

CERSSE ELECTION TRACKER

KARNATAKA STATE ELECTIONS — 2018

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JAIN UNIVERSITY

Declared as Deemed-to-be University u/s 3 of the UGC Act, 1956

Findings of Jain University-Lokniti CSDS Pre-Poll Survey

Round I

The findings of the first round of the Jain University– Lokniti, CSDS Pre-Poll Round I survey were recently published in English and Kannada in Deccan Chronicle and Prajavani newspapers respectively. The articles focused on areas most relevant to the upcoming elections and highlight the issues on the ground, as voiced by the people of Karnataka. Citizens spoke about their choice of the party they would vote for during elections, and it seems like a close fight between Congress and BJP, without any party appearing to be close to a majority. Similarly the preference of Chief Minister after elections, sees Siddaramaiah and Yeddyurappa as the top most runners. In Mumbai-Karnataka, BJP is emerging as a clear winner, and the various other regions of Karnataka have their own preferences based on the certain performance criterions of the government.

When we look at performance indicators for the incumbent government, we find issues of roads, drinking water and electricity still at the heart of the problem. Certain Bhagya schemes seem to have worked in regions, and others haven't. The citizens have been vocal on issues of prices of essential commodities, the religious tolerance etc in Karnataka and have decided whether they would like to give a second chance to the incumbent government or not. Needless to say, satisfaction with the work of the Congress, does translate into votes for the party. However, the Lingayat move of the Congress, does not seem to have benefitted it at the ground level. The Lingayats are still in favour of voting for the BJP or at best, the vote might be split between the two parties. You can access all the articles in this tracker and we hope you enjoy reading them.

“Self-leaders are still true leaders even if they have no known followers. True leaders inspire by the influence of their characters and general self-made brands. Leadership is defined by the virtues of one's behavior.” -Israelmore Ayivor

Tracking Karnataka: Methodology of the Survey

April 24, 2018

Deccan Chronicle

The poll has an overall margin of error of plus or minus 2.3 points. The error margin increases for cross-tabulations. A Pre-Poll Survey was conducted in Karnataka by JAIN- A Deemed to be University, Bengaluru and Lokniti, Centre for the Study of Developing Societies (CSDS), Delhi. The survey was conducted from April 13 through April 18, 2018 among 3,737 voters in 224 locations (polling stations) spread across 56 assembly constituencies (the State has a total of 224 assembly constituencies). The sampling design adopted was multi-stage random sampling. The assembly constituencies where the survey was conducted were randomly selected using the probability proportional to size method. Thereafter, four polling stations within each of the sampled constituencies were selected using the systematic random sampling method. Finally, the respondents were randomly selected from the electoral rolls of the sampled polling stations.

Read more at <https://www.deccanchronicle.com/nation/politics/240418/tracking-karnataka-methodology-of-the-survey.html>

Close finish: Hung house in the offing

April 24, 2018

Deccan Chronicle

With just three weeks to go for Karnataka election, a pre-poll survey has predicted that while neither the BJP nor Congress is going to get a majority on its own in the 224-member Assembly, the saffron party will improve its vote share and number of seats. The JAIN-Lokniti CSDS pre-poll survey, conducted in mid-April 2018, shows the Congress staring at a startling drop from 122 seats to 85-91, and the BJP, which had won 40 seats in 2013, gaining ground but not managing to reach the magic mark, with only 89-95 seats.

Though Chief Minister Siddaramaiah is the preferred choice of three out of every ten respondents, the survey suggests that the Congress' gamble to accord minority religion status to the Lingayats-Veerashaivas - a move aimed at driving a wedge in the strong support that the BJP enjoyed in this influential and dominant caste - may have done it more harm than good.

