

# **FIFTY YEARS OF LOK SABHA (1952-2002) A STATISTICAL PROFILE**



Lok Sabha Secretariat  
New Delhi  
January 2003

**FIFTY YEARS OF LOK SABHA  
(1952-2002)  
A Statistical Profile**

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT  
NEW DELHI**

**January 2003**

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## PREFACE

The Parliament of India is a bicameral legislative body composed of the President of India, the Council of States (Rajya Sabha) and the House of the People (Lok Sabha). Fifty years have passed since the First Lok Sabha was constituted on 17th April 1952 after the First General Election concluded in February 1952. Since then, twelve more General Elections have been held leading to the constitution of the successive twelve Lok Sabhas. The present Lok Sabha, constituted on 13th October 1999, is the thirteenth in order.

It was on 13th May 1952 that the members of the Lok Sabha met for the first time. During its eventful period of five decades, the Lok Sabha has performed its multi-dimensional role involving law-making, overseeing the Administration, approving national policies, passing Budgets, deliberating on matters of public interest, ventilating popular grievances, etc. A large number of legislative measures ushering in great reforms in various fields of national life were brought on the Statute Book.

To mark the Fiftieth Anniversary of the First Sitting of Parliament of India, the Golden Jubilee Celebrations commenced on 13th May 2002 with the Presiding Officers of both the Houses of Parliament making special references in the respective Houses. The same day, a commemorative function was organized under the aegis of the Department of Posts, Ministry of Communications and Information Technology in the new Parliament Library Building.

This publication, brought out on the occasion of the International Parliamentary Conference being held in January 2003 as part of the Golden Jubilee Celebrations, highlights, in brief, the significance of various procedural devices in parliamentary deliberations and presents in statistical form, with graphical illustrations, the time devoted and the quantum of work done by the Lok Sabha during the last fifty years. As the term of the House varied from Lok Sabha to Lok Sabha, the figures representing various aspects of its functioning may not be taken as comparative in a strict sense. This study is not intended to be comprehensive and detailed to cover each and every aspect of the working of the House. However, major areas of its functioning find place in the study. It covers all the twelve Lok Sabhas and the first eleven sessions of the Thirteenth Lok Sabha held so far. I hope that this publication would be found informative and useful by the delegates to the Conference, members of Parliament and others interested in parliamentary institutions and their working.

New Delhi,  
January, 2003

G.C. MALHOTRA  
*Secretary-General,  
Lok Sabha*

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## I INTRODUCTION

Parliament of India is the supreme legislative body and a living epitome of freedom and sovereignty of the people of India. It occupies a pre-eminent and pivotal position in India's democratic polity. It is a bicameral Legislature composed of the President of India and the two Houses, namely, the Council of States (Rajya Sabha) and the House of the People (Lok Sabha). There are certain constitutional functions which the President has to perform with respect to Parliament. The President summons and prorogues the two Houses of Parliament from time to time. While the Rajya Sabha is a continuing body, the power to dissolve the Lok Sabha vests in the President. His assent is essential for a Bill, passed by both Houses of Parliament, to become an Act. The President has certain other functions with respect to Parliament.

The Rajya Sabha is an indirectly elected House consisting of not more than 250 members. Of these, 12 are nominated by the President for their special knowledge or practical experience in such matters as literature, science, art and social service. The remaining seats are allocated to the various States and Union territories, roughly in proportion to their population; each State is, however, represented by at least one member. The representatives of each State are elected by the elected members of the Legislative Assembly of the State in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote. The minimum age for membership of the House is 30 years.

The Rajya Sabha is a permanent body not subject to dissolution, but one-third of its members retire every second year by rotation and are replaced by newly elected members. The term of an individual member of Rajya Sabha is six years. The Rajya Sabha at present consists of 245 members. The Vice-President is the *ex-officio* Chairman of the Rajya Sabha. The House elects one of its members to serve as the Deputy Chairman.

The Lok Sabha is a directly elected House as its members are directly elected from the territorial constituencies across the country on the basis of universal adult suffrage. The maximum strength of the Lok Sabha envisaged by the Constitution is 552 (530 members to represent States, 20 to represent Union territories and not more than two members of the Anglo-Indian community to be nominated by the President, if, in his opinion, that community is not adequately represented in the House). The total elective membership of the Lok Sabha is distributed among States in such a way that the ratio between the number of seats allotted to each State and population of the State is, as far as practicable, the

same for all States. The Lok Sabha at present consists of 545 members. Of these, 530 members are directly elected from the States and 13 from Union territories while two are nominated by the President to represent the Anglo-Indian community. The minimum age for the membership of the House is 25 years. The Speaker and the Deputy Speaker are the Presiding Officers of the Lok Sabha and the House elects them from among its members.

The term of the Lok Sabha, unless dissolved, is five years from the date appointed for its first meeting. However, while a Proclamation of Emergency is in operation, the term may be extended by Parliament by law for a period not exceeding one year at a time and not exceeding in any case, beyond a period of six months after the Proclamation has ceased to operate. So far, 13 Lok Sabhas have been elected. Each Lok Sabha has been identified by its serial number.

As between the two Houses, the Lok Sabha has supremacy in financial matters. It is also the House to which the Council of Ministers drawn from both Houses is collectively responsible.

On the other hand, the Rajya Sabha has a special role in enabling Parliament to legislate on a State subject if it is necessary in the national interest. It has a similar power in regard to the creation of an All-India Service common to the Union and the States. In other respects, the Constitution proceeds on a theory of equality of status of the two Houses.

Disagreement between the two Houses on amendments to a Bill is resolved by both the Houses meeting in a joint sitting where questions are decided by majority vote. However, this provision of joint sitting does not apply to Money Bills and Constitution Amendment Bills.

As stated above, the Parliament of India consists of the President, and the two Houses—the Rajya Sabha and the Lok Sabha. This publication deals with the statistical profile of the Lok Sabha, the popularly elected House of the Indian Parliament.

## **II LOK SABHA: DURATION, SESSIONS AND SITTINGS**

### **Duration of the House**

The life of the Lok Sabha spans from the date appointed for its first meeting to the date of dissolution either by an order made by the President under article 85(2)(b) of the Constitution or on the expiration of its term of five years.\*

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\*By the amendment of article 83(2) by the Constitution (Forty-second Amendment) Act, 1976, the duration of the Lok Sabha was made six years. It was again made five years by the Constitution (Forty-fourth Amendment) Act, 1978.

After the coming into force of the Constitution of India on 26 January 1950 and following the First General Election held under the Constitution from 25 October 1951 to 21 February 1952, the first Lok Sabha was constituted on 17 April 1952. The First Lok Sabha met for the first time on 13 May 1952 and was dissolved by the President on 4 April 1957 after having been in existence for a period of four years, 10 months and 22 days. The Second Lok Sabha, which held its first sitting on 10 May 1957, was dissolved on 31 March 1962 after having been in existence for a period of four years, 10 months and 21 days. The Third Lok Sabha held its first sitting on 16 April 1962 and was dissolved on 3 March 1967 after having been in existence for a period of four years, 10 months and 15 days. The Fourth Lok Sabha met for the first time on 16 March 1967 and was dissolved on 27 December 1970 after having been in existence for a period of three years, nine months and 11 days.

The first sitting of the Fifth Lok Sabha was held on 19 March 1971. The term of the Fifth Lok Sabha was to expire on 18 March 1976. However, having regard to the Proclamation of Emergency issued on 25 June 1975, the term of this Lok Sabha was extended by a period of one year, *i.e.*, up to 18 March 1977 by the House of the People (Extension of Duration) Act, 1976. Again it was extended for a further period of one year, *i.e.*, up to 18 March 1978, by the House of the People (Extension of Duration) Amendment Act, 1976. However, the House was dissolved on 18 January 1977 after having been in existence for a period of five years, 10 months and one day.

The Sixth Lok Sabha met for the first time on 25 March 1977. The normal term of the Lok Sabha was restored to five years by Parliament by the Constitution (Forty-fourth Amendment) Act, 1978. The House was, however, dissolved on 22 August 1979 after having been in existence for a period of two years, four months and 29 days.

The Seventh Lok Sabha held its first sitting on 21 January 1980. It was dissolved on 31 December 1984 after having been in existence for a period of four years, 11 months and 11 days.

The Eighth Lok Sabha held its first sitting on 15 January 1985. The term of this Lok Sabha was to expire on 14 January 1990. It was, however, dissolved on 27 November 1989 after having been in existence for a period of four years, 10 months and 13 days.

The Ninth Lok Sabha met for the first time on 18 December 1989. After having been in existence for a period of one year, two months and 27 days, the House was dissolved on 13 March 1991.

The Tenth Lok Sabha met for the first time on 9 July 1991. It was dissolved on 10 May 1996 after having been in existence for a period of four years, 10 months and three days.

The Eleventh Lok Sabha held its first sitting on 22 May 1996. It was dissolved on 4 December 1997 after having been in existence for a period of one year, six months and 14 days.

The first sitting of the Twelfth Lok Sabha was held on 23 March 1998. The House was, however, dissolved on 26 April 1999 after having been in existence for a period of one year, one month and four days. Notably, this Lok Sabha had the shortest life of all the Lok Sabhas constituted so far. The longest tenure on record is that of the Fifth Lok Sabha with a total of five years, ten months and one day.

The Thirteenth Lok Sabha held its first sitting on 20 October 1999 and its term is to expire on 19 October 2004. The duration of each Lok Sabha and the name of the Speaker are given in Table 1. Names and tenures of the Deputy Speakers, the Leaders of the House (Lok Sabha), the Leaders of the Opposition (Lok Sabha) and the Secretaries/ Secretaries-General (Lok Sabha) are given in Table 1.1, Table 1.2, Table 1.3 and Table 1.4 respectively.

**TABLE 1**  
**LOK SABHA AND ITS SPEAKER**  
**(First to Thirteenth Lok Sabha)**

Lok Sabha	Date of First Sitting after Constitution	Date of Dissolution	Speaker	Tenure	
				From	To
1	2	3	4	5	6
First	13.5.1952	4.4.1957	Shri Ganesh Vasudev Mavalankar	15.5.1952	27.2.1956
			Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar	8.3.1956	10.5.1957
Second	10.5.1957	31.3.1962	Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar	11.5.1957	16.4.1962
Third	16.4.1962	3.3.1967	Sardar Hukum Singh	17.4.1962	16.3.1967
Fourth	16.3.1967	27.12.1970	Shri Neelam Sanjiva Reddy	17.3.1967	19.7.1969
			Shri Gurdial Singh Dhillon	8.8.1969	19.3.1971
Fifth	19.3.1971	18.1.1977	Shri Gurdial Singh Dhillon	22.3.1971	1.12.1975
			Shri Bali Ram Bhagat	5.1.1976	25.3.1977
Sixth	25.3.1977	22.8.1979	Shri Neelam Sanjiva Reddy	26.3.1977	13.7.1977
			Shri K.S. Hegde	21.7.1977	21.1.1980

1	2	3	4	5	6
Seventh	21.1.1980	31.12.1984	Shri Bal Ram Jakhar	22.1.1980	15.1.1985
Eighth	15.1.1985	27.11.1989	Shri Bal Ram Jakhar	16.1.1985	18.12.1989
Ninth	18.12.1989	13.3.1991	Shri Rabi Ray	19.12.1989	9.7.1991
Tenth	9.7.1991	10.5.1996	Shri Shivraj V. Patil	10.7.1991	22.5.1996
Eleventh	22.5.1996	4.12.1997	Shri P.A. Sangma	23.5.1996	23.3.1998
Twelfth	23.3.1998	26.4.1999	Shri G.M.C. Balayogi	24.3.1998	20.10.1999
Thirteenth	20.10.1999	—	Shri G.M.C. Balayogi	22.10.1999	3.3.2002
			Shri Manohar Joshi	10.5.2002	Till date.

**TABLE 1.1**  
**LOK SABHA AND ITS DEPUTY SPEAKER**  
**(First to Thirteenth Lok Sabha)**

Lok Sabha	Deputy Speaker	Tenure	
		From	To
First (1952-57)	Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar	30.5.1952	7.3.1956
	Sardar Hukam Singh	20.3.1956	4.4.1957
Second (1957-62)	Sardar Hukam Singh	17.5.1957	31.3.1962
Third (1962-67)	Shri S.V. Krishnamoorthy Rao	23.4.1962	3.3.1967
Fourth (1967-70)	Shri R.K. Khadilkar	28.3.1967	1.11.1969
	Shri G.G. Swell	9.12.1969	27.12.1970
Fifth (1971-77)	Shri G.G. Swell	27.3.1971	18.1.1977
Sixth (1977-79)	Shri Godey Murahari	1.4.1977	22.8.1979
Seventh (1980-84)	Shri G. Lakshmanan	1.2.1980	31.12.1984
Eighth (1985-89)	Shri M. Thambi Dural	22.1.1985	27.11.1989
Ninth (1989-91)	Shri Shivraj V. Patil	19.3.1990	13.3.1991
Tenth (1991-96)	Shri S. Mallikarjuniah	13.8.1991	10.5.1996
Eleventh (1996-97)	Shri Suraj Bhan	12.7.1996	4.12.1997
Twelfth (1998-99)	Shri P.M. Sayeed	17.12.1998	26.4.1999
Thirteenth (1999- )	Shri P.M. Sayeed	27.10.1999	Till date

**TABLE 1.2**  
**LEADER OF THE HOUSE (LOK SABHA)**  
**(First to Thirteenth Lok Sabha)**

Lok Sabha	Leader of the House	Tenure	
		From	To
First (1952-57)	Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru	13.5.1952	4.4.1957
Second (1957-62)	Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru	5.4.1957	31.3.1962
Third (1962-67)	Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru	2.4.1962	27.5.1964
	Shri Gulzari Lal Nanda	27.5.1964	9.6.1964
	Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri	9.6.1964	11.1.1966
	Shri Gulzari Lal Nanda	11.1.1966	24.1.1966
	Shri Satya Narayan Sinha	14.2.1966	3.3.1967
Fourth (1967-70)	Smt. Indira Gandhi	4.3.1967	27.12.1970
Fifth (1971-77)	Smt. Indira Gandhi	15.3.1971	18.1.1977
Sixth (1977-79)	Shri Morarji Desai	23.3.1977	28.7.1979
	Choudhary Charan Singh	28.7.1979	22.8.1979
Seventh (1980-84)	Smt. Indira Gandhi	10.1.1980	31.10.1984
	Shri Rajiv Gandhi	31.10.1984	31.12.1984
Eighth (1985-89)	Shri Rajiv Gandhi	31.12.1984	27.11.1989
Ninth (1989-91)	Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh	2.12.1989	10.11.1990
	Shri Chandra Shekhar	10.11.1990	13.3.1991
Tenth (1991-96)	Shri Arjun Singh	10.7.1991	20.11.1991
	Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao	20.11.1991	10.5.1996
Eleventh (1996-97)	Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee	16.5.1996	1.6.1996
	Shri Ram Vilas Paswan	11.6.1996	4.12.1997
Twelfth (1998-99)	Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee	19.3.1998	26.4.1999
Thirteenth (1999- )	Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee	13.10.1999	Till date

**TABLE 1.3**  
**LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION (LOK SABHA)**  
**(First to Thirteenth Lok Sabha)**  
**(Since 1969)**

Lok Sabha	Leader of the Opposition	Tenure	
		From	To
First (1952-57)	-	-	-
Second (1957-62)	-	-	-
Third (1962-67)	-	-	-
Fourth (1967-70)	Dr. Ram Subhag Singh	17.12.1969	27.12.1970
Fifth (1971-77)	-	-	-
Sixth (1977-79)	Shri Y.B. Chavan	23.3.1977	12.4.1978
	Shri C.M. Stephen	12.4.1978	10.7.1979
	Shri Y.B. Chavan	10.7.1979	28.7.1979
	Shri Jagjivan Ram	28.7.1979	22.8.1979
Seventh (1980-84)	-	-	-
Eighth (1985-89)	-	-	-
Ninth (1989-91)	Shri Rajiv Gandhi	18.12.1989	24.12.1990
	Shri L.K. Advani	24.12.1990	13.3.1991
Tenth (1991-96)	Shri L.K. Advani	21.6.1991	25.7.1993
	Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee	26.7.1993	10.5.1996
Eleventh (1996-97)	Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao	16.5.1996	1.6.1996
	Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee	1.6.1996	4.12.1997
Twelfth (1998-99)	Shri Sharad Pawar	19.3.1998	26.4.1999
Thirteenth (1999- )	Smt. Sonia Gandhi	13.10.1999	Till date

**Note:** In November 1969, for the first time since Independence, the Lok Sabha had a recognised Opposition Party and a Leader of the Opposition.

