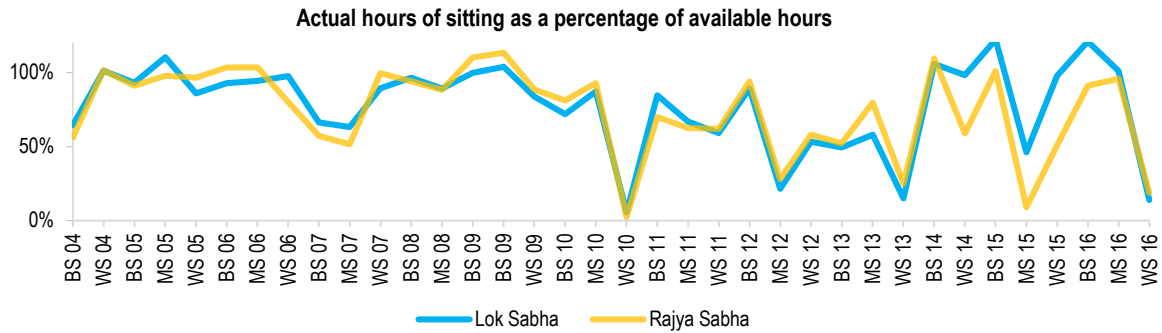


Vital Stats

Parliament functioning in the Winter Session 2016

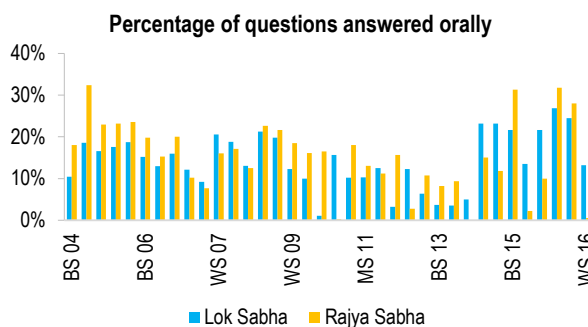
Winter Session 2016 has been one of the least productive sessions for both Houses in the last 15 years, with repeated disruptions on the issue of demonetisation of currency. While eight Bills were introduced in this session, only two were passed. Legislative business this session has been the lowest so far in the current Parliament (16th Lok Sabha).

This was Lok Sabha's least productive session in the 16th Lok Sabha



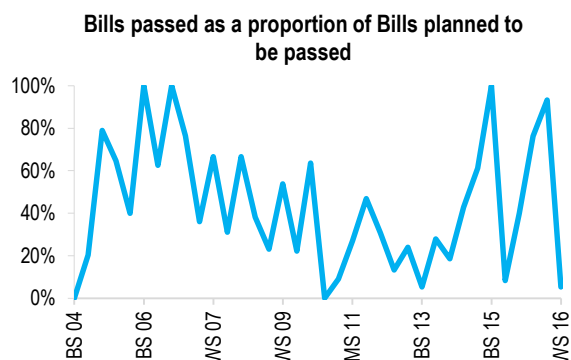
- Winter Session 2016 was Lok Sabha's least productive session in the 16th Lok Sabha. Lok Sabha worked for 15% of the scheduled time and Rajya Sabha for 18%. So far in the 16th Lok Sabha, the average productivity of Lok Sabha is 92% and that of Rajya Sabha is 71%.
- Both Houses of Parliament saw repeated disruptions on the issue of demonetisation. While Lok Sabha lost 107 hours of scheduled time to disruptions, Rajya Sabha lost 101 hours.

