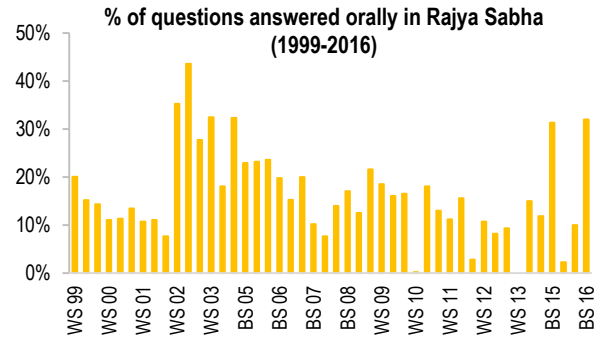
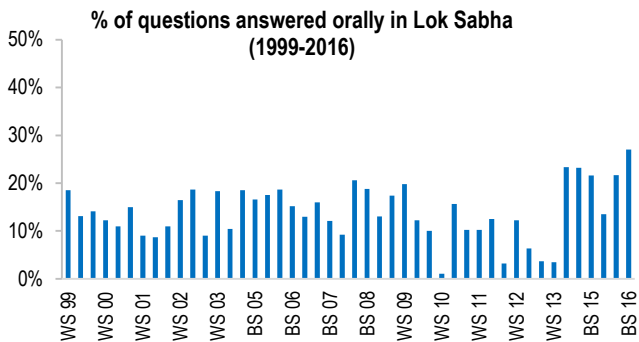


Vital Stats

Parliament Functioning in Budget Session 2016

The Budget Session 2016 was scheduled from February 23 to March 16, and from April 25 to May 13, 2016. However, during the recess period, Parliament was prorogued to allow the government to issue an Ordinance. When Parliament convened again on April 25, 2016, it was a new session. In this note, these two sessions have been treated as one Budget session.

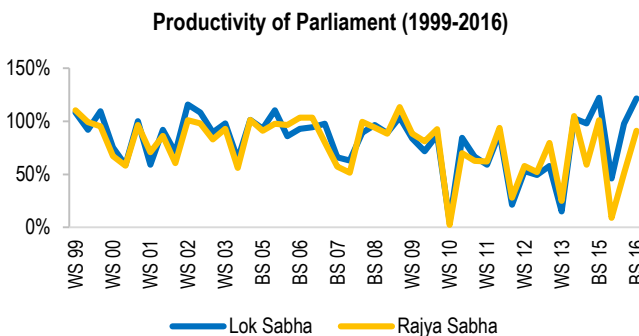
Highest number of Questions answered orally in Lok Sabha in 15 years



Note: Oral questions listed in Rajya Sabha were decreased from 20 per day to 15 per day in the winter session of 2014.

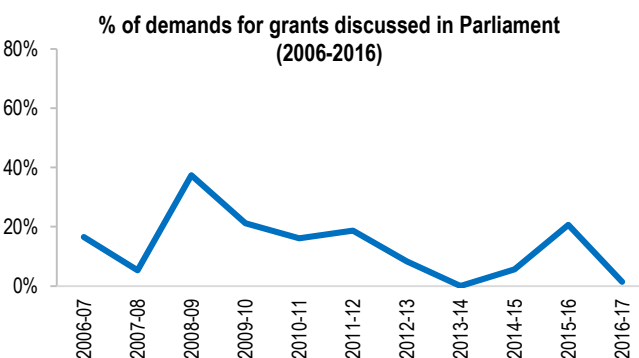
- 27% (145 questions) were orally answered in Lok Sabha in this session, the highest in the past 15 years. In part I of the session, 25% of questions were answered orally, while in part II, 28% of the questions were answered orally.
- 32% (138 questions) of the questions were answered orally in Rajya Sabha. More questions were answered orally in part I of the session (37%) as compared to part II (27%).

Lok Sabha's productivity was 121%; Rajya Sabha's productivity was 91%



- In the past 15 years, Lok Sabha's most productive session was Budget Session 2015, at 122%. Productivity in this session has been the second highest, at 121%.
- Rajya Sabha has been more productive in this session (91%) as compared to the past two sessions (51% in Winter Session 2015 and 9% in Monsoon Session 2015).
- Note that Rajya Sabha's productivity in part I was 105%; however, its productivity fell to 79% in part II.

