



A 100 Day on the performance of the 18th Jordanian Parliament

4 / 3 / 2017

- The House of Representatives approves only 8 legislations in the first 100 days of the 18th Parliament.
- 65.4% out of the 454 parliamentary questions to the house of ministers, were answered.
- 74.7% of answered questions exceeded the legal timeframe limits.
- 641 interventions made by Members of the Parliament (MPs) in the first 100 days of the 18th Parliament.
- 21 MPs did not make any interventions.
- 27 MPs attended all the sessions.
- 8% of the questions made were included on the agendas.
- Only 27 out of the 30 questions included on the agendas were discussed.
- 11 MPst did not join any permanent committee.
- 7 questions were adopted as interpellation without formal submission to the Secretariat.
- The 18th Parliament submitted only one interpellation.

RASSED's report on 18th the Parliament performance in its first 100 days indicated that the House of Representatives approved only eight legislations, six draft laws, one amended law, and one temporary approved law returned from the Senate. More specifically, the Parliament legislative efforts revealed that the number of provisions that were amended and ratified did not exceed 50 out of all the legislations this House discussed, while two draft laws were rejected. This legislative effort can be considered modest in comparison with the time period covered in the report..

As for the composition of this House, RASSED report indicated that 98 MPs joined two permanent committees, 19 MPs joined just one permanent committee, and 11 MPs did not join any permanent committee. After having checked the information contained on the House of Representatives' website, the MP Mohammad Al-Atayqa joined three permanent committees, which is considered a violation of the provisions contained in the article 61/c of the Rules of Procedure of the House of Representatives.

Regarding Parliamentary blocs, Al-Wefaq and Al-Adala blocs secured the highest of members with a total of 24 MPs. reaching 18.5% out of the total number of MPs. Al-Democrateya and Watan came next with 19 members, which is translated into 14.6 % of the Parliament, while Al-Eslah and Al-Tajded are the blocs with a lower representation reaching a total of a total of (14) members each (10.8%).



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In comparison with the report on the 17th Parliament performance during its first 100 days, the 18th Parliament has experienced during its first 100 days a regression of the number of MPs who questioned the Government - from 84 MPs (56% of members) in the 17th Parliament performance report to 60 MPs (46% of members) in the 18th Parliament performance report. 69 MPs of the current Parliament did not ask any question to the Government during this 100-day period, which illustrates an apparent absence of more than 54% of MPs and the misuse of questioning the Government as a monitoring tool.

This RASSED's report showed that only 30 questions were included in the Parliament work agenda, of which only 27 were discussed. By tracking the parliamentary questions, MPs submitted 454 questions, of which 232 were answered (65.4%), 124 were not answered by the Government (34.6%) of all questions. For the sake of accuracy, it is worthy mentioning that RASSED team tracked the questions submitted by the MPs until the 1st of February of 2017. In accordance with the article 128.B. of the Rules of Procedure of the House of Representatives, the legal time frame given to the Government to answer MPs is 14 days from the day question was submitted. By reviewing Government's replies through the 14 days period after asking the questions, RASSED team found out that 74.4% the Government's replies exceeded the legal time frame, while 26.3% of questions were answered within the stipulated 14-day period. Five MPs asked 182 questions, which comprises 40% of the total number of questions submitted.

Referring to RASSED's report on 17th Parliament performance during its first 100 days, 84 MPs submitted a total of 586 questions to the Government, of which 427 were answered. Therefore, the number of questions submitted by the current Parliament experienced a decrease of 22% in comparison to the previous Parliament.

As for interpellations, RASSED's results evidenced only one interpellation was submitted, which was not answered. Only one of the two requests made by MPs for interpellations was discussed. As for memoranda, MPs submitted 61 memos, of which only 25 were answered. This means that (41%) of them were answered and 59% were not replied. Out of the 61 memos submitted to the Government, 14 were submitted by committees, 43 by groups of MPs, and 4 by individual MPs.

