

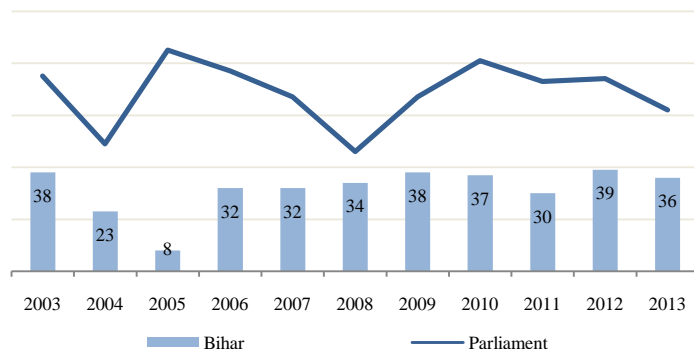
# Vital Stats

## Bihar Legislative Assembly 2013

The 15<sup>th</sup> Bihar Legislative Assembly was constituted in Nov 2010. The Assembly sat for 36 days in three sessions in 2012 and for 36 days in four sessions in 2013.

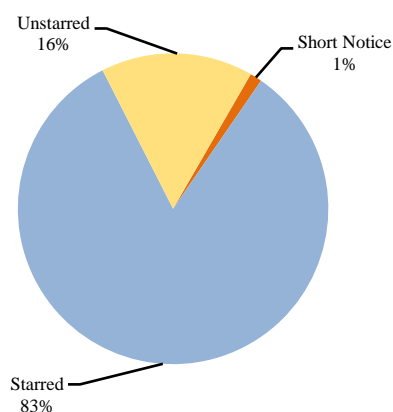
### In 2013, the Bihar Assembly sat for 36 days

Days of sitting of the Assembly



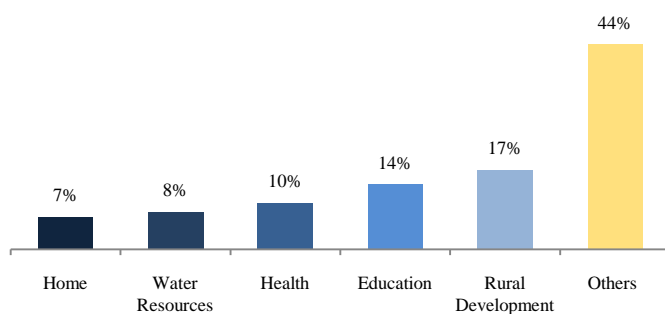
- The Constitution of India mandates that no more than six months can pass between two consecutive sessions of any State Assembly.
- The Bihar Assembly sat for an average of 31 days per year over the last 10 years. In the same period, the Parliament sat for an average of 68 days per year.
- In 2005, the Assembly sat for eight days, the lowest during 2003-2013. In 2012, the Assembly sat for 36 days, the highest number of sittings in the same period.

### 71% of the Starred questions received were answered, in 2013



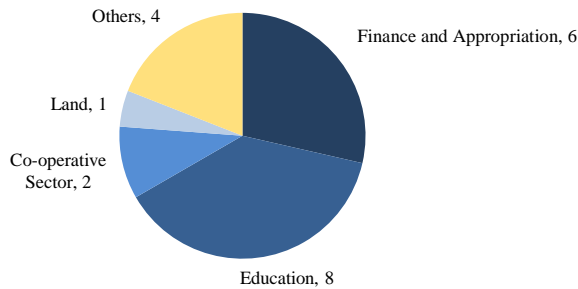
- In 2013, a total of 7177 questions were received by the speaker, of which 5112 (71.2 percent) questions were admitted to be asked on the floor of the house.
- Of the questions admitted, 83 percent comprised Starred questions, 16 percent Unstarred and 1 percent Short Notice Questions.
- Of the Starred Questions asked, 10 percent were answered orally in the Assembly.

### Close to a third of the questions asked were on Rural Development and Education



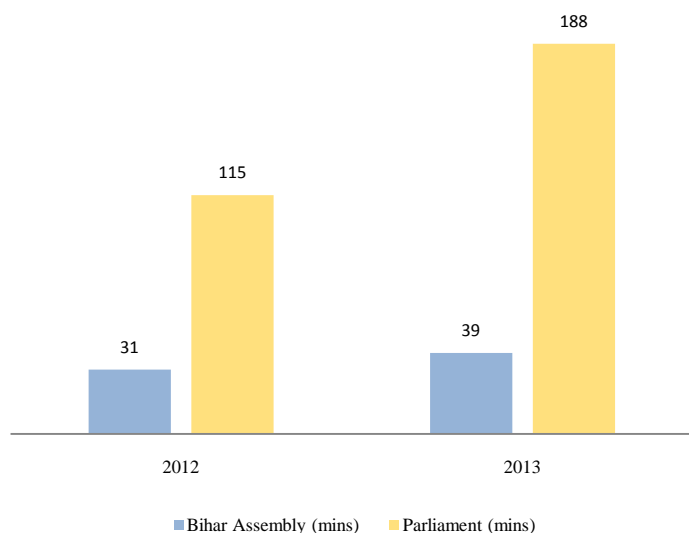
- Unstarred, Starred and Short Notice Questions are the key tools legislators use, to oversee Government functioning.
- For the year 2013, more than half (56 percent) of the Starred and Short Notice questions asked by MLAs were on Rural Development, Education, Health, Water Resources and Home.
- Other key topics, MLAs asked questions on, ranged from Energy and Urban Development to Minorities Welfare and Panchayati Raj.

## Education accounted for the highest number of Bills



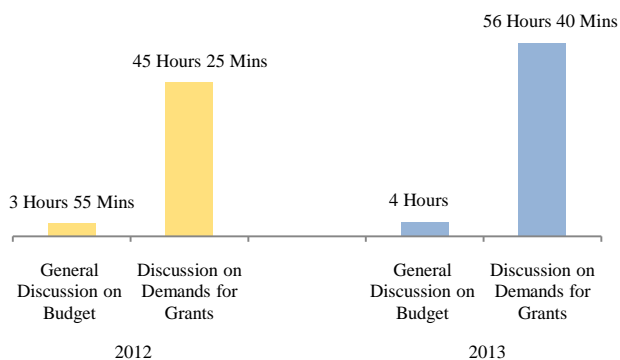
- A total of 21 bills were passed by the Bihar Legislative Assembly in 2013
- Of these, eight bills were on education, while the rest were on Tax & Finance, Co-operatives, and Land etc.

## On average, a Bill was discussed for 39 minutes before passing



- Excluding Finance and Appropriation Bills, all other Bills passed in the Bihar Assembly in 2013 were discussed for an average of 39 minutes per Bill.
- In 2012, Bill discussions prior to voting lasted for an average of 31 minutes.
- In 2012 and 2013, the average time spent discussing every Bill in Parliament was 115 minutes and 188 minutes respectively.
- Of the 21 Bills introduced in the Assembly, all 21 were passed on the same day.

## The Budget was discussed for about 60 hours in 2013



- Discussion on the budget in an Assembly comprises two parts; the general discussion on the Budget after the budget is presented by the respective minister and a detailed discussion on grants demanded by each government department.
- In 2013, the general discussion on the Budget in the Bihar Assembly lasted for 4 hours, while the discussion on individual demands for grants lasted for 56 hours and 40 minutes.
- In 2012, the general discussion and the discussion on demands for grants lasted for 3 hours, 55 minutes and 45 hours, 25 minutes respectively.

**Note:** All data till Dec 2013, as provided by the Bihar Assembly.

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