

13th
PARLIAMENT

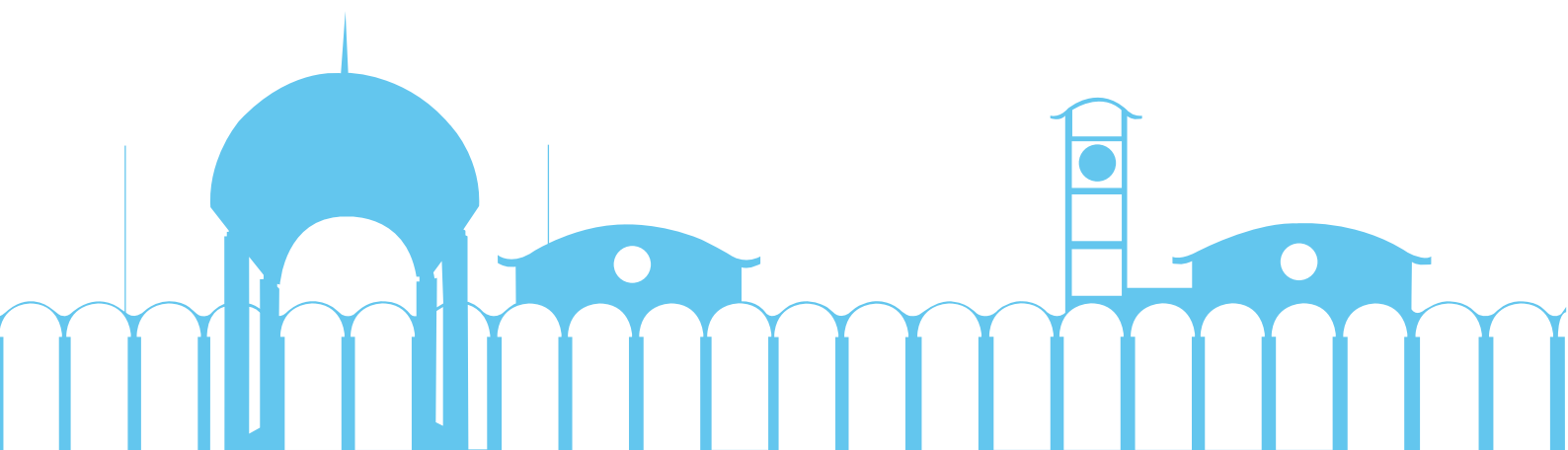


REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA

PARLIAMENT OF BOTSWANA
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**THE 2ND MEETING OF THE 2ND
SESSION OF THE 13TH PARLIAMENT**

END OF PARLIAMENT MEETING REVIEW
—— **BUDGET MEETING** | 2026 |



PARLIAMENT RESEARCH UNIT |

An Analytical Review of the 2nd Meeting of the Second Session of the 13th Parliament (2026 Budget Meeting)

09 February – 17 April 2026

1. INTRODUCTION

The 13th Parliament concluded its 2nd Meeting of the Second Session (the 2026 Budget Meeting) on April 17, 2026. Key sittings included the budget speech presentation on February 9, 2026, committee meetings in early March, and Parliament Business continuing through to April 17, 2026, focusing on questions, motions, the Appropriation Bill and other Bills.

