Vital Stats
Lok Sabha in 2008

Lok Sabha adjourned today for the year. We look at some parameters of performance of Lok Sabha in 2008. Usually, Lok Sabha has three sessions in a year; this year had only two - the Budget Session and an extended Monsoon Session from July to December.

Number of working days reached a new low in 2008 ...

- Lok Sabha worked for 46 days in 2008, the lowest ever in a calendar year.
- The only other years with less than 60 sittings are both election years: 2004 (48 sittings) and 1999 (51 sittings).
- On average, since 1952, Lok Sabha has had 97 sittings per year.

... With an average of 69% MPs attending Lok Sabha

- On an average day, 69% of MPs signed the attendance register.
- Attendance peaked on July 21 and 22, during the trust vote debate.

... Passing most Bills with less than 20 mins of debate

- 16 out of 36 Bills (excluding finance and appropriation bills) were passed by Lok Sabha in less than 20 minutes, most of these without any debate.
- These include the Information Technology Amendment Bill, the Code of Criminal Procedure Amendment Bill, the Gram Nyayalayas Bill and the Prevention of Corruption Amendment Bill.
... And a sixth of starred questions answered orally

- Twenty Starred Questions are listed daily to be answered orally during Question Hour.
- Only about a sixth of all starred questions were answered orally. Written answers were tabled for the remaining questions.
- This figure does not differ significantly from the past few years.

... Though, working for most of the scheduled hrs.

- Lok Sabha is scheduled to work for 6 hours a day. Lok Sabha worked for an average of 5.8 hours a day in 2005, 5.7 hours in 2006, 4.3 hours in 2007 and 5.7 hours in 2008.
- It worked for less than one hour on nine days and for more than 6 hours on 28 days.

Notes:
1. The data for the above graphs has been obtained from the Parliamentary proceedings as reported on [http://parliamentofindia.nic.in/](http://parliamentofindia.nic.in/). The computation of time utilised has been done by PRS.