

PRESS RELEASE

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Performance of MLAs and Legislative Assemblies of 5 states going to polls

- Among the 5 states going to polls, Manipur Legislative Assembly sat for the maximum number of days (110 days in last 5 years)
- The minimum number of sittings is that of Uttarakhand Assembly which sat only for a total of 68 days in last 5 years.
- The average number of days that these Assemblies sat is way below the Lok Sabha sittings.
- Maximum number of questions was asked by MLAs in the Goa Assembly (8796) whereas the least number of questions were asked by MLAs in the Manipur assembly (565).
- UP Assembly passed the highest number of bills (157) whereas the lowest numbers of bills were passed by Manipur (35).
- NEW demands that political parties include the parameters for improving performance of Legislatures in their Election Manifestoes.
- NEW also demands that parties give tickets to candidates suitable for legislation.

Delhi: Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR) and National Election Watch (NEW) had filed RTIs to all the Assembly Secretariats asking for the information pertaining to the performance of the MLAs and the Legislative Assemblies. The following information was received:

S. No.	Information Requested	Information Received From	Information <u>NOT</u> Received From
1	Attendance of the MLAs in the Assembly	U.P., Uttarakhand, Punjab, Manipur, Goa	-
2	Number of questions asked by the MLAs	Uttarakhand, Punjab, Manipur, Goa	U.P.
3	Total number of days the Assembly sit	U.P. Uttarakhand, Punjab, Manipur, Goa	-
4	Total number of days the Assembly was planned to sit	U.P., Uttarakhand, Manipur, Goa	Punjab
5	Total number of times it was adjourned	U.P., Uttarakhand, Punjab, Manipur, Goa	-
6	Number of bills tabled	U.P., Uttarakhand, Punjab, Manipur, Goa	-
7	Number of bills passed	U.P., Uttarakhand, Punjab, Manipur, Goa	-

From the responses received, the following information has been generated:

Analysis based on performance of Legislative Assemblies (compared with Lok Sabha)

The Legislative Assemblies have been meeting for a very short time despite legislation being the main task of the MLAs. Goa has the maximum average number of sittings/year (26) followed by Manipur (24) and UP (22). The least average number of sittings/year is for Punjab and Uttarakhand (19). The highest average attendance of MLAs is in the Uttarakhand Assembly (91%) followed by Punjab (71%) and Manipur (65%). Uttar Pradesh MLAs have the least average attendance (20%).

This compares very poorly with the number of sittings of MPs in Lok Sabha. The current Lok Sabha in the last 2.5 years sat for 208 days which averages to about 77 days in a year. All state assemblies have sat way below the average number of days Lok Sabha has sat.

State Assembly	No. of Years considered	Number of Sessions held by the Assembly	Total number of days of sittings	Average number of days of sittings /year	Average attendance of MLAs (%)	No. of times assembly adjourned
Uttar Pradesh (till Feb '11)	4 years	10	89	22	23%	26
Punjab (till Mar '11)	4 years	10	76	19	71%	14
Manipur (till Aug' 11)	4.5 years	11	110	24	65%	11
Uttarakhand (till Sept '10)	3.5 years	11	68	19	91%	108
Goa (till Feb'11)	3.5 years	12	95	26	60%	85
15 th Lok Sabha (till Dec '10)	2.5 years	9	208	77	NA	NA

Analysis based on number of questions asked by MLAs and no. of bills passed in the Assembly

The maximum number of questions asked by MLAs are in Goa Assembly (8796 questions) while the maximum number of bills were passed in Uttar Pradesh Assembly (157 bills).

State Assembly	No. of questions asked	No. of bills passed
U.P.	Data not received	157
Uttarakhand	5485	60
Punjab	658	74
Manipur	565	35
Goa	8796	77

Longest and shortest assembly sessions

The longest assembly session was held for 21 days in Manipur Legislative Assembly (1st Feb to 3rd April – 3rd session) in 2008. The shortest session was that of Goa Assembly which sat only for a day (15th June 2007 – 1st session).

Top 5 MLAs who have maximum attendance

Given below are the names of the top 5 MLAs of each Assembly with maximum attendance.