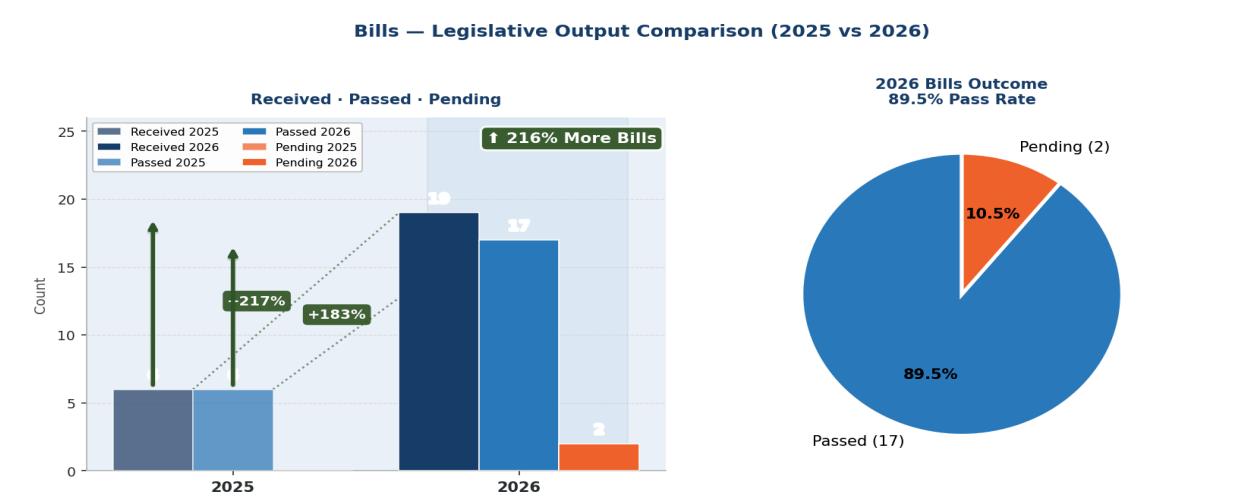
This review offers a data-driven analysis comparing the 2025 and 2026 Budget Meetings to gauge whether Parliament is becoming more robust. By deconstructing the raw data from the 2026 Budget meeting, we assess how successfully the House translated government agenda and constituent concerns into policy, identifying trends in legislative throughput and procedural efficiency.

1.2 LEGISLATIVE OUTPUT AND PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS (COMPARATIVE STATISTICS - 2025 VS. 2026)

1.2.1 BILLS (proposed laws that were presented to the House for debate and potential enactment)

The 2026 Budget Meeting saw a massive surge in legislative proposals in the form of Bills (19 received vs. 6 in 2025). Despite the increased workload, the House maintained a high success rate of 89.5%. The fact that only 2 Bills remain pending suggests a highly functional and focused legislative chamber.

2nd MEETING (Budget Meeting 2025)			2nd MEETING (Budget Meeting 2026)		
Received	Passed	Pending	Received	Passed	Pending
6	6	0	19	17	2

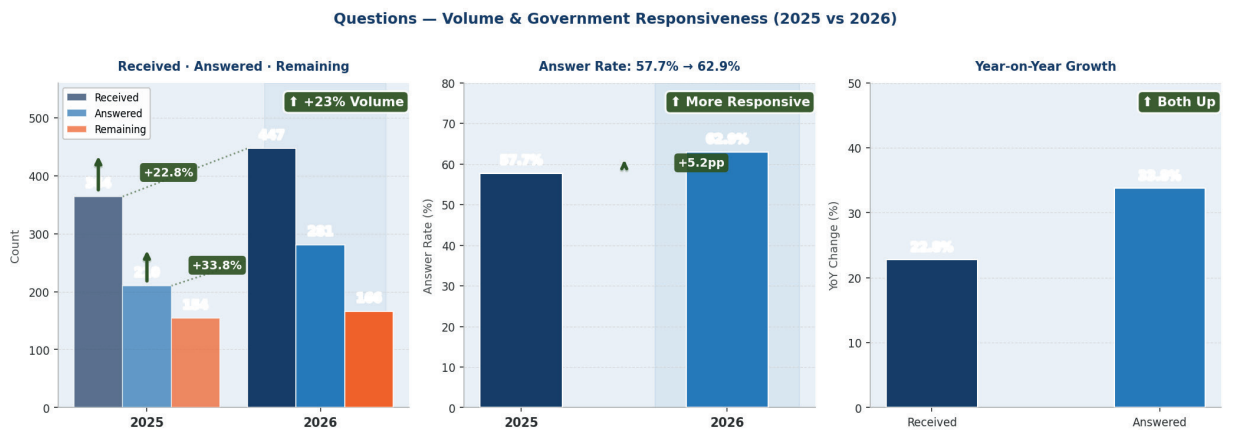


The increase in the passing of Bills was attributable to extension of sitting hours, minimal amendments to Bills received and reduction in debate times. The pre-legislative scrutiny by the portfolio committees, emphasized in the 13th Parliament, also assisted in increasing the number of Bills passed in the House.

