

17. The Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners (Appointment, Conditions of Service and Term of Office) Bill, 2023.
18. The Provisional Collection of Taxes Bill, 2023.
19. The Press and Registration of Periodicals Bill, 2023.

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### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE CHAIR

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, the 76<sup>th</sup> Report of the Committee on Privileges, Rajya Sabha was presented to me yesterday on the 30<sup>th</sup> January, 2024. The Committee while holding the eleven Members, namely, Shrimati Jebi Mather Hisham, Dr. L. Hanumanthaiah, Shri Neeraj Dangi, Shri Rajmani Patel, Shri Kumar Ketkar, Shri G. C. Chandrashekhar, Shri Binoy Viswam, Shri Sandosh Kumar P, Shri M. Mohamed Abdulla, Dr. John Brittas and Shri A.A. Rahim guilty of breach of privilege and contempt of the Council has recommended that the period of suspension already suffered by the Members be treated as sufficient punishment for the transgression. The Report was to be presented to the House. However, taking note of the situation that the suspended Members would not be able to attend the Special Address of the hon. President, Shrimati Droupadi Murmu, to both the Houses of Parliament assembled together, under Article 87 of the Constitution of India, for the first time in the new building of the Parliament, the Committee presented the Report to me for a decision on the recommendations of the Committee.

After taking inputs from the Leader of the House and the Leader of the Opposition and having considered the entire situation in conspectus, I invoked the authority vested in me and under Rules 202 and 266 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Council of States, Rajya Sabha, to revoke the suspension of those eleven Members, enabling them to attend the Special Address by the hon. President to be held on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2024. As per practice, the Report is also being presented to the House.

Hon. Members, let me put it on record that in taking this decision which was difficult because the House had indicated that they will continue to remain under suspension till the House has the benefit of consideration of the Report of the Committee on Privileges I must put on record the wise counsel put to me by the Leader of the House and the Leader of the Opposition and, keeping that in view, I took this decision and I am sure that the House will appreciate the sentiment behind it. Now, Report of the Committee on Privileges. Dr. Anil Jain.

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