TABLE 1.4

**LOK SABHA AND ITS SECRETARY/SECRETARY-GENERAL  
(First to Thirteenth Lok Sabha)**

Lok Sabha	Secretary/Secretary-General	Tenure
First (1952-57)	Shri M.N. Kaul	During the full term of the Lok Sabha
Second (1957-62)	Shri M.N. Kaul	During the full term of the Lok Sabha
Third (1962-67)	Shri M.N. Kaul Shri S.L. Shakdher	Up to 1.9.1964 From 1.9.1964
Fourth (1967-70)	Shri S.L. Shakdher	During the full term of the Lok Sabha
Fifth (1971-77)	Shri S.L. Shakdher	During the full term of the Lok Sabha
Sixth (1977-79)	Shri S.L. Shakdher Shri Avtar Singh Rikhy	Up to 18.6.1977 From 18.6.1977
Seventh (1980-84)	Shri Avtar Singh Rikhy Dr. Subhash C. Kashyap	Up to 31.12.1983 From 31.12.1983
Eighth (1985-89)	Dr. Subhash C. Kashyap	During the full term of the Lok Sabha
Ninth (1989-91)	Dr. Subhash C. Kashyap Shri K.C. Rastogi	Up to 20.8.1990 From 27.7.1990
Tenth (1991-96)	Shri K.C. Rastogi Shri C.K. Jain Dr. R.C. Bhardwaj Shri S.N. Mishra	Up to 31.12.1991 From 1.1.1992 to 31.5.1994 From 1.6.1994 to 31.12.1995 From 1.1.1996
Eleventh (1996-97)	Shri S.N. Mishra Shri S. Gopalan	Up to 15.7.1996 From 15.7.1996
Twelfth (1998-99)	Shri S. Gopalan	During the full term of the Lok Sabha and thereafter up to 14.7.1999
Thirteenth (1999- )	Shri G.C. Malhotra	From 14.7.1999—Till date

## Sessions Held

Normally, three sessions of the Lok Sabha are held in a year, namely, the Budget Session, the Monsoon Session and the Winter Session. The Budget Session is the most important and the longest of the three sessions, usually commencing sometime in the third week of February and ending by the middle of May. The Monsoon Session normally begins sometime in the middle of July and lasts till the third week of August. The Winter Session commences in the middle of November and ends sometime in the last week of December.

The power to summon the Lok Sabha is vested in the President. He exercises his power on the recommendation of the Prime Minister or the Cabinet.

Termination of a session of the Lok Sabha by an order made by the President under article 85(2) is called 'prorogation'. The President in exercising of power to prorogue the House acts on the advice of the Prime Minister. Prorogation of the House may take place any time, even while the House is sitting. Usually, however, prorogation follows the adjournment of the sitting of the House *sine die*. The Speaker determines the time when a sitting of the House shall be adjourned *sine die*.

The number of sessions held by each House varied from Lok Sabha to Lok Sabha because of the variations in their life spans. While the Fifth Lok Sabha remained in existence for a maximum of 2133 days and held a maximum of 18 sessions, the life span of the Twelfth Lok Sabha was the shortest, i.e., 400 days during which only four sessions, the minimum so far, were held.

Next to the Fifth Lok Sabha, which held 18 sessions during its tenure, the Second, the Third and the Tenth Lok Sabhas held 16 sessions each; the Seventh 15; the First and the Eighth 14 each; the Fourth 12; the Thirteenth 11 (till 31 December 2002); the Sixth 9; the Ninth 7; the Eleventh 6 and the Twelfth only 4.

The life span (in days) of each of the thirteen Lok Sabhas and the number of sessions held by each of them are given in Table 2 followed by Graphs.

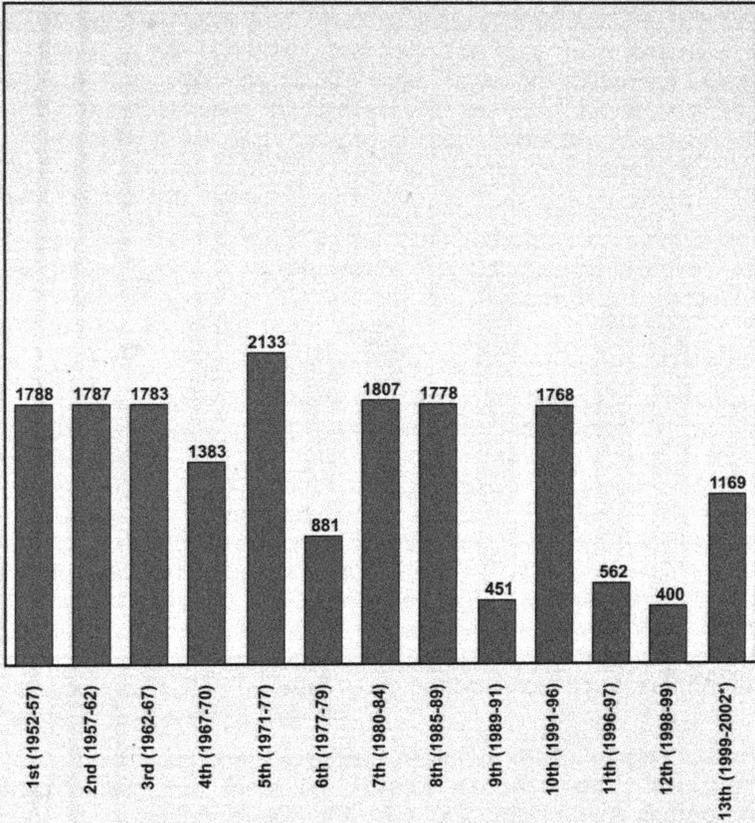
**TABLE 2**  
**LIFE SPAN OF EACH LOK SABHA AND NUMBER OF SESSIONS HELD**  
**(First to Thirteenth Lok Sabha)**

Lok Sabha	Life Span (in Days)*	Number of Sessions Held
First (1952-57)	1788	14
Second (1957-62)	1787	16
Third (1962-67)	1783	16
Fourth (1967-70)	1383	12
Fifth (1971-77)	2133	18
Sixth (1977-79)	881	9
Seventh (1980-84)	1807	15
Eighth (1985-89)	1778	14
Ninth (1989-91)	451	7
Tenth (1991-96)	1768	16
Eleventh (1996-97)	562	6
Twelfth (1998-99)	400	4
Thirteenth (1999-2002)**	1169	11

\* Dates of first sitting and dissolution are inclusive.

\*\* Till 31 December 2002.

Graph I  
LIFE SPAN OF LOK SABHA IN DAYS  
(First to Thirteenth Lok Sabha)

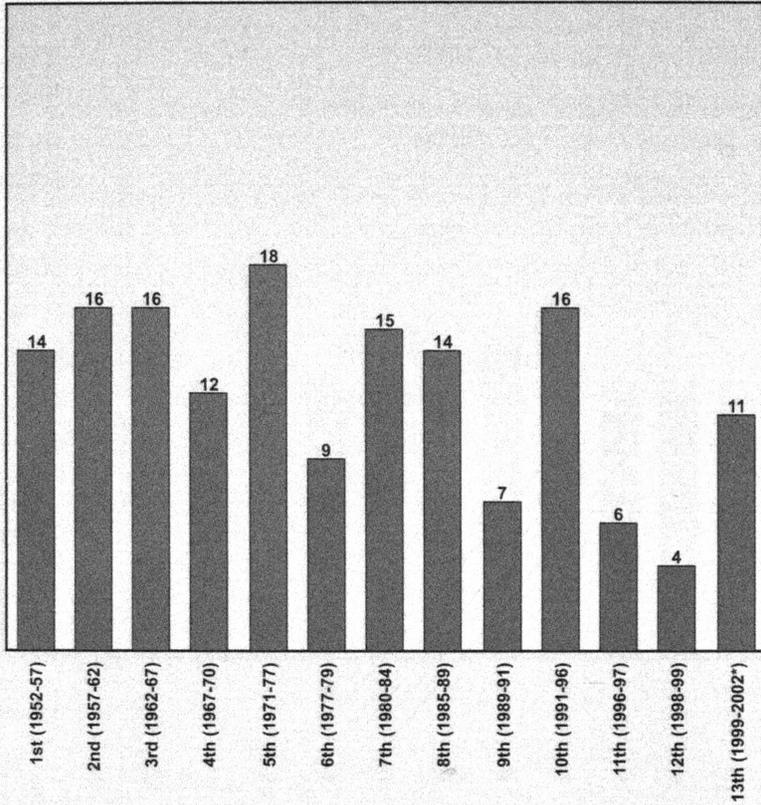


Lok Sabha

\* Up to Eleventh Session

■ Days

Graph 2  
NUMBER OF SESSIONS HELD  
( First to Thirteenth Lok Sabha )



Lok Sabha

\* Up to Eleventh Session

■ No. of Sessions

## **Sittings Held and Time Taken**

A sitting of the House is duly constituted when it is presided over by the Speaker or any other member of the Lok Sabha competent to preside over a sitting of the House under the Constitution or the Rules of Procedure.

The Lok Sabha sits on such days as the Speaker, having regard to the state of business to be transacted by the House, may direct from time to time. Sittings of the House, unless the Speaker otherwise directs, ordinarily commence at 11.00 a.m. and the normal hours of sittings are from 11.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. and from 2.00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m. with a lunch-break from 1.00 p.m. to 2.00 p.m. There are, however, occasions when the House decides to dispense with the lunch-break and also sits late hours, sometimes even as late as past midnight or early hours of the next morning, all depending on the volume and importance of the business before the House.

Twelve Lok Sabhas have so far been dissolved and presently the Thirteenth Lok Sabha is in existence. The Lok Sabhas dissolved so far had different life spans and, therefore, the number of sittings held and time taken by each of them varied.

During its term, the First Lok Sabha devoted 3784 hours to various kinds of business transacted by it in 677 sittings during its 14 sessions. In comparison, the Second Lok Sabha devoted 3652 hours in 567 sittings during 16 sessions; the Third 3733 hours in 578 sittings during 16 sessions; the Fourth 3029 hours in 469 sittings during 12 sessions; the Fifth 4071 hours in 613 sittings during 18 sessions; the Sixth 1753 hours in 267 sittings during nine sessions ; the Seventh 3324 hours in 464 sittings during 15 sessions; the Eighth 3224 hours in 485 sittings during 14 sessions; the Ninth 754 hours in 109 sittings during seven sessions; the Tenth 2528 hours in 423 sittings during 16 sessions; the Eleventh 814 hours in 125 sittings during six sessions; the Twelfth 575 hours in 88 sittings during four sessions; and the Thirteenth Lok Sabha 1468 hours in 277 sittings during its 11 sessions held so far.

There have also been variations insofar as the average duration of a sitting of each of these Lok Sabhas is concerned. The average duration of a sitting during the First Lok Sabha was 5 hours and 35 minutes as compared to 6 hours and 26 minutes during the Second Lok Sabha, 6 hours and 27 minutes each during the Third and the Fourth Lok Sabha, 6 hours and 38 minutes during the Fifth, 6 hours and 33 minutes during the Sixth, 7 hours and 09 minutes during the Seventh, 6 hours and 38 minutes during the Eighth, 6 hours and 55 minutes during the Ninth, 5 hours and 58 minutes during the Tenth, 6 hours and 30 minutes during the Eleventh, 6 hours and 32 minutes during the Twelfth and 5 hours and 18 minutes during the Thirteenth Lok Sabha (up to the Eleventh Session).

Details of the number of sittings held, time taken and average duration of a sitting during each of the thirteen Lok Sabhas are given in Table-3 followed by Graphs.