1.2.2 QUESTIONS (Enquiries posed by Members of Parliament (MPs) to the government to seek information or explanations)

The House processed 447 questions in 2026, up from 364. Notably, the “Answered” rate improved from 57.7% to 62.9%. This suggests that despite the increased volume of Enquiries, the government’s responsiveness is effectively trending upward.

2nd MEETING (Budget Meeting 2025)			2nd MEETING (Budget Meeting 2026)		
Received	Answered	Remaining	Received	Answered	Remaining
364	210	154	447	281	166

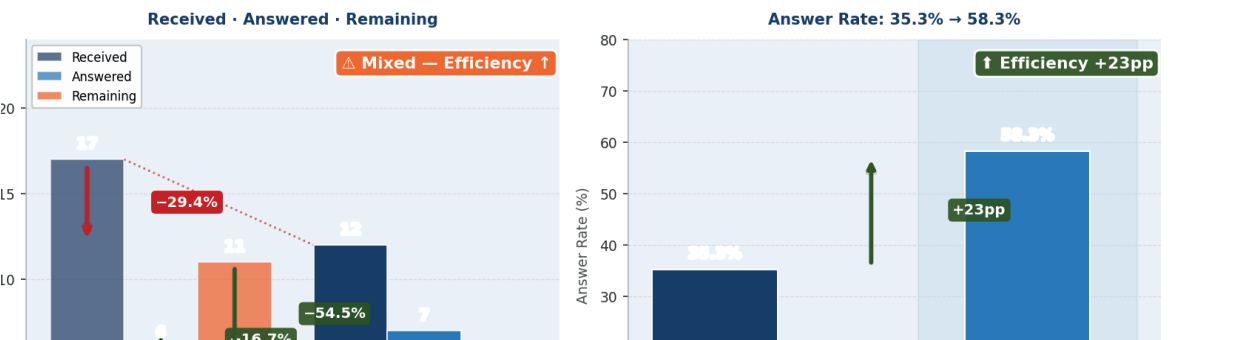


The increase in the answering of questions was due to the suspension of Standing Order 40.7 to extend question time beyond the stipulated 45 minutes. The extension was prompted by the increase in supplementary questions raised by Members due to heightened interest in the answers provided by Ministers.

1.2.3 MINISTERS’ QUESTION TIME (Specific segment where Cabinet Ministers are held accountable for their Ministries’ actions)

While the number of questions received for Ministers decreased from 17 to 12, the Cabinet was more efficient in 2026, answering 7 questions and leaving only 5 remaining (compared to 11 remaining in 2025). The decrease in the number of received questions could be subject to the increased submission of ordinary questions with equally notable issues of national importance.

2nd MEETING (Budget Meeting 2025)			2nd MEETING (Budget Meeting 2026)		
Received	Answered	Remaining	Received	Answered	Remaining
17	10	7	12	7	5

