News

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Top Lok Sabha performers failed to get re-elected: Report

New Delhi, Dec 21 (PTI) Some MPs who were found to be top performers in the last Lok Sabha failed to get re-elected in the current House.

According to a report prepared by the National Social Watch, five of the top ten performers in the 14th Lok Sabha could not get themselves re-elected in the 15th Lok Sabha.

The Citizens" Report on Governance and Development 2010 also found that there was a decline in the number of bills passed and also in participation in discussion by MPs in 2009 while there is a dramatic increase in the wealth of MPs since 2004.

MPs" performances were examined on the basis of their attendance, participation during the debates, the number of questions asked and the number of private members" bills proposed in the House.

C K Chandrappan, the former CPI MP from Trichur, was adjudged the top performer by the National Social Watch, an NGO. However he could not be re-elected to the 15th Lok Sabha. Similarly, Pandharpur MP Ramdas Athawale (RPI), Puri MP Braja Kishore Tripathy (BJD), Palani MP S Kuppusamy Kharventhan (Cong) and Ferozabad MP Ramjilal Suman (SP) who were found to be top performers in the last Lok Sabha, were not elected to the new Lok Sabha.

However, other top performers including CPI(M) MP Basudev Acharia from Bankura, Shiv Sena MP Anandrao Adsul from Buldhana, SP MP Shailendra Kumar from Chail and BJP MP Hansraj Gangaram Ahir from Chandrapur were re-elected to the 15th Lok Sabha.

The report also noted that most of the top performers are hardly ever in national news networks. Releasing the report, Urban Development Minister Jaipal Reddy said, "there is a need to look at the performances of the media as it also plays an important role in the functioning of democracy." Reddy, who was adjudged the best parliamentarian in 1998, said, "media should report the solid speech made by the MPs in the House instead of carrying out sensational statements only. Because those whose speeches are reported get noticed."

Asked how top performers in the House failed to get re-elected, Reddy said "It happens because those who take up matters in the House, participate in the discussion on bills...this was not reported in the media. Media should report their speeches in Parliament." PTI ARU

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Lt Gen Rath found guilty in Sukna land scam

Shillong: Lt Gen P K Rath, former Deputy Chief of Army Staff-designate, was on Friday found guilty by an Army court martial in the Sukna land scam, becoming the highest ranking serving officer to be convicted for corruption.



'Rapist' MLA threatens revenge against rivals again

Lucknow: Jailed BSP MLA Purushottam Naresh Dwivedi, accused of raping a teenage dalit girl here, on Friday threatened to take revenge on his political adversaries who had "framed" him in the case. Last week too, Dwivedi had issued a similar threat against his political rivals.



Delhi tops among metros in crimes, atrocities on women

New Delhi: Delhi has earned the dubious distinction of being the most unsafe metro in the country, topping the list in number of crimes as well as in atrocities on women and children.



Aarushi case: Court rejects Rajesh Talwar's application

Ghaziabad: A special CBI court on Friday rejected Rajesh Talwar's application seeking annexures submitted by the CBI along with its closure report in Aarushi murder case. It will hold further hearing on January 25.

SC slams Kapil Sibal on telecom audit remark

New Delhi: The Supreme Court Friday slammed Communications Minister Kapil Sibal for his remark that the official auditor's report was "utterly erroneous" in assessing the loss on award of telecom spectrum at Rs.1.76 lakh crore (\$40 billion).

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