

Secretariat

The total staff strength of the Rajya Sabha Secretariat during the year stood at 1247, out of which 346 persons were holding Group 'A' posts. On attaining the age of superannuation, 14 persons retired from service in the Secretariat. However, one Principal Chief Parliamentary Reporter took voluntary retirement *w.e.f.* 31 January 2002. Two employees of the Secretariat expired during the year 2002.

The Secretariat consists of the following main Services :

- (i) Legislative, Executive and Administrative Service;
- (ii) Library, Reference, Research, Documentation and Information Service;
- (iii) Verbatim Reporting Service;
- (iv) Private Secretaries & Stenographic Service;
- (v) Simultaneous Interpretation Service;
- (vi) Printing & Publications Service;
- (vii) Editorial and Translation Service;
- (viii) Watch & Ward, Door Keeping and Sanitation Service;
- (ix) Clerks, Typists, Staff Car Drivers & Despatch Riders Service; and
- (x) Messenger Service.

A brief description of the mandate of the Secretary-General, Additional Secretary, Joint Secretaries, Directors and Deputy Secretaries in charge of different divisions/services is given in the accompanying Table.

Responsibilities of the O & M Section are designed with a view to bringing more efficiency and transparency in the working of the Secretariat through improvement of the organisational pattern and simplification of procedures.

During the year 2002 in order to improve Secretariat's efficiency through planning and anticipation of work in the year ahead, Action Plans for the year 2002 was compiled and circulated to all in order to achieve the projected goals. Secretary-General held a series of review meetings with Directors/Deputy Secretaries of all Sections in the month of October 2002 to discuss the problems being faced by them in the process of achieving the targets. The observations of Secretary-General in this regard were communicated to all Sections. The Section compiled the Annual Report-2001 of the Secretariat giving details to a considerable extent to enable performance appraisal. With a view to conducting inspection of all the sections in the Secretariat, Inspection proforma containing the general and special procedural details was prepared and circulated to all Inspecting Officers authorised to conduct Inspections for the year 2002. All Inspecting Officers were requested to conduct inspection during

the Inter Session period *i.e.* September-November, 2002 for the purpose of examining the progress in implementing provisions of the Manual of Office Procedure. All Inspection reports received were examined, and Sections were supplied a copy of the Inspection Report. Besides, a list was prepared about the important observations made by Inspecting Officers for furnishing Action Taken Reports thereon and follow-up action. A proposal, received from Personnel Section for cadre review to assess the manpower requirements at different levels in the various services of the Secretariat, is under consideration, and in order to take up work relating to the assessment of work load, a proposal for arranging training programme on work study for the officers/staff of O&M Section was mooted. Printed copies of Manual of Office Procedure were also circulated in the Secretariat in the month of November 2002 to all officers/Sections with the request to follow the procedure incorporated in the Manual of Office Procedure.

The Distribution Section of the Secretariat is the nodal agency for receiving the communications and distributing parliamentary papers to the Presiding Officers, members, officers of the Secretariat, ministries and government departments and others. During the year, the Distribution Section received 19,918 communications. The total despatches made by the Section during the year came to 306676.

The Printing and Publications Service of the Secretariat handled a total of 72,770 pages for printing.

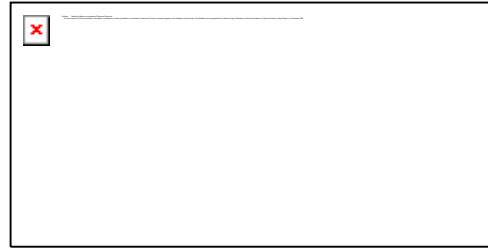
The Training Unit of the Secretariat organises training programmes both in-house and at various training institutes for the benefit of the Officers and Staff of the Secretariat. Some of the in-house training programmes arranged by the Training Unit during the year 2002 include Financial Management, Establishment Rule, Office Procedure, Parliamentary Procedure, Conduct Rule, Record Management and computer training. A training programme for Private Secretaries and Personal Assistants on their duties and responsibilities was also arranged. Besides, the officers and staff of the Secretariat were sent for various training programmes organised by the Institute of Secretariat Training and Management (ISTM), the Department of Personnel and Training (DOPT) and the National Informatics Centre (NIC).

During the year, six officers of the Secretariat were sent to the Royal Institute of Public Administration (RIPA), London and International Legislative Drafting Institute, New Orleans, Louisiana, U.S.A. for attending training on Management of Information Systems, e-governance and Legislative drafting, respectively. Two officers attended a training programme for Parliamentary Staff in Asian Region held in Male, Maldives. One officer from Watch and Ward accompanied a Technical Committee to U.K., U.S.A., Germany, Israel, France and Canada, to study the security set up and equipments there. One officer each of Interpretation, Translation and Reporters' Services of the Secretariat were sent for an attachment programme to European Parliament in Strasbourg to acquaint them with the advanced procedures followed there.

Attachment programmes for the officials of the Maharashtra State Legislature Secretariat and the fellows of the Institute of Constitutional and Parliamentary Studies (ICPS) with the officers of the Secretariat were also arranged by the Training

Unit in the month of January and February, respectively. An interactive session of the children from Manipur, Mizoram and Nagaland with Additional Secretary, Rajya Sabha was also arranged in January, 2002.

The Training Unit also arranged various training programmes for members of Rajya Sabha. An Orientation Programme for the newly elected members of Rajya Sabha was organised on 27 and 28 April 2002 in the Main Committee Room, Parliament House Annexe. Another effort to acquaint the newly elected members of Rajya Sabha with the working of Parliament was also made by arranging a Familiarization Programme on 14 and 15 December, 2002. Training Unit also set up Computer Clinics for members of Rajya Sabha and their staff to assist/ help the members with their computer related problems.



Commendation Certificates to security personnel:

On 8 November 2002, a function was also organized in the Parliament House Annexe to honour the brave security personnel of Rajya Sabha Secretariat, who foiled the nefarious attempts of the terrorists on 13 December 2001, exhibiting the highest standards of bravery, courage and devotion to duty. Shri J.P. Yadav and Shri Matbar Singh Negi, Security Assistants of the Rajya Sabha Watch and Ward staff laid down their lives by performing their duties. Both of them were awarded the *Ashok Chakra* – the highest peace time gallantry award posthumously by the Honourable President of India on the Republic Day, 26 January 2002. As it was a joint effort of all the security forces who were deployed to protect the Parliament House, Honourable Speaker, Lok Sabha awarded Commendation Certificates to all of them. The Commendation Certificates issued by the Honourable Speaker, Lok Sabha to the Watch and Ward staff of Rajya Sabha were handed over by the Secretary-General, Rajya Sabha.

Audio-Visual Presentation-cum-Photo Exhibition on Orissa Rehabilitation Project undertaken by the Committee on Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS), Rajya Sabha.

In the wake of the Orissa Super Cyclone of 29-30 October 1999, Members of Rajya Sabha were requested to contribute Rs. 10 lakhs from their MPLADS funds for the rehabilitation works undertaken in cyclone affected areas of Orissa. Seventy nine members of Rajya Sabha responded by contributing for the construction of school-cum-cyclone shelters in different districts of the State of Orissa. An Audio-Visual Presentation-cum-Photo Exhibition on Orissa State Rehabilitation Project undertaken by the Committee on Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme, Rajya Sabha was organized by the Committee on MPLADS, Rajya Sabha from 10-12 December 2002. The Exhibition was inaugurated by Shri Bhairon Singh Shekhawat, Hon'ble Vice-President of India and Chairman, Rajya Sabha on 10 December 2002. On this occasion, a Report on Construction of School-cum-Cyclone Shelter under MPLADS, Rajya Sabha brought out by the Housing and Urban

Development Corporation Limited (HUDCO) on the rehabilitation projects in the various districts of Orissa was also released by the Chairman, Rajya Sabha.

