

## **16<sup>TH</sup> PARLIAMENT, ITS AFFAIRS AND VOTERS PERCEPTION**

### **A - Sociological Study**

**[With special reference to 16<sup>th</sup> Loksabha]**

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#### **Abstract**

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*After the Independence of India first general elections was held from 25-10-1951 to 21-05-1952. After the general elections first Lok sabha was constituted on 17-04-1952. For the 16<sup>th</sup> Lok sabha the general election was held from 07-04-2014 to 12-05-2014 this was the longest election in Indian general election history. After the elections the NDA came to power with BJP having its own 282 members in 543 members. 2 Anglo Indian members are nominated by the president of India to the Parliament.*

*Prime Minister Sri Narendra Modi took the office on 26-05-2014 as the 14<sup>th</sup> Prime Minister of Independent India. Its first session was scheduled to conveyed from 04-06-2014. In this 16<sup>th</sup> Lok sabha, the productivity of Parliament members in both houses of the parliament is less than 10% in average. For this 16<sup>th</sup> parliament no opposition leader was in the house, according to the norms of Lok sabha the parliament has to work 06-00 hours daily. But parliament worked only 01-15 hours only. This shows the working attitude of 16<sup>th</sup> Lok sabha parliament members.*

*The Parliament members elected for 16<sup>th</sup> Lok sabha, have 20.66% serious criminal cases against them. 13.47% of Lok sabha members have no serious criminal cases against them, and 65.87% of parliament members have no criminal cases against them. 1/3 of elected members had at least one pending criminal case against them with some having serious criminal cases. Majority of the elected members are Karodpathi members.*

*The contemporary issues are no preference for valuable democratic debate; the members are not cooperative with the speakers of both houses. The members are opposing the government for opposition only, the members are more regionalists, and members are controlled by political parties at the time of parliament sessions also, many of them as no specific vision and mission.*

*The challenges for Indian parliament are caste politics, identity politics, money power, and muzzle power, party politics, corruption, continues election throughout the year, changing nature and newly emerging political trends in contemporary Indian politics, different socio-religious communities, disrespecting the constitutional institutions, polarization of politics.*

#### **Objectives of the study:**

- *To collect information about Indian Parliament and its affairs.*
- *To study about the Parliament members activities in Parliament.*

**Hypothesis of the Study:**

- *The Parliament affairs are not up to the voter's perception.*
- *With the activities of parliament members voters are not satisfied.*

**Keywords:** *Parliament, constitution, parliamentary affairs, opposition parties, voter's perception.*



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**Introduction:**

After the Independence of India first general elections was held from 25-10-1951 to 21-05-1952. After the general elections first Lok sabha was constituted on 17-04-1952. For the 16<sup>th</sup> Lok sabha the general election was held from 07-04-2014 to 12-05-2014 this was the longest election in Indian general election history. After the elections the NDA came to power with BJP having its own 282 members in 543 members. 2 Anglo Indian members are nominated by the president of India to the Parliament.

The Indian Parliament has two houses, namely upper house and the lower house. The lower house is called as lok sabha and the upper house is called as Rajya sabha. In this 16<sup>th</sup> lok sabha the B J P and its allies came to power, before this UPA Second was in ruling. At the time of general elections Indian Voters Voted against UPA Second Government. Both at time of UPA 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> affairs of the Parliament were also not satisfactory. In the end of UPA second last day's 128 bills remained pending in Parliament. It was the record in Indian Parliamentary history, in early Parliament history no such numbers of bills were pending, for the 16<sup>th</sup> Parliament 61 women members were elected to Parliament, early it was 59 women member only, 61 women members was elected out of 668 contested women candidates it was 9% only, the book written by Shirin M Rai and Carole Spary, women members in Indian parliament describes the barriers faced by women in assessing the lower house of the parliament.

**Parliament**

The Parliament of India is the supreme legislative body of the Republic of India, Parliament is composed of the President of India, and it is bicameral with two houses: Rajya Saba (Council of States) and the Loka Saba (House of the People). The President in his role as head of legislature has full powers to summon and prorogue either house of Parliament or to dissolve Loka Saba. The president can exercise these powers only upon the advice of the Prime Minister and his Council of Ministers.

