

PRESS RELEASE

1. The Monsoon Session, 2020 of Parliament commenced on Monday, the 14th September, 2020 was scheduled to culminate on 1st October, 2020. Due to COVID-19 pandemic risks after transaction of essential business Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha were adjourned *sine-die* today i.e. 23rd September, 2020 yielding 10 sittings spread over 10 days.
2. So as to meet Constitutional requirements of article 85 and for transacting essential legislative and other Business, this Session has been held during COVID-19 pandemic situation by making extra ordinary arrangements including that of seating and logistical following all guidelines of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and Ministry of Home Affairs.
3. Lok Sabha has used Lok Sabha Chamber, Lok Sabha Public Gallery, Rajya Sabha Chamber and Rajya Sabha Public Gallery for its sittings while Rajya Sabha has used Rajya Sabha Chamber, Rajya Sabha Public Gallery and Lok Sabha Chamber for its sittings.
4. Lok Sabha sat from 3 pm to 7 pm (with extended time, if required) daily except on 14th September, 2020 when they sat from 9 am to 1 pm. Rajya Sabha had its meetings from 9 am to 1 pm (with extended time, if required) daily except on 14th September, 2020 when they met from 3 pm to 7 pm.
5. During the Session, 22 Bills (16 in Lok Sabha and 06 in Rajya Sabha) were introduced. Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha individually passed 25 Bills each. 27 Bills were passed by both the Houses of Parliament which is best ever rate of passage of Bills per day i.e. 2.7 Bills. A list containing the titles of the Bills introduced, considered and passed during the Session is annexed.
6. The productivity of Lok Sabha was approx. **167%** and that of Rajya Sabha was approx. **100.47%**.
7. During the Session, First Batch of Supplementary Demands for Grants for 2020-21 and Demands for Excess Grant for 2016-17 were discussed and voted in full and the related Appropriation Bills were introduced, discussed and passed by Lok Sabha on 18.09.2020. Rajya Sabha returned these Bills on 23.09.2020.
8. All 11 Ordinances which were promulgated during inter session were replaced by Acts of Parliament during the Monsoon Session, 2020.
9. Four old pending Bills in Lok Sabha and one old Bill in Rajya Sabha were withdrawn.

10. Some important Bills, passed by Houses of Parliament are as under:-

COVID-19 RELATED LEGISLATIONS:

Some Ordinances were promulgated to mitigate the effects arising out of Covid-19 pandemic through legislative means.

The Salary, Allowance and Pensions of Members of Parliament (Amendment) Bill, 2020 reduces the salary payable to Members of Parliament by 30% for a period of one year commencing 01.04.2020.

The Salaries and Allowances of Ministers (Amendment) Bill, 2020 reduces the sumptuary allowance payable to each Minister by thirty per cent. for a period of one year commencing from the 1.4.2020.

The Epidemic Diseases (Amendment) Bill, 2020 intends to curb unprecedented acts of violence, including physical and mental harassment and damage to property during COVID-19 pandemic, and provides protection to healthcare service personnel.

The Insolvency & Bankruptcy Code (Second Amendment) Bill, 2020 provides to temporarily suspend initiation of corporate insolvency resolution process under the Code, initially for a period of six months or such further period, not exceeding one year from 25th March, 2020, to provide relief to companies affected by COVID-19 to recover from the financial stress without facing immediate threat of being pushed to insolvency proceedings.

AGRICULTURAL REFORMS:

The Farmers' Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Bill, 2020 provides for the creation of an ecosystem where the farmers and traders enjoy the freedom of choice relating to sale and purchase of farmers' produce which facilitates remunerative prices through competitive alternative trading channels; to promote efficient, transparent and barrier-free inter-State and intra-State trade and commerce of farmers' produce outside the physical premises of markets or deemed markets notified under various State agricultural produce market legislations; and to provide a facilitative framework for electronic trading.

