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RL-LP/11.00/1A

RAJYA SABHA

Monday, the 21st July, 2025 / *Ashadha 30, 1947 (Saka)*

The House met at eleven of the clock,

MR. CHAIRMAN *in the Chair.*

(The National Anthem, "Jana Gana Mana", was played.)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members. *...(Interruptions)...* Hon. Members, please. *...(Interruptions)...* Leader of the House. *...(Interruptions)...* Please maintain order. We are in the Upper House. *...(Interruptions)...* I would urge the Leader of the House to see that they maintain decorum. *...(Interruptions)...* Sorry! *...(Interruptions)...* Please maintain decorum. *...(Interruptions)...*

Hon. Members, Oath or Affirmation is a constitutional prescription under Article 99 of the Constitution and is a solemn occasion. Deviation from the chosen format has potential to vitiate the oath. I urge the hon. Members to conform to the chosen format. Now, Oath or Affirmation, Secretary-General.

MEMBERS SWORN

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Shri Birendra Prasad Baishya, Assam.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Birendra Prasad Baishya is a former Union Cabinet Minister of Steel and Mines. He is now beginning his third term in this august House. He has held key leadership roles within his party and in national sports administration, including as President of the Weightlifting Federation of India and Vice-President of the Indian Olympic Association. Baishya*ji* has also contributed regularly to journals and newspapers on socio-political issues and remains deeply engaged in political and social work in Assam.

Now, Shri Birendra Prasad Baishya will take Oath or Affirmation.

(Shri Birendra Prasad Baishya (Assam) was sworn in.)

(Followed by NBR/1B)

NBR-RK/1B/11.05

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Shri Kanad Purkayashtha, Assam.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Kanad Purkayashtha represents the State of Assam in the Rajya Sabha. He hails from the Barak Valley. He is the son of Shri Kabindra Purkayashtha, a veteran BJP leader from Assam and former Union Minister. Shri Purkayashtha has been actively involved in public life with a

keen interest in education literature and social issues. Now, Shri Kanad Purkayashtha will take Oath or Affirmation.

(Shri Kanad Purkayashtha (Assam) was sworn in.)

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Dr. Meenakshi Jain, Nominated.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Dr. Meenakshi Jain is a noted historian and a former Associate Professor of History at Delhi University. Her areas of research include cultural and religious developments in medieval and early modern India. Her work in the fields of education, literature, history and political science has enriched academic discourse. In 2020, Dr. Meenakshi Jain received the Padma Shri Award in recognition of her academic contributions. Now, Dr. Meenakshi Jain will take Oath or Affirmation.

(Dr. Meenakshi Jain (Nominated) was sworn in.)

(Followed BY DC/1C)

DC-PRB/1C/11.10

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Shri C. Sadanandan Master, Nominated.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri C. Sadanandan Master, a retired teacher and devoted social worker embodies resilience, integrity, and a life of dedicated public service. After losing his both legs in a brutal act of political violence in

1994, he remained steadfast in his pursuit of peace and national commitment. Revered as 'Master' or '*Maashay*', he has emerged as a guiding light against ideological extremism and has been an inspiration through his contributions to education, public life, and intellectual discourse. Now, Shri C. Sadanandan Master will take Oath or Affirmation.

(Shri C. Sadanandan Master (Nominated) was sworn in.)

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Shri Harsh Vardhan Shringla, Nominated.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Harsh Vardhan Shringla is a former Foreign Secretary of India and India's Ambassador to the United States, Bangladesh and Thailand. He was also Chief Coordinator of India's G20 presidency. Additionally, as President and Founder of the Darjeeling Welfare Society, he has led several philanthropic initiatives in underprivileged areas of Darjeeling and Siliguri. Now, Shri Harsh Vardhan Shringla will take Oath or Affirmation.

(Shri Harsh Vardhan Shringla (Nominated) was sworn in.)