Only 1% of demand for grants of ministries were discussed in Lok Sabha



- Lok Sabha discusses the demand for grants of a few ministries. The remaining demands are guillotined, i.e. passed without discussion. In this session, Lok Sabha discussed demands for grants of Rs 21,346 crore (1.4%), out of a total budget of Rs 19 lakh crore.
- This is the second time in the past 10 years that such a low percentage of demand for grants was discussed, the lowest being 0% in 2013-14.
- While Lok Sabha discussed demand for grants, Rajya Sabha discussed the working of ministries. Of the four ministries scheduled for discussion, only two were discussed (Health and Human Resource Development).

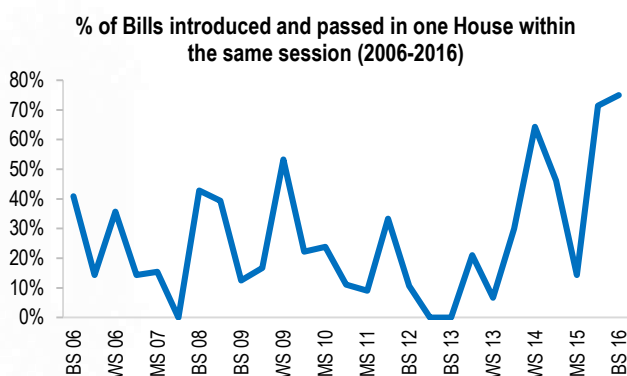
Rajya Sabha passed five Bills and Lok Sabha passed one Bill without debate

	Time spent in LS	Time spent in RS
Election Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2016	1 hr 13 min	2 min
High Courts and Supreme Court Judges (Salaries and Conditions of Service) Amendment Bill, 2015	3 hr 1 min*	5 min
Indian Trusts (Amendment) Bill, 2015	1hr 4 min*	4 min
Rajendra Central Agricultural University Bill, 2015	4 min	4 min
Sikh Gurdwaras (Amendment) Bill, 2016	1 hr 7 min	2 min

* These Bills were passed by Lok Sabha in previous sessions.

- 17 Bills were passed in this session. Of these, Rajya Sabha passed five Bills without debate, while Lok Sabha passed one.
- On the other hand, the Aadhaar Bill, 2016, and the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 were discussed for a total of 7 hours and 4 hours in both Houses, respectively, and passed by Parliament.
- 12 of the 17 Bills which were passed were not referred to any Parliamentary Standing or Select Committee. These include the Aadhaar Bill, 2016, the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Bill, 2016, and the Sikh Gurdwaras (Amendment) Bill, 2016.

Highest percentage of Bills introduced and passed within same session in 10 years



Note: Does not include Finance and Appropriation Bills, and Bills replacing Ordinances.

- Eight Bills were introduced this session, of which six (75%) were passed by at least one House. These included the Election Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2016, the Aadhaar Bill, 2016, and the Sikh Gurdwaras (Amendment) Bill, 2016.
- These six Bills were not referred to Parliamentary Committees for detailed examination.
- The previous session also witnessed a high percentage of Bills that were introduced and passed within the same session, in one House (71%).
- The Enforcement of Security Interest and Recovery of Debt Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2016 was introduced in this session, and was referred to a Joint Committee.

Other Highlights

- An amendment to the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address was passed in Rajya Sabha in this session, regarding the eligibility of citizens to contest gram panchayat elections. This is the second instance of an amendment being passed in the 16th Lok Sabha, the last one being in Budget Session 2015. Before this, such an amendment was passed in 2001.
- The Finance Bill, 2016, contained provisions amending (i) the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934, to set up a Monetary Policy Committee, and (ii) the Foreign Contributions Regulation Act, 2010, to change the definition of foreign companies. It was passed by Parliament as a Money Bill. Under the Constitution, a Money Bill is one which only contains provisions related to taxes, government borrowings, and expenditure.
- The Aadhaar Bill, 2016 was also passed as a Money Bill by Parliament during this session. Rajya Sabha recommended several amendments to the Bill, which were not accepted by Lok Sabha.

Note: Lok Sabha data as of May 11, 2016 and Rajya Sabha data as on May 13, 2016.

Sources: Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha websites.

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