**TABLE 3**  
**SITTINGS HELD AND TIME TAKEN**  
**(First to Thirteenth Lok Sabha)**

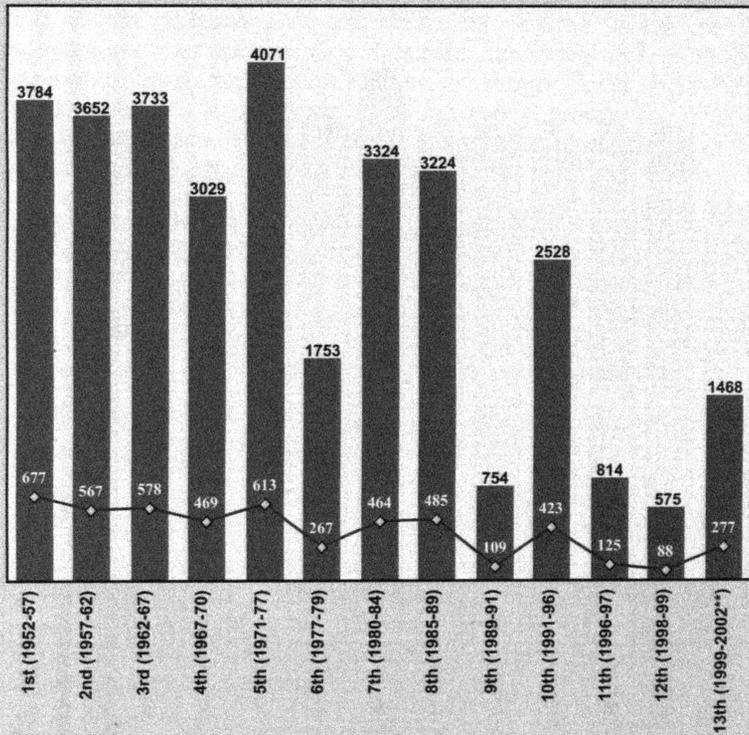
Lok Sabha	No. of Sittings (Days)	Time Taken in Hrs#	Average per day in Mts
First (1952-57)	677	3784	335
Second (1957-62)	567	3652	386
Third (1962-67)	578	3733	387
Fourth (1967-70)	469	3029	387
Fifth* (1971-77)	613	4071	398
Sixth (1977-79)	267	1753	393
Seventh (1980-84)	464	3324	429
Eighth (1985-89)	485	3224	398
Ninth (1989-91)	109	754	415
Tenth (1991-96)	423	2528	358
Eleventh (1996-97)	125	814	390
Twelfth (1998-99)	88	575	392
Thirteenth (1999-2002)**	277	1468	318

# Rounded off to the nearest hour.

\* Extended by one year.

\*\* Up to Eleventh Session.

Graph 3  
SITTINGS HELD AND TIME TAKEN  
( First to Thirteenth Lok Sabha )

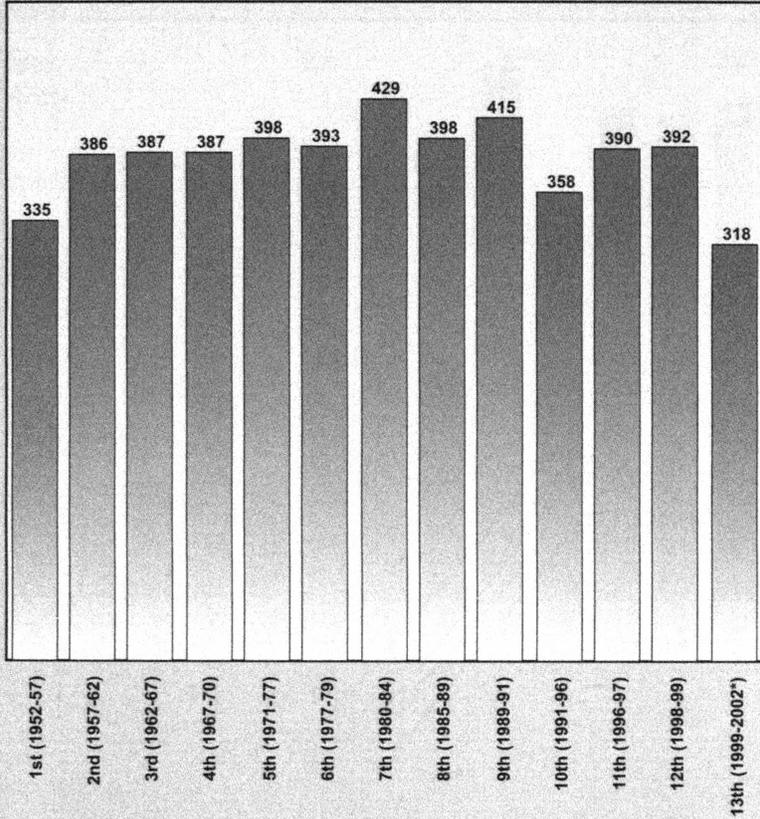


Lok Sabha

\* Rounded off to the nearest hour  
\*\* Up to Eleventh Session

■ Time Spent (Hrs)\*  
◇ Number of Sittings (Days)

Graph 4  
AVERAGE DURATION OF A SITTING  
( First to Thirteenth Lok Sabha )



Lok Sabha

\* Up to Eleventh Session

Average Duration of a Sitting  
(in minutes)

### III VARIOUS KINDS OF BUSINESS AND TIME SPENT

The procedures of Parliament afford ample opportunities for the daily and periodic assessment of ministerial responsibility. The Lok Sabha transacts various kinds of business within the framework of 'the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha' which provide for a number of procedural devices. Popular devices such as Parliamentary Questions, Adjournment Motions and Notices for Calling Attention enable information to be elicited and lapses to be exposed in governmental activities. More significant occasions for review of administration are provided by the discussions on the Motion of Thanks to the President for his Address, the Budget and Debates on particular aspects of Government policies, motions on Matters of Urgent Public Importance, Private Members' Resolutions and other substantive motions. Opportunities for criticism as well as for influencing Government policies always exist during various stages of discussion on different Bills.

The Business Advisory Committee on which different sections of the House are represented, recommends the allocation of time for all items of Government Business to be brought before the House, which on approval, takes effect as an order of the House. The allocation of time in respect of Private Members' Bills and Resolutions is looked after by the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions.

A brief introduction of major items of business transacted and time spent thereon by each of the thirteen Lok Sabhas is given below.

#### Questions

Generally, the first hour of a sitting of the Lok Sabha is devoted to Questions and that hour is called the Question Hour. The Question Hour has a special significance in the proceedings of Parliament. During the Question Hour, members may ask Questions, as per rules, on any aspect of administration and governmental activity.

Parliamentary Questions are classified into three categories, namely, Starred, Unstarred, and Short Notice Questions. A Starred Question is one to which a member desires an oral answer in the House and on it supplementary questions can be asked. It is distinguished by an asterisk mark when printed. An Unstarred Question is one which is not called for oral answer in the House and on it no supplementary questions can be asked. A written answer to such a Question is not formally laid by the Minister concerned, but is deemed to have been laid on the Table of the House at the end of the Question Hour. A Short Notice Question is one which is related to a matter of urgent public importance and can be asked with shorter notice than the period of notice prescribed for an ordinary question.

As a result of the fixed time allotted for Questions, there have been no wide fluctuations in time spent on Questions by different Lok Sabhas.

The time spent on Questions during the First Lok Sabha was 15 per cent as against 15.10 per cent each during the Second and the Third Lok Sabha, 15.94 per cent during the Fourth, 12.61 per cent during the Fifth, 13.70 per cent during the Sixth, 12.20 per cent during the Seventh, 12.80 per cent during the Eighth, 10.14 per cent during the Ninth, 11.80 per cent during the Tenth, 9.58 per cent during the Eleventh, 8.96 per cent during the Twelfth and 12.04 per cent during only the eleven sessions of the Thirteenth Lok Sabha.

### **Legislation: Government and Private Members' Bills**

Legislation is deemed to be the predominant function of Parliament. All legislative proposals are initiated in Parliament in the form of Bills. A Bill is a draft of a legislative proposal, put in proper form which, when passed by both the Houses of Parliament and assented to by the President, becomes an Act. A Bill can be introduced in either House of Parliament either by a Minister or by a private member. In the former case, it is known as a Government Bill and in the latter case it is known as a Private Member's Bill. Bills can also be categorized as — (i) Ordinary Bills, (ii) Constitution Amendment Bills and (iii) Money Bills. Money Bills (*viz.*, Bills which contain only provisions for the imposition, abolition, alteration or regulation of taxes; Bills for appropriation of moneys out of the Consolidated Fund; and relating to other matters mentioned in clause (1) of article 110 of the Constitution) can be introduced only in Lok Sabha. After a Bill is passed by one House, it is sent to the other House for concurrence. When a Bill is passed by both the Houses, it is sent for the President's assent. The Bill becomes an Act only after the President's assent has been given thereto.

Time taken in legislation, which includes both the Government and the Private Members' Bills, during the First Lok Sabha was 49 per cent of the total time taken on various kinds of business as against 28.20 per cent during the Second, 23 per cent during the Third, 22.05 per cent during the Fourth, 27.55 per cent during the Fifth, 23.51 per cent during the Sixth, 23.99 per cent during the Seventh, 25.05 per cent during the Eighth, 16.18 per cent during the Ninth, 22.16 per cent during the Tenth, 15.66 per cent during the Eleventh, 16.60 per cent during the Twelfth and 25.46 per cent during only the eleven sessions of the Thirteenth Lok Sabha.

### **Financial Business: Budgets and Related Matters**

Preparation and presentation of Budget for the approval of the Legislature is a constitutional obligation on the part of the Government both at the Centre and in the States. In respect of every financial year, the President causes to be laid before both Houses of Parliament an "annual financial statement", otherwise known as the 'Budget', of the Government of India. The Budget is presented to the Lok Sabha in two parts, namely, the Railway Budget pertaining to Railway Finance

and the General Budget which gives an overall picture of the financial position of the Government of India, excluding the Railways. The Budgets of the States and Union territories under the President's rule, are also presented to the Lok Sabha.

The financial business transacted by the Lok Sabha consists of: Presentation of the General and Railway Budgets and Statements of Supplementary/Excess Demands for Grants; General Discussion on the General and Railway Budgets; Voting on the Demands for Grants on Account in respect of the General and Railway Budgets; Discussion and Voting on the Demands for Grants in respect of the General and Railway Budgets; Discussion and Voting on Supplementary and Excess Demands for Grants and Votes of Credit; Discussion and passing of the Appropriation Bills in respect of the various Demands passed by the House; Discussion and passing of the Finance Bill; and Presentation and discussion of Budgets, Supplementary and Excess Grants of States and Union territories which are under the President's rule, and introduction, consideration and passing of connected Appropriation Bills.

A General Discussion on the Budget is followed by examination of departmental Demands for Grants by the Departmentally-related Standing Committees. The whole exercise culminates in the passing of the Finance and the Appropriation Bills.

Next to legislative business, financial business consumed about 10 to 25 per cent of the total time of the House during the First to the Thirteenth Lok Sabha. The time devoted to Budgets and other related matters during the First Lok Sabha was 19 per cent as against 24.70 per cent during the Second, 25.02 per cent during the Third, 19.13 per cent during the Fourth, 21.64 per cent during the Fifth, 23.26 per cent during the Sixth, 20.84 per cent during the Seventh, 21.74 per cent during the Eighth, 16 per cent during the Ninth, 17.38 per cent during the Tenth, 17.60 per cent during the Eleventh, 14.68 per cent during the Twelfth and 10.21 per cent during only the eleven sessions of the Thirteenth Lok Sabha.

## **Motions**

Rule 184 of the "Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha" lays down that "save insofar as is otherwise provided in the Constitution or in these Rules, no discussion on a matter of general public interest shall take place in the House except on a motion moved with the consent of the Speaker."

Motions cover several distinct forms of proceedings in the House and may be classified under three categories viz., substantive motions, substitute motions, and subsidiary motions. A substantive motion is a self-contained independent proposal submitted for the approval of the House and drafted in such a way as to be capable of expressing a decision of the House. Motions moved in substitution of the original

motion for taking into consideration a matter or policy or a situation or a statement or any other matter are called substitute motions. Subsidiary motions depend upon or relate to other motions or emerge from some proceedings in the House. By themselves they have no meaning and are not capable of stating the decision of the House without reference to the original motion or proceedings of the House.

Motions for raising discussion on matters of general public interest are usually tabled in two forms. Under the first form, the House takes note of a document laid on the Table, while under the second, the position regarding a specific matter is taken into consideration by the House. The first form is generally used in respect of a motion which seeks to discuss a report or a statement, etc., laid on the Table of the House. The motion in this form is a non-committal substantive motion and is submitted to the vote of the House at the end of the discussion. The second form of motion is generally used when a policy or a situation or a statement or any other matter is taken into consideration. The motion in this form is not submitted to the vote of the House at the end of the debate. However, if a member moves a substantive motion in substitution of the original motion, the vote of the House is taken thereon.

Rule 198 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha lays down the procedure for dealing with the motion of no-confidence in the Council of Ministers. Adoption of any such motion, automatically results in the fall of the Government.

Time spent on Motions by different Lok Sabhas has been different ranging between 3.00 per cent to 17.33 per cent of the total time spent on various kinds of business. The time spent on Motions by the First Lok Sabha was 7.00 per cent as compared to 13.70 per cent by the Second Lok Sabha, 13.20 per cent by the Third, 9.22 per cent by the Fourth, 6.55 per cent by the Fifth, 10.70 per cent by the Sixth, 6.35 per cent by the Seventh, 3.66 per cent by the Eighth, 4.35 per cent by the Ninth, 6.53 per cent by the Tenth, 17.33 per cent by the Eleventh, 10.45 per cent by the Twelfth and 3.00 per cent by the Thirteenth Lok Sabha during its eleven sessions held so far.

### **Discussions (Short Duration and Half-an-Hour)**

In order to provide opportunities to members to discuss matters of urgent public importance, a convention was established in Lok Sabha in March 1953 whereby members could raise discussion for short duration without a formal motion or vote thereon. This procedure was incorporated later into the 'Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha' under rule 193 as 'Short Duration Discussion'. The member who raises the discussion has no right of reply. At the end of the discussion, the Minister concerned gives a brief reply.

Yet another device available to members to raise discussion on a matter of sufficient public importance which has been the subject of a recent question — Starred, Unstarred and Short Notice — and the answer to which needs elucidation of facts, is Half-an-Hour Discussion.

The instruments of Short Duration Discussion (under Rule 193) and Half-an-Hour Discussion (under Rule 55) have been used to deliberate on issues of contemporary importance.

A substantial portion of the time of the House is spent on such Discussions. Though the figures pertaining to the time spent show a mixed trend, the percentage of time spent on these procedural devices has always been more than 7 after the Seventh Lok Sabha. Till the Sixth Lok Sabha, it ranged between 3 to 7.74 per cent. The percentage of time spent during the Third Lok Sabha\* was 3 as compared to 7.74 during the Fourth, 6.47 during the Fifth, 4.10 during the Sixth, 9.14 during the Seventh, 15.77 during the Eighth, 12.95 during the Ninth, 7.46 during the Tenth, 8.36 during the Eleventh, 19.15 during the Twelfth and 18.26 during only the eleven sessions of the Thirteenth Lok Sabha.

## **Resolutions**

A member or a Minister may, subject to the Rules of Procedure, move a resolution relating to a matter of general public interest. Resolutions may be broadly divided into three categories, viz.: (i) Government Resolutions; (ii) Statutory Resolutions; and (iii) Private Members' Resolutions. A Resolution may be in the form of a declaration of opinion or a recommendation, or it may be in the form so as to record either approval or disapproval by the House of an act or policy of the Government or convey a message or commend, urge or request an action or call attention to a matter or situation for consideration by the Government, or in such other form as the Speaker may consider appropriate. The last two and a half hours of a sitting on every alternate Friday of a session are usually allotted for the discussion of Private Members' Resolutions.