During the year 2002, the two publications, namely *Second Chambers: Bicameralism Today* and *Emergence of Second Chamber in India* were brought out by the Research and Library Section of the Rajya Sabha Secretariat on the occasion of Fiftieth Anniversary of Rajya Sabha. The book titled *Second Chambers: Bicameralism Today* contains articles on the Second Chambers functioning in twenty-eight countries, including India in addition to four State Legislatures. The book was released by late Shri Krishan Kant, former Vice-President of India and Chairman, Rajya Sabha during the Orientation Programme organized by the Training Unit of the Rajya Sabha Secretariat for the newly elected members of Rajya Sabha on 27 April 2002 in Parliament House Annexe.

The book titled *Emergence of Second Chamber in India* traces the history of the origin of Second Chamber in India as evolved during the British rule. It highlights the changes both in terms of structure and function of the Second Chamber since its inception in the country. The book was released by Shri Bhairon Singh Shekhawat, Vice-President of India and Chairman, Rajya Sabha in a meeting organized to bid farewell to the outgoing Secretary-General Shri R.C. Tripathi and to welcome the new Secretary-General Dr. Yogendra Narain in Parliament House on 2 September 2002. One of the leading dailies, the *Hindu* in its review of the book commented that "the volume is one more reminder of the painstaking research and analysis that our parliamentary staff is capable of ... The book is a much needed reminder of the traditions that have gone into making the Rajya Sabha what it is today."

**RAJYA SABHA SECRETARIAT
(As on 28 November, 2003)**

Main responsibilities of the officers of the Rajya Sabha Secretariat

Name, designation & official telephone nos.	Main responsibility
Dr. Yogendra Narain Secretary-General 2303-4695 2301-7355	<i>Parliamentary Adviser to the Hon. Chairman, Rajya Sabha and through him to the House</i> <i>Administrative Head of the Secretariat of Rajya Sabha and overall in charge of all administrative and executive functions on behalf and in the name of the Chairman</i>
Shri Satish Kumar Additional Secretary 2303-4204 2301-2592	<i>Establishment (G) Section; Establishment (A/Cs) Section; Watch and Ward Office; General supervision of all Department-related Committees; Pay & Accounts Office; Welfare Unit; M.S. & A. Section; Ethics Committee, Editorial and Translation Service; Verbatim Reporting Service; Simultaneous Interpretation Service; Any other work assigned</i>
Shri N.C. Joshi Joint Secretary (J) 2303-4733	<i>General supervision of all Standing Committees except Department-related Committees and House Committee; Committee Coordination Section; Table</i>

2379-3651	Office, Notice Office; Legislative Section; Bill Office; Lobby Office; Printing and Publications Service; Any other work assigned
Shri H.K. Chanana Joint Secretary (C) 2303-4530 2301-2550	Committee on Human Resource Development; Questions Branch; Distribution Branch; JPC on Wakf Boards; Any other work assigned
Shri Tapas Das Gupta Joint Secretary (D) 2303-4057 2379-4328	Committee on Industry; M.A. Section; MPLADS Committee; Sales & Archives Section; Training Unit; Computer Cell and Committee on Provision of Computers to Members of Rajya Sabha; Any other work assigned
Smt. Vanaja N. Sarna Joint Secretary (S) 2303-4206 2301-5585	Personnel Section; Estt.(G) Section; Estt. (A/Cs) Section; G.A. Section; Stores Section; Conference & Protocol Section; Any other work assigned
Shri R.K. Singh OSD(S) 2303-4239	O & M Section; Pay& Accounts Office; Press & Media; Any other work assigned
Smt. Vandana Garg Director (GA) 2303-4212 2379-3412	G.A. Section; Stores Section; Questions Branch (One Group)
Shri R.V. Savani Principal Chief Parliamentary Interpreter 303-4456 301-3927	Interpretation Service
Shri Satyanarayana Sahu Director (R&L) 2303-4532	Research and Library Section; Committee on Science and Technology, Environment and Forests

2301-8620	
Shri Tapan Chatterjee Director (HA) 2303-4187 2301-0718	Committee on Home Affairs; Conference and Protocol Section
Shri Ram Murti Kapoor Chief Principal Private Secretary 2303-4706	Attached with Chairperson of a Parliamentary Committee
Shri Pramod Asthana Director (Security) 2303-5054	Watch & Ward Service
Shri Sham Sher Singh Director (L) 2303-4693	Legislative Section; Bill Office; Committee on Government Assurances; Stenographer's Pool
Shri S.K. Garg Principal Chief Parliamentary Reporter 2303-4137	Verbatim Reporting Service
Shri S.K. Kathuria Principal Chief Editor 2303-4256	Editorial and Translation Service
Shri G.C. Miglani Dy. Secy.(Q.-I) 2303-4557	Committee on Petitions; Committee Coordination Section; Questions Branch (one group)
Smt. Agnes Momin	Establishment (G) Section; Establishment (A/Cs)

George Dy.Secy.(E) 2303-4240	Section; Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture
Shri P.R. Guha Roy Dy. Secy. (P) 2303-4202	Personnel Section; Committee on Papers Laid on the Table
Shri Surinder Kumar Watts Dy. Secy. (Comm.) 2303-4262	Committee on Commerce; Sales and Achieves Section
Shri S.K. Ganguli Dy. Secy.(T) 303-4668	Notice Office; Table Office; Lobby Office
Shri Deepak Goyal Dy. Secy. (Q-II) 2303-4201	Committee on Subordinate Legislation; Questions Branch (one group)
Shri Devi Dass Dy. Secy. (MS&A) 2303-4264	M.S & A. Section; Questions (one group)
Shri P.P.K. Ramacharyulu Dy. Secy (D)	On study leave

2303-4162	
Shri Mukul Pande Dy. Secy (Trg)	<i>MPLADS Committee; Computer Cell; Committee on Provision of Computers to Members of Rajya Sabha; Training Unit; Questions Branch (one group)</i>
2303-4014	
Shri A.K. Singh Dy. Secy.(M.A.)	<i>M.A. Section; Committee on Industry</i>
2303-4543	
Shri Alok Kumar Chatterjee Dy. Secy.(D)	<i>O & M Section, Distribution Section; J.P.C. on Wakf Boards; Committee on Science and Technology, Environment and Forests</i>
2303-4597	
Shri Nagendra Kumar Singh Joint Director	<i>Research and Library Service; Ethics Committee; Committee on Human Resource Development; Administrative Work relating to Printing and Publications Service</i>
2303-4733	
Ms. Bharati Tiwari Joint Director	<i>Research and Library Service; Press & Media Unit</i>
2303-4353	
Shri Gobind Lal Chief Parliamentary Reporter	<i>Verbatim Reporting Service</i>
2303-4275	
Shri S.K. Thakral Sr. Principal Private Secretary	<i>Attached with a Chairman of a Parliamentary Committee</i>

2303-4127	
2301-2006	
Shri M.N. Kukreti Chief Parliamentary Interpreter 2303-4191	<i>Simultaneous Interpretation service</i>
Shri Surinder Kumar Verma Controller of Printing and Publication 2303-4078, 2303-4540	<i>Printing and Publications Service</i>
Shri Ajit Singh Joint Director (Admn., Fire & Sant.) 2303-4780	<i>Fire Prevention & Safety measures; Technical and Materials; Communication; Computerisation of W&W Offices & Cyber piracy safety measures including Security of Information; Matters pertaining to Breaches in Security; Verification of Character Antecedents of casual workers, Allied agencies and visitors to Public gallery; Loss of pass; Records</i>
Shri Surinder Kumar Verma Controller of Printing and Publications 2303-4540	<i>Printing and Publications Service</i>
Dr. (Smt.) Alka Nanda Das Joint Director (Ops.) 2303-5077	<i>Operations & Planning; Training & Personnel; Welfare, Conduct & Discipline; Record Management & Security of classified Documents; Sanitation Service; Investigation & Interrogation into matters of petty theft</i>

Do you want more information on Rajya Sabha?

For more information readers may like to refer to the following publications:

1. Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Council of States
2. Rajya Sabha At Work
3. Rajya Sabha Practice & Procedure Series (1-20)
4. Parliament of India : An Introduction

These publications can be purchased from the Sales Counter (Rajya Sabha Secretariat), Parliament House Reception Office, New Delhi (Tel : 23034360) and also from the Executive Officer, Sales and Archives Section, Rajya Sabha Secretariat, Room No.002, Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi-110001 (Tel. : 23034160).