(Ends)

(Followed by DPS/1D)

DPS-AKG/1D/11.15

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, I am extremely pleased to extend birthday greetings to hon. Members of Parliament, Dr. Laxmikant Bajpayee, Shri Rajeev Shukla and Shrimati Sangeeta Yadav, whose birthdays were yesterday.

Hon. Members, the day belongs to the Leader of the Opposition. On behalf of this House and myself, warmest greetings and heartfelt wishes to Shri Mallikarjun Kharge, Leader of the Opposition in Rajya Sabha. Over five-decades of his political journey powerfully demonstrates unwavering commitment to democratic values and tireless national service. From nine consecutive Karnataka Assembly victories (1972-2009) and serving as Leader of Opposition in Karnataka Legislative Assembly to holding key portfolios -- Railways, Labour and Employment -- in the Union Government, your leadership has been consistent, inclusive and exemplary. As National President of the Indian National Congress and the Leader of Opposition in the Rajya Sabha, you embody trust and respect transcending political lines. Your steadfast convictions, constitutional understanding, and

statesmanlike conduct inspire parliamentarians across generations. A remarkable polyglot, your fluency in English, Hindi, Urdu, Kannada, Telugu and Marathi reflects deep cultural rootedness and enables connections across diverse regions. I have benefited from your guidance on several occasions. Your wisdom, humility and respect for democratic institutions have profoundly shaped my understanding of governance. Your simplicity and accessibility exemplify public life's highest ideals. Equally inspiring is your family's strength.

Shri Kharge is married to Shrimati Radhabai Kharge and the couple is blessed with sons, Priyank, who is a Cabinet Minister in the Government of Karnataka, Rahul and Milind, and daughters, Priyadarshini and Dr. Jayashree, who is married to Sri Radhakrishna Doddamani, Member of Parliament, Lok Sabha. As you enter another distinguished year, may the Almighty bless you with robust health, renewed energy and continued wisdom to serve the nation with the grace and dignity that have always defined you.

Hon. Members, on my own and your behalf, I wish the hon. Members a long, healthy and happy life and extend greetings to their family members and friends.

(Ends)

(Followed by USY/1E)

USY/1E/11.20

OBITUARY REFERENCES

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, it is with profound sorrow that I refer to passing away of Shri C. Perumal, Dr. K. Kasturirangan, Shri Ronald Sapa Tlau, Shri Nepaldev Bhattacharjee, Sardar Sukhdev Singh Dhindsa, Shri Thennala G. Balakrishna Pillai, and Shri Vijaykumar Rupani -- former Members of this House.

Shri C. Perumal (1957-2025), Member of Rajya Sabha from Tamil Nadu (2002-2008), was known for his deep connections with the people of Krishangiri district and tireless efforts for their welfare. He also served as Vice President of Tamil Nadu Palm Project Development Board. In his passing away, the country has lost a sincere parliamentarian and a devoted social worker.

Dr. K. Kasturirangan (1940-2025), a Nominated Member of Rajya Sabha (2003-2009), was among India's foremost space scientists. As ISRO Chairman, he led numerous path-breaking missions. He also chaired the Committee that drafted the National Education Policy 2020. He was a recipient of Padam Vibhushan and international honours. He brought scientific depth to parliamentary proceedings. His demise is a sad loss to the nation's scientific and educational advancement.

Shri Ronald Sapa Tlau (1954-2025), a Member of Rajya Sabha from Mizoram (2014-2020), was a media pioneer, social communicator and a distinguished parliamentarian. He played a seminal role in using mass communication as a tool for public awareness and education in Mizoram. As a pioneer of television-based educational content, he produced impactful documentaries and programmes on national integration, insurgency in the North-East, youth empowerment and ecological preservation. Shri Tlau was also a prolific writer and a passionate advocate for indigenous rights and regional development. He served as Chairman of Zoram Electronics Development Corporation Limited and was Founder-Chairman of Turini Integrated Farming Society, promoting sustainable farming practices. His

demise marks the loss of a visionary communicator, a devoted representative of Mizoram and a tireless champion of inclusive progress.

