

PRESS RELEASE

The Budget Session, 2012 of Parliament commenced on Monday, 12th March, 2012 has been adjourned *sine die* on Tuesday, the 22nd May, 2012.

2. The Session was held in two parts. In the first part, the sittings of the both Houses were held from 12th March to 30th March, 2012. The sittings of the Houses during the second part of the Session were held from 24th April to 22nd May, 2012. The Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha were in recess from 31st March to 23rd April, 2012 to enable the Department related Standing Committees to examine the Demands for Grants relating to various Ministries/Departments and make their reports to the Houses.

3. The Session yielded a total of 34 sittings of both the Houses of Parliament – 14 sittings during the first part and 20 sittings during the second part.

4. The Budget Session, 2012 being the first Session of the year, the President addressed the both Houses of Parliament assembled together in terms of Article 87(1) of the Constitution on 12th March, 2012 and informed the Parliament of the causes of its summons. Motion of Thanks on the President Address in Lok Sabha was moved by Dr. Girija Vyas and seconded by Dr. Shashi Tharoor. In Rajya Sabha it was moved by Dr. Satyavrat Chaturvedi and seconded by Dr. E.M.S. Natchiappan. It was discussed and adopted by the two Houses during first part of the Session.

5. The Session was mainly devoted to transaction of Financial Business relating to Railways and General Budgets for 2012-13. During the first part of Session, Railway Budget for 2012-13 was presented to Parliament on Wednesday, the 14th March, 2012 and the General Budget for 2012-13 on Friday, the 16th March, 2012.

6. General discussion on the Railways and General Budgets were held in both the Houses. The Lok Sabha also discussed and voted the Demands for Grants on Account, Supplementary Demands for Grants and Demands for Excess Grants relating to Railways and General Budgets. The Appropriation Bills relating to these Demands were introduced, considered and passed by the Lok Sabha and subsequently returned by the Rajya Sabha during the first part of the Session.

7. During the Second Part of the Session, Demands for Grants relating to the Railways were discussed and voted and the related Appropriation Bill was passed by the Lok Sabha and subsequently returned by the Rajya Sabha. Demands for Grants under the control of the Ministries of (i) Health & Family Welfare; (ii) Urban Development; (iii) Home Affairs; and (iv) Commerce and Industry were discussed and voted by the Lok Sabha. The Demands for Grants of the remaining Ministries/Departments which could not be discussed were put to the vote of the House and were voted in full on Thursday, 3rd May, 2012. The related Appropriation Bill was also introduced, considered and passed and subsequently returned by the Rajya Sabha.

8. During this period, the Rajya Sabha discussed the working of Ministries of (i) Labour and Employment; (ii) Coal; and (iii) Defence. The two Houses also considered and passed/returned the Finance Bill, 2012.

9. In the Lok Sabha, five Short Duration Discussions under Rule 193 were held on (i) widespread discontentment among the working class due to faulty Government policies; (ii) need to bring comprehensive policy changes in the Civil Aviation Sector due to large scale mismanagement in the affairs of national carrier; (iii) need to protect the river Ganga from pollution and the Himalayas from ruthless exploitation; (iv) faulty policy for procurement of food grains and inadequate facilities for their storage; and (v) Centre-State relations. In the Rajya Sabha, three Short Duration Discussions under Rule 176, were held on (i) reservation for SCs and STs in promotions during service; (ii) problem of food grains storage in the country, and (iii) normalization of relations with Pakistan and issues relating to human rights violations of minorities in Pakistan.

10. During the session, 5 Calling Attentions on (i) Severe draught in the State of Karnataka; (ii) Incident of child separation of Indian couple by the Norway authorities; (iii) Need to include Bhojpuri language in the Eighth Schedule; (iv) Non-implementation of wage revision of Industrial Development Bank of India employees; and (v) Shortage of drinking water particularly in Jhunjhunu and Churu in Rajasthan, were held in Lok Sabha and 2 Calling Attentions on (i) Discrimination and racial profiling faced by students of North-Eastern States; and (ii) Severe draught in the State of Karnataka, were held in Rajya Sabha. Besides, one Half-an-Hour discussion in Lok Sabha and two in Rajya Sabha were held.

