; SAD-Shiromani Akali Dal; SDF-Sikkim Democratic Front; SP-Samajwadi Party; SWP-Swabhimani Paksha; SS-Shiv Sena; TDP-Telugu Desam Party; TRS-Telangana Rashtra Samithi; VCK-Viduthalai Chiruthaigal Katchi.

B. PARTY POSITION IN RAJYA SABHA (AS ON 7 FEBRUARY 2012)

Sl. No.	States/Union Territories	Seats	INC	BJP	SP	CPI (M)	JD (U)	AIA-DMK	BSP	CPI	*Others	IND	Total	Vacan-cies
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
STATES														
1.	Andhra Pradesh	18	13	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4[a]	—	18	—
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
3.	Assam	7	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3[b]	—	7	—
4.	Bihar	16	—	3	—	—	8	—	—	—	5[c]	—	16	—
5.	Chhattisgarh	5	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—
6.	Goa	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
7.	Gujarat	11	3	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11	—
8.	Haryana	5	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1[d]	—	5	—
9.	Himachal Pradesh	3	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	4	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2[e]	—	4	—
11.	Jharkhand	6	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1[f]	1	6	—
12.	Karnataka	12	4	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	12	—
13.	Kerala	9	3	—	—	4	—	—	—	2	—	—	9	—
14.	Madhya Pradesh	11	1	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11	—
15.	Maharashtra	19	6	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	10[g]	—	19	—
16.	Manipur	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
17.	Meghalaya	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1[h]	—	1	—
18.	Mizoram	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1[i]	—	1	—
19.	Nagaland	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1[j]	—	—	—
20.	Orissa	10	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	6[k]	—	10	—
21.	Punjab	7	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	3[l]	—	7	—
22.	Rajasthan	10	5	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	—
23.	Sikkim	1	–	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1[m]	—	1	—
24.	Tamil Nadu	18	4	—	—	1	—	5	—	1	7[n]	—	18	—
25.	Tripura	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
26.	Uttarakhand	3	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
27.	Uttar Pradesh	31	1	4	5	—	—	—	18	—	1[o]	2	31	—
28.	West Bengal	16	1	—	—	7	—	—	—	—	7[p]	1	16	—
Union Territories														
29.	The NCT of Delhi	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—
30.	Puducherry	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
31.	Nominated	12	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8[q]	—	10	2
	TOTAL	245	71	51	5	13	8	5	18	4	62	6	243	2

Others
(Break-up of Parties/Groups)

(a) TDP-4
(b) AGP-2, BPF-1
(c) RJD-4, LJP-1
(d) INLD-1
(e) J&KNC-2
(f) AITC-1
(g) NCP-6, SS-4
(h) NCP-1
(i) MNF-1
(j) NPF-1
(k) BJD-6
(l) SAD-3
(m) SDF-1
(n) DMK-7
(o) RLD-1
(p) AITC-6, AIFB-1
(q) Nominated-8