Information regarding Rajya Sabha is also available on the Internet at <http://parliamentofindia.nic.in> and <http://rajyasabha.nic.in>

International cooperation and inter-parliamentary dialogue

Inter-parliamentary cooperation promotes understanding at the level of people's representatives. In order to promote understanding among parliamentarians of the world and also put forth India's viewpoint at various fora, 6 Indian parliamentary delegations attended international conferences/meetings in various countries during the year. Besides, Indian Parliamentarians paid visits to U.K., U.S.A., France, the Netherlands, Germany and Belgium. During this period, a total of 11 foreign parliamentary delegations visited India. The details of these visits are given in the Tables (Tables A & B) below:

A. Visits of Indian Parliamentary Delegations Abroad

Visits of Indian Parliamentary Delegations to Foreign Countries during the year 2002

1. INDIAN PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATIONS TO INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES/MEETINGS

	COUNTRY	DATE OF VISIT	NO. OF DELEGATES		PURPOSE OF VISIT	NAME OF RS MEMBER	NAME OF LEADER
			LS	RS			
1.	Kasane (Botswana)	8 - 13 January 2002	-	-	16 th Conference of the Commonwealth Speakers and Presiding Officers	-	Late Shri G.M.C. Balayogi, Speaker (LS)
2.	Marrakech (Morocco)	14 - 23 March 2002	6	3	107 th IPU Conference	Shri P.G. Narayanan (AIADMK), Prof. (Smt.) Bharati Ray, CPI(M), Dr. C. Narayana Reddy, (Nominated)	Smt. Margaret Alva, M.P.(LS)
3.	Seoul (South Korea)	10 - 13 July 2002	4	2	9 th Asia Pacific Parliamentarians Conference on Environment	Dr. A.K. Patel, (BJP) Smt. Bimba Raikar (INC)	Dr. A.K. Patel, M.P.(RS)

					and Development		
	COUNTRY	DATE OF VISIT	NO. OF DELEGATES		PURPOSE OF VISIT	NAME OF RS MEMBER	NAME OF LEADER
			LS	RS			
4.	Windheok (Namibia)	6 - 14 September 2002	7	3	48 th CPA Conference	Shri S.S. Ahluwalia (BJP), Smt. Sarla Maheshwari, (CPI(M), Shri Munavvar Hasan, (SP)	Shri S.S. Ahluwalia, MP (RS)
5.	Geneva (Switzerland)	25 - 27 September, 2002	3	2	Special Session of the IPU	Shri Prithviraj Chavan, (INC) Dr. V. Maitreyan (AIADMK)	Shri Manohar Joshi, Speaker(LS)
6.	Panama City (Panama)	27 - 29 November, 2002	7	3	4 th Interna- tional Forum for Par- liamentarians and Local Authority with an Interest in Tourism	Shri Kailash Joshi (BJP) Prof. Ram Deo Bhandary (RJD)	Shri Kailash Joshi, MP(RS)
2. OTHER VISITS							
	COUNTRY	DATE OF VISIT	NO. OF DELEGATES		PURPOSE OF VISIT	NAME OF RS MEMBER	NAME OF LEADER
			LS	RS			
1.	Poland	22-26 May, 2002	5	2	Goodwill Delegation	Shri Karnendu Bhattacharjee (INC) Shri Kripal Parmar, (BJP)	Shri Manohar Joshi, Speaker (LS)
2.	Croatia	8-10 July	5	2	Goodwill	Shri Eduardo	Shri

		2002			Delegation	Faleiro, (INC) Shri Yadlapati Venkat Rao, (TDP)	Manohar Joshi, Speaker (LS)
3.	U.K., U.S.A., France, Netherlands, Germany and Belgium	27 March to 9 April, 2002	4	2	Study Tour of the Joint Parliamentary Committee on Security in Parliament Complex	Shri T.N. Chaturvedi, (BJP) Shri Shankar Roy Chowdhury (Independent)	Shri P.M. Sayeed, Deputy Speaker (LS)

B. Visits of Foreign Parliamentary Delegations to India during the year 2002

	COUNTRY	DATE OF VISIT	NO. OF DELEGATES	NAME OF LEADER
1.	Belarus	21-26 February, 2002	11	H.E. Mr. Vadim A. Popov, Chairman, House of Representatives, National Assembly of Belarus
2.	Mauritius	28 February – 8 March, 2002	10	H. E. Mr. P. Ramnah, Speaker of the National Assembly of Mauritius
3.	Malaysia	24 February – 3 March, 2002	20	H.E. Dato' Prof. T. Marimuthu, President of the Senators' Club of Malaysia
4.	Ghana	13 – 21 April, 2002	8	H.E. Mr. Peter Ala Adjetey, Speaker of the Parliament of Ghana
5.	Nigeria	22 – 23 April, 2002	8	H.E. Mr. M. Kumalia, Leader of the All People's Party (APP)
6.	Mongolia	7 - 9 May, 2002	9	H.E. Mr. J. Byambadorj, Deputy Chairman of the

				State Great Hural, Leader of the majority group in the Parliament
7.	Mexico	27 July – 3 August, 2002	4	H.E. Mrs. Beatriz Paredes, President of the Chamber of Deputies of Mexican Parliament
8.	Suriname	7 – 14 August, 2002	6	Mr. Ramdien Sardjoe, Speaker of the National Assembly of Suriname Parliament
9.	Thailand	27 September – 1 October, 2002	14	Mr. Kamon Manpakdee, Third Vice-Chairman of the Senate Standing Committee on Independent Body Affairs
10.	Canada	17 – 23 November, 2002	7	H.E. Mr. Daniel Philip Hays, Speaker of the Senate of Canadian Parliament
11.	Turkey	15 – 20 December, 2002	10	H.E. Mr. Bulent Arinc, Speaker of the Turkish Grand National Assembly (TGNA)

In her capacity as the Deputy Chairman of Rajya Sabha and the President of the Inter-Parliamentary Council, Dr. (Shrimati) Najma Heptulla visited different countries during the year in connection with Parliamentary Conferences, etc. She visited the following countries :

	COUNTRY	DATE OF VISIT	PURPOSE OF VISIT
1.	Geneva (Switzerland)	20 – 24 January, 2002	Meeting of the IPU Executive Committee
2.	Marrakech (Morocco)	16 – 28 March, 2002	107 th IPU Conference
3.	Beijing (China)	14 – 18 April, 2002	Conference of the Association of

			Asian Parliaments for Peace (AAPP)
4.	New York (USA)	7 – 20 May, 2002	Parliamentary Forum on Children jointly convened by the IPU and the UNICEF on the occasion of the UNGA Session on Children and follow up meetings of the event
5.	Johannesburg (South Africa)	28 – 31 August, 2002	Parliamentary Meeting on the occasion of the World Summit on Sustainable Development
6.	Saudi Arabia	6 - 13 September, 2002	To view the functioning of the Saudi Majlis-e-Shoura for its membership of the IPU
7.	Geneva (Switzerland)	23 - 27 September, 2002	To Chair the forthcoming 171 st Session of the Council of Inter-Parliamentary Union and related meetings
8.	Bangkok (Thailand)	6 - 8 December, 2002	To attend the 2 nd Africa/Asia Parliamentarians Forum on Human Security and Gender "Role of Legislatures"

4.

New initiatives

Computerisation:

The Computer Cell progressed vigorously in implementing its various computerisation initiatives during the year 2002. During the year, fifty desktop computers, fifty printers and fifty UPS were procured for members of Rajya Sabha. The Committee on Provision of Computers to Members of Rajya Sabha also decided to provide legal bed size scanners (HP 7400c) and Compaq handhelds to members of Rajya Sabha. For the present two hundred scanners have been procured for supplying to members. As regards procurement of computer hardware for use in the Secretariat is concerned, during the year 2002, 110 desktop computers, 82 printers (DeskJet and LaserJet), 37 UPS and six scanners were procured. Also two IBM servers for audio/video recording project, one Cheque Printer, 50 Philips Stereophonic headphones, two sound cards and three modems were also procured during the year.