After Legislation, Budgets, Questions, Discussions and Motions; Resolutions are the sixth major item discussed by each Lok Sabha. There has not been much variation insofar as the percentage of time spent on Resolutions by different Lok Sabhas is concerned. It was 6.00 per cent in the First Lok Sabha, 5.50 per cent in the Second, 5.90 per cent in the Third, 6.45 per cent in the Fourth, 5.17 per cent in the Fifth, 3.76 per cent in the Sixth, 3.96 per cent in the Seventh, 5.47 per cent in the Eighth, 5.72 per cent in the Ninth, 6.23 per cent in the Tenth, 4.63 per cent in the Eleventh, 4.45 per cent in the Twelfth and 3.58 per cent in the first eleven sessions of the Thirteenth Lok Sabha.

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\*Figures pertaining to the First and the Second Lok Sabha are not available.

## **Debate on President's Address**

Article 87 (1) of the Constitution provides for President's Address to members of both Houses of Parliament assembled together at the commencement of the first session after each General Election to the Lok Sabha and at the commencement of the first session every year. Discussion on matters referred to in the President's Address takes place on a Motion of Thanks moved by a member and seconded by another member. On the days allotted for the discussion, the House is at liberty to discuss matters referred to in the Address. The scope of discussion is very wide and members are free to speak on any national or international problem. Even matters which are not specifically mentioned in the Address are brought into discussion through amendments to the Motion. The only limitation is that members cannot refer to matters which are not the direct responsibility of the Central Government.

The figures pertaining to time spent by the House on Debate on President's Address indicate that the Ninth, the Tenth, the Twelfth and the Thirteenth Lok Sabhas have devoted more than 3 per cent of their time on this distinct parliamentary debate as compared to the other Lok Sabhas which spent less than 3 per cent of their time on this particular business. While the Third\*, the Fourth, the Fifth, the Sixth, the Seventh, the Eighth, and the Eleventh Lok Sabhas respectively spent 2.9 per cent, 2.29 per cent, 2.15 per cent, 2.59 per cent, 1.82 per cent, 2.40 per cent and 2.03 per cent of their time on Debate on President's Address; the Ninth, the Tenth, the Twelfth and the Thirteenth Lok Sabhas respectively spent 4.56 per cent, 3.32 per cent, 4.30 per cent and 3.46 per cent of their time on this debate essentially held in the House every year.

## **Calling Attention**

The concept of Calling Attention, which is an innovation in modern parliamentary procedure, is of Indian origin. A member may, with the prior permission of the Speaker, call the attention of a Minister to any matter of urgent public importance and the Minister may make a brief statement immediately or ask for time to make a statement at a later date. No debate is permitted on the statement made by the Minister but each member in whose name the item stands in the List of Business is permitted to ask a specific and brief clarificatory question. Urgency and public importance are the main tests of admissibility of a Calling Attention notice.

From the Third to the Ninth Lok Sabha, time spent by the House on Calling Attention ranged between 2.79 to 9.85 per cent of the total time spent on various kinds of business. During the Tenth to the Twelfth Lok Sabha, it consumed less than one per cent of the total time of the House. The percentage of time spent on Calling Attention during

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\*Figures pertaining to the First and the Second Lok Sabha are not available.

the Third Lok Sabha\* was 3.00 as compared to 4.83 during the Fourth, 5.29 during the Fifth, 4.99 during the Sixth, 9.85 during the Seventh, 3.85 during the Eighth, 2.79 during the Ninth, 0.41 during the Tenth, 0.84 during the Eleventh, 0.97 during the Twelfth and 1.78 during only the eleven sessions of the Thirteenth Lok Sabha.

### **Adjournment Motions**

The primary objective of an Adjournment Motion is to draw the attention of the Government to a matter of urgent public importance. The subject-matter of an Adjournment Motion must relate to the conduct of the Government and must be in the nature of criticism of Governmental action either of omission or commission. An Adjournment Motion is not admissible unless there is a failure on the part of the Government to perform the duties enjoined by the Constitution and the law. An Adjournment Motion can also not be moved on matters where a Minister exercises discretionary powers conferred upon him by a Statute. By nature, the Adjournment Motion is an interruption in the regular business of the House. The normal business of the House is set aside whenever an Adjournment Motion is taken up for discussion in the House and till such time as its disposal.

Time spent on Adjournment Motions during the Third Lok Sabha\* was 1.10 per cent of the total time of the House as compared to 1.33 per cent during the Fourth Lok Sabha, 1.56 per cent during the Fifth, 1.42 per cent during the Sixth, 1 per cent during the Seventh, 0.56 per cent during the Eighth, 4.78 per cent during the Ninth, 0.93 per cent during the Tenth, 0.98 per cent during the Eleventh and 2.59 per cent during only the eleven sessions of the Thirteenth Lok Sabha. No Adjournment Motion was taken up during the Twelfth Lok Sabha.

### **Matters Raised under Rule 377**

Matters which cannot be raised under the rules relating to Questions, Calling Attention, Motions, etc., can be raised under Rule 377. This procedural device provides an opportunity to members to raise issues, particularly those relating to their constituencies.

There has not been much variation insofar as the percentage of time spent by the members on raising issues through this procedural device is concerned. It ranged between 1.83 per cent to 3.19 per cent during the Seventh to the Thirteenth Lok Sabha.\*\* While the Seventh Lok Sabha spent 3.19 per cent of the total time on matters under Rule 377, the Eighth Lok Sabha spent 2.46 per cent as compared to 2.14 per cent by the Ninth, 1.83 per cent by the Tenth, 1.98 per cent by the Eleventh, 2.06 per cent by the Twelfth and 1.90 per cent by the Thirteenth Lok Sabha during its eleven sessions held so far.

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\*Figures pertaining to the First and the Second Lok Sabha are not available.

\*\*The Figures pertaining to the First to Sixth Lok Sabhas are not available.

## Statements

In order to keep the House informed about matters of public importance or to state the Government's policy in regard to a matter of topical interest, Ministers make Statements in the House, from time to time, with the consent of the Speaker. In order that Parliament may come to know at the earliest opportunity about all serious occurrences in the country, a convention is being followed that Ministers make Statements in the House regarding such occurrences *suo motu*.

Time Spent by the House on Statements has been less than 2 per cent of the total time except during the Fifth Lok Sabha which spent 2.87 per cent of its time on Statements. As such a small fraction of the time of the House was spent on this procedural device.

Comparative figures of time spent on various kinds of business during each Lok Sabha are given in Table 4 followed by a Graph showing time spent on the three most important items of business i.e., Questions, Legislation and Budgets.

Since annual Budget presentation is the most significant occasion for parliamentary input on national economic management, time spent on Budgets (i.e., General Budget, Railway Budget and Budgets of States and Union territories under the President's rules) during each Lok Sabha has been shown separately in Table 5 followed by a Graph.

**TABLE 4**

**TIME SPENT ON VARIOUS KINDS OF BUSINESS  
(First to Thirteenth Lok Sabha)**

Business	(Time in Hrs-Mfs)													
	1st LS (52-57)	2nd LS (57-62)	3rd LS (62-67)	4th LS (67-70)	5th LS (71-77)	6th LS (77-79)	7th LS (80-84)	8th LS (85-89)	9th LS (89-91)	10th LS (91-96)	11th LS (96-97)	12th LS (98-99)	13th LS (99-2002*)	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
Total Time	3783-54 (100.00)	3651-35 (100.00)	3732-40 (100.00)	3029-24 (100.00)	4071-00 (100.00)	1753-06 (100.00)	3324-01 (100.00)	3223-52 (100.00)	754-00 (100.00)	2527-52 (100.00)	813-38 (100.00)	574-55 (100.00)	1468-27 (100.00)	
Questions	551-51 (15.00)	552-32 (15.10)	564-41 (15.10)	482-53 (15.94)	513-32 (12.61)	240-25 (13.70)	405-26 (12.20)	412-16 (12.80)	76-45 (10.14)	298-23 (11.80)	77-56 (9.58)	51-30 (8.96)	176-52 (12.04)	
Bills (Govt. & Pvt. Members)	1844-23 (49.00)	1031-58 (28.20)	867-58 (23.00)	668-22 (22.05)	1121-52 (27.55)	412-28 (23.51)	797-48 (23.99)	805-59 (25.05)	122-37 (16.18)	560-03 (22.16)	128-15 (15.66)	95-25 (16.60)	373-59 (25.46)	
Budget	792-22 (19.00)	901-49 (24.70)	934-11 (25.02)	579-33 (19.13)	881-34 (21.64)	408-41 (23.26)	692-53 (20.84)	700-27 (21.74)	121-11 (16.00)	439-50 (17.38)	143-11 (17.60)	84-26 (14.68)	149-58 (10.21)	
Motions	270-32 (7.00)	499-44 (13.70)	487-24 (13.20)	279-57 (9.22)	267-05 (6.55)	188-12 (10.70)	211-36 (6.35)	119-22 (3.66)	33-16 (4.35)	160-15 (6.53)	141-00 (17.33)	60-03 (10.45)	44-06 (3.00)	
Discussions Under Rules 55 & 193	α	α	112-30 (3.00)	234-59 (7.74)	264-04 (6.47)	72-02 (4.10)	303-53 (9.14)	508-25 (15.77)	98-04 (12.95)	188-32 (7.46)	68-04 (8.36)	110-06 (19.15)	268-15 (18.26)	

\*Up to Eleventh Session.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Resolutions		237-11 (6.00)	199-34 (5.50)	217-23 (5.90)	194-55 (6.45)	211-24 (5.17)	66-34 (3.76)	134-53 (3.96)	175-47 (5.47)	43-54 (5.72)	157-29 (6.23)	37-23 (4.63)	25-34 (4.45)	52-37 (3.58)
Debate on President's Address		a	a	105-01 (2.9)	69-26 (2.29)	88-03 (2.15)	45-48 (2.59)	60-34 (1.82)	77-06 (2.40)	34-36 (4.56)	84-03 (3.32)	16-30 (2.03)	24-45 (4.30)	50-53 (3.46)
Calling Attention		a	a	111-00 (3.00)	146-47 (4.83)	215-37 (5.29)	87-54 (4.99)	318-20 (9.85)	123-58 (3.85)	21-01 (2.79)	10-27 (0.41)	6-51 (0.84)	5-36 (0.97)	26-11 (1.78)
Adjournment Motions		a	a	41-25 (1.10)	40-28 (1.33)	63-49 (1.56)	25-06 (1.42)	33-20 (1.00)	18-27 (0.56)	36-02 (4.78)	23-37 (0.93)	5-57 (0.98)	Nil Nil	38-02 (2.59)
Matters under Rule 377		a	a	a	a	a	a	103-22 (3.19)	79-32 (2.46)	16-15 (2.14)	46-17 (1.83)	16-09 (1.98)	11-51 (2.06)	27-58 (1.90)
Statements		a	a	68-40 (1.80)	54-26 (1.79)	117-00 (2.87)	27-04 (1.54)	44-41 (1.30)	36-59 (1.15)	11-49 (1.52)	33-52 (1.34)	10-28 (1.29)	6-40 (1.16)	14-27 (0.98)
Other Matters**		177-35 (4.00)	465-58 (12.80)	222-27 (6.00)	277-38 (9.15)	327-10 (8.03)	179-23 (10.19)	217-17 (6.50)	164-25 (5.09)	138-30 (18.34)	525-04 (20.77)	159-54 (19.65)	98-59 (17.22)	245-07 (16.69)

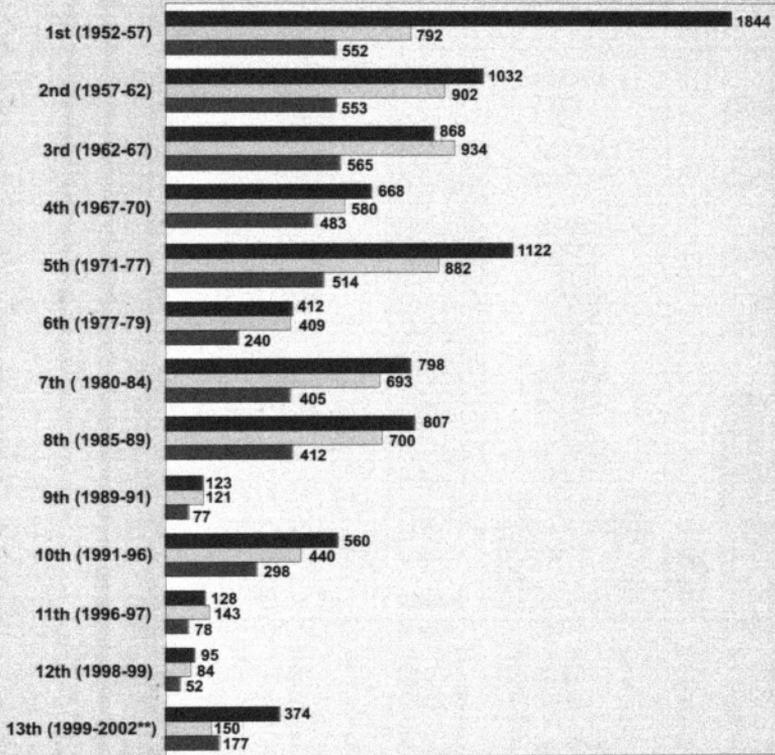
Note: Figures in brackets show percentage to total time.

a Not available.

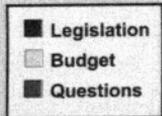
\*\* Including Papers Laid on the Table, Obituary References, Questions of Privileges, Points of Order, Personal Explanations, etc.