C. PARTY POSITION IN STATE / UNION TERRITORY LEGISLATURES

States/Union territories	Seats	INC	BJP	CPI(M)	CPI	NCP	BSP	Janata Dal (U)	Janata Dal (S)	Other Parties	Ind.	Total	Vacancies
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Andhra Pradesh L.A.#	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Andhra Pradesh L.C.#	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Arunachal Pradesh L.A.	60	46	3	—	—	5	—	—	—	5[a]	1	60	—
Assam L.A.	126	78	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	41[b]	2	126	—
Bihar L.A.	243	4	91	—	1	—	—	118	—	23[c]	6	243	—
Bihar L.C.#	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chhattisgarh L.A.	91	39	49	—	—	—	2	—	—	1[d]	—	91	—
Goa L.A.	40	20	12	—	—	2	—	—	—	2	1	37	3
Gujarat L.A.	182	54	121	—	—	3	—	1	—	—	2	181	1
Haryana L.A.#	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Himachal Pradesh L.A.	68	23	42	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	68	—
Jammu & Kashmir L.A.	89	18	11	1	-	—	—	—	—	55[e]	4	89	—
Jammu & Kashmir L.C.#	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jharkhand L.A.	82	13	18	—	—	—	-	2	—	46[f]	2	81	1
Karnataka L.A.	225	71	119	—	—	—	—	—	26	2[g]	7	225	—
Karnataka L.C.	75	18	40	-	—	—	—	—	14	—	2	74	—
Kerala L.A.	141	38	—	45	13	2	—	—	4	36[h]	2	140	1
Madhya Pradesh L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Maharashtra L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Maharashtra L.C.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Manipur L.A.	60	29	—	—	3	4	—	—	—	12[i]	9	57[@]	—
Meghalaya L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mizoram L.A.	40	32	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8[j]	—	40	—
Nagaland L.A.	60	18	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	35[k]	7	60	—
Odisha L.A.	147	27	6	—	1	4	—	—	—	103[l]	5	146^	—
Punjab L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rajasthan L.A.	200	102	79	3	—	—	—	1	—	2[m]	13	200	—
Sikkim L.A.	32	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	32[n]	—	32	—
Tamil Nadu L.A.	235	5	—	10	9	—	—	—	—	210[o]	—	234	1
Tripura L.A.	60	10	—	46	1	—	—	—	—	3[p]	—	60	—
Uttarakhand L.A.	70	20	36	—	—	—	7	—	—	7[q]	—	70	1
Uttar Pradesh L.A.[#]	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Uttar Pradesh L.C.	100	3	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	88[r]	—	100	—
West Bengal L.A.[#]	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
UNION TERRITORIES													
Delhi L.A.	70	41	24	—	—	—	2	—	—	3[s]	—	70	—
Puducherry L.A.[#]	—	—	—	——	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

[#] Information not received from the State/Union Legislatures

[@] As per information provided position of 3 seats is not clear

^ As per information provided position of 1 seat is not clear

a) All India Trinmool Congress-5

b) All India United Democratic Front-18, Bodoland Peoples Front-12, Asom Gana Parishad-10 and TMC-1

c) Rashtriya Janata Dal-22, Lok Janshakti Party-1

d) Nominated-1

e) National Conference-29, Peoples democratic Party-21, Panthers Party-3, J&K Democratic Party Natioanalist-1 and Peoples Democratic Front-1

f) Jharkhand Mukti Morcha-18, Jharkhand Vikas Morcha-11, All Jharkhand Students Union-5, Rashtriya Janata Dal-5, Jharkhand Party-1, Jai Bhart Samanta Party-1, Marxist Co-ordination-1, Jharkhand Janadhikar Manch-1, Rashtriya Kalyan Paksha-1, Communist Party of India (Male)-1 and Nominated-1

g) Speaker-1 and Nominated-1

h) Muslim League Kerala State Committee-20, Kerala Congress (M)-9, Socialist Janata (Democratic)-2, Kerala Congress (B)-1, Revolutionary Socialist Party (Baby John)-1, Revolutionary Socialist Party-2 and Speaker-1

i) Manipur People's Party-5, Rashtriya Janata Dal-3, National People's Party-3 and Indian National Trinamool Congress-1

j) Mizo National Front-3, Mizo Peoples Conference-2, Zoram Nationalist Party-2 and Mara Democratic Front-1

k) Nagaland Peoples Front-35

l) Biju Janata Dal-103

m) Samajwadi Party-1 and Loktantrik Samajwadi Party-1

n) Sikkim Democratic Front-32

o) All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhhgan-148, Desia Murpokku Dravida Kazhagam-29, Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam-23, Pattali Makkal Katchi-3, Manithaneya Makkal Katchi-2, Puthiya Tamizagam-2, All India Forward Bloc-1, Nominated-1 and Speaker-1

p) Revolutionary Socialist Party-2 and INPT-1

q) U.K.D.-3, Others-3 and Nominated-1

r) Bahujan Samaj Party-64, Samajwadi Party-13, Sikchhak Dal (Non-Political)-7, Independent Group-3 and Independent-1

s) Lok Jan Shakti Party-1, Rashtriya Janata Dal-1 and Independents-1.

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