In order to make transaction from LEAP to ISM software for Translation and Reporter's sections, active user interactions were held with C-DAC and the ISM 2000 Office software was finalized and implemented. Various softwares like Office XP, Crystal Report writer, Windows Advanced server, Dragon Naturally Speaking speech recognition software, Norton Anti Virus, etc were also procured for use in the Rajya Sabha Secretariat.

Computer Cell and the Web Updating Group consisting of the officials of the Secretariat coordinated with NIC and officers/sections to update and maintain information on the Rajya Sabha Website. Three meetings of the Web Updating Group were held to assess, evaluate and ensure timely updating of the website and to vet incoming information, locate delays and arrears and ensure consistency and quality of data being uploaded to the Rajya Sabha Website. The following Parliamentary information regarding the business of the House is presently available on the Rajya Sabha Website:

Item	English	Hindi
(i) List of Business	From 186 th session till date	From 188 th session till date
(ii) Parliamentary Bulletin Part-I	From 185 th session till date	From 188 th session till date
(iii) Parliamentary Bulletin Part-II	From October, 1998	From 1999 - till date
(iv) Synopsis of Debate	From 188 th session till date	From 188 th session till date
(v) Uncorrected Debates	189 th session till date	189 th session - till date
(vi) Parliament Questions	From 174 th session till date	From 174 th session till date
(vii) Debates	From 189 th to 196 th session	From 189 th to 196 th session
(viii) Government Assurances	From 135 th session till date	From 135 th session till date
(ix) Session wise statement of Bills	From 188 th to 195 th	From 188 th to 195 th

passed by the Houses of Parliament	session	session
(x) Bills pending at the end of Session	From 188 th to 195 th session	From 188 th to 195 th session
(xi) Resume of Business	From 186 th to 196 th session	From 186 th to 193 rd session
(xii) Journals of the Rajya Sabha	From 174 th to 196 th session	From 174 th to 194 th Session
(xiii) Papers laid on the Table	From 192 nd to 197 th session	From 192 nd to 194 th session
(xiv) Parliament Questions List	From 193 rd to 197 th session	-

The following documents are also available on the website:

- Practice and Procedure series
- Rajya Sabha at Work
- Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Council of States (Rajya Sabha)
- Rulings and Observations from the Chair (1952-2000)
- Directions from the Chair
- Privileges Digest
- Handbook for Members of Rajya Sabha
- Performance Profile
- Joint Committee on Offices of Profit
- Salary, Allowances and Pension - Acts and Rules
- Picture Gallery
- Government of India Manual for Handling Parliamentary work in Ministries
- Government instructions on dealing with MPs
- Rajya Sabha Publications
- Price List of the publications of the Rajya Sabha Secretariat List of titles in the CD ROM Library
- Office Manual
- Annual Report

During the year, active user interactions were held with the research faculty of the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) to aid in development of the MANTRA - a translation software from English to Hindi in the Parliamentary sub-domain. The first module prepared by the C-DAC was evaluated and suggestions for improvement were given. Also PAMS (Personnel Administration Management System) has been developed, which provides on-line access to the information about employees such as service book, leave records, promotion, postings and transfers, advances, ACRs, etc. The system has also generated a large number of reports for use of Personnel Section, Estt. (G) Section as well as senior Officers of the Secretariat.

A new project on the Digital Sound Recording Assisted Verbatim Transcription was undertaken to provide the facility of audio recording of the Proceedings of the House in the digital format. It creates five minutes audio files for the use of the

reporters directly from the computer installed in their branch through the LAN. The Reporters can now listen to the audio and transcribe the verbatim simultaneously.

Similarly, in order to make available live parliamentary proceedings across the globe through internet, the audio of the Rajya Sabha proceedings are being webcast live from July 2002 (196th session) onwards. The live audio webcast can be heard at the following address:

<http://rajyasabha.nic.in/liveaudio/liveaudiospeech.htm>

Parliament and the people

There are two Reception Offices located in the Parliament House complex – one near the Parliament House and the other at the Parliament House Annexe. These Reception Offices help visitors to meet Members of Parliament, Ministers and officers of Rajya Sabha and the Rajya Sabha Secretariat. The Reception Offices also issue entry passes to the officials of the Ministries/Departments coming to Parliament House and Parliament House Annexe in connection with their official work. In the entire year, the two Reception Offices issued 27900 casual entry permits, 25 interview slips.

During the year, 161 general passes, 4 Library passes, 522 Central Hall passes, 115 DVG (diplomatic) annual cards and 255 DVG (diplomatic) daily cards were issued. Also, 7459 Official Gallery passes and 2664 general passes to witness the sessions of Rajya Sabha were issued. During the year, 13800 persons including VIPs, Press Correspondents, officials from various Ministries and Departments and the members of the public witnessed the sessions of Rajya Sabha. On the recommendations of Members of Parliament, 1064 visitors were shown round the Parliament House by the Watch and Ward staff.

As in the past, recorded proceedings of the Question Hour in Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha were broadcast on AIR during alternate weeks. Assistance was provided to Doordarshan for the live telecast of proceedings of Rajya Sabha. Question Hour is broadcast on the national network live every alternate week. Proceedings are also broadcast live on Low Power Transmitter (LPT) throughout the day from the Parliament House.

A decision was taken in the Committee on Provision of Computers to Members of Rajya Sabha to prepare Video CDs (VCDs) of Rajya Sabha proceedings. These VCDs are available to members, media and the public. While the cost of a VCD is rupees one hundred and fifty for the members, it is rupees two hundred for the media and the public. Each VCD covers approximately one hour of proceedings. Proceedings from the 185th session onwards are available.

Committees – mini legislatures

Parliamentary work is transacted not in the House alone, a great deal of it is done in the Committees as well. Parliamentary Committees are, in fact, mini legislatures. There are at present 12 Standing Committees, members of which are nominated by the Chairman of Rajya Sabha. Besides, 6 Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committees, consisting of 45 members – 30 from Lok Sabha and 15 from Rajya Sabha, function under the direction and control of the Chairman of Rajya Sabha. During the year, out of the total 120 reports presented by these Committees, 98 were presented by the six Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committees which are serviced by the Rajya Sabha Secretariat. Six Reports were presented by the Joint Parliamentary Committee on the functioning of Wakf Boards. The details of the reports presented by these Committees are given in the Table below.

Table
Reports presented by the Committees of Rajya Sabha

Reports	Committee on Subordinate Legislation
138 th	(i) The Madras Port Trust (General Provident Fund) Regulations, 1997-Implementation of 125 th Report of the Committee. (ii) The Coal Mines Pension Scheme, 1998 (iii) The Central Silk Board Rules, 1955. (iv) The Border Security Force (Tenure of Posting and Deputation) Rules, 2000 (v) The Statutory Investigation into Railway Accident Rules, 1998 (vi) The Ozone Depleting Substances (Regulations and Control) Rules, 2000
139 th	Laying of Statutory Orders on the Table of Rajya Sabha (194 th session)
140 th	Notification S.O. No. 995 (E) dated November 3, 2000 issued by the Ministry of Finance regarding approval of GIC as Indian Reinsurer under Section 101A(8) (ii) of the Insurance Act 1938- Implementation of 134 th Report of the Committee on Subordinate Legislation, Rajya Sabha
141 st	(i) The Bank Officer Employees' (Conduct) Regulations, 1976-Implementation of the recommendations of the