Shri Nepaldev Bhattacharjee (1950-2025), a Rajya Sabha Member from West Bengal (1981-1988), was a respected trade unionist who played a significant role in student and labour movements. He brought deep understanding of workers' concerns into Parliament. His death is a loss to the cause of social justice and labour rights.

Sardar Sukhdev Singh Dhindsa (1936-2025), representing Punjab in Rajya Sabha across three terms, had a distinguished public career including service in the Lok Sabha and as Union Minister (1999-2004). Renowned for his leadership and grassroots engagement, he was a stalwart advocate of agrarian and social justice issues. The nation remembers him as a venerable statesman.

Shri Thennala G. Balakrishna Pillai (1931- 2025), a three-term Rajya Sabha Member from Kerala, was a veteran political figure known for his oratory and organisational acumen; and, a committed democrat and inclusive leader. He also served in the Kerala Legislative Assembly. His demise is a significant loss to people and public life in Kerala.

(Contd. by 1f – PK)

PK-VNK/1F/11.25

MR. CHAIRMAN (CONTD.): Shri Vijaykumar Rupani (1956–2025), Rajya Sabha Member (2006–2012) and later Chief Minister of Gujarat (2016–2021), Shri Rupani tragically lost his life in the Air India Flight 171 crash. He played a vital role in Gujarat's infrastructural and industrial development and remained active in social initiatives. His untimely demise ends a vibrant political journey marked by public service and dedication.

We deeply mourn the loss of these eminent leaders who served this House and the nation with distinction.

I urge the Members to rise in their places and observe silence as a mark of respect to the memory of the departed.

(Hon. Members then stood in silence for one minute)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Secretary-General will convey to the bereaved families our sense of profound sorrow and deep sympathy. (Ends)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Hon. Members, as we assemble for the 268th Session of the Rajya Sabha, I extend my warm greetings to all of you.

Since our last Session, the tragic and cowardly terrorist attack in Pahalgam on 22nd April took innocent lives, deeply wounding our collective

conscience. In response, our nation stood united, rallying behind Operation Sindoor, to neutralize terrorist hideouts across the border. The resolute bravery of our armed forces, combined with the steadfast solidarity of our people, powerfully reaffirmed our unwavering commitment to protecting the unity and integrity of our Republic.

Hon. Members, with deep sorrow, I refer to the tragic crash of Air India Flight 171 on 12th June, claiming 240 lives. This heart-breaking tragedy has brought immense grief nationwide. While investigations continue, we mourn this profound loss. On behalf of the House, I offer heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families and to all those affected by this tragedy.

Hon. Members, this Session, comprising 21 sittings, includes a recess from 12th to 17th August for Independence Day celebrations. A number of important legislative proposals are scheduled for consideration, and four days have been allocated for Private Members' Business, offering a platform for individual Members to raise vital issues and introduce legislative initiatives.

A thriving democracy cannot sustain constant acrimony. Political tension must be reduced, as confrontation is not the essence of politics. While political parties may pursue the same goals through different approaches, no one in India opposes the nation's interests.

I urge all political parties to foster bonhomie and mutual respect, avoiding unbecoming language or personal attacks against leaders on television or elsewhere. Such behavior contradicts our civilizational essence.

Dialogue and discussion, not conflict, are the way forward. Internal fighting strengthens our enemies and provides material to divide us. India's historical strength lies in discourse, dialogue, and deliberation, which should guide our Parliament.

I urge all political parties, ruling and opposition, to engage in constructive politics for Bharat's greater progress. With your cooperation and active participation, I am confident that this Monsoon Session will be productive and meaningful. (Ends)

(Followed by PB/1G)

PB-DS/1G/11.30

RESIGNATION BY MEMBER

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, I have to inform Members that I had received a letter on 1st July, 2025 from Shri Sanjeev Arora, Member representing the State of Punjab, resigning his seat in the Rajya Sabha. I have accepted his resignation with effect from 1st July, 2025.