Read more at <https://www.deccanchronicle.com/nation/politics/240418/close-finish-hung-house-in-the-offing.html>

Siddaramaiah or BS Yeddyurappa for CM? It's a close race

- Dr. Sandeep Shastri

April 24, 2018

Deccan Chronicle

How popular are the Chief Ministerial candidates of the three main political players? Chief Minister Siddaramaiah is the preferred choice of three out of every 10 respondents surveyed in the JAIN-Lokniti CSDS pre-poll survey with the BJP Chief Ministerial candidate, B.S. Yeddyurappa following closely behind with the support of one-fourth of the respondents.

The JD(S) Chief Ministerial aspirant H.D. Kumaraswamy's name was the preferred Chief Minister by two out of every 10 respondents. Yet, the Karnataka voter seems to be clear of the fact that Chief Ministerial face of the different parties is not a major consideration for them in deciding whom to vote for. Two of every five respondents said that party was the key factor and close to half the respondents said that the candidate in their constituency would be kept in mind when deciding their vote preference.

On the government performances and how that translates into voting preference, three fourths of those who were fully satisfied with the government wanted to give the ruling party another chance. At the same time, three fourths of those dissatisfied with the government were clear that it did not merit a second chance.

Read more at <https://www.deccanchronicle.com/nation/politics/240418/siddaramaiah-or-bs-yeddyurappa-for-cm-its-a-close-race.html>

It's advantage BJP in Hyderabad-Karnataka

-Veena Devi and Nagesh K L

April 24,,2018

Deccan Chronicle

In a closely fought electoral contest, the reality often lies in the detail. The JAIN-Lokniti-CSDS Pre Poll provides enough indications of sharp regional and demographic variations with voters across the six regions of the State having distinctly different choices, men varying in the intensity of support for different parties as compared to women, the electoral mood in the small towns and cities at variance from the villages and Bengaluru, and access to education and economic status appearing to be critical in defining choices and support for different political players.

From purposes of electoral analysis, Karnataka has been historically divided into six regions: a) Hyderabad-Karnataka which includes areas of the State which we part of the old Nizam's territory; b) Mumbai- Karnataka which was in the Bombay Presidency during British rule; c) Coastal Karnataka which includes the Dakshina Kannada, Udupi and Uttar Kannada districts; d) Central Karnataka which includes the Northern segments of Old Mysore and the Malanad regions; e) Bengaluru covering both the city and its rural outskirts; and f) Southern Karnataka consisting of the remaining territories of the Old Mysore region

Read more at <https://www.deccanchronicle.com/nation/politics/240418/its-advantage-bjp-in-hyderabad-karnataka.html>

Implications of citizen evaluation of government's performance

-Reetika Syal and Priyanca Mathur Velath

April 24, 2018

Deccan Chronicle

The good news for the incumbent government is that a little over one fourth of the respondents are fully satisfied with the performance of the government. Another four of every ten are somewhat satisfied with its performance. Three of every ten respondents were dissatisfied with the government, with those being somewhat dissatisfied and fully dissatisfied being equally divided.

In fact, there was a higher degree of satisfaction with the state government as compared to the central government by five percentage points. However, as this is a poll at the state level, the public perception of the record of the state government becomes more critical. It must be said that in the past a mere satisfaction with the government in power is no guarantee for it to come back to power. If satisfaction with government were linked to intention to vote, only those fully satisfied with the government stated that they would vote for the Congress. More than half of those who were somewhat satisfied were not keen to give a second chance to the ruling party.

Read more at <https://www.deccanchronicle.com/nation/politics/240418/implications-of-citizen-evaluation-of-governments-performance.html>

Only one-fourth happy with Siddu's stint

-Reetika Syal and Priyanca Mathur Velath

April 24, 2018

Deccan Chronicle

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When one focuses attention on specifics, the trends are clearly visible. Close to two thirds of the respondents felt that the conditions of roads and supply of electricity to their area had improved in the past five years. Close to six of every ten respondents felt that on supply of drinking water in their locality the situation was much better.