Regarding parliamentary sessions and MPs attendance during the covered period, the House of Representatives held 14 meetings in 36 days divided between 31 legislative working days and 5 monitoring working days. Through RASSED team's tracking of parliamentary sessions, MPs absences during the first 100 days reached 341 days, with an average of 10 MPs every working day. 13 MPs did not attend on an average of 59- working days, while 27 MPs attended all the parliamentary sessions. The first meeting of the first ordinary session witnessed the highest attendance numbers with 129 MPs, while the lower attendance was registered the third session of the second day with a total attendance of 101 MPs and 29 MPs absent.

Regarding the parliamentary interventions, RASSED team's track of the MPs interventions during the report period indicates 109 MPs made a total of 641 interventions, while 21 MPs did not intervene in any parliamentary sessions. It is worthy mentioning that only those interventions in accordance with sessions' work agendas were taken into consideration, and not those speeches on Ministerial Statement and the speeches



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related to the discussion of 2017 Financial General Budgeting. Comparing the interventions made by the 17th Parliament during the same period, it is evidenced that the number decreased from 2100 to 641 interventions. According to the report's results, 10 MPs made 263 interventions, which comprises 41% of the total number of interventions monitored by RASED team. 99 MPs made 378 interventions (59%). Interventions were divided into (336) legislative interventions, (28) regulatory interventions, (230) overseeing interventions, and (47) point of order.

Regarding the legislative burden upon the permanent committees, the Legal Committee has 19 legislations and has been referred to three draft laws in the first 100 days. The Financial Committee has two legislations in addition to 2009-2015- Audit Bureau's reports, while , the Economic and Investment Committee has 22 legislations. The Administration Committee and the Energy, and Mineral Resources Committee has 7 legislations. The Public Services and Transportation Committee has 5 legislations. The legislative burden for the Labor, Social Development Residence Committee, as well as the Health and Environment Committee has 2 legislations each. The results showed that 4 committees has 1 legislation each - the Women and Family Affairs Committee; the Agriculture and Water Committee; the National Steering and Media Committee; and the Culture & Education Committee. Eight committees has no legislations.

RASED recommends to prioritize the legislative work, specially since the 18th Parliament has many important legislations promoting reforms in all aspects. Additionally, MPs are encouraged to use the monitoring tools that Jordan's Constitution and Rules of Procedures of the House of Representatives confer on them to continue their monitoring efforts, contributing to promote monitoring the Government's performance.. RASED also recommends the permanent committees to increase meetings related to legislative work to boost the legislative achievements of this House..

During the preparation of this report, RASED team based its work methodology on quantitative and qualitative indicators analysis such as collecting the information monitored by researchers inside the Parliament by filling in a form specially designed to this goal through following up the parliamentary sessions and registering MPs' interventions, speeches and participations, as well as their attendance to their corresponding parliamentary committees meetings, as well as building a database of the meetings of the committees and the House.

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%74.7
exceeded the
legal time frame

30 questions
included in
agendas

>> 27 only one question
discussed

%65.4 questions were
answered

454
questions
asked by
60 MP's

%34.6 of questions were
not answered

%26.3
within the legal
time frame

RASED team tracked the MPs
questions up to 1st, Feb 2017 for the sake
of analysis, considering the legal time
frame given to the government to answer
MPs questions is 14 days from the day
questions submitted to the government.