	<p>Committee as contained in its 124th Report</p> <p>(ii) The Bank (Officers) Service Regulations 1979- Implementation of the recommendations of the Committee as contained in its 124th Report</p> <p>(iii) The State Bank of Travancore (Officers) Service Regulations, 1979</p> <p>(iv) The Canara Bank/Punjab National Bank (Officers) Regulations, 1979- Implementation of the recommendations of the Committee as contained in its 104th Report</p> <p>(v) The Bank Officers' Employees' (Discipline and Appeal) Regulations, 1976 – Implementation of the recommendations of the Committee as contained in its 106th Report</p> <p>(vi) The Small Industries Development Bank of India Act 1989 – framing of Regulations thereunder</p> <p>(vii) The Banking Service Commission Act, 1984 - delay in framing rules/regulations</p>
142 nd	Laying of Statutory Orders on the Table of Rajya Sabha (195 th session)
143 rd	<p>(i) The Coffee Board General Provident Fund Rules, 1965</p> <p>(ii) The Merchant Shipping (Management of Safe Operation of Ships) Rules, 2000</p> <p>(iii) The Agriculture and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority Regulations, 1999</p> <p>(iv) The Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust and Employees (Pay and Allowances) Regulations, 1997-Implementation of 126th Report of the Committee</p>
144 th	<p>(i) The Noise Pollution (Regulation and Control) Rules, 2000</p> <p>(ii) The Lakshdweep Panchayats (Service) Rules 1997- Implementation of the 134th Report of the Committee</p> <p>(iii) The Lakshadweep Panchayat (Punishment and Appeal) Rules, 1997 - Implementation of 134th Report of the Committee</p> <p>(iv) The Petroleum Rules 1976, OISD Standards and Related Areas – Implementation of 120th Report of the Committee</p>
145 th	Laying of Statutory Orders on the Table of Rajya Sabha (196 th Session)
Reports	Committee on Government Assurances
55 th	Report on implementation of assurances laid during the 193 rd and 194 th sessions/ request for dropping and extension of time, etc.
56 th	Report on implementation of assurances laid during the 195 th and

	196 th session/requests for dropping and extension of time, etc.
Reports	Committee on Papers Laid on the Table
79 th	Government Notifications/Orders and Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of Government companies/organisations laid on the Table of Rajya Sabha during the 193 rd session
80 th	(i) The Coffee Board, Bangalore (ii) The Karnataka Agro Industries Corporation Ltd., Bangalore (iii) The Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore (iv) The Cochin Port Trust, Cochin
81 st	Government Notifications/Orders and Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of Government companies/organisations laid on the Table of Rajya Sabha during the 194 th session
82 nd	(i) The National Highways Authority of India, New Delhi (ii) The Orissa Agro Industries Corporation Limited, Bhubaneswar (iii) The National Institute of Rehabilitation Training and Research, Cuttack (iv) The Acharya Harihar Regional Cancer Centre, Cuttack
83 rd	Government Notifications/Orders and Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of Government companies/organisations laid on the Table of Rajya Sabha during the 195 th session
84 th	(i) The West Bengal Agro Industries Corporation Limited, Kolkata (ii) The Chittaranjan National Cancer Institute, Kolkata (iii) The Central Inland Water Transport Corporation Limited, Kolkata (iv) The National Institute for the Orthopaedically Handicapped, Kolkata
85 th	(i) The All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi (ii) The National Institute of Industrial Engineering, Mumbai (iii) The Ali Yavar Jung National Institute for the Hearing Handicapped, Mumbai (iv) The Maharashtra Agro Industries Development Corporation Limited, Mumbai
86 th	Government Notifications/Orders and Annual Reports and Audited

	Accounts of Government companies/organisations laid on the Table of Rajya Sabha during the 196 th session
Reports	Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Commerce
49 th	The Foreign Trade (Development and Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2001
50 th to 52 nd	Demands for Grants (2002-2003)
53 rd	Functioning of National Productivity Council
Reports	Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs
86 th to 88 th	Demands for Grants (2002-2003)
89 th	The Companies (Second Amendment) Bill, 2001
90 th	The Representation of the People (Amendment) Bill, 2001
91 st	Action Taken by Government on the recommendations /observations contained in 75 th Report on cross-border terrorism and insurgency in Jammu and Kashmir
92 nd	The Companies (Amendment) Bill, 2001
93 rd	The Competition Bill, 2001
94 th	The Supreme Court Judges (Salaries and Conditions of Service) Amendment Bill, 2002
95 th	The Repatriation of Prisoners Bill, 2002
96 th	The <i>Swatantrata Sainik Samman</i> Pension Scheme
97 th	The Election and Other Related Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2002
Reports	Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Human Resource Development
114 th	The implementation of Elementary Education Schemes of the Department of Elementary Education and Literacy (Ministry of Human Resource Development)
115 th	Action Taken by Government on the recommendations/observations contained in the 31 st Report on the functioning of the Central Government hospitals, Department of Health (Ministry of Health and

	Family Welfare)
116 th to 122 nd	Demands for Grants (2002-2003)
123 rd	The Infant Milk Substitutes, Feeding Bottles and Infant Foods (Regulation of Production, Supply and Distribution) Amendment Bill, 2002
124 th	The Protection from Domestic Violence Bill, 2002
Reports	Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Industry
64 th	Modernisation, Restructuring and Expansion Programme of the Hindustan Zinc Ltd. (HZL)
65 th	Modernisation, Restructuring and Expansion Programme of the Hindustan Copper Ltd. (HCL)
66 th	Performance review of the Jawaharlal Nehru Aluminium Research Development and Design Centre (JNARDDC)
67 th	Organisational structure and performance review of the Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM)
68 th	Working and performance review of the Mineral Exploration Corporation Ltd. (MECL)
69 th	The Offshore Areas Mineral (Development and Regulation) Bill, 2001
70 th to 75 th	Demands for Grants (2002-03)
76 th	Action Taken on the recommendations/observations contained in the 53 rd Report on Modernization, Restructuring and Expansion Programmes of the National Aluminium Company (NALCO)
77 th	Action Taken on the recommendations/observations contained in the 67 th Report on organizational, structure and performance review of Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM)
78 th	Action Taken on the recommendations/observations contained in the 68 th Report on working and performance review of the Mineral Exploration Corporation Ltd. (MECL)
79 th	Action Taken on the recommendations/observations contained in the 65 th Report on Modernisation, Restructuring and Expansion Programmes of the Hindustan Copper Ltd. (HCL)

80 th	Action Taken on the recommendations/observations contained in the 66 th Report on performance review of the Jawaharlal Nehru Aluminum Research Development and Design Centre
81 st	Sickness in SSI sector of the Cement industry in Uttar Pradesh
82 nd	MoU system in the Strategic Sector PSEs
83 rd	MoU system in the Allied Sector PSEs.
84 th	Implementation of the Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Kerala
85 th	Implementation status of financial assistance-cum-restructuring package and revival of the Hindustan Steel Works Construction Ltd. (HSCL)
86 th	Performance review of the Metal Scrap Trade Corporation Ltd. (MSTC)
87 th	Implementation status of financial assistance-cum-restructuring package and revival of the Bharat Refractories Ltd. (BRL)
88 th	Performance review of the Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd. (RINL)
89 th	Modernisation, Restructuring and Expansion Programmes of the Durgapur Steel Plant (DSP)
90 th	Sickness in SSI sector in the city of Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh
91 st	The Coir Board – A performance review
92 nd and 93 rd	Action Taken Reports on Demands for Grants (2002-03)
94 th	MoU system in the Chemical Sectors PSEs of the Department of Public Enterprises (Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises)
95 th	Inter PSU Cooperation in Engineering and Construction Sectors, the Department of Public Enterprises (Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises)
96 th	Status of Khadi and Village Industries in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Kerala (Ministry of Agro and Rural Industries)
97 th to 99 th	Action Taken Reports on Demands for Grants ((2002-03)
100 th	Performance Review of the National Mineral Development Corporation Limited (NMDC), Ministry of Steel
101 st	Action Taken Report on Demands for Grants (2002-03)