11 A Special sitting of both the Houses was held on Sunday, 13th May, 2012 to commemorate the 60th Anniversary of the First sitting of the Parliament.

12. During the Session 26 Bills (21 in Lok Sabha and 5 in Rajya Sabha) were introduced. 21 Bills were passed by Lok Sabha and 22 Bills were passed by Rajya Sabha. Total number of Bills passed by both Houses of Parliament during the Session is 21. A list of Bills introduced/passed is enclosed.

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS TRANSACTED DURING THE 10TH SESSION OF 15TH LOK SABHA AND 225TH SESSION OF RAJYA SABHA (BUDGET SESSION)

I – BILLS INTRODUCED IN LOK SABHA

1. The Finance Bill, 2012
2. The Appropriation (Railways) Vote on Account Bill, 2012
3. The Appropriation (Railways) Bill, 2012
4. The Appropriation (Railways) No.2 Bill, 2012
5. The Appropriation (Vote on Account) Bill, 2012
6. The Appropriation Bill, 2012
7. The Appropriation (No.2) Bill, 2012
8. The Piracy Bill, 2012
9. The North-Eastern Areas (Re-organisation) and Other Related Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2012
10. The Appropriation (Railways) No.3 Bill, 2012
11. The Administrative Tribunals (Amendment) Bill, 2012
12. The National Housing Bank (Amendment) Bill, 2012
13. The Appropriation (No.3) Bill, 2012
14. The Bureau of Indian Standards (Amendment) Bill, 2012
15. The Indian Medical Council (Amendment) Bill, 2012
16. The Public Procurement Bill, 2012
17. The National Co-operative Development Corporation (Amendment) Bill, 2012
18. The Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order (Amendment) Bill, 2012
19. The Universities for Research and Innovation Bill, 2012
20. The Micro Finance Institutions (Development and Regulation) Bill, 2012
21. The Small Industries Development Bank of India (Amendment) Bill, 2012

II – BILLS INTRODUCED IN RAJYA SABHA

1. The Indian Forest (Amendment) Bill, 2012
2. The Tamil Nadu Legislative Council (Repeal) Bill, 2012
3. The Registration of Births and Deaths (Amendment) Bill, 2012
4. The Anand Marriage (Amendment) Bill, 2012
5. The Rani Lakshmi Bai Central Agricultural University Bill, 2012

III - BILLS PASSED BY LOK SABHA AND RAJYA SABHA

1. The Appropriation (Railways) Vote on Account Bill, 2012
2. The Appropriation (Railways) Bill, 2012
3. The Appropriation (Railways) No.2 Bill, 2012
4. The Appropriation (Vote on Account) Bill, 2012
5. The Appropriation Bill, 2012
6. The Appropriation (No.2) Bill, 2012
7. The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (Amendment) Bill, 2012
8. The Indian Medical Council (Amendment) Bill, 2012
9. The Appropriation (Railways) No.3 Bill, 2012
10. The Institutes of Technology (Amendment) Bill, 2012
11. The National Institutes of Technology (Amendment) Bill, 2012
12. The Central Educational Institutions (Reservation in Admission) Amendment Bill, 2012
13. The Finance Bill, 2012
14. The Appropriation (No.3) Bill, 2012
15. The North-Eastern Areas (Reorganisation) and Other Related Laws (Amendment) bill, 2012.
16. The Administrators' -General (Amendment) Bill, 2012
17. The Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order (Amendment) Bill, 2012
18. The Railway Property (Unlawful Possession) Amendment Bill, 2012
19. The Copyright (Amendment) Bill, 2012
20. The Anand Marriage (Amendment) Bill, 2012
21. The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Bill, 2012

IV – BILLS PASSED BY LOK SABHA – Pending in Rajya Sabha

1. The Judicial Standards and Accountability Bill, 2010
2. The Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development Bill, 2011

V – BILLS PASSED BY RAJYA SABHA – Pending in Lok Sabha

1. The Chemical Weapons Convention (Amendment) Bill, 2010
2. The Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Bill, 2007.