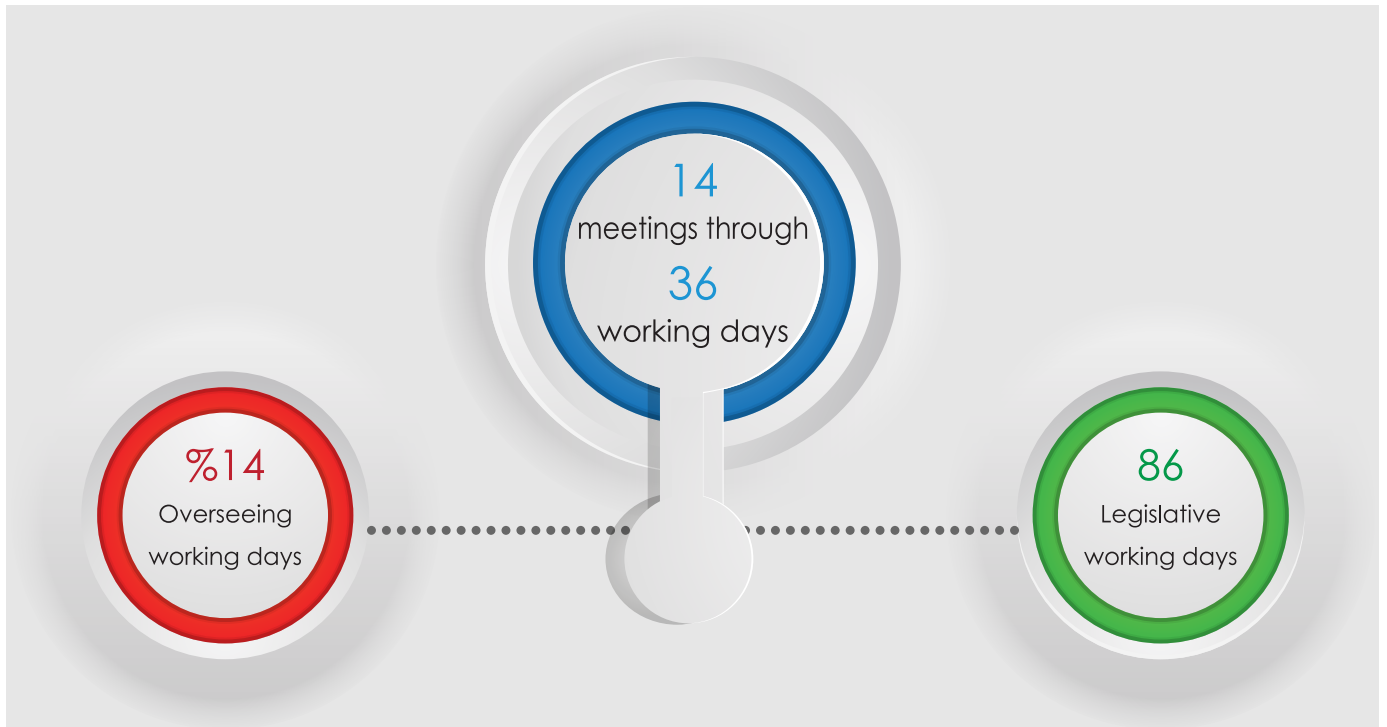
Total number of absences through the first 100 days of the 18th Parliament