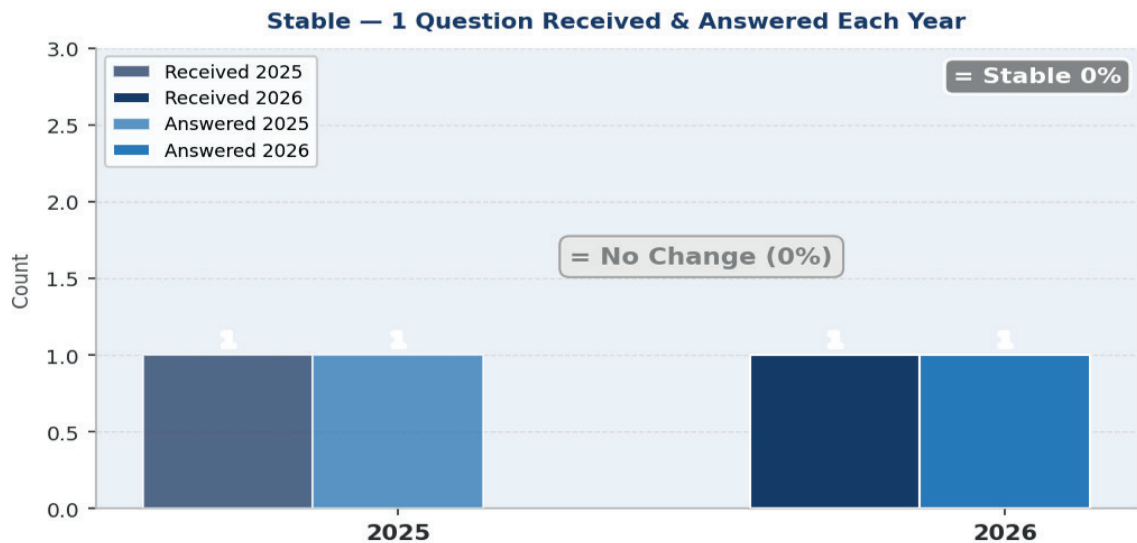


1.2.4 LEADER OF THE HOUSE’S QUESTION TIME (Specific session where the Leader of the House responds to enquiries regarding the government’s agenda)

This has remained a stable, low-volume area of parliamentary business. In both 2025 and 2026, a single question was received and answered by the Leader of the House.

2nd MEETING (Budget Meeting 2025)			2nd MEETING (Budget Meeting 2026)		
Received	Answered	Remaining	Received	Answered	Remaining
1	1	0	1	1	0

Leader of the House's Question Time

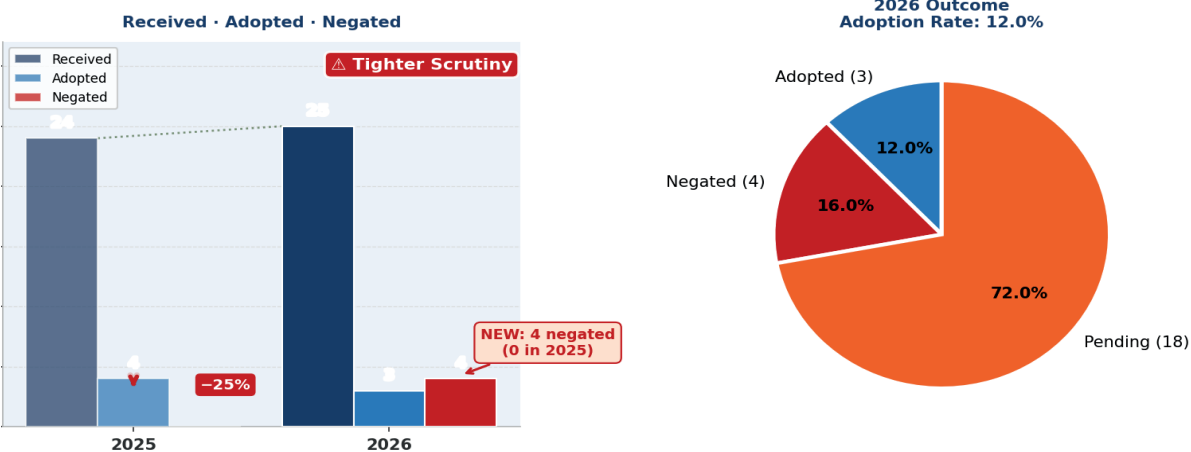


1.2.5 PRIVATE MEMBERS’ MOTIONS (Proposals introduced by MPs who are not cabinet ministers, aimed at addressing specific legislative or public interest matters)

There is a notable shift in Private Members’ Motions. While 2025 saw high adoption (4 out of 24), 2026 saw a decline in adoption (3 out of 25) and an increase in negated motions (4). This suggests a more rigorous — or perhaps more partisan — vetting process for independent legislative initiatives.

2nd MEETING (Budget Meeting 2025)			2nd MEETING (Budget Meeting 2026)		
Received	Adopted	Negated	Received	Adopted	Negated
24	4	0	25	3	4