(Source <https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/parlia...> 07-04-2012)

### **Lok Sabha:**

Generally called as lower house (house of the people) has 545 members in 543 directly elected by Citizens of India on the fundamental basis of Universal adult franchise representing parliamentary constituencies across the country and 2 members are appointed by the president of India from Anglo Indian community. Every citizen of India who is above the age of 18 years irrespective of Gender, Caste, Religion, Race, who are not disqualified are eligible to vote for Lok Sabha the constitution of India provides 5 years term, eligibility for Membership in Lok Sabha a person must be a Citizen of India and must complete 25 years age, mentally sound, should not be bankrupt and should not be criminally convicted, the total number of MP's is distributed among the states in such a way the ratio between the numbers of seats allotted each state and population of the state. (Source <https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/parlia...> 07-04-2012)

### **Rajya Sabha:**

Rajya Sabha generally called as upper house or council of states is a permanent body it cannot be dissolved. 1/3 of the members of Rajya Sabha retire every second year or replaced by newly elected members, each member is elected for the term of 6 years; the members are indirectly elected by the members of legislative bodies of the state. The Rajya Sabha can have maximum 250 members, At present 245 members are there in which 233 are elected by states and Union territories of India, 12 members are nominated by the President of India. The number of members to each state depends upon the population of the state. Minimum age to become a member of Rajya Sabha is 30 years.

### **Parliamentary Committees:**

- 1) CCPA the cabinet committee of parliament affairs is headed by home minister.
- 2) CCPA the cabinet committee for political affairs
- 3) CCEA cabinet committee on economic affairs
- 4) CCS cabinet committee on security
- 5) CCA cabinet committee on accommodation
- 6) ACC appointment committee of cabinet

All the above 5 committees except 1<sup>st</sup> will be chaired by Prime minister only.

### **Contemporary issues of the Parliament:**

Contemporary issues of the Parliament are many in number, because India is a secular state, comprising of several religion, thousands of communities, ethnic groups, with different languages with different regions of the country having different social, cultural, economical, political, perceptions. In recent days so many issues and problems are arising from religion and political issues. Recent debates are revolving round, Nationalism, Patriotism, caste globalization, regionalization, demanding for separate status of religion under identity qualities. Majority of issues are related to Uniform civil code, Muslim personal law, Triple Talaq, Temple entry, Gender equality, Cow protection, Sri Rama temple construction and other issues gained momentum for the 17<sup>th</sup> Lok Sabha general elections. Some other factors are money power, muzzle power, corruption, continuous elections throughout the year, attitude of disrespecting constitutional institutions, polarization of politics and others. (Source <https://indianexpress.com>>about 2018)

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### **Hypothesis of Study:**

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### **Importance of the Study:**

This studies on Indian Parliament its contemporary issues and challenges gains importance because in recent days new political trends are emerging. The main aim of this study is to understand the problems related to socio religious communities in India. In recent days more number of problems emerging within the spears of religion and politics. It is duty of the every elite citizen to understand and address them with brooder and proper understanding. (Source books Indian parliament by Dr. B.L. Shankar and Prof Valerian rudrigns and Shirin M Rai and Carole Spray (Women member in Indian Parliament)

### **Methodology:**

In this study I have used primary source of information and secondary sources information to collect data about the 16<sup>th</sup> parliament and its affairs.

**Theoretical perspectives:**

For this study I have selected Functional theoretical approach.

**Limitations of the study:**

Our study area is limited to 16<sup>th</sup> Parliament and its business only.

**Source of Information:**

**1) Primary source:**

I have collected primary information from 50 respondents

**2) Secondary source:**

I have collected the information form articles, journals, library, news papers, websites and other source of information's.

**General Layout of the Parliament:**

The central hall building consists of both chambers of the Lok sabha, the Rajya sabha and Library hall. The four storied building provides accommodation for ministers, chairman, parliamentary committees, party offices, and others; the Indian constitution was framed in this central hall.

**Data analysis:**

Data collected by using all research methods and other sources are analyzed by essential statistical techniques by using analysis of data research report. The data was collected on functional theoretical approach.