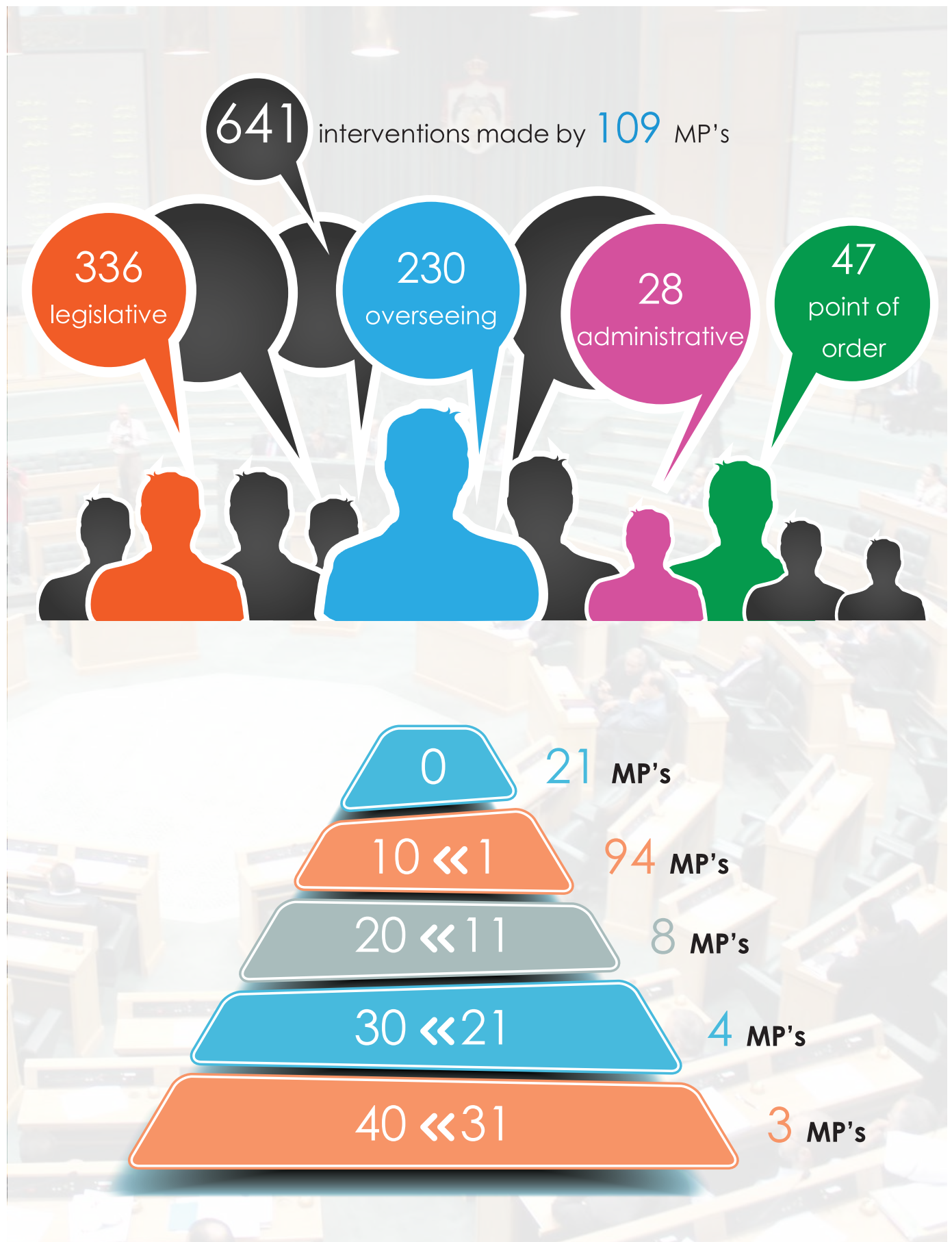
341
MP's were absent on
36 working days

4 MP's were absent for more
than **10** days

13 MP's were absent
between **9 - 5** days

27 MP's attended all
parliamentary sessions





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17th Parliament
first 100 day
Report results

33

2100

5

586

427

%56.3

2

2

19

3

8

9

In Comparison

Working days

Interventions

MP's with no interventions

Number of questions

Answered questions

% of MP's who asked questions

Interrogations

Suggestions

Memo's

Petitions and Complaints

Draft laws

Approved legislations

18th Parliament
first 100 day
Report results

36

641

20

454

232

%46.5

1

0

65

3

3

8



6

Draft Laws

1. Organization Dealing Foreign Bourses 2016 Draft Law
2. The National Center for Human Rights Amending Draft Law in 2016
3. Amending Draft Law of Tourism for the year 2016
4. The General Budget for Fiscal Year 2017 Draft Law
5. Budgets of Government Units for Fiscal Year 2017 Draft Law
6. National Documents for the Year 2014 Draft Law

1

Temporary Laws

1. Temporary Law No. 33 of 2010, the public transport of passengers Law

1

Amending Laws

1. Amending Law of the Higher Health Council for the year 2016

2

Rejected Laws

2. Public Security Amending Draft Law for the year 2016

Organization of Energy and Minerals Sector Authority 2015 Draft Law

8

Legislatives passed by the 18th House of Representatives