However, farmers did not demonstrate the same positive response when it came to irrigation facilities in their area. People also felt that enough had not happened to ensure religious harmony in their region. What is striking to note is that about one-thirds of respondents of Coastal Karnataka feel that religious harmony had worsened under the present government.

Read more at <https://www.deccanchronicle.com/nation/politics/240418/only-one-fourth-happy-with-siddus-stint.html>

Lingayat move may backfire for Congress

April 24, 2018

Deccan Chronicle

Far from winning over Lingayat votes for his party in the state assembly election, Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah's recent move to propose separate religious minority status to the Lingayat-Veerashaiva community could well end up boomeranging on him and the Congress.

Even as a majority of Karnataka's Lingayats support the decision in principle, they seem to be in no mood to reward the ruling party for it by casting their votes in its favour. A pre-poll survey conducted by JAIN and Lokniti in the state has found that although over three in every five Lingayats support the idea of granting the minority religion tag to their community, barely one in four are planning to vote for the Congress. What's even worse for the Congress is that this current support for the party among Lingayats is three percentage points less than what was recorded by a Lokniti survey during the 2013 assembly election. This implies that instead of adding Lingayat votes to the Congress's kitty, the separate religion status move seems to have resulted in turning some of them away from it. The pre-poll survey finds that the Lingayat voters, continue to be solidly behind their traditional voting choice, the Bharatiya Janata Party. Three in every five said they will vote for the BJP. If this level of support persists right up to voting day- about three weeks from now, then it would not only be an improvement compared to the 2013 assembly elections, it would also nearly equal the BJP's record performance among Lingayats in the 2014 Lok Sabha election

Read more at <https://www.deccanchronicle.com/nation/politics/240418/lingayat-move-may-backfire-for-congress.html>

Lokniti, CSDS– ABP News Pre-Poll Survey Round II in Karnataka

Jain University, in collaboration with Lokniti-CSDS and ABP News, is conducting the second round of Pre-Poll Survey in Karnataka, to understand the mood of the Karnataka voters two weeks before the election. This survey will also be conducted on similar lines as the previous one and will cover a representative sample of 56 constituencies across the State. The training workshop for the Field Investigators was held on 26th April and the fieldwork is being carried out between 28th April and 1st May. As in the first pre poll, this survey also contains questions on satisfaction with the citizens' voting choices, performance of Siddaramaiah government in the last five years, beneficiaries of the various 'Bhagya' schemes etc. Along with these, the survey elaborately looks citizen opinion of comparison between political parties for the development of Karnataka, campaign styles and citizen participation, media exposure of the voters, etc.



Karnataka State Supervisor Dr. Nagesh K, conducting the workshop for field investigators

Diary of Political Developments

KARNATAKA STATE ELECTIONS -2018

PM Modi to launch campaign blitzkrieg from May 1; BJP plans 65 rallies in 8 days

With the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in no mood to leave any stone unturned in its bid to retain power in Karnataka, Prime Minister Narendra Modi will launch a campaign trail with at least 15 rallies in eight days in the poll-bound state starting May 1. Visiting the state for the first time after election dates were announced, PM Modi will start his campaign in Chamarajanagar district where he will address a public rally in Santhemanahalli at 11.30 am on Tuesday. The prime minister will hold two more rallies on May 3 in Chamarajanagar and Udupi. The party has reportedly scheduled three rallies each day in three districts. The dates fixed by the BJP are May 1, 3, 5, 7, 8 and 9.

Karnataka Assembly Elections: 3,374 candidates file nominations; BJP leads with 282, Congress follows with 250

A total of 3,374 candidates have filed their nominations for the 12 May Karnataka Assembly elections, as per the revised figures from the Election Commission released on Wednesday. According to the Election Commission data, of the total nominees, 250 were from the ruling Congress, 282 from the Opposition Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), 231 from the JD (S), 1,673 Independents and 938 from regional parties and fringe outfits. The nomination process began on 17 April after the single-phase election schedule was announced, and Tuesday was the last day for filing nominations.

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