Graph 5  
 TIME SPENT ON LEGISLATION,  
 BUDGET AND QUESTIONS  
 ( First to Thirteenth Lok Sabha )

**Lok Sabha**



Hours\*



\* Rounded off to the nearest hour  
 \*\* Up to Eleventh Session

**TABLE 5**  
**TIME SPENT ON BUDGETS**  
**(First to Thirteenth Lok Sabha)**

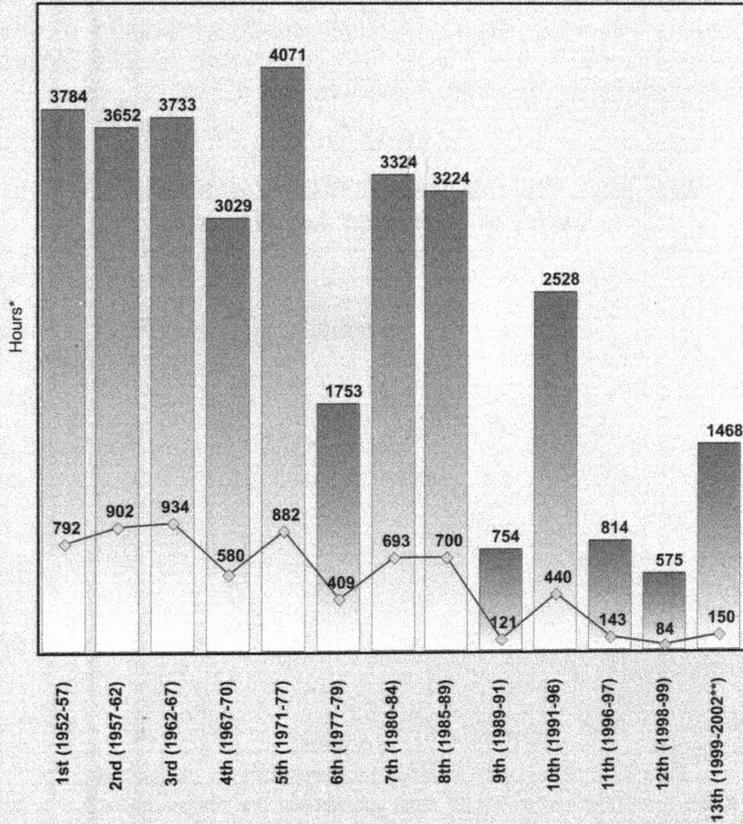
Lok Sabha	Total Time Taken Hrs-Mts	Time Spent on General Budget* Hrs-Mts	Time Spent on Railway Budget Hrs-Mts	Time Spent on Budgets of States/UTs Under the President's Rule Hrs-Mts	Total Time Spent on Financial Business Hrs-Mts
First (1952-57)	3783-54 (100)	NA	NA	NA	792.22 (19.00)
Second (1957-62)	3651-35 (100)	764-09 (20.90)	129-55 (3.60)	7-45 (0.20)	901-49 (24.70)
Third (1962-67)	3732-40 (100)	762-39 (20.43)	151-26 (4.05)	20-06 (0.54)	934-11 (25.02)
Fourth (1967-70)	3029-24 (100)	434-42 (14.34)	108-59 (3.61)	35-52 (1.18)	579-33 (19.13)
Fifth (1971-77)	4071-00 (100)	659-31 (16.20)	149-12 (3.66)	72-51 (1.78)	881-34 (21.64)
Sixth (1977-79)	1753-06 (100)	330-23 (18.83)	65-59 (3.74)	12-19 (0.69)	408-41 (23.26)
Seventh (1980-84)	3324-01 (100)	507-18 (15.26)	119-10 (3.58)	66-25 (2.00)	692-53 (20.84)
Eighth (1985-89)	3223-52 (100)	546-39 (16.94)	119-45 (3.74)	34-03 (1.06)	700-27 (21.74)
Ninth (1989-91)	754-00 (100)	93-50 (12.40)	15-11 (2.00)	12-10 (1.60)	121-11 (16.00)
Tenth (1991-96)	2527-52 (100)	263-35 (10.43)	131-31 (5.18)	44-44 (1.77)	439-50 (17.38)
Eleventh (1996-97)	813-38 (100)	53-45 (6.61)	79-24 (9.76)	10-02 (1.23)	143-11 (17.60)
Twelfth (1998-99)	574-55 (100)	38-18 (6.66)	44-57 (7.82)	1-11 (0.20)	84-26 (14.68)
Thirteenth (1999-2002)**	1468-27 (100)	90-09 (6.14)	56-57 (3.88)	2-52 (0.19)	149-58 (10.21)

Note: Figures in brackets show percentage to total time.

\* Including Supplementary Demands for Grants.

\*\* Up to Eleventh Session.

Graph 6  
**TOTAL TIME TAKEN AND  
 TIME SPENT ON FINANCIAL BUSINESS**  
 ( First to Thirteenth Lok Sabha )



**Lok Sabha**

\* Rounded off to the nearest hour  
 \*\* Up to Eleventh Session

■ Total Time Taken on Various Kinds of Business  
 ◇ Time Spent on Financial Business

## Time Lost due to Interruptions/Adjournments

A recent development in the functioning of the Lok Sabha, is frequent adjournments of the House due to interruptions. Such disruptions have led to loss of valuable time of the House. This led to a loss of 9.95 per cent of the time of the House during the Tenth Lok Sabha, 5.28 per cent during the Eleventh, 10.66 per cent during the Twelfth and 21.17 per cent during only the eleven sessions of the Thirteenth Lok Sabha.

Details of time lost due to interruptions/adjournments as a result of disorderly scenes in the House from the Tenth to the Thirteenth Lok Sabha are given in Table 6 followed by a Graph.

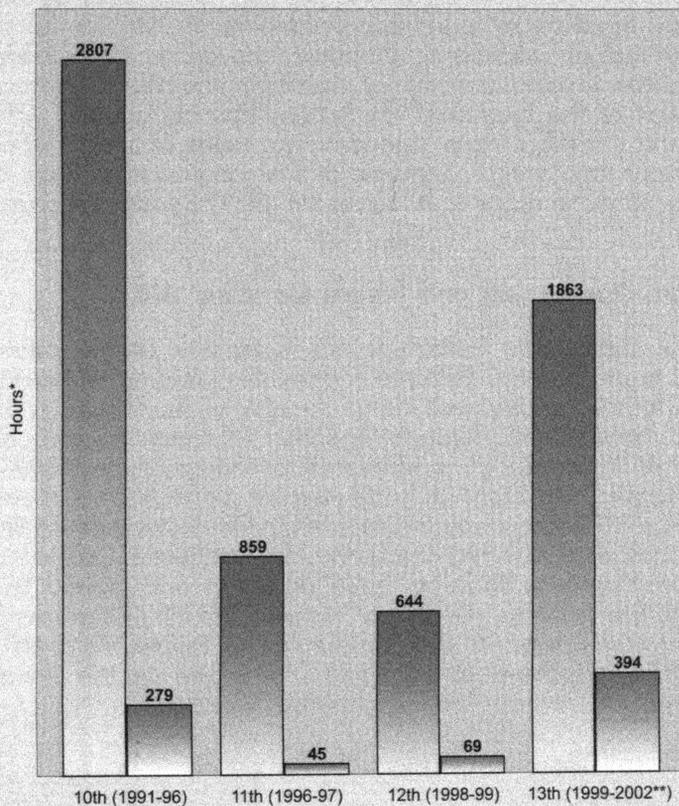
**TABLE 6**  
**TIME LOST DUE TO INTERRUPTIONS/ADJOURNMENTS**  
**(Tenth to Thirteenth Lok Sabha)\***

Lok Sabha	Total Time Spent on the Business Transacted (a)		Time Lost due to Interruptions/Adjournments (b)		Total Time (a+b)		Percentage of time lost due to Interruptions/Adjournments
	Hrs	Mts	Hrs	Mts	Hrs	Mts	
	Tenth (1991-96)	2527	52	279	25	2807	
Eleventh (1996-97)	813	38	45	20	858	58	5.28
Twelfth (1998-99)	574	55	68	37	643	32	10.66
Thirteenth (1999-2002)**	1468	27	394	25	1862	52	21.17

\*The figures pertaining to the First to Ninth Lok Sabhas are not available.

\*\*Up to Eleventh Session.

Graph 7  
 TOTAL TIME SPENT AND TIME LOST  
 DUE TO INTERRUPTIONS/ADJOURNMENTS  
 (Tenth to Thirteenth Lok Sabha)



Lok Sabha

Total Time Spent  
 Time Lost due to Interruptions/Adjournments

\* Rounded off to the nearest hour  
 \*\* Up to Eleventh Session

## IV BUSINESS TRANSACTED: QUANTITATIVE DIMENSIONS

The 'Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha' provide for a number of procedural devices which have their own importance in the functioning of the House while transacting its business. However, certain devices such as Bills, Parliamentary Questions, Resolutions, Papers Laid on the Table, Committees, etc., have been pre-eminently dominating the business of the House because with the help of these devices, the Lok Sabha has been successfully performing its cardinal functions of legislation, overseeing of the Administration, passing of Budget, ventilation of public grievances, deliberating on various subjects and policies of national importance, etc. The performance of the successive Lok Sabhas can be gauged with the help of the statistical data pertaining to these important tools of parliamentary functioning. Glimpses of the magnitude of work done by the Lok Sabha in major fields during the last fifty years are presented below.

### **Legislation: Government and Private Members' Bills**

All our democratic institutions are responsive to the changing conditions in the country. Parliament, being the supreme representative institution in the country, has come to play a major role in socio-economic transformation through legislation. Legislation was adopted as the chief instrument of socio-economic change immediately after Independence. As such, a large number of legislative measures aggregating 319 paving way to great reforms in social, economic and political fields were enacted during the First Lok Sabha. So far, more than three thousand Bills have been discussed and passed by the successive Lok Sabhas. Details of the number of Government Bills introduced and passed as also the number of Private Members' Bills\* introduced and passed during each of the First to the Thirteenth Lok Sabhas are given in Table 7 followed by Graphs.

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\* Notably, only 14 Private Members' Bills have so far been passed and assented to, of which seven Bills were passed and assented to during the First Lok Sabha, two each during the Second and the Fourth Lok Sabha and three during the Third Lok Sabha. Since the Fifth Lok Sabha, no legislative proposal ever initiated by any Private Member could be given the form of law.

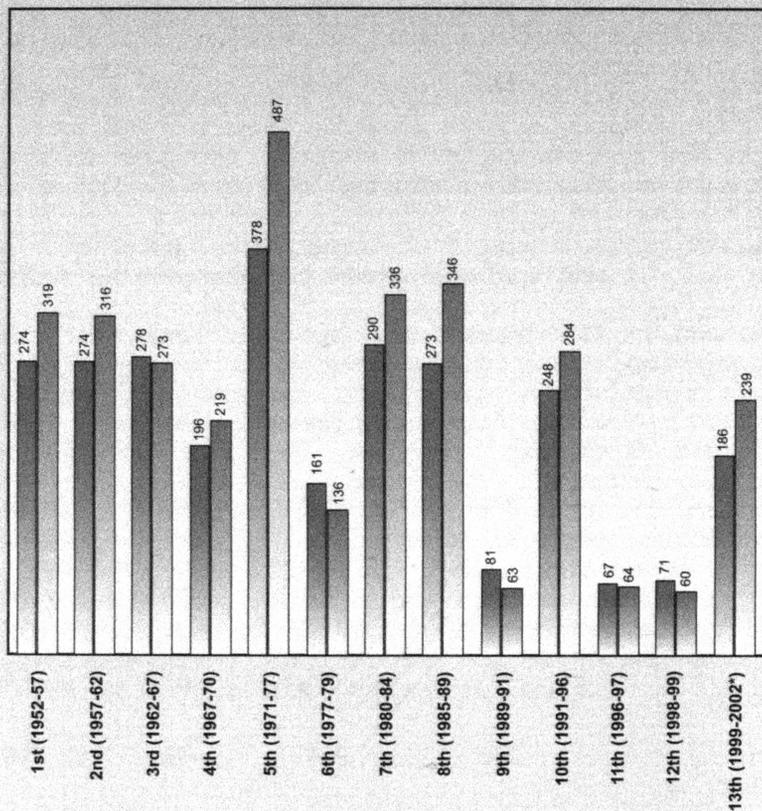
**TABLE 7**  
**BILLS INTRODUCED AND PASSED**  
**(First to Thirteenth Lok Sabha)**

Lok Sabha	Government Bills		Private Members' Bills	
	Introduced	Passed*	Introduced	Passed
First (1952-57)	274	319	135	7
Second (1957-62)	274	316	194	2
Third (1962-67)	278	273	177	3
Fourth (1967-70)	196	219	347	2
Fifth (1971-77)	378	487	282	Nil
Sixth (1977-79)	161	136	249	Nil
Seventh (1980-84)	290	336	435	Nil
Eighth (1985-89)	273	346	417	Nil
Ninth (1989-91)	81	63	156	Nil
Tenth (1991-96)	248	284	406	Nil
Eleventh (1996-97)	67	64	158	Nil
Twelfth (1998-99)	71	60	122	Nil
Thirteenth (1999-2002)**	186	239	306	Nil

\*Including those passed by the Rajya Sabha and laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha and passed.

\*\* Up to Eleventh Session.

**Graph 8**  
**GOVERNMENT BILLS INTRODUCED AND PASSED**  
 (First to Thirteenth Lok Sabha)



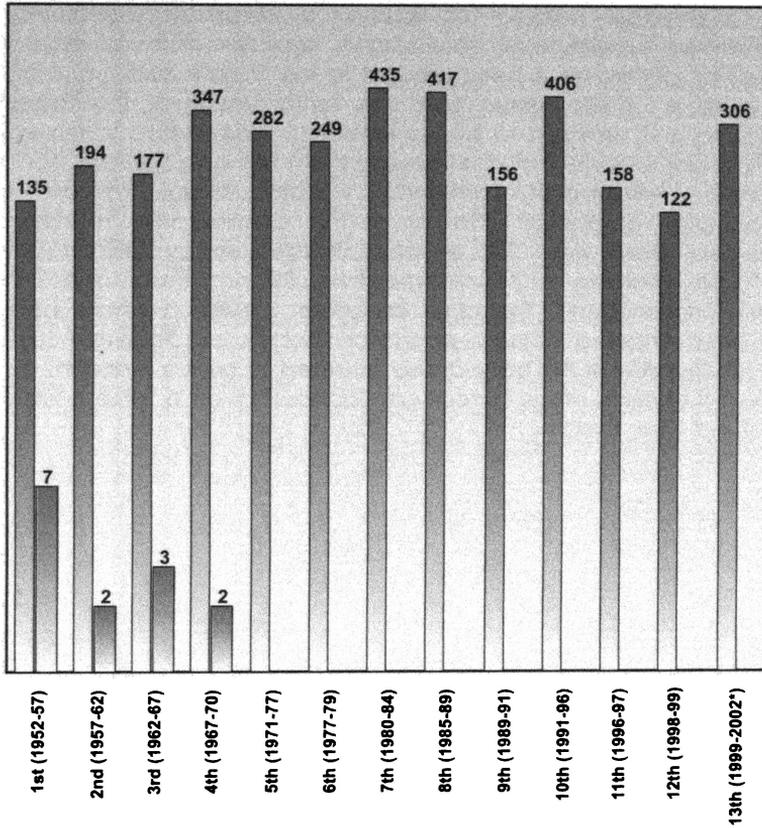
**Lok Sabha**

\* Up to Eleventh Session

\*\* Including those passed by the Rajya Sabha and laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha and passed.

■ Bills Introduced  
 □ Bills Passed\*\*

Graph 9  
**PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS INTRODUCED AND PASSED**  
 (First to Thirteenth Lok Sabha)



**Lok Sabha**

\* Up to Eleventh Session

\*\* Including those passed by the Rajya Sabha and laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha and passed.

