

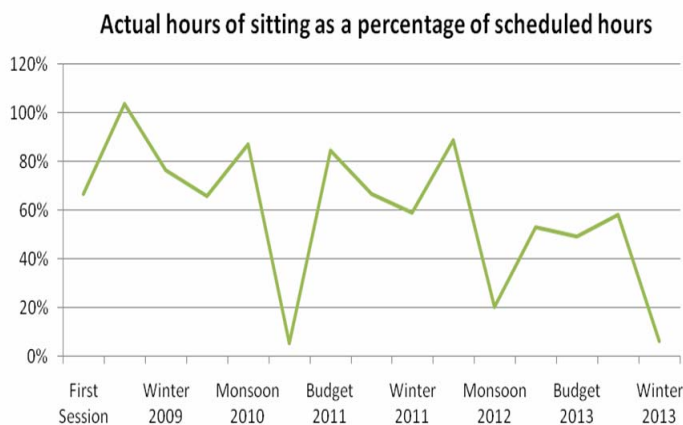
Vital Stats

Parliament in the Winter Session 2013

Parliament in the recent past has witnessed a significant loss of time due to continued disruptions by a section of MPs. This Session was no different, dominated by disruptions on the issues of bifurcation of Andhra Pradesh, sexual harassment of women by some prominent people, and demands for a no-confidence motion.

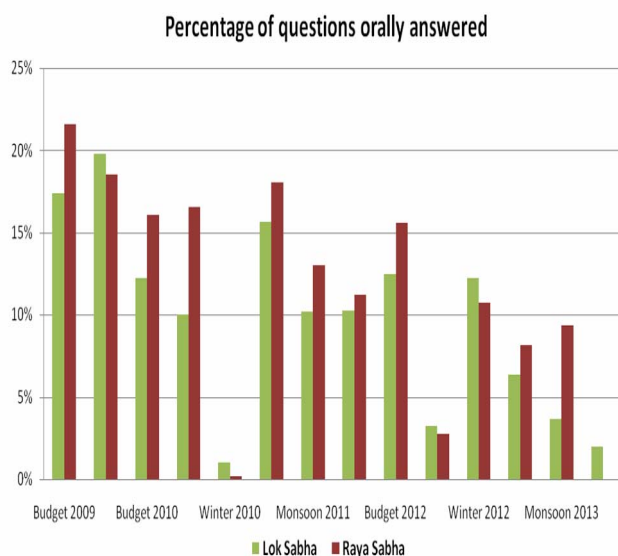
Parliament had initially planned 12 sittings, but adjourned *sine die* two days ahead of its schedule. Here is a snapshot of work done during the 10 days of the Session.

Second worst session of the 15th Lok Sabha



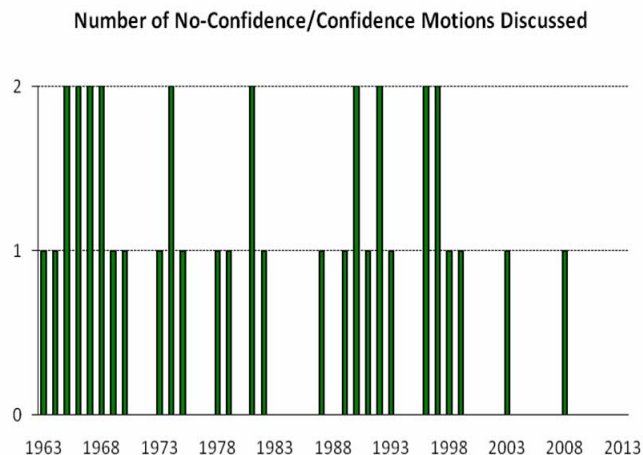
- This session was the worst session of the 15th Lok Sabha after the Winter Session 2010. Lok Sabha worked for 4 hrs and 31 minutes, which was 6% of the scheduled time, and Rajya Sabha for 11 hrs and 24 minutes (19% of the scheduled time).
- Three out of the 12 scheduled days were adjourned after obituary references.
- So far 37% of scheduled hours have been lost due to disruptions since the beginning of the 15th Lok Sabha.
- No attempt was made to compensate for the lost time. Unlike the recent past both the houses did not sit beyond the scheduled time. In the Monsoon Session 2013, Lok Sabha sat beyond 10 PM on four days and Rajya Sabha sat till 11 PM on two days.