S. No.	Name	Party	Constituency	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	Total
UP Legislative Assembly									
1	LAL JI VERMA	BSP	Tanda	26	22	13	20	8	89
2	NEERAJ KUSHWAHA	BSP	Jalalabad	26	22	13	20	8	89
3	BIRAJU RAM	BSP	Kerakat	26	22	13	20	8	89
4	RAJENDRA PRASAD CHAUDHERY	BSP	Ramnagar	26	22	13	20	8	89
5	MEETA GAUTAM	BSP	Fatehpur	26	22	13	20	8	89
Uttarakhand Legislative Assembly									
1	DIWAN SINGH	BJP	Ramnagar	16	20	16	27	Data not received	79
2	GOVIND SINGH BISHT	BJP	Dhari	16	20	16	27	Data not received	79
3	HARBANS KAPOOR	BJP	Dehradun	16	20	16	27	Data not received	79
4	ANIL NAUTIYAL	BJP	Karanprayag	16	20	16	27	Data not received	79
5	AJAY TAMTA	BJP	Someshwar	16	20	16	27	Data not received	79
Punjab Legislative Assembly									
1	VIRSA SINGH	SAD	Valtoha	21	17	17	19	15	89
2	K.D. BHANDARI	BJP	Jullundur North	21	17	17	19	15	89
3	LAKHBIR SINGH LODHINANGAL	SAD	Qadian	21	17	17	19	15	89
4	CHARANJIT SINGH CHANNI	IND	Chamkaur Sahib	20	17	17	19	15	88
5	SUKHPAL SINGH	BJP	Ferozepur	21	16	17	19	15	88
Manipur Legislative Assembly									
1	V. HANGKHANLIAN	NPP	Thanlon	23	25	20	24	18	110
2	R. K. ANAND	MPP	Naoriya Pakhanglakpa	23	25	19	24	18	109
3	WANGKHEIMAYUM BRAJABIDHU	INC	Lamsang	23	25	20	23	18	109
4	LAISHRAM NANDAKUMAR SINGH	INC	Uripok	23	25	19	24	18	109
5	ELANGBAM DWIJAMANI SINGH	INC	Hiyanglam	23	24	19	24	18	108
Goa Legislative Assembly									
1	DAYANAND MANDREKAR	BJP	Siolim	11	19	26	20	5	82
2	PATNEKAR RAJESH TULSIDAS	BJP	Bicholim	11	20	26	20	5	82
3	MAHADEV NAIK	BJP	Siroda	11	20	26	20	5	82
4	SOPTE DAYANAND RAGHUNATH	BJP	Pernem	11	20	26	20	5	82
5	FRANCIS D	BJP	Mapusa	11	20	26	20	5	82

Top 5 MLAs who asked maximum no. of questions

Given below are the top 5 MLAs who asked maximum number of questions in each Assembly.

S. No.	Name	Party	Constituency	Number of questions asked
Uttarakhand				
1	AMRITA RAWAT	INC	Bironkhal	707
2	SURENDRA RAKESH	BSP	Bhagwanpur	376
3	PUSHPESH TRIPATHI	UKKD	Dwarahat	325
4	PRITAM SINGH	INC	Chakrata	272
5	MAYUKH SINGH	INC	Kanalichhina	230
Punjab				
1	MAKHAN SINGH	INC	Pakka Kalan	32
2	AJIT SINGH	IND	Nihal Singh Wala	30
3	AJIT INDER SINGH	INC	Sardulgarh	29
4	AMARJIT SINGH SAHI	BJP	Dasuya	26
5	BALBIR SINGH	INC	Kharar	26
Manipur				
1	DR. NGAIRANGBAM BIJOY SINGH	MPP	Khurai	68
2	NINGTHOUJAM MANGI	CPI	Kumbi	42
3	IRENGBAM IBOHALBI	MPP	Oinam	35
4	W. MORUNG MAKUNGA	IND	Tengnoupal	33
5	OKRAM JOY SINGH	MPP	Langthabal	28
Goa				
1	FRANCIS D	BJP	Mapusa	1374
2	MANOHAR GOPALKRISHNA PRABHU PARRIKAR	BJP	Panaji	875
3	DAMODAR (DAMU) G. NAIK	BJP	Fatorda	614
4	PARSEKAR LAXMIKANT	BJP	Mandrem	504
5	ANANT V. SHET	BJP	Maem	487
Uttar Pradesh				
DATA NOT RECEIVED				

Demands of National Election Watch (NEW)

NEW demands that political parties should disclose their criteria for selection of candidates. The criterion must contain the ability and willingness of these candidates to do legislature work. Candidates with criminal background must not be given tickets by the political parties.

Whereas most legislatures are now passing recommendations for increase in MLAs salaries and perks, there is virtually no discussion on the role of MLAs. The parties must include various parameters for improving performance of Legislatures in their Election Manifestoes. They must also ensure that once they come to power they will make it easy for people to access information pertaining to performance of MLAs and State Legislative Assemblies through their official websites.

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