■ Bills Introduced  
 ■ Bills Passed\*\*

## **Subject-wise Volume of Enactments**

Law-making has always been a predominant function of Parliament. All the legislative proposals are brought before Parliament in the form of Bills. No Bill, whether introduced by the Government or a Private Member, can become law until it has received the approval of both the Houses of Parliament through a well defined process and finally the assent of the President. More than three thousand Bills have so far been passed by the two Houses and assented to by the President. Thus, a sizeable number of legislative measures pertaining to administrative, judicial, legal, constitutional, legislative, financial, economic and social spheres have been brought to the Statute Book. Out of the total number of Bills passed upto the Tenth Session of the Thirteenth Lok Sabha and assented to by the President, 1854 related to economic and financial subjects important among them being agriculture, banking, insurance, civil supplies, commerce, industry, labour, transport and appropriation of money. So far as the administrative matters are concerned, there were 322 enactments followed by 156 on judicial and legal matters, 112 on legislative, 89 on social and 86 on constitutional matters. The other important spheres in which the laws have been enacted include—education, health, culture, etc. Subject-wise classification of Bills passed and assented to by the President during the period of each of the thirteen Lok Sabhas is given in Table 8 followed by subject-wise Graphs.

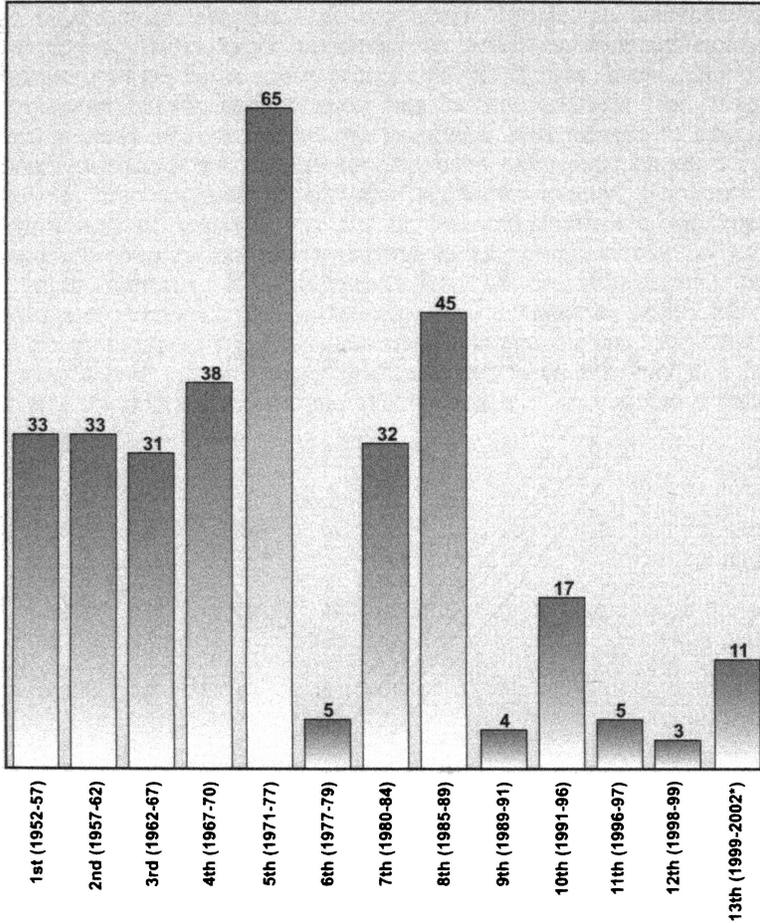
**TABLE 8**  
**SUBJECT-WISE CLASSIFICATION OF BILLS PASSED AND**  
**ASSENTED TO BY THE PRESIDENT**  
**(First to Thirteenth Lok Sabha)**

Lok Sabha	Adminis- trative	Judicial and Legal	Consti- tutional	Legis- lative	Financial and Economic	Social	Others*	Total
First (1952-57)	33	22	6	16	189	18	35	319
Second (1957-62)	33	17	4	9	205	11	30	309
Third (1962-67)	31	18	7	8	121	6	75	266
Fourth (1967-70)	38	8	3	8	139	6	11	213
Fifth (1971-77)	65	20	20	15	310	6	46	482
Sixth (1977-79)	5	6	2	6	90	-	8	117
Seventh (1980-84)	32	11	9	10	235	9	23	329
Eighth (1985-89)	45	12	10	15	201	11	39	333
Ninth (1989-91)	4	2	7	3	41	2	3	62
Tenth (1991-96)	17	16	11	11	165	12	43	275
Eleventh (1996-97)	5	3	-	-	45	-	8	61
Twelfth (1998-99)	3	3	-	4	40	-	6	56
Thirteenth (1999-2002)**	11	18	7	7	73	8	67	191
<b>Total</b>	<b>322</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>1854</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>394</b>	<b>3013</b>

\* Including Education, Culture, Health, etc.

\*\* Up to Tenth Session.

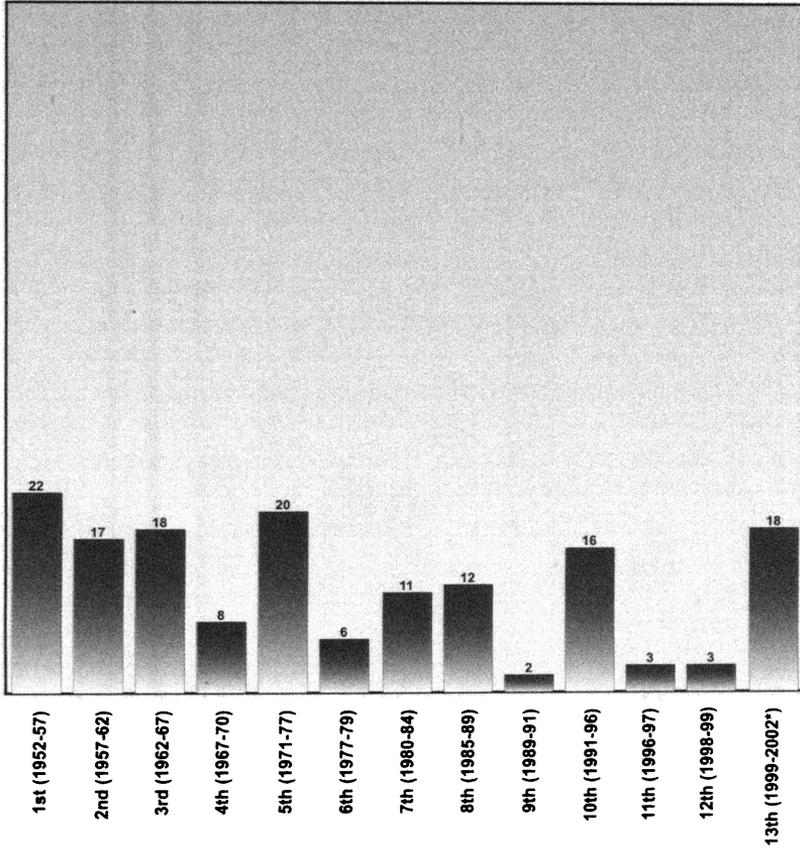
Graph 10  
NUMBER OF BILLS PASSED AND  
ASSENTED TO ON ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS  
(First to Thirteenth Lok Sabha)



Lok Sabha

\* Up to Tenth Session

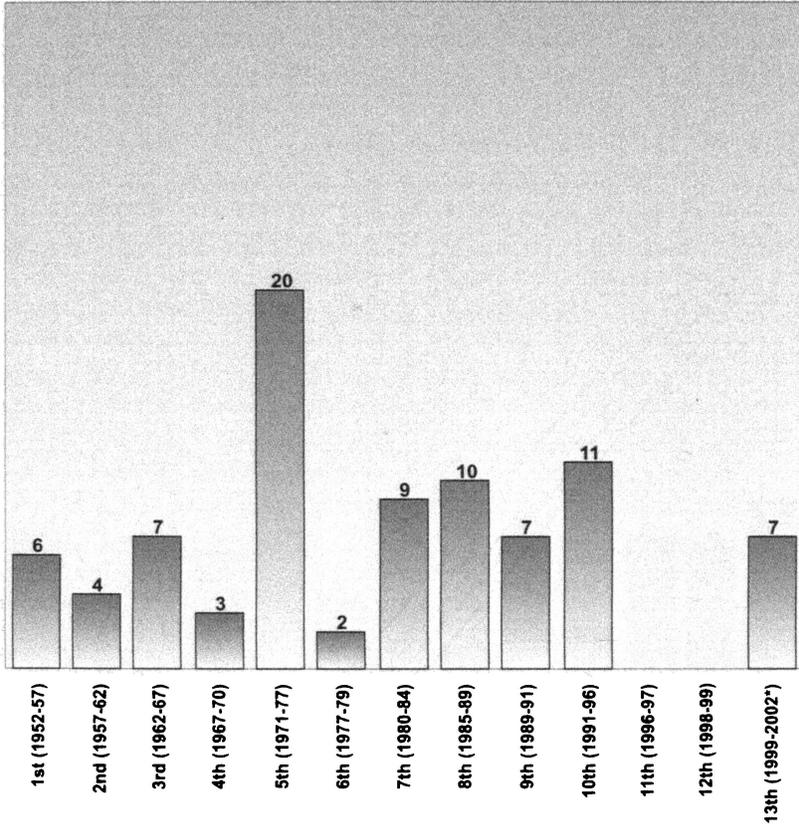
Graph 11  
NUMBER OF BILLS PASSED AND ASSENTED  
TO ON JUDICIAL AND LEGAL MATTERS  
(First to Thirteenth Lok Sabha)



Lok Sabha

\* Up to Tenth Session

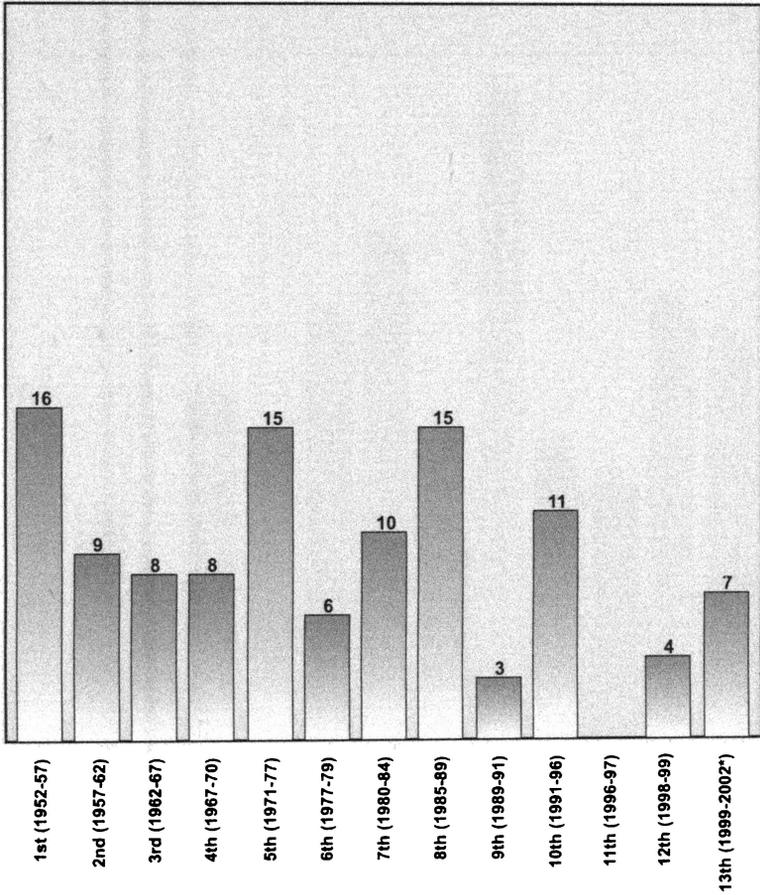
**Graph 12**  
**NUMBER OF BILLS PASSED AND ASSENTED**  
**TO ON CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS**  
**(First to Thirteenth Lok Sabha)**



**Lok Sabha**

\* Up to Tenth Session

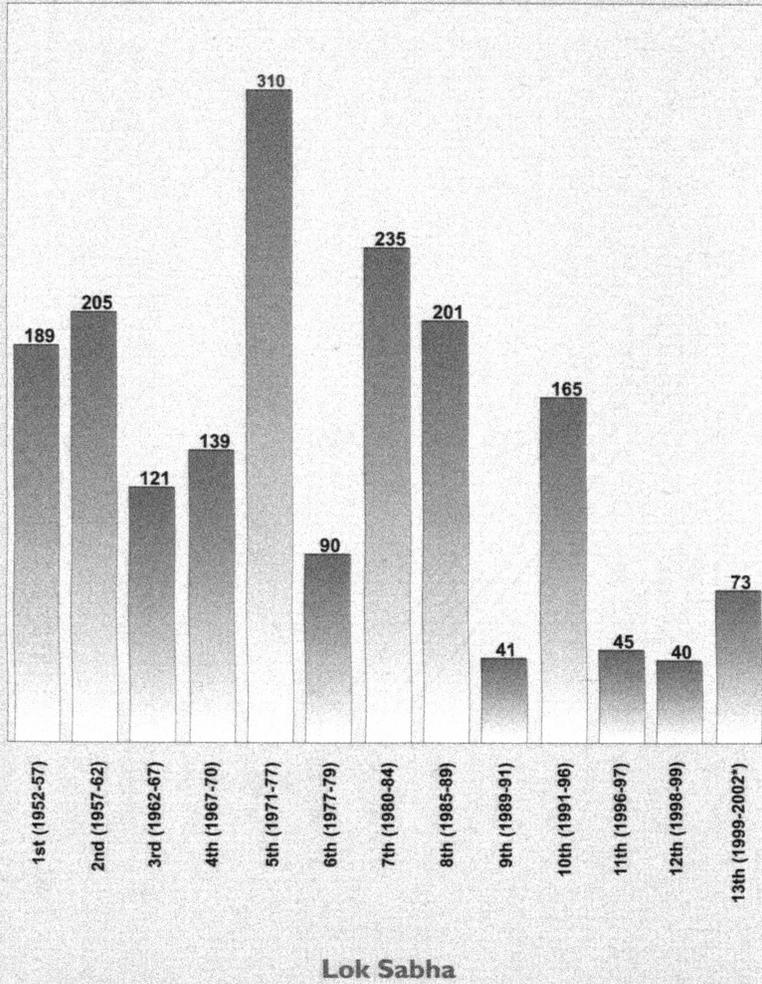
Graph 13  
NUMBER OF BILLS PASSED AND ASSENTED  
TO ON LEGISLATIVE MATTERS  
(First to Thirteenth Lok Sabha)