Both Houses had their least productive Question Hour in the 16th Lok Sabha



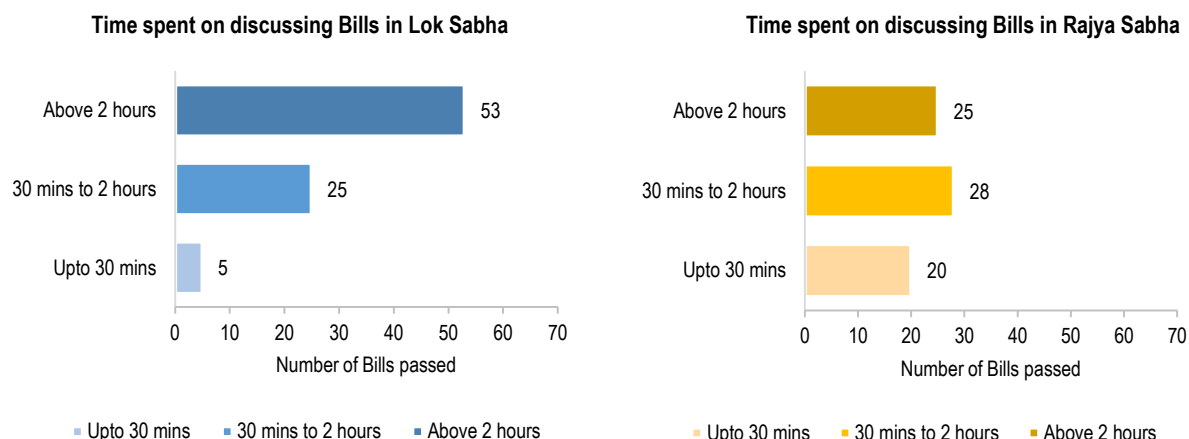
- As a result of repeated disruptions, only two of the 330 listed questions in Rajya Sabha could be answered orally. This has been one of the least productive Question Hour sessions for Rajya Sabha in the last three Parliaments. Previously, one of the 480 questions and none of the 420 questions were answered orally in the Winter Sessions of 2010 and 2013, respectively.
- In Lok Sabha, 11% of the questions could be answered orally. This was Lok Sabha's least productive Question Hour in the 16th Lok Sabha.

90% of planned legislative business could not be transacted; LS passed Taxation Bill without discussion



- At the beginning of the session, 19 Bills were listed for consideration and passage; none of these were passed. Out of the nine Bills listed for introduction, three were introduced. Only two Bills were passed during this Session.
- Lok Sabha passed the Taxation Laws (Second Amendment) Bill, 2016 within an hour of introduction. The Bill was passed as a Money Bill and is deemed to be passed by Rajya Sabha. Rajya Sabha passed the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Bill, 2014 with about an hour of discussion while Lok Sabha discussed it for over two hours before passing.

In the 16th Lok Sabha, LS has spent more time discussing Bills than RS



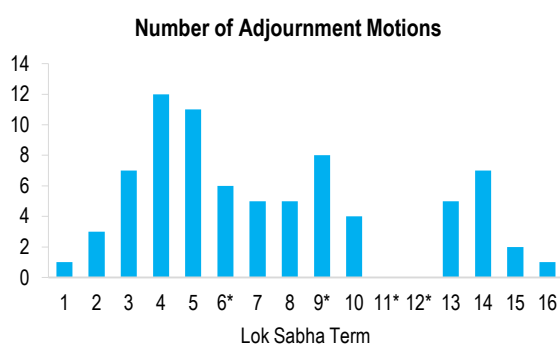
- In the 16th Lok Sabha, Lok Sabha has spent more time discussing Bills as compared to Rajya Sabha. Since June 2014, Lok Sabha has passed 83 Bills and spent 216 hours discussing them. On the other hand, Rajya Sabha has passed 73 Bills with a total discussion time of 121 hours. Lok Sabha has discussed 63% of the Bills for more than 2 hours while Rajya Sabha has discussed 34% of the Bills.
- In the 15th Lok Sabha, both Houses spent approximately similar number of hours on discussing Bills. Lok Sabha spent 234 hours and passed 121 Bills while Rajya Sabha spent 244 hours and passed 123 Bills.

Among non-legislative business, demonetisation was the most discussed issue

Topic of Debate	House	Time (hh:mm)	MPs
Demonetisation of currency (on several occasions)	LS	01:24	18
Supplementary Demand for Grants	LS	00:50	9
Delay in landing of an aircraft carrying Chief Minister of West Bengal due to air traffic	LS	00:10	2
Demonetisation of currency	RS	06:29	15
Delay in landing of an aircraft carrying Chief Minister of West Bengal due to air traffic	RS	00:25	11

- A majority of the productive time in both Houses was spent on non-legislative business. This includes discussion on matters of urgent public importance, and other short duration discussions.
- In both Houses, the impact of demonetisation of currency was discussed the most. However, this discussion lasted for about eight hours, and did not conclude in either House.
- The Supplementary Demand for Grants, which was also on the agenda this session, was passed within an hour with nine MPs participating. Supplementary Demand for Grants is the additional expenditure proposed by the government.

Adjournment motion on demonetization of currency was not allowed



* Lok Sabha did not complete full term.

- An Adjournment Motion is a voting motion raised in Parliament, through which MPs can request for the adjournment of business in a House to express displeasure over a government policy.
- This session, MPs of the opposition in Lok Sabha had requested for an Adjournment Motion to discuss the issue of demonetization of currency. However, the request was not allowed by the Speaker. The 16th Lok Sabha has discussed one adjournment motion so far, related to travel documents given to Mr. Lalit Modi.

Data Sources: Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha websites as on December 16, 2016; Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs; PRS.

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