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# LS witnesses record 167% productivity this session

## Many Key Bills Passed In House

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**New Delhi:** Adjourned sine die eight days ahead of its scheduled duration, the curtailed monsoon session of Lok Sabha witnessed a record 167% productivity with several key bills passed although the opposition walked out of the proceedings on the last day in protest against the fracas that took place in Rajya Sabha on Sunday. Lok Sabha passed 25 bills and 16 were reintroduced as the government had laid out its agenda of getting the bills cleared many of them ordinances.



While 37 hours were scheduled in the 10 sittings that took place in 10 days without a single break, the House worked for over 60 hours, including weekends. While 68% of the time was for legislative business, the remaining was used for Zero Hour and debates.

Speaker **O P Birla** said, "This session was being held under unprecedented times, am glad that all members rose to the occasion and placed their duties as public representatives on their topmost priority."

## Session stats during this monsoon

### Productivity

■ In this monsoon session of the Lok Sabha, a total of 25 Bills were passed in the ten-day long session.

■ This Lok Sabha session had no holiday which is also a record. Also, the proceedings of the session continued till 12:30 a.m. in the night on two days, Sunday and Monday.

■ September 21 proved to be the most productive day of the session with 234 per cent productivity which is the highest for any single day till now.

■ Out of total 10 sittings, the session worked for 60 hours which is one and a half times more than the usual 37 hours. During the session 68% of the total time was devoted for legislative functions and the remaining 32 per cent was devoted for other activities. During this time 16 bills were introduced while 25 bills were passed.

### Zero Hour

■ In the fixed duration of the zero hour, 370 members got the

In Zero Hour, 370 MPs raised issues, including 88 who spoke on September 20 when the House went past midnight. As many as 181 issues of public importance were raised via Rule 377 and 855 papers tabled by ministers. Out of 78 women MPs, 60 spoke during the 10 day proceedings.

chance to raise the questions of public importance while only 180 members were supposed to get the chance to speak.

■ During the proceedings of the session on September 20, 88 members got the chance to speak in the zero hour and out of total 78 women members, 60 got the opportunity to speak during this time.

### Rule 377

■ Under Rule 377 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business of Lok Sabha, the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs takes follow-up questions on matters raised by the members.

■ As compared to the fourth session of the 15th and the 16th Lok Sabha, almost double the members asked questions in the fourth session of the 17th Lok Sabha.

■ The session fared better in terms of questions addressed by the government. The government was able to answer 99 per cent of the subjects raised.

■ On average, 35 members asked questions in the zero

hour every day.

■ On an average 7 members in the 13th Lok Sabha, 9 members in the 14th Lok Sabha, 10 members in the 15th Lok Sabha and 12 members in the 16th Lok Sabha had got the opportunity to speak on various subjects. However, in the 17th Lok Sabha 18 members, on an average, got the chance to speak every day.

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### Questions

■ Answers of almost 2300 unstarred questions were presented on the floor of the house.

### Health Safety

■ Special attention was paid to the health of MPs and officials during the session. A total of 8029 people were tested for Covid-19 including members of Parliament, their family and relatives, personal staff, Lok Sabha officers and workers and media persons.

■ The Coronavirus situation in the country was discussed for 5 hours and 8 minutes.

time of Covid-19 pandemic.

As the session was shortened due to the pandemic, private member business was skipped. Therefore, no private member bill was introduced or discussed.

Several important bills were passed in the monsoon of the parliament this year.

ings. Besides, 2,300 unstarred questions were answered by the government.

"You have become the hero of the Zero Hour", parliamentary affairs minister Pralhad Joshi told Birla while appreciating him for conducting proceedings of the House during the challenging