(Ends)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Papers to be laid on the Table.

PAPERS LAID ON TABLE

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I lay on the Table, a statement (in English and Hindi) showing the Bills passed by the Houses of Parliament during the Two Hundred and Sixty-seventh Session of the Rajya Sabha and assented to by the President.

श्री सतीश चंद्र दूबे : महोदय, मैं खान और खनिज (विकास और विनियमन) अधिनियम, 1957 की धारा 28 की उप-धारा (1) के अधीन खनिज रियायत (संशोधन) नियम, 2025 को प्रकाशित करने वाली कोयला मंत्रालय की अधिसूचना संख्या सा.का.नि. 323 (अ) दिनांक 20 मई, 2025 की एक प्रति (अंग्रेजी तथा हिंदी में) सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ।

SHRI SANJAY SETH: Sir, I lay on the Table—

I. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Defence Notification No. S.R.O. 10(E)., dated the 27th May, 2025, publishing the Inter-services Organisations (Command, Control and Discipline) Rules, 2025, under Section 15 of the Inter-services Organisations (Command, Control and Discipline) Act, 2023.

II. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:-

(a) Annual Report and Accounts of Centre for Land Warfare Studies (CLAWS), New Delhi, for the year 2024-25, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Centre.

DR. L. MURUGAN: Sir, I lay on the Table, under sub-clause (a) of clause (2) of article 123 of the Constitution, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Manipur Goods and Services Tax (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025 (No. 1 of 2025), promulgated by the President on the 9th June, 2025.

(Ends)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, I have received notice of motion under Rule 167 from Shri Samik Bhattacharya to discuss "Operation Sindoor: A landmark in military brilliance and diplomatic outreach", which I have admitted for discussion as 'No-Day-Yet-Named-Motion.' The date and time for discussion would be decided after consultation with the Leader of the House and other leaders. ...(Interruptions)...

AN HON. MEMBER: Sir, Rule 267?

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am coming to that next; first Rule 167, then Rule 267. Around noon today, I will discuss with the leaders. Hon. Members, 18 notices have also been received under Rule 267. The notices of Dr. John Brittas, Dr. Syed Naseer Hussain, Shri Akhilesh Prasad Singh, Shrimati Renuka Chowdhury and Shri Manoj Kumar Jha have demanded discussion over the concerns arising out of Special Intensive Revision of Electoral Rolls undertaken by the Election Commission in Bihar. The notices of Shri Mallikarjun Kharge, Shri Pramod Tiwari, Shri Randeep Singh Surjewala, Dr. V. Sivadasan, Shri Ramji Lal Suman, Shrimati Renuka Chowdhury, Shri Sandosh Kumar P, Shri P.P. Suneer and Shri Abdul Wahab have demanded discussion over the tragic terror attack in Pahalgam and India's response through Operation Sindoor. The notice of Shri Tiruch Siva demands discussion over Union Government's inordinate delay in publishing ASI's Keezhadi Report and its implications for scientific transparency. The notice of Shri Sanjay Singh demands discussion over the violation of the Right to Education due to large-scale merger and closure of Government schools in Uttar Pradesh. The notice of Shri A.A. Rahim demands discussion over the

ongoing negotiations for Free Trade Agreements with the United States and the European Union and its impact on agricultural sector.

(Contd. by 1h/SKC)

SKC-MZ/1H/11.35

MR. CHAIRMAN (contd.): Shri Haris Beeran demands discussion on two issues - the bulldozer action on the houses of minorities in various States and the Pahalgam terrorist attack. Hon. Members may recall that a detailed ruling had been imparted by me on multiple occasions, particularly on 8th December, 2022 and 19th December, 2022. These notices are not in conformity and I am not able to persuade myself to agree. ...(*Interruptions*)... The Leader of the Opposition, please. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE): Sir, you said that it is not in conformity with the rules.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Just a second...