The Farmers (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement on Prices Assurance and Farm Services Bill, 2020 provides for a national framework on farming agreements that protects and empowers farmers to engage with agri-business firms, processors, wholesalers, exporters or large retailers for farm services and sale of future farming produce at a mutually agreed remunerative price framework in a fair and transparent manner.

The Essential Commodities (Amendment) Bill, 2020 will boost immediate investment in Agriculture sector, increase competition and enhance farmers' income.

EDUCATION SECTOR:

The National Forensic Sciences University Bill, 2020 provides to establish and declare an institution to be known as the National Forensic Sciences University as an institution of national importance to facilitate and promote studies and research and to achieve excellence in the field of forensic science in conjunction with applied behavioural science studies, law, criminology and other allied areas and technology and other related fields.

The Rashtriya Raksha University Bill, 2020 proposes to establish the Rashtriya Raksha University and to declare it as an institution of national importance and to provide for its incorporation; University is proposed to be a multi-disciplinary University to create new knowledge through research and collaboration with different stakeholders and help to fulfil the need for a pool of trained professionals with specialised knowledge and new skill sets in various wings of policing, the criminal justice system and correctional administration. The University will have linkage with world class universities in other countries, which will be need based, for the purpose of exchange of contemporary research, academic collaboration, course design, technical know-how and training and skill development.

HEALTH SECTOR:

The Institute of Teaching and Research in Ayurveda Bill, 2020 proposes to merge three Ayurveda institutes namely (i) the Institute of Post Graduate Teaching and Research in Ayurveda, Jamnagar, (ii) Shree Gulabkunverba Ayurved Mahavidyalaya, Jamnagar, and, (iii) the Indian Institute of Ayurvedic Pharmaceutical Sciences, Jamnagar into one institution by the name of Institute of Teaching and Research in Ayurveda. The Bill declares the Institute to be an institution of National Importance.

The National Commission for Indian System of Medicine Bill, 2020 will repeal the Indian Medicine Central Council Act, 1970 and provide for a medical education system which ensures: (i) availability of adequate and high quality medical professionals of Indian System of Medicine, (ii) adoption of the latest medical research by medical professionals of Indian System of Medicine, (iii) periodic assessment of medical institutions, and (iv) an effective grievance redressal mechanism.

The National Commission for Homeopathy Bill, 2020 will repeal the Homoeopathy Central Council Act, 1973 and provide for a medical education system which ensures: (i) availability of adequate and high quality homoeopathic medical professionals, (ii) adoption of the latest medical research by homoeopathic medical professionals, (iii) periodic assessment of medical institutions, and (iv) an effective grievance redressal mechanism.

ECONOMIC SECTOR/EASE OF DOING BUSINESS MEASURES:

Some important legislations to address the economic requirements of the country were passed during the current session.

The Banking Regulation (Amendment) Bill, 2020 proposes to expand RBI's regulatory control over co-operative banks in terms of management, capital, audit and liquidation so as to provide for better management and proper regulation of co-operative banks and to

ensure that the affairs of the co-operative banks are conducted in a manner that protects the interests of the depositors, by increasing professionalism, enabling access to capital, improving governance and ensuring sound banking through the Reserve Bank of India.

The Companies (Amendment) Bill, 2020 proposes to decriminalise minor procedural or technical lapses under the provisions of the Companies Act, 2013, into civil wrong; and considering the overall pendency of the courts, remove criminality in case of defaults, which can be determined objectively and which otherwise lack any element of fraud or do not involve larger public interest. In addition, to provide greater ease of living to corporates.

The Bilateral Netting of Qualified Financial Contracts Bill, 2020 facilitates to ensure financial stability and promote competitiveness in Indian financial markets by providing enforceability of bilateral netting of qualified financial contracts.

The Taxation and Other Laws (Relaxation of Certain Provisions) Bill, 2020 provides for relaxation of certain provisions of the specified Acts relating to direct taxes, indirect taxes and prohibition of Benami property transactions.