102 nd	MoU system in the Fertilizers Sectors PSEs of the Department of Public Enterprises (Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises)
103 rd	Action Taken on the recommendations/observations contained in the 87 th Report on the implementation status of financial assistance – cum-restructuring package and revival of the Bharat Refractories Ltd. (Ministry of Steel)
104 th	Action Taken on the recommendations/observations contained in 85 th Report on the implementation status of financial assistance – cum-restructuring package and revival of the Hindustan Steel Works Construction Ltd. (HSCL) Ministry of Steel
105 th	Action Taken on the recommendations/observations contained in the 64 th Report on Modernisation, Restructuring and Expansion Programmes and post disinvestment performance of the Hindustan Zinc Ltd. (HZL) Ministry of Coal and Mines
106 th	Globalisation and Capital Goods Industry, the Department of Public Enterprises, (Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises)
107 th	Liquidated damages and related issues (Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises)
108 th	Action Taken on the recommendations/observations contained in the 91 st Report on the Coir Board-A performance review pertaining to the Ministry of Agro and Rural Industries
109 th	Action Taken on the recommendations/observations contained in the 84 th Report on the implementation of the Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Kerala, Ministry of Agro and Rural Industries
110 th	Action Taken on the recommendations/observations contained in the 86 th Report on performance review of the Metal Scrap Trade Corporation Limited (MSTC) Ministry of Steel
Reports	Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Science and Technology, Environment and Forests
96 th to 98 th	Action Taken Reports on the Demands for Grants (2001-2002)
99 th to 104 th	Demands for Grants (2002-2003)
105 th	The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Cess (Amendment) Bill, 2000
106 th to 111 th	Action Taken Reports on the Demands for Grants (2002-2003)
Reports	Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture

55 th to 59 th	Demands for Grants (2002-2003)
60 th	Development of Tourism in the country
61 st	The Airports Authority of India (Amendment) Bill, 2000
Reports	House Committee
7 th	Study Tour on uses of solar energy
8 th	Matters relating to the House Committee
Report	Committee on Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS)
4 th	Action taken by the Governemnt on the recommendations/observations made by the Committee on MPLADS, Rajya Sabha in its meetings held during the period from 28 th November, 2000 to 27 th May, 2002
Report	Ethics Committee
3 rd	General recommendations for restoring the credibility of legislative institutions
Reports	Joint Parliamentary Committee on the functioning of Wakf Boards
1 st	Report on Lakshadweep Wakf Board
2 nd	Report on Pondicherry Wakf Board
3 rd	Report on Dadra and Nagar Haveli Wakf Board
4 th	Report on Meghalaya Board of Wakfs
5 th	Report on Assam Board of Wakfs
6 th	Report on Durgah Khwaja Saheb, Ajmer

House at work

During the year 2002, Rajya Sabha sat for 82 days - 38 days during the 195th session, 21 days during the 196th session and 23 days during the 197th session. The 195th session (Budget-session) was the longest, from 25 February to 17 May 2002, with a break from 22 March to 15 April, with a view to enabling the Department Related Standing Committees to examine Demands for Grants of various Ministries/Departments and reporting to the two Houses. During the year 2002, the House sat for 343 hours and 43 minutes. The House sat longer than the normal 5 hours on 45 days and without lunch break on 6 days.

Summons for the 195th session of Rajya Sabha was issued on 23 January 2002. The session that commenced on 25 February was adjourned *sine die* on 17 May, as scheduled. The Budget session of Rajya Sabha commenced with an Address by the President to the members of both Houses of Parliament assembled together in the Central Hall

on 25 February. The summons for the 196th session was issued on 27 June which commenced on 15 July. It was scheduled to terminate on 14 August but was adjourned *sine die* on 12 August. Summons for the 197th session was issued on 31 October. The session commenced on 18 November and adjourned *sine die* on 20 December.

Session 2002	Date of Commencement	Date of termination	No. of Sittings	Actual hours of sittings Hrs. Mts.
195 th	25 Feb.	17 May	38	164-07
196 th	15 July	12 Aug.	21	63-32
197 th	18 Nov.	20 Dec.	23	116-04

During the year under review, 238 lists of business were issued with regard to the business of the House. In all 4577 papers were laid on the Table of the House. During the year, 10 divisions were held.

Simultaneous interpretation of the proceedings of the House and its Committees is done from Hindi to English and *vice-versa*. Arrangements also exist for simultaneous interpretation, in English as well as Hindi, of speeches made in Assamese, Bengali, Gujarati, Kannada, Malayalam, Marathi, Oriya, Tamil, Telugu and Urdu. The facility of such interpretation was also provided in the meetings of all the Parliamentary Committees of Rajya Sabha during the year.

The average attendance of members during the 195th session was 167. It was 183 during the 196th session and 157 during the 197th session. The highest attendance on a day during the 195th session was 221. It was 227 during the 196th session and 193 during the 197th session.

Question Hour:

The first hour of every sitting is generally devoted to the asking and answering of questions. It is a period when members exercise their right to seek information on various issues from different Ministers on the floor of the House. Question Hour in fact, is used by members to review critically the performance of the

Government in various fields and also to assess the impact of the programmes and policies of Government as well as to ventilate public grievances. During the 195th, 196th and 197th sessions, Question Hour was held on all the 82 days, the question hour thus was not dispensed with during the year 2002. The total number of notices received for the starred and unstarred questions was 26784, of which, 15369 notices were admitted. Out of the 1633 starred questions, 278 questions constituting around 17 per cent were actually answered by different Ministers on the floor of the House.

During the year, two statements were made and twelve statements were laid by Ministers concerned correcting the replies given by them to the questions, starred and unstarred in Rajya Sabha. For the short notice questions, 5 notices were given but none was admitted. Forty notices were received for Half-an-hour discussion arising out of the answers given to starred and unstarred questions but none was admitted.

(i) *Restriction on supplementary questions*

On 25 November 2002, during the Question Hour, the Chairman, Rajya Sabha (Council of States) observed that thenceforth not more than two members would be allowed to ask supplementaries on a Starred Question, apart from the member(s) against whose name the question is listed, so that maximum number of questions could be covered for oral answer.

(ii) *Attendance during Question Hour*

On 26 November 2002, immediately after the Question Hour was over, the Chairman, Rajya Sabha observed that since a lot of time and effort is involved in preparation of answer to a question, a member in whose name Question is listed for oral answer, shall remain present in the House during Question Hour or in case of his/her inability to do so, he/she must either give prior intimation to the Chairman in writing or seek his prior permission to authorise some other member to ask the Question on his/her behalf.

Legislation:

In 2002, out of the total 82 sittings held, the House transacted Government legislative business on 42 days while private members' legislative business was transacted on 5 days only. Six Bills, 5 introduced in Lok Sabha and 1 in Rajya Sabha were referred to the concerned Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committees for examination and report.

Following 2 Bills included in the list of business during the year 2000 for consideration and passing could not be passed and therefore remained pending:

- The Delhi Rent (Amendment) Bill, 1997 during the 195th and 196th sessions.
- The Banking Service Commission (Repeal) Bill, 2002 during the 196th session.

The year witnessed some important legislative developments. For example, the

Prevention of Terrorism Bill, 2002 was enacted for dealing effectively with the growing menace of terrorism in the country. The Bill which was first passed by Lok Sabha, was rejected by Rajya Sabha leading to a deadlock on it. A joint-sitting of both the Houses had to be convened on 26 March 2002 for resolving the deadlock. Eventually the Bill was passed. In the history of Parli-ament of indepen-dent India, this was the third instance when the joint sitting of the both Houses had to be called to resolve the deadlock on a Bill. The Bill was assented to by the President of India on 28 March 2002. The Representation of People (Amendment) Bill, 2002 seeking to strengthen the electoral process by imposing restrictions on the persons with criminal and corruption charges from filling nomination for elections was passed by the Houses of Parliament

The following are the interesting facts about Bills in Rajya Sabha during the year 2002:

• Number of sittings during which the Government Bills were introduced, considered or laid/reported as passed by the Lok Sabha	43
• Number of sittings during which the Private Members' Bills were introduced or considered	05
• Number of Government Bills introduced	14
• Number of Private Members' Bills introduced	57
• Number of Government Bills withdrawn/fallen through during the year	04
• Number of Government Bills negatived	01*
• Number of Private Members' Bills withdrawn	02
• Number of Private Members' Bills negatived	01
• Number of Government Bills transmitted by Lok Sabha	59#
• Number of Government Bills transmitted by Rajya Sabha	20
• Number of Government Bills introduced in the Rajya Sabha and referred to the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committees	-
• Number of Bills reported by the Select Committee of the Rajya Sabha	00
• Number of Bills referred to the Select Committee of the Rajya Sabha	00
• Number of Bills referred to the Joint Committees of the Houses of Parliament	00
• Number of Government Bills considered	87
• Number of Government Bills passed/returned	82\$
• Number of Government Bills pending at the commencement of the year	40
• Number of Government Bills pending at the end of the year	27
• Number of Private Members' Bills pending at the commencement of the year	163
• Number of Private Members' Bills pending at the end of the year	139
• Number of Bills passed by the Houses of Parliament and assented to by the President	86@
• Number of Bills on which assent of the President was obtained by the Rajya Sabha Secretariat	42

*Motion for consideration of the Prevention of Terrorism Bill 2002 as passed by the Lok Sabha was negatived by the Rajya Sabha and consequently the Bill was rejected by the House. Later the Bill was passed in the Joint sitting of the Houses # Including six Bills, as passed by the Rajya Sabha and returned by the Lok Sabha with amendments.