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: Sir, I am always helpful.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have said so, Sir.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: Sir, I have given notice under Rule 267, on Pahalgam and Operation Sindoor. सर, मैंने पहलगाम आतंकवादी हमले और ऑपरेशन सिंदूर के बाद की स्थिति पर रूल 267 के तहत नोटिस दिया है, रूल्स के मुताबिक ही दिया है, जो रूल्स की किताब में है।

सर, पहलगाम हमला 22 अप्रैल को हुआ था, अब तक आतंकवादी पकड़े नहीं गए, मारे भी नहीं गए और हमको बार-बार बताया गया कि डायरेक्ट्ली उनके ऊपर ही हमले किए गए, जिसमें वे मारे गए। हमें यह खबर मिली है, लेकिन हम यह जानना चाहते हैं, क्योंकि पूरे सदन ने और सभी पार्टियों ने unconditional support दिया। सिर्फ मेरी पार्टी ने ही नहीं, बल्कि सभी पार्टियों ने देश को मज़बूत बनाने के लिए, देश में एकता रखने के लिए और हमारी आर्मी को moral strength देने के लिए unquestioned समर्थन दिया। मैं चाहता हूं कि उनकी तरफ से हमको जानकारी मिलनी चाहिए, जैसे पहलगाम हमला 22 अप्रैल को हुआ था, अब तक आतंकवादी नहीं पकड़े गए, लेकिन हुआ क्या? ...(**व्यवधान**)... J&K में इनकी Intelligence और सिक्योरिटी का failure हुआ। यह उन्होंने ही कहा है। लेफ्टिनेंट गवर्नर ने कहा है कि इसमें Intelligence failure है। यह उन्होंने ही accept किया है, यह हमारी बात नहीं है। सीडीएस, उप सेना प्रमुख और एक वरिष्ठ defence attache ने कुछ बेहद संवेदनशील खुलासे भी किए।

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Leader of the House.

श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खरगे : मैं उनकी बात सुनता हूं। आप एक मिनट मेरी बात सुनिए।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay! One minute, please.

श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खरगे : एक मिनट मेरी बात सुन लीजिए, उसके बाद उनको मौका दीजिए। सर, विषय प्रश्न नहीं है। पहलगाम और ऑपरेशन सिंदूर के बारे में आपने जो दुनिया को बताया, हमको बताया, हिंदुस्तान के लोगों को बताया, उसकी बात कर रहा हूं। हमें information देनी चाहिए। आपने हमसे मदद ली है। दूसरा, यह कि अमेरिका के राष्ट्रपति ट्रम्प ने...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let the Leader of the House speak.

श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खरगे : उन्होंने 24 बार कहा, 'मेरे इंटरवेंशन से, जब मैंने समझौता किया, तभी यह युद्ध थमा'। ...(**व्यवधान**)... 'यह युद्ध जो stop हुआ, मेरी वजह से हुआ'। यह देश के लिए अपमानजनक है। एक बाहर का आदमी... ...(**व्यवधान**)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have made your point, Sir. The Leader of the House....(*Interruptions*)... You have made your point.

सभा के नेता (श्री जगत प्रकाश नड्डा) : सर, सबसे पहले...

श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खरगे : 'मैंने समझौता कराया'।

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have said so. ...(*Interruptions*)... One minute. The Leader of the House. ...(*Interruptions*)...

(Continued by HK/1J)

HK-DN/1J/11.40

MR. CHAIRMAN (CONTD.): Hon. Leader of the Opposition has made his point and only... ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खरगे : सर, अमरीकी राष्ट्रपति ट्रम्प ने ऐसा बोला और सेना प्रमुख ने भी बोला कि वरिष्ठ डिफेंस अटेची ...(**व्यवधान**)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have made your point. *Now, h*on. Leader of the House ...*(Interruptions)*... Only what the Leader of the House says will go on record. ...*(Interruptions)*...