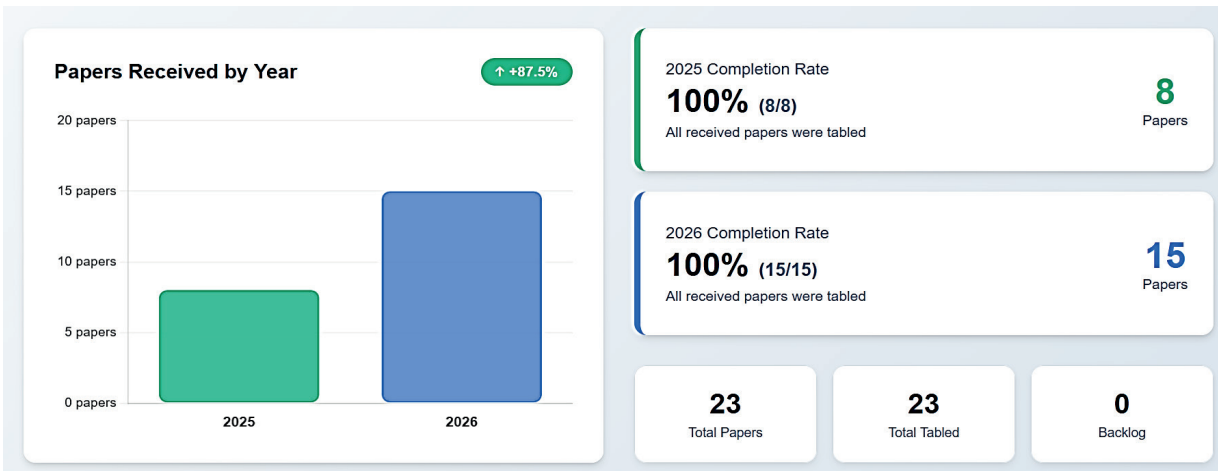
Private Members' Motions (2025 vs 2026)



1.2.6 TABLED PAPERS (official documents (reports, regulations) formally presented to the House for record-keeping and scrutiny)

The tabling of papers remains exemplary, maintaining a perfect 100% efficiency rate for two consecutive years. Despite the volume of received papers nearly doubling from 8 in 2025 to 15 in 2026, the House successfully tabled all received papers in both meetings, leaving zero backlog and demonstrating consistent administrative excellence in parliamentary scrutiny and performance.

2nd MEETING (Budget Meeting 2025)			2nd MEETING (Budget Meeting 2026)		
Received	Tabled	Remaining	Received	Tabled	Remaining
8	8	0	15	15	0

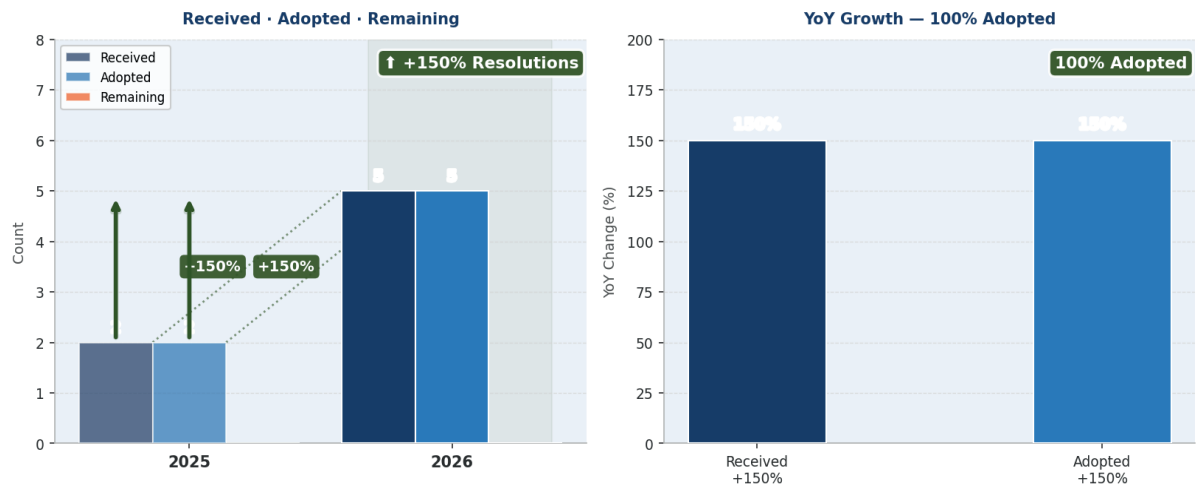


1.2.7 RESOLUTIONS (Formal expressions of opinion or intention by the House, that were used to approve motions)

Activity regarding motions for resolution more than doubled. In 2026, 5 resolutions were received and adopted compared to 2 in 2025, maintaining a 100% completion rate.

