



Congressional Briefing on Indian Elections – Fact Sheet (POST-ELECTION 2004)

NATIONAL PARTIES

BJP: Bharatiya Janata Party
 BSP: Bahujan Samaj Party
 CPI: Communist Party of India
 CPI (M): Communist Party of India (Marxist).
 INC: Indian National Congress (Congress Party)
 JD(S): Janata Dal (Secular)
 JD (U): Janata Dal (United)

Some Facts

- Total Seats in the Lower House (LOK SABHA) of the Parliament = **543** (Direct Election)
- Seats needed to form government = **272**
- Total Size of Electorate in 1999 = **671.5 Million** (1 Member of Parliament per 1.14 Million citizens)
- Total Voter Turnout = **58%**
- Average Number of Candidates per Constituency = **10**
- % of Woman Candidates = **6.5%**
- Total Number of States = 29 + 6 Union Territories
- **Winner** = Coalition – “Congress and Allies”; largest coalition party **INC w/ 145 seats** (**26.69%** of National Vote) [’99 Elections: **Lost, w/ 114 seats** (28.30% of National Vote)]
- **Opposition** = Largest Part in opposition is the **BJP w/ 138 seats** (**22.16%** of National Vote) [’99 Elections: **Winner, w/ 182 seats** (**23.75%** of National Vote)]

| States | Seats | Curr. State Govts | Seat Leaders in '99 | Seat Leaders in '04 |
|--------------------|-------|-----------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|
| Uttar Pradesh (UP) | 80 | Samajwadi Party* (SP) | BJP (29), SP (26) | SP (34) [BJP=10, INC=9] |
| Maharashtra | 48 | NCP*+INC | SHS* (15) | BJP(25), INC(23) |
| Andhra Pradesh | 42 | TDP* | TDP (29) | INC(34) [TDP=5] |
| West Bengal | 42 | CPI(M) | CPI(M) (21) | CPI(M)+CPI (35) |
| Bihar | 40 | RJD* | BJP (23) | RJD (25) [BJP=12] |
| Tamil Nadu | 39 | AIADMK* | DMK* (12) | DMK*+INC (35) |

*State Parties with no national base

Table 1 – Top 5 States (Seats-Wise):
(Source: Election Commission of India)

| Party | Seats Contested | Seats Won | % |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|-----------|-------|
| BJP | 364 | 138 | 37.91 |
| BSP | 435 | 19 | 4.37 |
| CPI | 34 | 10 | 29.41 |
| CPM | 69 | 43 | 62.32 |
| INC | 417 | 145 | 34.77 |
| NCP | 32 | 9 | 28.13 |
| <i>National Parties</i> | 1351(total # of cand) | 364 | 26.94 |
| <i>State Parties</i> | 812(total # of cand) | 156 | 19.21 |

Table 2 – Performance of National Parties in 2004
(Source: Election Commission of India)

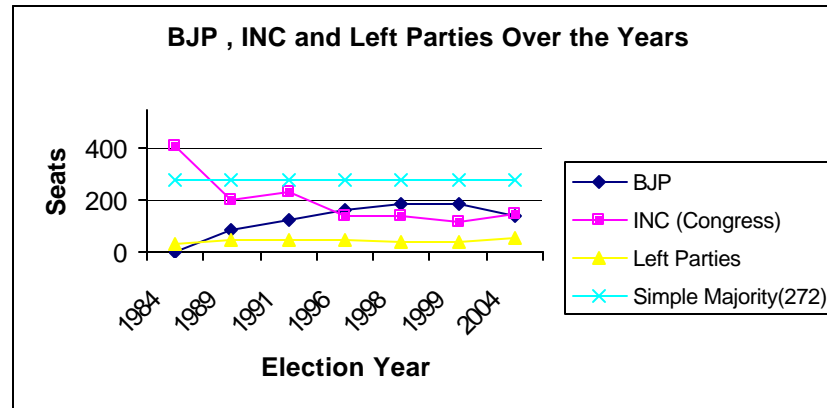


Figure 1 – Performance of Major Political Parties ('84-'04)
(Source: Election Commission of India)

Prominent Political Leaders

- Dr. Manmohan Singh (INC), Prime Minister
- Ms. Sonia Gandhi (INC/Congress Party), Leader of the INC (not in the cabinet)
- Mr. L.K.Advani (BJP), Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha (Lower House)
- Mr. H.S.Surjeet (CPI-Marxist)

Economic Data (Source: The Economist)

| | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 |
|-----------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| GDP per head (\$ at PPP) | 2,260 | 2,360 | 2,510 | 2,610 |
| GDP (% real change pa) | 7.14 | 3.95 | 5.46 | 4.3 |
| Government consumption (% of GDP) | 12.96 | 12.85 | 12.85 | 13.2 |
| Budget balance (% of GDP) | -5.48 | -5.28 | -4.7 | -5.9 |
| Consumer prices (% change pa; av) | 4.68 | 4.01 | 3.68 | 4.39 |
| Public debt (% of GDP) | 52.71 | 56.52 | 57.31 | 61.6 |
| Labour costs per hour (USD) | 0.56 | 0.59 | 0.62 | 0.66 |
| Recorded unemployment (%) | 9.2 | 9.17 | 9.2 | 9.3 |
| Current-account balance/GDP | -0.73 | -0.93 | 0 | 1 |
| Foreign-exchange reserves (m\$) | 32,667 | 37,902 | 45,871 | 67,666 |

Online Resources

- <http://www.yidream.org/2004/india.shtml> (Young India web-site)
- <http://www.bjp.org> (BJP web-site)
- <http://congresssandesh.com> (INC web-site)
- <http://www.cpim.org> (CPI-Marxist)
- <http://www.eci.gov.in> (Election Commission of India)

** For questions related to this sheet feel free to contact us at rohit@yidream.org **