Including six Bills, as passed by the Rajya Sabha and returned by the Lok Sabha with amendments.

\$ Including two Bill, namely, the Prevention of Money Laundering Bill, 2002 and the Constitution (Ninety-third Amendment) Bill, 2002 laid on the table of the House during the 195th and 196th Session respectively which were returned to the Lok Sabha with amendments.

@ Including four money Bills {i.e. the Appropriation (No. 4) Bill, 2002; the Appropriation (No. 5) Bill, 2002; the Appropriation (Railways) No. 3 Bill, 2002 and the Appropriation (Railways) No.4 Bill, 2002} which could not be considered by the Rajya Sabha, were deemed to have been passed by the Houses of Parliament in terms of the provisions of article 109(5) of the Constitution.

during 197th session. The Houses passed the Constitution (Ninety-third Amendment) Bill, 2002, seeking to provide free and compulsory education to the children upto fourteen years of age. It has become the Constitution (Eighty-Sixth Amendment) Act, 2002. Another measure of great significance, the Freedom of Information Bill, 2002 was passed during this period, which has since been enacted.

Under this Act, a person would be entitled to get information from a public authority. The latter has been defined to include "anybody controlled or substantially financed by funds presented directly or indirectly by the appropriate Government". This will include within its ambit not only bodies owned or controlled by the State but even NGOs. This legislation enables public authorities for *suo moto* disclosures and to provide reasons for taking particular decisions

Other notable enactments made during 2002 were: the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Amendment) Bill, 2002; the Unit Trust of India (Transfer of Undertaking and Repeal) Bill, 2002; the Competition Bill, 2002; the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Bill, 2002, etc.

Winter Session

The winter session of Parliament was lauded by the media and the members belonging to all parties for the way the Chairman, Rajya Sabha ensured that most of the Starred Questions listed during the session were answered. In fact, on 2 December 2002 the Chairman, Rajya Sabha extended the Question Hour by five

minutes to complete all the Questions. One of the leading dailies, the *Indian Express*, in its editorial observed "In Rajya Sabha, one cold December morning, assembled MPs and Ministers raced through the entire booklet of Starred Questions, sending old timers down memory lane to figure out when was the last time that happened". As Parliament functioned without interruption, a record number of Bills were passed during the winter session. Commending the achievements during the Winter Session one newspaper wrote in its editorial, "Parliament's Winter Session, came laden with more legislative business than the average Christmas tree is with decorations." Praising the remarkable performance of Parliament, the President of India, Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, in his address to the nation on the eve of the Republic Day said :

It was indeed a tribute to our democratic parliamentary system that it has done exceptionally well in the 11th session of the 13th Lok Sabha. During that session, both Houses of the Parliament passed 42 Bills and I have accorded assent to 40 Bills that were sent to me so far. The Constitution (Eighty-sixth Amendment) Act, 2002 passed by the Parliament, which makes free and compulsory education for children between the age group of 6 to 14 years, as a fundamental right is particularly praiseworthy. I trust this tradition will continue and all our Members of Parliament will continue to excel themselves for the cause of national development.

Again in his address to members of both Houses of Parliament assembled together in the Central Hall of Parliament at the start of the Budget Session, the President said :

Honourable Members, it is indeed heartening that the Winter Session of Parliament did exceptionally well in conducting its legislative business. During that session, both Houses passed as many as 42 Bills and I have accorded assent to all of them.

Discussion on matters of urgent public importance:

Procedural devices like 'special mention', 'calling attention', 'short duration discussion' and 'no-day-yet-named motion' were utilised by members to raise matters of urgent public importance on the floor of the House. During the year, in all 376 matters of urgent public importance were mentioned in the House through **special mention**. Of the 423 notices of **calling attention** to matters of urgent public importance received, following 7 were finally discussed in the House:

- (i) Scam in Co-operative Banks in Maharashtra, on 16.5.2002;
- (ii) Disinvestment of Government equity in VSNL and matters incidental thereto, on 1.8.2002;
- (iii) Reported suicides committed by cotton growers in Maharashtra and other parts of the country, on 27.11.2002;
- (iv) Problems of sugarcane growers, on 2.12.2002;
- (v) Crisis in the plantation sector, namely, tea, coffee, rubber, etc. and the steps taken by the Government in this regard, on 9.12.2002;

- (vi) Poisonous effect on wheat, rice, sugar and other food items on being packaged in plastic bags, on 13.12.2002; and
- (vii) Closing down of fertilizer plants of the Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation and the Fertilizer Corporation of India particularly in the eastern region of the country, on 12.12.2002.

During the year, 472 notices of **short duration discussion** were received, out of which the following 14 matters were taken up in the House:

- (i) Grave situation created by continuing violence in Gujarat resulting in loss of lives, on 7.3.2002;
- (ii) Role of Governors in discharging their constitutional responsibilities in the formation of Governments in the light of recent developments in U.P., on 11.3.2002;
- (iii) Water Crisis, on 16.5.2002;
- (iv) Killings in Jammu and Kashmir, on 17.5.2002;
- (v) Drought situation in the country, on 18.7.2002;
- (vi) Present situation in J & K with particular reference to the recent massacre in Kasim Nagar, on 31.7.2002;
- (vii) Step taken by the Government in pursuance of Motion adopted under Rule 170 to intervene in Gujarat under Article 355, on 23.7.2002;
- (viii) Unsustainable debt burden on State finance, on 1.8.2002;
- (ix) Drought situation in various parts of the country, on 21.11.2002;
- (x) Situation arising out of the recent developments in Gujarat, on 27.11.2002;
- (xi) Grave situation arising in West Asia threatening world peace and security, on 28.11.2002;
- (xii) Disinvestment of Public Sector Undertakings, on 4.12.2002;
- (xiii) Situation arising out of the recent political developments in Uttar Pradesh, on 5.12.2002; and
- (xiv) Mid-Year Review of the country's economy and its implications, on 18.12.2002.

Reference to the Fiftieth Anniversary of Rajya Sabha

On 13 May 2002, late Shri Krishan Kant, former Vice-President of India and Chairman, Rajya Sabha made a reference in the House to the completion of fifty

years of Parliament. Highlighting the role of the Rajya Sabha on this historic occasion, he said :

During the last fifty years of its existence, this House has discharged its functions admirably and lived up to the noble and lofty ideals of the founding fathers. ... The close involvement of Rajya Sabha in the numerous legislative measures is a testimony to the fact that though a second chamber, it is not a secondary chamber... This House has not remained content with its role merely as a revising chamber. It has, as we know, asserted itself – be it a Constitution Amendment Bill or an Ordinary Bill or Motion of Thanks on the President's Address.

Referring about the new challenges faced in the changed scenario, he said:

The end of an era of single party dominance and formation of coalition governments in different States and at the Centre has added a new dimension to the role of Rajya Sabha and to the relationship between the two Houses of Parliament... And this has its impact on the composition of Rajya Sabha, making its complexion quite different from that obtaining in the other House. The recent past has seen several instances where the effect of this has been felt on the politics and course of history of the country. We are truly exploring uncharted Constitutional territory and making history. The ability of Parliament to withstand the stresses and strains resulting from the new political topology is a tribute to the extraordinary strength of the Indian Constitution... As we celebrate the first Golden Jubilee, the 50 years of our existence, let us resolve to collectively act in a manner that would not only make the nation proud, but history as well.