2nd MEETING (Budget Meeting 2025)			2nd MEETING (Budget Meeting 2026)		
Received	Adopted	Remaining	Received	Adopted	Remaining
2	2	0	5	5	0

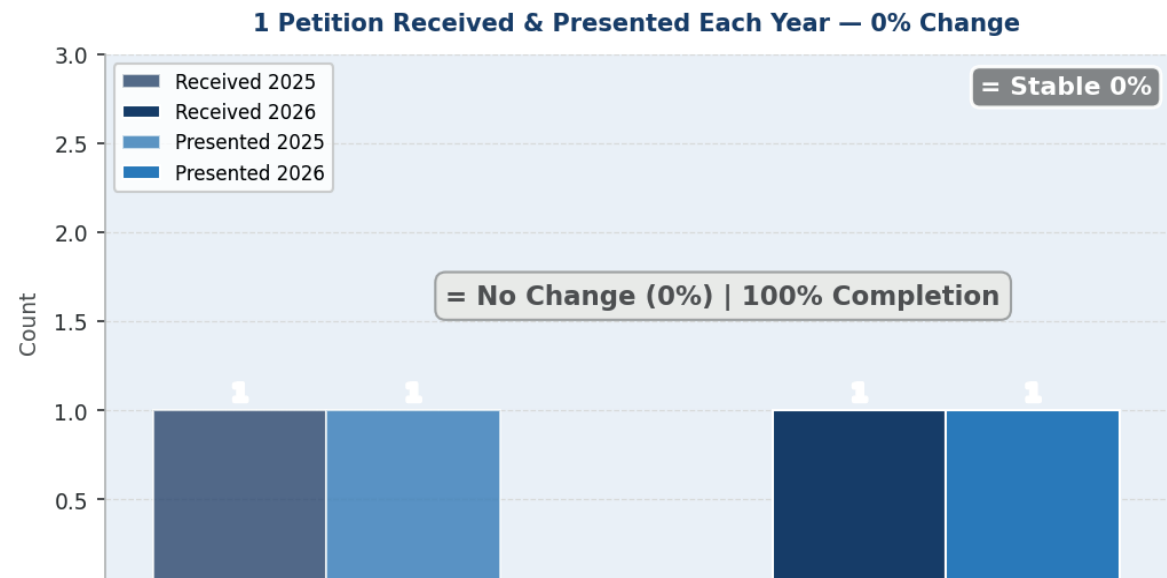
Resolutions — 100% Completion Rate Maintained



1.2.8 PETITIONS (Formal requests from citizens to the House for action or a change in policy)

Public engagement through petitions remained consistent and focused, with exactly one petition received and presented in both the 2025 and 2026 budget meetings.

2nd MEETING (Budget Meeting 2025)			2nd MEETING (Budget Meeting 2026)		
Received	Presented	Remaining	Received	Presented	Remaining
1	1	0	1	1	0



1.2.9 STATEMENTS (Brief declarations made by members to draw attention to urgent matters or clarify government positions)

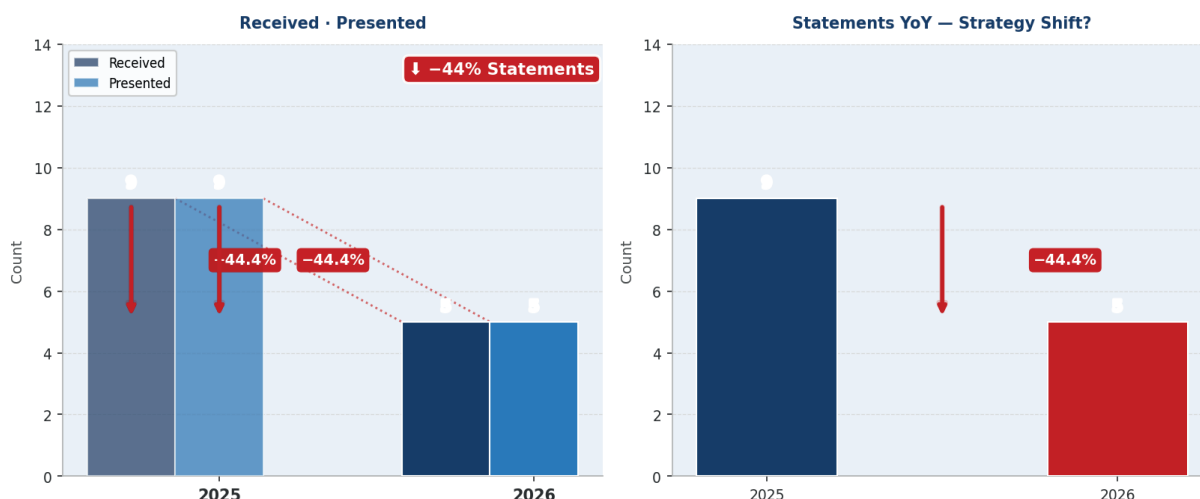
Ministerial Statements dropped by nearly half, from 9 in 2025 to 5 in 2026. This suggests that the executive may have shifted its communication strategy or focused more on the legislative agenda.

