

Numerous questions of public order not dealt with during the assembly sessions, investigation of complaints

Due to the reduced number of sitting days of the Assembly, many questions of public order were not dealt with. This revelation is part of an investigative report into the functioning of the government of Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA), released by the city-based NGO Praja Foundation.

The report states that if deliberations had been conducted using technology, there could have been an improvement in the number of sessions as well as in the participation of MPs, which would have made it possible to resolve public issues more effectively. . According to Praja, in the first year of the BJP-led government, the total number of meeting days was 47, which was reduced to 22 in the first year of the MVA government.

The survey report also states that there has been a 78 percent drop in discussions on education issues and 53 percent in deliberations on health-related issues. Under the BJP regime, 918 housing-related deliberations were taken, but the MVA only took 304. The report also points out that during the winter 2019 session, Assembly members did not meet. met for only six days, while in the winter of 2014 they met for 13 days. During the monsoon 2020 and winter 2020 sessions, members only met two days per session.

Congress and the NCP pledged in their manifesto to create measures to promote citizen participation in governance. However, no questions have been raised by MPs from their party over the past two years. Likewise, these political parties have pledged to improve employment and livelihood opportunities for people; however, for this question together Congress and the NCP only asked 3 percent (5) of questions in total, while the BJP and Shiv Sena only raised 1 percent (12) and 3 percent. one hundred (27) questions, respectively.

The Praja report made some suggestions such as the mayor should be empowered and he / she should be involved in the budgeting process, with full power to make decisions. Neetai Mehta, Managing Director of Praja, said: “In a constitutional democracy, it is the duty of the legislature to deliberate and formulate policies to meet the growing needs of citizens. However, the trend suggests that there has been a decline in deliberations over the years. This, he said, has had an impact on service delivery in cities and, in turn, on the quality of life of citizens.

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