Obituary reference to passing away of Shri Krishan Kant, former Vice-President of India and Chairman, Rajya Sabha

Shri Krishan Kant who had assumed the office of the Chairman, Rajya Sabha on 21 August 1997 expired on 27 July 2002. He was the first Chairman to have died while in office. Rich tributes were paid to the memory of the late Vice-President and Chairman, Rajya Sabha in the House on 29 July 2002. While making reference to his passing away, Dr. (Smt.) Najma Heptulla, Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha described Shri Krishan Kantji's sad and sudden demise as deep loss to the entire nation. She said that he belonged to the family of freedom fighters who believed in and practised Gandhian philosophy and stood for probity in public life. Lauding his role in conducting the proceedings of the House she said that Shri Krishan Kant conducted the proceedings of this House with wisdom, vision and insight. His approach was always to give maximum possible scope to Members for the expression of their views and ensure that the time of the House was best utilized to deal with the serious and complex issues before it. He also made a rich contribution to the high traditions established by his distinguished predecessors, by his objectivity, impartiality, understanding and meticulous devotion to all matters concerning Rajya Sabha. The members rose in their places and observed silence as a mark of respect to the memory of the departed. As a mark of respect to the memory of Shri Krishan Kant, the House adjourned for the day.

Felicitations to Shri Bhairon Singh Shekhawat, Vice-President of India and Chairman, Rajya Sabha

Shri Bhairon Singh Shekhawat was elected to the office of the Vice-President of India on 12 August 2002. He assumed office of the Vice-President of India on 19 August 2002. He became the eleventh Chairman of Rajya Sabha. On 20 November 2002, when Shri Bhairon Singh Shekhawat came to Rajya Sabha to occupy the Chair of the Presiding Officer, he was welcomed by the Prime Minister of India, the Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha, the Leader of the House, the Leader of the Opposition, Leaders of various political parties in Rajya Sabha and some other members of the House. In their facilitations, members led by the Prime Minister, the Leader of the House and the Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha paid compliments to Shri Bhairon Singh Shekhawat for his long public life spanning over half a century and his phenomenal rise from a humble farmer's son to the elevated position of the Vice-President of India. Members spoke about Shri Shekhawat's deep concern for the cause of the poor and the downtrodden, his crusade for the farmers' rights and social causes, his approach of evolving consensus on major issues facing the country. They expressed the hope that the prestige and dignity of the august House will be enhanced under his able guidance and proper direction. Responding to the felicitations, Shri Bhairon Singh Sekhawat said:

It is a tribute to our democracy that a poor and an ordinary farmer's son, born and brought up in a village, can rise to the position of the Vice-President of our great country... Parliamentary institutions are the temples of democracy; they are the moral fulcrum of our country and have to set standards for others to follow.

Emphasising the role of the Rajya Sabha in strengthening the parliamentary democracy in the country, he said:

The citizens of India certainly expect the House of Elders to take a lead in reaffirming the core values of the Republic and set up the highest traditions of parliamentary democracy worth emulation by others.

For making the functioning of the House more efficient, productive and effective, he suggested that we should evaluate, at the end of every session, as to how relevant and effective the proceedings had been from the viewpoint of their contribution towards improving public governance and public welfare

Shri R.C. Tripathi relinquished the charge of the office of the Secretary-General, Rajya Sabha in the afternoon of 31 August 2002. Dr. Yogendra Narain, IAS (Retd.), former Secretary to the Government of India, Ministry of Defence was appointed as Secretary-General, Rajya Sabha by the Chairman, Rajya Sabha with effect from the forenoon of 1 September 2002.

Reference to first anniversary of the terrorist attack on Parliament

On 13 December 2002, the Chairman, Rajya Sabha made a reference regarding the first anniversary of the terrorist attack on the Parliament House Building on 13 December 2001. While making reference in the House, the Chairman, Rajya Sabha said that the ghastly terrorist attack on the Parliament House Building "shocked not only the entire nation, but also the conscience of all peace loving people, who cherish democratic values and ethos." The House also recalled the heroic deed of our security personnel, including two of the Rajya Sabha Secretariat Watch and Ward staff, who made the supreme sacrifice along with five Delhi Police personnel and a woman constable of CRPF to thwart the entry of terrorists inside the Parliament House Building. Paying homage to them, the Chairman said that their dedication, devotion to duty and timely action had succeeded in averting what could

have been a major catastrophe. The House resolved to fight terrorism unitedly and with determination to eliminate it. The members also rose in their places and observed silence as a mark of respect to the memory of those who lost their lives in that tragedy.

Privilege Cases:

During the year, 19 notices of 'breach of privilege' were received and processed. However, no report of the Committee of Privileges was presented to the House.

Details of time taken on various matters in each of the 3 sessions is given in the accompanying table.

Table

**Time taken by Rajya Sabha on various items of business during the
195th , 196th and 197th Session**

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Time Taken</u>		
	<u>195th</u>	<u>196th</u>	<u>197th</u>
	<u>Hrs./Mts.</u>	<u>Hrs./Mts.</u>	<u>Hrs./Mts.</u>
National Anthem/Song	0-02	0-02	0-02
Oath or Affirmation	0-53	0-04	0-16
Obituary References	0-21	0-29	0-09
Questions	23-00	11-49	20-39
Introduction of Ministers	—	0-02	0-01
Introduction of Secretary-General	—	—	0-01
Felicitations to the Chairman	—	—	1-48
Statements by Ministers Correcting Answers to Questions	0-05	0-02	0-05
Papers Laid on the Table	0-37	0-15	0-35
Reports/Statements of the Committees presented/laid on the Table	0-27	0-04	0-30
Statement regarding Ordinance	0-01	—	—
Presentation of Petition	0-01	—	—
Question of Privilege	—	0-06	—
Ruling/Reference /Announcement by Chairman	1-31	0-05	0-23
Leave of Absence	0-06	—	0-05
Penal of Vice-Chairmen	0-01	—	0-01
Resignation by Members	0-02	—	0-01
Messages from Lok Sabha/Government Bills laid on the Table	0-30	0-07	0-24
Motions for Elections/Appointments of Members to various Committees/Bodies	0-21	0-02	0-10
Recommendations of the Business Advisory Committee	0-07	0-06	0-07
Statements regarding Government Business	0-03	0-06	0-08
Calling Attention to Matters of Urgent Public Importance	2-31	1-46	7-49
Special Mentions	5-07	3-56	5-04
Statements by Ministers	2-22	0-01	4-28
Short Duration Discussions (Discussions under Rule 176)	15-04	20-59	22-18
Discussion on the working of the Ministry	12-29	—	—
Motion	18-00	—	—
Resolution/ Government Resolution	0-05	—	—
Statutory Resolution	7-59	—	—

Government Legislative Business	34-36	15-02	43-13
Private Members' Business			
- Private Members' Resolutions	5-00	2-27	2-27
- Private Members' Bills	4-11	2-29	2-36
President's Address laid on the Table	0-01	—	—
Motion of Thanks on the President's Address	10-01	—	—
Budgets laid on the Table	0-03	—	—
Supplementary Demands for Grants-laid on the Table	0-02	0-02	0-02
Budgets—General Discussions	8-12	—	—
Good wishes to the retiring Members of the House	2-52	—	0-09
Felicitations/Welcome to new Members	0-01	—	0-01
Homage to martyrs of the Quit India Movement	—	0-02	—
Matters raised with permission	2-20	0-20	0-47
Felicitations to Medal Winners at Commonwealth Games	—	0-02	—
Valedictory Remarks	0-23	0-01	0-22
Points raised	4-34	3-04	1-23
*Others	0-06	0-02	—
TOTAL	164-07	63-32	116-04

* Others include — Information to the House, Cancellation of the Sitting and Motion for Withdrawal of Bill.

Preface

In the Profile Report an attempt has been made to present in nutshell some interesting information about the work transacted by Rajya Sabha, its Committees and the Rajya Sabha Secretariat during the year 2002. The purpose is to familiarize readers with some aspects of the functioning of Rajya Sabha.

I hope Members of Parliament as well as others will find this publication interesting and useful.

Suggestions for improvement are most welcome.

Dr. Yogendra Narain
Secretary-General,
Rajya Sabha

New Delhi
November 2003