LABOUR SECTOR REFORMS:

Three landmark Labour sector reform Bills were passed during the current session.

The Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code Bill, 2020 provides to amalgamate, simplify and rationalise the relevant provisions the laws regulating the occupational safety, health and working conditions of the persons employed in an establishment.

The Code on Social Security Bill, 2020 provides to amend and consolidate the laws relating to social security with the goal to extend social security to all employees and workers either in the organised or unorganised or any other sectors.

The Industrial Relations Code Bill, 2020 provides to consolidate and amend the laws relating to Trade Unions, conditions of employment in industrial establishment or undertaking, investigation and settlement of industrial disputes

11. In Lok Sabha, a Short Duration Discussions under Rule 193 was held on “COVID-19 Pandemic in the country” which was replied to by Minister of Health and Family Welfare.
12. The extra-ordinary output of this Session has become possible due to tireless efforts of all agencies and individuals involved in the transaction of -Business before two Houses of Parliament.

**LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS TRANSACTED DURING FOURTH SECOND
SESSION OF SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA AND 252ND SESSION OF
RAJYA SABHA (MONSOON SESSION, 2020)**

I - BILLS INTRODUCED IN LOK SABHA

1. The Salary, Allowance and Pension of Members of Parliament (Amendment) Bill, 2020
2. The Essential Commodities (Amendment) Bill, 2020
3. The Assisted Reproductive Technology (Regulation) Bill, 2020
4. The Bilateral Netting of Qualified Financial Contracts Bill, 2020
5. The Farmers' Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Bill, 2020
6. The Farmers' (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement of Price Assurance and Farm Services Bill, 2020
7. The Factoring Regulation (Amendment) Bill, 2020
8. The Banking Regulation (Amendment) Bill, 2020
9. The Taxation and Other Laws (Relaxation and Amendment of Certain Provisions) Bill, 2020
10. The Appropriation (No. 4) Bill, 2020
11. The Appropriation (No. 3) Bill, 2020
12. The Industrial Relations Code, 2020
13. The Code on Social Security, 2020
14. The Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, 2020
15. The Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2020
16. The Jammu and Kashmir Official Languages Bill, 2020

II - BILLS INTRODUCED IN RAJYA SABHA

1. The Salaries and Allowances of Ministers (Amendment) Bill, 2020
2. The Epidemic Diseases (Amendment) Bill, 2020
3. The Homoeopathy Central Council (Amendment) Bill, 2020
4. The Indian Medicine Central Council (Amendment) Bill, 2020
5. The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (Second Amendment) Bill, 2020
6. The National Commission for Allied and Healthcare Professions Bill, 2020

III -BILLS PASSED BY LOK SABHA

1. The National Commission for Homoeopathy Bill, 2020
2. The National Commission for Indian System of Medicine Bill, 2020
3. The Salary, Allowance and Pension of Members of Parliament (Amendment) Bill, 2020
4. The Essential Commodities (Amendment) Bill, 2020
5. The Banking Regulation (Amendment) Bill, 2020
6. The Farmers' Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Bill, 2020
7. The Farmers' (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement of Price Assurance and Farm Services Bill, 2020
8. The Appropriation (No. 4) Bill, 2020
9. The Appropriation (No. 3) Bill, 2020
10. The Taxation and Other Laws (Relaxation and Amendment of Certain Provisions) Bill, 2020

11. The Companies (Amendment) Bill, 2020
12. The National Forensic Sciences University Bill, 2020
13. The Rashtriya Raksha University Bill, 2020
14. The Salary and Allowances of Ministers (Amendment) Bill, 2020
15. The Bilateral Netting of Qualified Financial Contracts Bill, 2020
16. The Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2020
17. The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (Second Amendment) Bill, 2020
18. The Epidemic Diseases (Amendment) Bill, 2020
19. The Homoeopathy Central Council (Amendment) Bill, 2020
20. The Indian Medicine Central Council (Amendment) Bill, 2020
21. The Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, 2020
22. The Industrial Relations Code, 2020
23. The Code on Social Security, 2020
24. The Jammu and Kashmir Official Languages Bill, 2020
25. The Major Port Authorities Bill, 2020