Lok Sabha

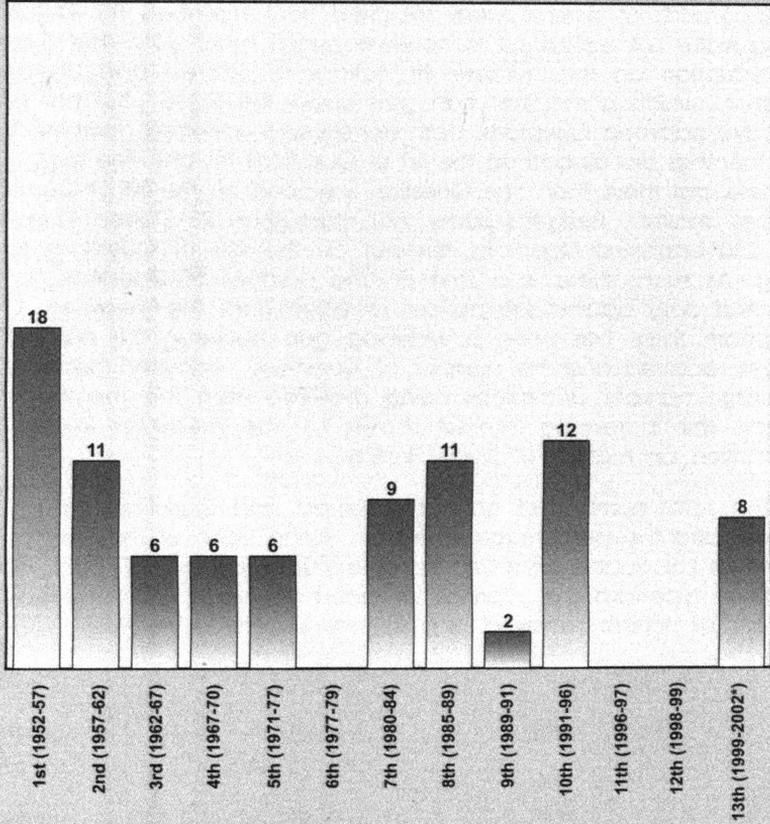
\* Up to Tenth Session

Graph 14  
NUMBER OF BILLS PASSED AND ASSENTED  
TO ON FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC MATTERS  
(First to Thirteenth Lok Sabha)



\* Up to Tenth Session

Graph 15  
NUMBER OF BILLS PASSED AND ASSENTED  
TO ON SOCIAL MATTERS  
(First to Thirteenth Lok Sabha)



Lok Sabha

\* Up to Tenth Session

## Questions

Question Hour is the liveliest part of the parliamentary day. With Questions remaining with the members as the most popular device for seeking information on matters of public interest, the Question Hour has become the test of the Government's accountability, an indispensable part of the art of the opposition and even a deterrent on bureaucratic inertia. Questions asked by members and the answers given by Ministers throw valuable light on the entire gamut of the functioning of the Government.

Thousands of notices were received from members for Questions during each Lok Sabha. It is, however, worth mentioning that there is no restriction on the number of notices of Starred and Unstarred Questions which a member can give under the Rules. But not more than five admitted Questions, both starred and unstarred combined, by one member are placed on the list of Questions for any one day. Out of these, not more than one Question is placed on the list of Questions for oral answer. Besides, usually, not more than 20 Starred Questions and 230 Unstarred Questions are put on the lists of Questions for a sitting. As such, there is a limit on the number of Questions to be admitted daily against the notices received from the members. Over the years, there has been a widening gap between the number of notices received and the number of Questions admitted because of the large number of notices being received from the members. It reflects the increasing interest shown by the members in seeking information on matters of public interest.

The total number of notices received and Questions admitted/replied, and the percentage of replies during each of the First to the Thirteenth Lok Sabha are given in Table 9 followed by a Graph. Table 10 shows type-wise (*i.e.*, Starred, Unstarred and Short Notice Questions) number of notices received and Questions admitted/replied.

**TABLE 9**

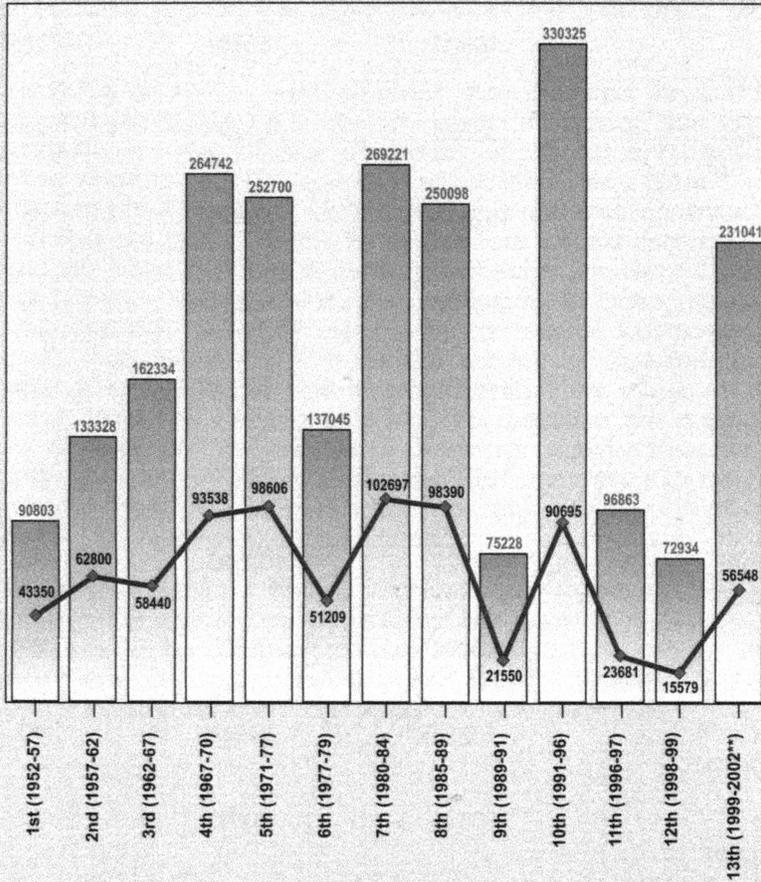
**PARLIAMENTARY QUESTIONS\* : TOTAL NOTICES RECEIVED AND  
QUESTIONS ADMITTED/REPLIED  
(First to Thirteenth Lok Sabha)**

Lok Sabha	Total Notices Received	Admitted and Replied	Percentage to Total
First (1952-57)	90803	43350	48
Second (1957-62)	133328	62800	47
Third (1962-67)	162334	58440	36
Fourth (1967-70)	264742	93538	35
Fifth (1971-77)	252700	98606	39
Sixth (1977-79)	137045	51209	37
Seventh (1980-84)	269221	102697	38
Eighth (1985-89)	250098	98390	39
Ninth (1989-91)	75228	21550	29
Tenth (1991-96)	330325	90695	27
Eleventh (1996-97)	96863	23681	24
Twelfth (1998-99)	72934	15579	21
Thirteenth (1999-2002)**	231041	56548	24

\*Starred, Unstarred and Short Notice Questions.

\*\*Up to Tenth Session.

Graph 16  
 PARLIAMENTARY QUESTIONS\* : TOTAL NOTICES  
 RECEIVED AND QUESTIONS ADMITTED / REPLIED  
 ( First to Thirteenth Lok Sabha )



Lok Sabha

\* Starred, Unstarred and Short Notice Questions  
 \*\* Up to Tenth Session

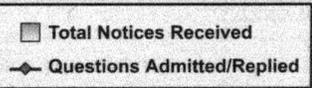


TABLE 10

PARLIAMENTARY QUESTIONS: STARRED, UNSTARRED AND SHORT NOTICE  
(First to Thirteenth Lok Sabha)

Lok Sabha	Starred Questions (SQ)			Unstarred Questions (USQ)			Short Notice Questions (SNQ)			Total: SQ+USQ+SNQ
	Notices Received	Admitted%	Replied orally/laid on the Table	Notices Received	Admitted*	Replied	Notices Received	Admitted	Replied	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
First <sup>a</sup> (1952-57)	NA	NA	14848	NA	NA	28502	NA	NA	NA	43350
Second (1957-62)	111796	22338	22338	18426	40229	40229	3106	233	233	62800
Third (1962-67)	145580	14312	14312	12021	43840	43840	4733	288	288	58440
Fourth (1967-70)	239558	14833	14833	11827	78467	78467	13357	238	238	93538
Fifth (1971-77)	212638	11439	11439	35961	87097	87097	4101	70	70	98606

<sup>a</sup> A total of 90,803 notices of Questions were received during the First Lok Sabha of which 43,350 were admitted.

% Includes those Short Notice Questions which were admitted as Starred Questions.

\* Includes those Questions, notices in respect of which were received for their being admitted as Starred Questions but which were actually admitted as Unstarred Questions. Also includes those Short Notice Questions which were admitted as Unstarred Questions.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Sixth (1977-79)		109999	5052	5052	23372	46094	46094	3674	63	63	51209
Seventh (1980-84)		203964	9186	9186	63640	93506	93506	1617	5	5	102697
Eighth (1985-89)		187945	9115	9115	61299	89256	89256	854	19	19	98390
Ninth (1989-91)		57608	1847	1847	17184	19696	19696	436	7	7	21550
Tenth (1991-96)		265995	8210	8210	63865	82479	82479	465	6	6	90695
Eleventh (1996-97)		79702	2061	2061	17074	21616	21616	87	4	4	23681
Twelfth (1998-99)		60431	1360	1360	12444	14217	14217	59	2	2	15579
Thirteenth (1999-2002)**		179311	4860	4860	51468	51677	51677	262	11	11	56548

\*\* Up to Tenth Session.

## Resolutions

As a device facilitating deliberations by which the Legislature makes its definite views known on specific issues and makes formal recommendations to the Government, the Resolutions occupy a prominent place in the proceedings of the House. Though the Government may not be bound by a Resolution, it can not ignore it either. Resolutions, particularly on administrative matters raise detached and thought-provoking debates in the House. Of course, no Resolution can be passed without the support of the Government as they command the majority in the Legislature. However, a Resolution withdrawn after getting assurance from the Government is almost as effective as one that has been passed.

The numbers of the various kinds of Resolutions, *i.e.*, Speaker's, Government, Statutory and Private Members'—moved, adopted, negatived, withdrawn and the ones on which discussion could not be concluded due to various reasons during each of the First to the Thirteenth Lok Sabha are given in Table 11 followed by a Graph.

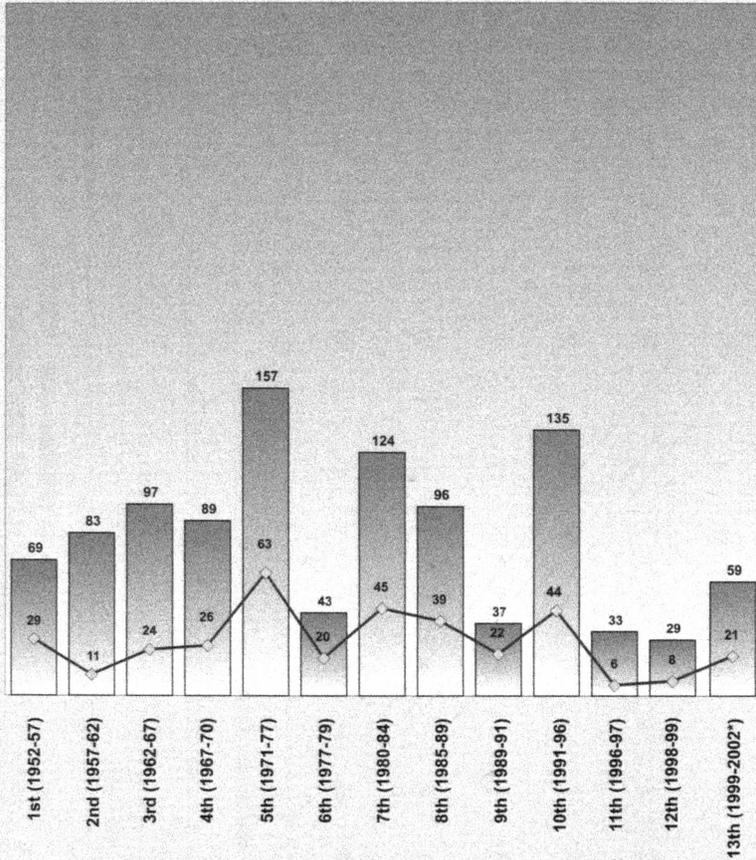
**TABLE 11**  
**RESOLUTIONS DISCUSSED**  
**(First to Thirteenth Lok Sabha)**

Lok Sabha	Speaker's			Government					Statutory					Private Members'					Total							
	M&A	M&A		M	A	DN	M	A	M	A	DN	M	A	M	A	DN	M	A	DN	M	A	DN	M	A	DN	
		M	A																							
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20							
First (1952-57)	-	21	20	1	-	-	-	-	-	48	9	24	11	4	69	29	24	11	5							
Second (1957-62)	-	9	9	-	8	1	7	-	-	66	1	35	29	1	83	11	42	29	1							
Third (1962-67)	-	5	5	-	14	11	3	-	-	78	8	28	23	19	97	24	31	23	19							
Fourth (1967-70)	1	6	6	-	36	14	18	4	-	46	5	23	7	11	89	26	41	11	11							
Fifth (1971-77)	-	14	14	-	88	45	43	-	-	55	4	18	15	18	157	63	61	15	18							
Sixth (1977-79)	3	6	6	-	9	7	2	-	-	25	4	5	8	8	43	20	7	8	8							
Seventh (1980-84)	3	8	8	-	74	33	41	-	-	39	1	16	8	14	124	45	57	8	14							

	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Eighth (1985-89)	8	11	11	-	48	20	25	3	-	29	-	7	7	15	96	39	32	10	15
Ninth (1989-91)	5	4	4	-	20	12	2	6	-	8	1	1	2	4	37	22	3	8	4
Tenth (1991-96)	7	7	7	-	91	30	36	24	1	30	-	6	8	16	135	44	42	32	17
Eleventh (1996-97)	1	2	2	-	23	3	7	13	-	7	-	-	3	4	33	6	7	16	4
Twelfth (1998-99)	-	5	5	-	22	3	6	12	1	2	-	-	1	1	29	8	6	13	2
Thirteenth (1999-2002)*	4	10	10	-	27	7	9	11	-	18	-	1	11	6	59	21	10	22	6

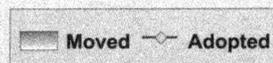
\* Up to Eleventh Session.  
M: Moved A; Adopted N; Negatived W; Withdrawn DN; Discussion not Concluded

Graph 17  
RESOLUTIONS DISCUSSED  
(First to Thirteenth Lok Sabha)



Lok Sabha

\* Up to Eleventh Session



## **Papers Laid on the Table**

In parliamentary parlance, 'Papers Laid on the Table' signify any document, statement, report, rules and regulations, Government notifications, etc., which are laid on the Table of the House in order to bring them on record. The purpose is to make available to Parliament authoritative facts and information with a view to preparing ground for discussion on various matters in the House.