**Table no: 1 Personal profile of respondents:**

SI no	Personal profile of respondents								
01	Age	18-28		29-39		40-50		51+	
		20		10		10		10	
02	Gender	Male				Female			
		30				20			
03	Profession	Agric ulture	Busi ness	Professi onals	Politic al activist	Political party worker	Govt emplo yees	Pvt empl oyees	
		20	10	08	05	02	03	02	
04	Caste	SC		ST		OBC		Others	
		08		09		18		05	
05	Religion	Hindu			Christian		Muslim		
		40			03		07		
06	Education	Primary			Secondary		Higher		
		20			20		10		
07	Marriage	Married				Unmarried			
		42				08			
08	Family	Joint				Nuclear			
		02				48			
09	Monthly Income	10000-20000		20001-30000		30001-40000		40001+	
		25		10		10		5	

- **Age:** Age is the important factor at the time of interview, because if the respondents are below 18 years age will be considered as minors. They are not eligible for any contract according in to Indian contract act -1872.
- **Gender:** Interviewed 60% male, and 40% female respondents.
- **Profession:** I have interviewed 20 agriculturist, 10 business, 8 professional, 5 political activist, 2 political party workers, 3 Government employees, 2 private employees.
- **Cast:** At the time of interview Cast plays an important role, I have interviewed 8 SC, 9 ST, 18 OBC and 5 others.
- **Religion:** Even though India is a secular state, religion plays an important role; I have interviewed 80% Hindus, 6% Christians, and 14% Muslims respondents.
- **Education:** I have interviewed 40% respondents having primary education, 40% have secondary education, and 20% have higher education.
- **Marriage:** I have interviewed 84% married, 16% Unmarried respondents.
- **Family:** I have interviewed 4% Joint and 96% Nuclear family respondents.
- **Monthly Income:** 50% of our respondents are having 10,000 to 20,000 rupees monthly income, 20% of our respondents are having 20,001 to 30,000 rupees monthly income, 20% of our respondents are having 30,001 to 40,000 monthly income, 10% of our respondents are having 40,000 + monthly income.

**Table: 2 Thematic analysis of the study:**

Sl. No	16 <sup>th</sup> Parliament voters perception	affairs and	Expected		Happened	
			Yes	No	Yes	No
1	Parliament members should participating full time in the session	should	100%	--	95%	5%
2	Parliament members should participating healthy democratic debate.	should	100%	--	82%	18%
3	Parliament members should maintain the decorum of the house.	should	100%	--	40%	60%
4	Parliament members should co-operative with their respective speakers	should	100%	--	70%	30%
5	Opposition members oppose the Treasury bench for opposition only.	should	100%	--	80%	20%
6	Parliament members should not be regionalist	should not	100%	--	60%	40%

7	Parliament members should not think communally	100%	--	75%	25%
8	Parliament members should not think on caste basis	100%	--	70%	30%
9	Parliament members should not think on their own mother tongue language only	100%	--	75%	25%
10	Parliament members should not think narrowly	100%	--	70%	30%
11	Parliament members should work in the interest of common people	100%	--	80%	20%
12	Parliament members should work in the interest of the nation only	100%	--	98%	02%
13	Parliament members should work for the interest of farmers	100%	--	50%	50%
14	Parliament members should work in interest of laborers	100%	--	60%	40%
15	Parliament members should work for the people below BPL	100%	--	80%	20%

- 1) **Parliament members should participating full time in the session:** 100% of the respondents anticipate 100% attendance in parliament, but 95% of MPS participated full time, 5% MPs have not participated in full.
- 2) **Parliament members should participating healthy democratic debate:** 100% of respondents opine our parliament member should participate in healthy democratic debate, but only 82% MPs participated in healthy democratic debate, 18% MPs are not participated in healthy democratic debate.
- 3) **Parliament members should maintain the decorum of the house:** 100% of the respondents opine that MPS should maintain decorum of the house. But only 40% of the MPs maintained the decorum of the house and 60% of the MPs have not maintained the decorum of the house.
- 4) **Parliament members should co-operative with their respective speakers:** 100% of the respondents opine that MPs should co-operative with their respective speakers, but only 70% of the respondents co-operated with their respective speakers and 30% not co-operated.
- 5) **Opposition members oppose the Treasury bench for opposition only:** 100% of the respondents opine that opposition MPs should not oppose the treasury bench always, but 80% of the MPs opposed the treasury bench for opposition only and 20% of the MPs not opposed.

