

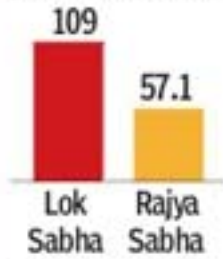
Bills not passed, or not discussed before passage

Thank God for the juvenile justice Bill. It may have been passed too late for genuine justice for Nirbhaya since her juvenile assailant is now free to walk the streets after a 3-year remand and will even get government funds for rehabilitation, but it saved the Rajya Sabha and the [Congress](#) party some blushes. Congress protests ensured the Rajya Sabha functioned for just 57 hours in the winter session as compared to 109 for the Lok Sabha, and a mere 17% of this time was spent on legislative business versus 30% for the Lok Sabha—even this would not have been possible had it not been for the juvenile justice Bill. Of the 9 hours and 45 minutes or so that the Rajya Sabha discussed legislation, 27 MPs spent a whopping 5 hours and 3 minutes discussing the juvenile justice Bill. In contrast, a mere 12 minutes were spent on the Schedule Castes/Tribes Bill, and this was due to the time it took to introduce the Bill since PRS Legislative Research records just 1 MP participating in the discussion—in contrast, a total of 2 hours and 43 minutes was spent in the Lok Sabha with 14 MPs participating. The Commercial Courts Bill, the Atomic Energy Bill and the Arbitration Bill got 5 minutes apiece before getting passed on Wednesday—this was the time taken to introduce the Bills and count the votes since not a single MP participated in the debate; the Negotiable Instruments Bill, passed a few weeks ago, took 3 minutes with no MPs participating.

Congress paralyses Rajya Sabha

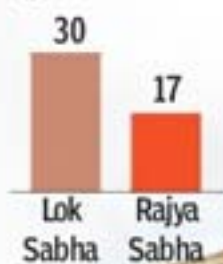
Operations curtailed ...

(Winter session hours)



...hardly discussed legislations

% time spent on legislation



...passed Bills, except Nirbhaya one, without discussion

BILL	TIME SPENT	
	Lok Sabha	Rajya Sabha
Negotiable Instruments Bill	01:04:00 (12)*	00:03:00 (Zero)*
Commercial Courts Bill	03:26:00 (17)*	00:05:00 (Zero)*
Atomic Energy Bill	02:36:00 (15)*	00:05:00 (Zero)*
Arbitration and Conciliation Bill	03:45:00 (20)*	00:05:00 (Zero)*
SC/ST Amendment Bill	02:43:00 (14)*	00:12:00 (1)*
Juvenile Justice Bill	03:43:00 (21)*	05:03:00 (27)*

*(No. of MPs participating)

Source: PRS Legislative Research

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