The Lok Sabha is vested with the power of ordering all papers to be laid before it as are necessary for its information. Papers are, however, generally laid in compliance with specific provisions contained in the Constitution, various Central Statutes, Rules of Procedure of the House, Directions issued by the Speaker from time to time and the settled practices and conventions in regard thereto and the recommendations of Parliamentary Committees.

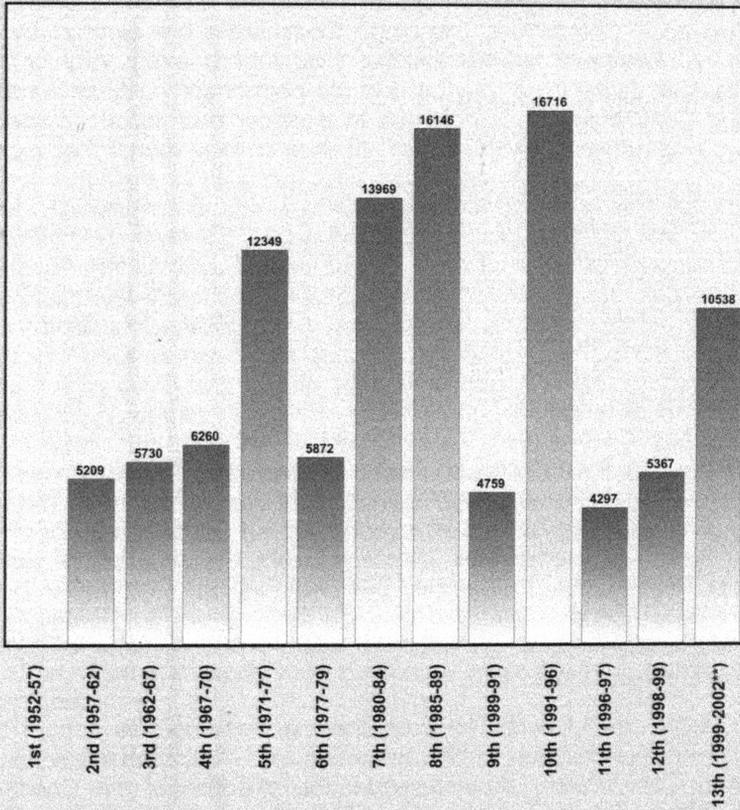
Lok Sabha-wise number of Papers Laid on the Table during each of the First to the Thirteenth Lok Sabha are given in Table 12 followed by a Graph.

**TABLE 12**  
**PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE**  
**(First to Thirteenth Lok Sabha)**

Lok Sabha	By Government	By Private Members	Total
First	NA	NA	NA
Second (1957-62)	5190	19	5209
Third (1962-67)	5702	28	5730
Fourth (1967-70)	6215	45	6260
Fifth (1971-77)	12326	23	12349
Sixth (1977-79)	5851	21	5872
Seventh (1980-84)	13946	23	13969
Eighth (1985-89)	16138	8	16146
Ninth (1989-91)	4758	1	4759
Tenth (1991-95)	16716	Nil	16716
Eleventh (1996-97)	4297	Nil	4297
Twelfth (1998-99)	5366	1	5367
Thirteenth (1999-2002)*	10538	Nil	10538

\*Up to Eleventh Session.

Graph 18  
**PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE**  
 (First to Thirteenth Lok Sabha)



Lok Sabha

\* Not Available  
 \*\* Up to Eleventh Session

■ Number of Papers Laid on the Table

## V PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES

The work done by Parliament in modern times is both varied in nature and considerable in volume. But often the time available at its disposal is limited. It cannot, therefore, give close and expert consideration to all the legislative and other matters that come up before it. A substantial part of parliamentary work is, therefore, done by Parliamentary Committees.

Parliamentary Committees are of two types: Standing Committees and *ad hoc* Committees. Standing Committees are elected by the House or nominated by the Speaker (Lok Sabha) every year or from time to time, as the case may be and are permanent in nature, whereas *ad hoc* Committees are constituted to consider and report on specific matters and become *functus officio* as soon as they submit their reports.

Various Standing Committees working under the direction of the Speaker, Lok Sabha are (i) Financial Committees (Committee on Estimates, Committee on Public Accounts and Committee on Public Undertakings); (ii) Committees relating to the day-to-day business of the House (Business Advisory Committee, Committee on Absence of Members from the Sittings of the House, Rules Committee and Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions); (iii) Enquiry Committees (Committee on Petitions and Committee of Privileges); (iv) Scrutiny Committees (Committee on Government Assurances, Committee on Subordinate Legislation, Committee on Papers Laid on the Table, Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes & Scheduled Tribes and Committee on Empowerment of Women); (v) Service Committees, *i.e.*, Committees concerned with the provision of various services, facilities, etc., to members (General Purposes Committee, House Committee, Library Committee, Joint Committee on Salaries and Allowances of Members of Parliament and Joint Committee on Offices of Profit).

A major step forward for strengthening parliamentary control over Government was initiated in 1993 by setting up 17 Departmentally-related Standing Committees: six work under the direction of the Chairman, Rajya Sabha and eleven under the direction of the Speaker, Lok Sabha. The Committees are as follows:

Committees working  
under the direction of the  
Chairman, Rajya Sabha

1. Committee on Commerce
2. Committee on Home Affairs
3. Committee on Human Resource  
Development

Committees working  
under the direction of the  
Speaker, Lok Sabha

1. Committee on Agriculture
2. Committee on Defence
3. Committee on Energy
4. Committee on External Affairs

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. Committee on Industry</li> <li>5. Committee on Science &amp; Technology, and Environment &amp; Forests</li> <li>6. Committee on Transport and Tourism</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. Committee on Finance</li> <li>6. Committee on Food, Civil Supplies and Public Distribution</li> <li>7. Committee on Information Technology</li> <li>8. Committee on Labour and Welfare</li> <li>9. Committee on Petroleum and Chemicals</li> <li>10. Committee on Railways</li> <li>11. Committee on Urban and Rural Development.</li> </ul> |
|--|--|

The functions of the Departmentally-related Standing Committees are to consider, *inter-alia*, the Demands for Grants of the concerned Ministries/Departments; national basic long-term Policy Documents presented to the House and referred to them; Annual Reports of the concerned Ministries/Departments; and to examine Bills pertaining to these Ministries/Departments as are referred to them and make reports thereon to the House. The Committees, however, do not consider matters relating to the day-to-day administration of the concerned Ministries/Departments.

The volume of work done by the Financial Committees in terms of the number of sittings held, duration of sittings and number of reports presented during each of the First to the Thirteenth Lok Sabha is detailed in Table 13 followed by a Graph.

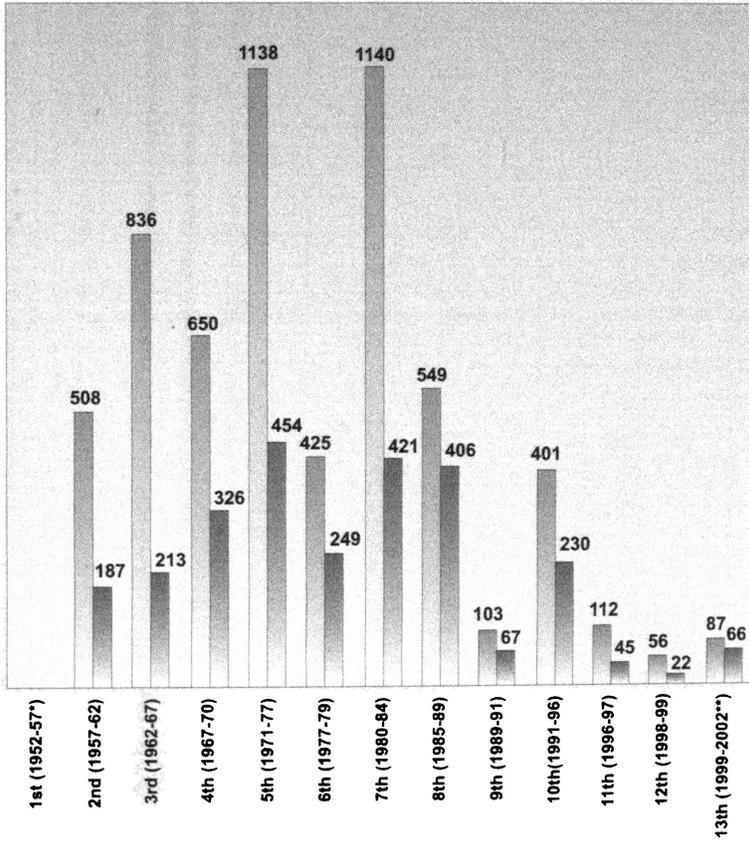
The volume of work done by the Departmentally-related Standing Committees is indicated in Table 14 followed by a Graph. Table 15 shows the volume of work done by various other Standing and *ad hoc* Committees.

**TABLE 13**  
**VOLUME OF WORK DONE BY FINANCIAL COMMITTEES**  
**(First to Thirteenth Lok Sabha)**

Lok Sabha	No. of Sittings Held	Duration Hrs-Mts	Reports Presented
First (1952-57)	NA	NA	NA
Second (1957-62)	508	1223-00	187
Third (1962-67)	836	2244-00	213
Fourth (1967-70)	650	1366-00	326
Fifth (1971-76)	1138	2678-00	454
Sixth (1977-79)	425	848-00	249
Seventh (1980-84)	1140	2244-20	421
Eighth (1985-89)	549	1209-00	406
Ninth (1989-91)	103	237-00	67
Tenth (1991-96)	401	774-40	230
Eleventh (1996-97)	112	194-55	45
Twelfth (1998-99)	56	87-30	22
Thirteenth (1999-2002)*	87	125-25	66

\*Up to Eleventh Session.

Graph 19  
**SITTINGS HELD AND REPORTS PRESENTED BY  
 FINANCIAL COMMITTEES**  
 ( First to Thirteenth Lok Sabha )



**Lok Sabha**

\* Not Available  
 \*\* Up to Eleventh Session

Number of Sittings Held  
 Number of Reports Presented

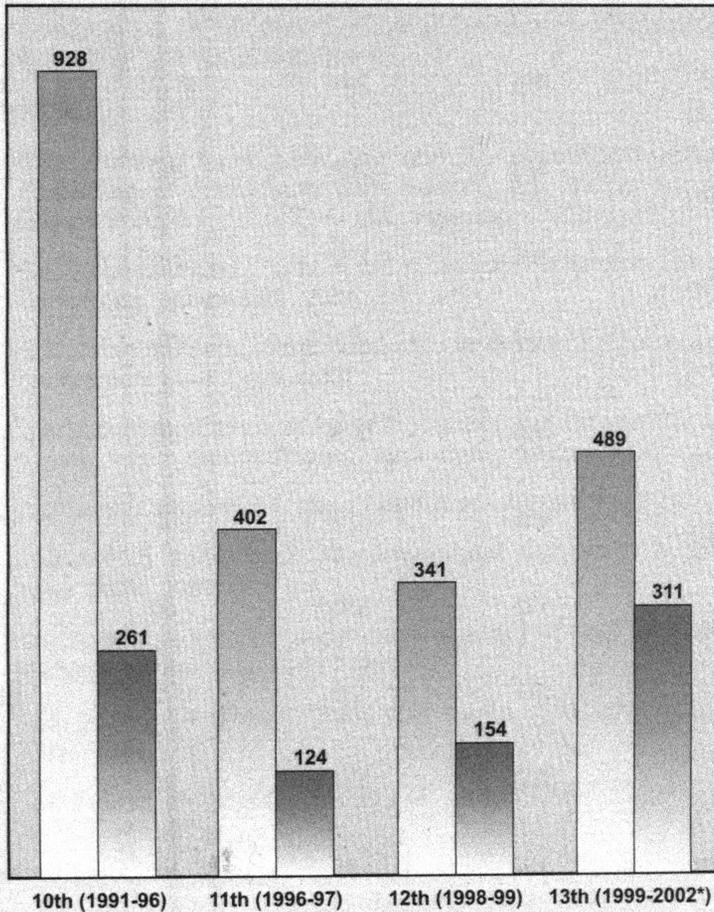
**TABLE 14**  
**VOLUME OF WORK DONE BY DEPARTMENTALLY**  
**RELATED STANDING COMMITTEES\***  
**(Tenth to Thirteenth Lok Sabha)**

Lok Sabha	No. of Sittings Held	Duration Hrs-Mts	Report Presented
Tenth (1991-96)	928	1629-36	261
Eleventh (1996-97)	402	697-50	124
Twelfth (1998-99)	341	683-10	154
Thirteenth (1999-2002)**	489	823-56	311

\* The Departmentally-related Standing Committees were first constituted on 8 April 1993 during the Sixth Session of the Tenth Lok Sabha.

\*\* Up to Eleventh Session.

Graph 20  
**SITTINGS HELD AND REPORTS  
 PRESENTED BY  
 DEPARTMENTALLY RELATED STANDING COMMITTEES**  
 (Tenth to Thirteenth Lok Sabha )



**Lok Sabha**

\* Up to Eleventh Session

Number of Sittings Held  
 Number of Reports Presented

**TABLE 15**  
**VOLUME OF WORK DONE BY OTHER COMMITTEES**  
**(First to Thirteenth Lok Sabha)**

Lok Sabha	Other Standing Committees		Ad-hoc Committees	
	No. of Sittings Held	Reports Presented	No. of Sittings Held	Reports Presented
First (1952-57)	NA	NA	NA	NA
Second (1957-62)	406	241	312	36
Third (1962-67)	386	207	280	33
Fourth (1967-70)	643	209	295	21
Fifth (1971-77)	1017	357	579	26
Sixth (1977-79)	540	223	98	3
Seventh (1980-84)	955	329	202	5
Eighth (1985-89)	923	330	55	2
Ninth (1989-91)	217	70	2	Nil
Tenth (1991-96)	703	324	96	1
Eleventh (1996-97)	157	75	Nil	Nil
Twelfth (1998-99)	110	42	8	1
Thirteenth (1999-2002)*	271	160	74	18

\*Up to Eleventh Session.

The successful working of the Lok Sabha during the last five decades has made it the people's institution *par excellence*. Members of the Lok Sabha have used various procedural devices to consider Government policies, Bills and other matters; to raise issues of topical concern on the Floor of the House and ensure good governance. The parliamentary committees, which are in fact microcosms and extension of the House, have significantly helped the House in the transaction of business and also *inter alia* in ensuring executive accountability and promoting public good. The Lok Sabha as a dynamic institution, ever adjusting its functions and procedures to the changing needs of the times, has lived up to the expectations of the people of the country in the challenging task of nation-building.

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