सभा के नेता (श्री जगत प्रकाश नड्डा) : महोदय, सबसे पहले मैं विपक्ष के नेता श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खरगे जी को आज के दिन उनके जन्मदिवस पर बहुत-बहुत बधाई देता हूं। दूसरा, मैं उनसे निवेदन करता हूं कि आपकी परमिशन से लीडर ऑफ दि अपोज़िशन को रूल 267 पर आपके ऑब्जर्वेशन पर उनकी क्या टिप्पणी है, इसके लिए आपने उनको परमिट किया। उन्होंने रूल 267 के संवैधानिक विषयों पर चर्चा नहीं की। वे 'ऑपरेशन सिंदूर' विषय पर चर्चा करने लगे ...(**व्यवधान**)... जिसके बारे में ...(**व्यवधान**)... प्लीज़ शांत रहिए। देखिए, तर्क में अपनी ताकत होती है, शोर करने की जरूरत नहीं होती है। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Ask them to sit down. ...(Interruptions)... Let us have a good debate. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री जगत प्रकाश नड्डा : आप लोग शोर मत करिये । आप मेरा तर्क सुनिए। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, when Leader of the Opposition was speaking, there was silence. Please listen to the Leader of the House.

श्री जगत प्रकाश नड्डा : सर, मैं यह कह रहा हूं कि खरगे जी ने ऑपरेशन सिंदूर और पहलगाम के डिस्कशन के माइन्यूट डिटेल्स को डिस्कस करना शुरू कर दिया। वह नियम के विरुद्ध इसलिए है, क्योंकि आपने 267 में उनको परमिशन दी थी कि वे संवैधानिक विषय पर चर्चा करें। दूसरा, इस हाउस को और इस हाउस के माध्यम से देश में कहीं यह संदेश नहीं जाना चाहिए कि सरकार पहलगाम और ऑपरेशन सिंदूर पर चर्चा नहीं चाहती है। हम चर्चा करेंगे और हर तरीके से करेंगे। ...(**व्यवधान**)... ऑपरेशन सिंदूर के सारे प्वाइंट्स को देश और दुनिया के सामने रखा जाएगा। मैं यह भी बताना चाहता हूं कि आज़ादी के बाद से आज तक इस तरह का ऑपरेशन नहीं हुआ, जो प्रधान मंत्री मोदी जी के नेतृत्व में हुआ है। I am not going into the details of it, but I would like to tell you, आप गुस्सा मत कीजिए। Nothing will go on record and whatever I will say will go on record. You should know it. ...*(Interruptions)*... सभापति जी, मैं यह बता रहा हूं कि सामिक भट्टाचार्य जी ने on our own, under Rule 167, Operation Sindoor के बारे में चर्चा रखी है। बिजनेस

एडवाइज़री कमेटी में आप समय तय करेंगे। भारत सरकार मोदी जी के नेतृत्व में हर बात की चर्चा करने के लिए तैयार है और हम चर्चा करेंगे।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, I have not given permission to ...*(Interruptions)*... The Government is ready for discussion. ...*(Interruptions)*... The Government is ready for a comprehensive discussion. ...*(Interruptions)*... (Contd. by KSK/1K)

KSK/LP/11.45/1K

MR. CHAIRMAN (contd.): I will meet the leaders, settle for a discussion and I will ensure full-fledged discussion for as much time as you want. ...*(Interruptions)*... I think, the House is getting into disruption. ...*(Interruptions)*... Hon. Members, it is not a good practice. The Government has agreed to have a full-fledged discussion on Operation Sindoor. ...*(Interruptions)*... I have admitted the motion. I will discuss with the leaders. ...*(Interruptions)*... The House is adjourned to meet at 12 noon.

The House then adjourned at forty-six minutes past eleven of the clock.

(**Question Hour** - 12.00 **Noon to** 1.00 **PM**)