2nd MEETING (Budget Meeting 2025)			2nd MEETING (Budget Meeting 2026)		
Received	Presented	Remaining	Received	Presented	Remaining
9	9	0	5	5	0

3. OVERALL COMPARATIVE PERFORMANCE – 2025 VS 2026 BUDGET MEETING

A comparative analysis of the 2025 and 2026 Budget Meetings reveals a significant increase in legislative activity, with the volume of Bills and parliamentary questions rising substantially in 2026. While the House demonstrated improved efficiency in answering ministerial questions, tabling papers and statements, there were areas that lagged behind in terms of overall output such as Motions and Ministers' question time.

Statements – Ministerial Communication Shift



Legislative Output & Performance Analysis

Legislative Category	2025 Performance		2026 Performance		Output Status
	2025 Received	2025 Output	2026 Received	2026 Output	
Bills	6	6 Passed	19	17 Passed	2 Pending in 2026
Questions	364	210 Answered	447	281 Answered	166 Remaining in 2026
Motions	24	4 Adopted	25	3 Adopted	4 Negated in 2026
Tabled Papers	8	8 Tabled	15	15 Tabled	100% Completion
Resolutions	2	2 Adopted	5	5 Adopted	100% Completion
Statements	9	9 Presented	5	5 Presented	100% Completion
Ministers' Question Time	17	6 Answered	12	7 Answered	5 Remaining in 2026
Petitions	1	1 Presented	1	1 Presented	100% Completion

4. KEY TAKEAWAYS

- **Surge in Legislative Activity:** The House experienced a dramatic 216% increase in legislative proposals, rising from 6 bills in 2025 to 19 in 2026, while maintaining a robust 89.5% success rate.
- **Enhanced Government Responsiveness:** Despite a higher volume of inquiries, the "Answered" rate for parliamentary questions rose from 57.7% to 62.9%, aided by the strategic extension of sitting hours.
- **Rigorous Debate:** The increase in negated Private Members' motions point to a House where individual proposals are facing possible tighter scrutiny compared to previous sessions.

- **Improved Ministerial Accountability:** Question time for Cabinet Ministers saw a significant performance jump, with the answering rate climbing by 23 percentage points compared to the previous year.
- **Administrative Excellence:** The tabling of papers remained flawless, maintaining a 100% completion rate even as the volume of papers nearly doubled.

5. CONCLUSION

The conclusion of the 2nd Meeting of the Second Session of the 13th Parliament marks a pivotal point in the legislative calendar. The 2026 Budget Meeting reveals a legislature that is demonstrably more industrious and significantly more responsive than its predecessor, successfully absorbing a massive influx of legislative and oversight work. While the increased volume of business—managed through procedural adaptations like the extension of question time—highlights a more robust parliamentary output, the shift in the adoption of private members' motions suggests a tightening of the legislative environment. Overall, the data points to a highly functional chamber that, while increasingly burdened, has successfully leveraged procedural agility to maintain high levels of accountability and policy throughput, effectively navigating the complexities of the 2026 national agenda. Overall, the 13th Parliament shows a “High-Workload, High-Responsiveness” profile, with the sharp increase in Bills and Questions suggesting a very active session.