- 6) **Parliament members should not be regionalist:** 100% of the respondents opine that MPs should not be regionalist, but 60% of MPs participated in a regionalist thinking way and 40% MPs did not participate.
- 7) **Parliament members should not think communally:** 100% of the respondents opine that MPs should not think communally, but 75% of the MPs behaved communally and 25% did not behave communally.
- 8) **Parliament members should not think on caste basis:** 100% of respondents opine that parliament members should not think on caste basis, but 70% of MPs participated on caste basis and 30% MPs did not participate on caste basis.
- 9) **Parliament members should not think on their own mother tongue language only:** 100% of the respondents opine that MPs should not think on the basis of their mother language, but 75% of the MPs think on the basis of mother language and 25% MPs did not think on their mother language.
- 10) **Parliament members should not think narrowly:** 100% of the respondents opine that MPs should not think narrowly, but 70% of the MPs behaved narrowly and 30% behaved broadly.
- 11) **Parliament members should work in the interest of common people:** 100% of the respondents opine that MPs should work in the interest of common people, but only 80% of the MPs worked in the interest of common people and 20% did not work in the interest of common people.
- 12) **Parliament members should work in the interest of the nation only:** 100% of the respondents opine that MPs should work in the national interest only, but 98% of the MPs worked in the interest of the nation and 2% did not work in the interest of the Nation.
- 13) **Parliament members should work for the interest of farmers:** 100% of the respondents opine that MPs should work in the interest of farmers, but 50% of the MPs worked in the interest of farmers and 50% of the MPs did not work for the interest of farmers.
- 14) **Parliament members should work in interest of laborers:** 100% of the respondents opine that MPs should work in the interest of working community, but only 60% of the MPs worked in the interest of labor community and 40% of the MPs did not work in the interest of labor community.



15) **Parliament members should work for the people below BPL:** 100% of the respondents opine that MPs should work for BPL people, but only 80% of the MPs worked in the interest of BPL people and 20% of MPs did not worked in the interest of BPL people.

#### **Achievements of 16<sup>th</sup> Lok Sabha:**

In the present 16<sup>th</sup> Lok Sabha 151 acts has been enacted as a part of legal reforms, 1428 Acts has removed to speed up the administration, 7 constitutional amendments has been carried out, 189 bills introduced, 299 bills passed, 159 bills enacted including GST. Some of the digital initiatives has been taken mainly 1) National eVidhan application, 2) MOPA on complete automation through eOffice, 3) Online monitoring of assurances out of 9011 pending assurances 5576 assurance fulfilled, 4) Swachhata Pakhawda organized including interaction with member of parliament and ministers.

#### **Outreach programs**

- 1) 3 all India Whips conferences organized
- 2) youth Parliament scheme reached 1312 educational institutions
- 3) 39 New India Sankalp-se-Siddhi exhibition and seminar organized
- 4) One Nation one tax GST function in parliament

#### **Administration reforms:**

- 1) Advancing the date of Budget that is annual financial statement,
- 2) Merger of railway Budget with Union budget and plan and non plan Expenditure.
- 3) 5 Goodwill delegations of parliamentarians to 13 different countries.

#### **Findings:**

Very important bills as been debated enacted and passed in 16<sup>th</sup> Lok sabha. Even though so many bills was passed the parliamentary business as recorded some unruly, ugly and undemocratic behavior of parliament members. The productivity of both houses is less than 10% average, generally Lok Sabha as to work 06-00 hours daily but recorded only 01-15 hours per day, this recorded the working pattern of Parliament, this was against for the voter's perception. Elite voters are not satisfied with the working style of Parliament members in both houses.

### **Confirmation of hypothesis:**

By analyzing all above factors I can confirm the hypothesis of my study namely Parliament affairs are not up to voter's perception and by the activities of the Parliament members in parliament elite voters are not satisfied.

### **Suggestions:**

I suggest all political parties to select good candidates without considering the only win ability criteria at the time of elections. Political parties should think beyond their political party interest. For example Indian National Congress performs politics for congress; the BJP performs politics for BJP, Communist party of India (All factions) performs politics for communist party, JDS performs politics for JDS, BJD performs politics for BJD, RJD performs politics for RJD, JDU performs politics for JDU, AAP performs politics for AAP, Akalidal performs politics for Akalidal, TDP performs politics for TDP, TRS performs politics for TRS, Trunamula Congress performs politics for Trunamula Congress, AIDMK performs politics for AIDMK, DMK performs politics for DMK, BSP performs politics for BSP, SP performs politics for SP likewise there is a big question who is going to perform politics for India. Political parties aim should not be only to win the elections only; all political parties should unite and work in the interest of India and for their beloved Citizens.

### **Conclusion:**

By considering all the above factors parliamentary business is not up to the voter's perception. The activities of parliamentary members in parliament are not up to the expected mark by voters.

### **Bibliography:**

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