Question Hour was disrupted on all days, no question answered in Rajya Sabha



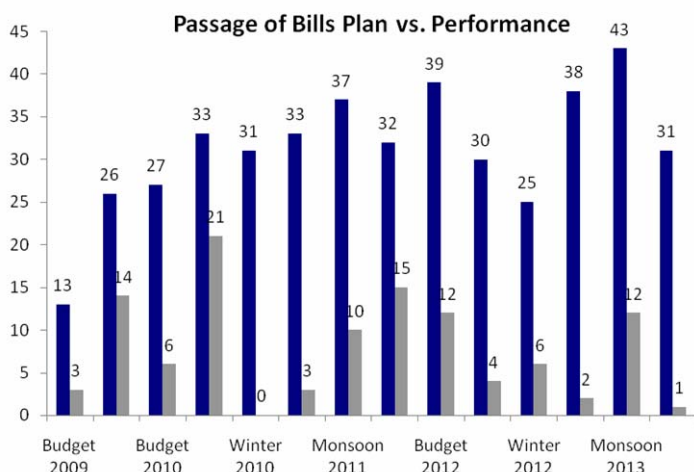
- A total of 200 questions were scheduled to be answered orally in each House. However, in Lok Sabha only 7 were answered amid interruptions and no questions were answered in Rajya Sabha.
- Question Hour was conducted for only 2% of the scheduled time in Lok Sabha. This was the second session since the beginning of the 15th Lok Sabha when no question could be answered orally in Rajya Sabha.
- Question Hour could not be taken up for three days due to obituary references. Out of the remaining seven days, Question Hour was suspended for two days in Rajya Sabha to discuss the Lokpal Bill and other matters.
- 10% of scheduled starred questions were answered orally in Lok Sabha and 12% in Rajya Sabha since the beginning of 15th Lok Sabha.
- Lok Sabha lost 60% and Rajya Sabha lost 57% of its scheduled Question Hour time across all the sessions during the period of 15th Lok Sabha.

No-confidence Motion could not be admitted due to interruptions



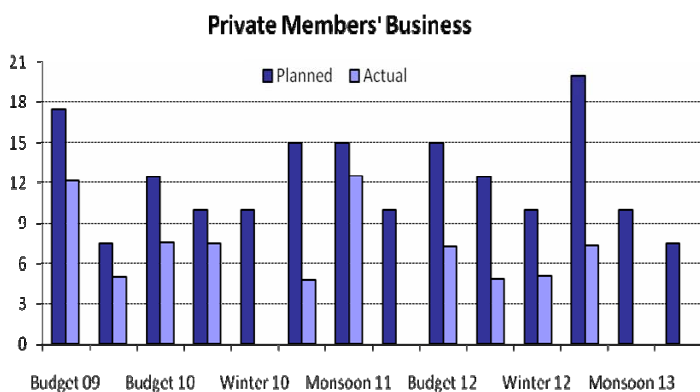
- Twenty six no-confidence motions have been moved against the government since the First Lok Sabha. The first no-confidence motion was moved by Mr. J.B. Kripalani during the Third Lok Sabha. In addition, 11 confidence motions have been moved till now by the government.
- Prime Minister Indira Gandhi faced 15 no-confidence motions during her four stints. During the Fourth Lok Sabha, six such motions against her government were negated.
- Mr. Morarji Desai was the first Prime Minister to resign due to a no-confidence motion.
- The closest vote was a defeat for the Atal Behari Vajpayee government in 1999, when it lost a confidence motion by a single vote. At 25 hours, this was the longest discussion.

Lokpal and Lokayuktas Bill passed, 126 Bills pending with only one session left



- The government had planned to introduce seven new legislative bills, out of which two were also listed for consideration and passing. Only three out of these seven Bills were introduced and none was passed. Three other Bills, not originally planned, were introduced.
- Only Lokpal and Lokayuktas Bill was passed out of the 29 Bills listed for consideration and passing by both houses. Lok Sabha also passed the NITSER Bill.
- At the end of the session, 126 Bills are pending before the last session of Parliament.
- 54 Bills are pending in Rajya Sabha and 72 Bills are pending in Lok Sabha. All the Lok Sabha Bills lapse at the time of its dissolution.

No Private Members' Business was conducted



- Two and a half hours of sitting time on every Friday are usually allotted for Private Members' Business, i.e., Private Members' Bills and Private Members' Resolutions.
- This is the second consecutive session and fourth since the beginning of the 15th Lok Sabha where no Private Members' Business was conducted in Lok Sabha. 43% of the scheduled time have been spent on Private Members' Business till now.
- Only 11 out of the 372 Private Members' Bills introduced during the 15th Lok Sabha have been discussed. 329 Bills were pending at the beginning of the session. No Private Members' Bill has been passed since 1970.

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