IV - BILLS PASSED BY RAJYA SABHA

1. The Aircraft (Amendment) Bill, 2020
2. The Institute of Teaching and Research of Ayurveda Bill, 2020
3. The Salary, Allowance and Pension of Members of Parliament (Amendment) Bill, 2020
4. The Homoeopathy Central Council (Amendment) Bill, 2020
5. The Indian Medicine Central Council (Amendment) Bill, 2020
6. The Salaries and Allowances of Ministers (Amendment) Bill, 2020
7. The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (Second Amendment) Bill, 2020
8. The Epidemic Diseases (Amendment) Bill, 2020
9. The Farmers' Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Bill, 2020
10. The Farmers' (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement of Price Assurance and Farm Services Bill, 2020
11. Indian Institutes of Information Technology Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2020
12. The Essential Commodities (Amendment) Bill, 2020
13. The Banking Regulation (Amendment) Bill, 2020
14. The Companies (Amendment) Bill, 2020
15. The National Forensic Sciences University Bill, 2020
16. The Rashtriya Raksha University Bill, 2020
17. The Taxation and Other Laws (Relaxation and Amendment of Certain Provisions) Bill, 2020
18. The Bilateral Netting of Qualified Financial Contracts Bill, 2020
19. The Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2020
20. The Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, 2020
21. The Industrial Relations Code, 2020
22. The Code on Social Security, 2020
23. The Jammu and Kashmir Official Languages Bill, 2020
24. The Appropriation (No. 4) Bill, 2020
25. The Appropriation (No. 3) Bill, 2020

IV-BILLS PASSED BY BOTH HOUSES

1. The National Commission for Homoeopathy Bill, 2020

2. The National Commission for Indian System of Medicine Bill, 2020
3. The Aircraft (Amendment) Bill, 2020
4. The Institute of Teaching and Research of Ayurveda Bill, 2020
5. The Salary, Allowance and Pension of Members of Parliament (Amendment) Bill, 2020
6. The Farmers' Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Bill, 2020
7. The Farmers' (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement of Price Assurance and Farm Services Bill, 2020
8. The Salary and Allowances of Ministers (Amendment) Bill, 2020
9. The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (Second Amendment) Bill, 2020
10. The Epidemic Diseases (Amendment) Bill, 2020
11. The Homoeopathy Central Council (Amendment) Bill, 2020
12. The Indian Medicine Central Council (Amendment) Bill, 2020
13. The Indian Institutes of Information Technology Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2020
14. The Essential Commodities (Amendment) Bill, 2020
15. The Banking Regulation (Amendment) Bill, 2020
16. The Companies (Amendment) Bill, 2020
17. The National Forensic Sciences University Bill, 2020
18. The Rashtriya Raksha University Bill, 2020
19. The Taxation and Other Laws (Relaxation and Amendment of Certain Provisions) Bill, 2020
20. The Bilateral Netting of Qualified Financial Contracts Bill, 2020
21. The Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2020
22. The Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, 2020
23. The Industrial Relations Code, 2020
24. The Code on Social Security, 2020
25. The Jammu and Kashmir Official Languages Bill, 2020
26. The Appropriation (No. 4) Bill, 2020
27. The Appropriation (No. 3) Bill, 2020

V – BILLS WITHDRAWN IN LOK SABHA

1. The Banking Regulation (Amendment) Bill, 2020
2. The Industrial Relations Code, 2019
3. The Code on Social Security, 2019
4. The Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, 2019

VI – BILL WITHDRAWN IN RAJYA SABHA

1. The Allied and Healthcare Professions Bill, 2018

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