

### Methodology of Lokniti-IBN National Pre Poll Survey

The findings presented here are based on a Pre Poll survey conducted in 21 States of India by Lokniti, Centre for the Study of Developing Societies (CSDS), Delhi between 18th March and 25th March, 2014. The data for the survey was collected through face to face interviews amongst 20,957 voters spread across 1340 locations of 301 randomly selected Parliamentary constituencies in 21 States. In each state, the Parliamentary constituencies and assembly segment/segments within a selected Parliamentary Constituency were randomly selected using the Probability Proportionate to Size sampling method. In each Assembly segment four polling stations were selected using the systematic random sampling technique. A total of 26,800 voters randomly selected from the most updated electoral rolls were approached for the interview, of which 20,957 voters could be successfully interviewed (*see Table 1*).

**Table 1: Distribution of the Sample**

States	Number of PCs surveyed	Number of polling stations surveyed	Achieved sample size
Andhra Pradesh	23	96	1308
Assam	11	52	798
Bihar	23	96	1557
Chhattisgarh	9	40	529
Delhi	7	60	891
Gujarat	12	56	917
Haryana	10	44	702
Himachal Pradesh	4	16	299
Jammu and Kashmir	5	20	321

States	Number of PCs surveyed	Number of polling stations surveyed	Achieved sample size
Jharkhand	11	52	1094
Karnataka	14	60	825
Kerala	13	56	607
Madhya Pradesh	13	56	1121
Maharashtra	28	116	1662
Odisha	14	60	796
Punjab	9	44	816
Rajasthan	14	56	837
Tamil Nadu	21	84	1460
Uttar Pradesh	38	168	2633
Uttarakhand	5	20	344
West Bengal	17	88	1440
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>301</b>	<b>1340</b>	<b>20957</b>

The social profile of the achieved sample in each state when compared with actual Census figures by and large reflects the representative nature of the sample. Wherever it was necessary we weighted the state data file by Census 2011 figures (*see Table 2*).

**Table 2: Pre Poll Survey - Profile of the achieved sample in 21 states**

States	Women		Muslim*		Urban		SC		ST
	Census	Survey	Census	Survey	Census	Survey	Census	Survey	Census
Andhra Pradesh	49.8	49.3	9.2	5.9	33.3	27.4	16.4	25.3	7.0
Assam	48.9	50.3	30.9	39.6	15.3	14.3	7.1	5.1	12.4
Bihar	47.8	40.8	16.5	10.9	11.2	8.0	15.9	21.1	1.3
Chhattisgarh	49.7	42.9	2.0	2.8	23.2	14.2	12.8	18.5	30.6
Delhi	46.4	46.4	11.7	18.3	-	-	16.8	11.7	-
Gujarat	47.8	45.8	9.1	13.7	44.6	28.0	6.7	5.5	14.7
Haryana	46.7	43.2	5.8	2.7	34.8	15.8	20.1	22.6	-
Himachal	49.2	52.5	1.9	0.7	10.0	-	25.2	28.4	5.7
J&K	47.0	50.2	59.9	72.0	27.3	26.7	7.4	11.8	11.9
Jharkhand	48.6	47.7	13.8	17.7	24.0	25.1	12.0	14.8	26.2
Karnataka	49.3	48.2	12.2	12.5	40.5	41.5	17.1	19.0	6.9
Kerala	52.0	55.0	24.6	23.9	47.1	18.3	9.1	12.4	1.4
Madhya Pradesh	48.2	43.5	6.4	2.9	26.5	24.3	15.6	21.0	21.1
Maharashtra	48.1	41.9	10.6	4.6	45.9	32.2	11.8	14.9	9.3
Odisha	49.4	46.0	2.1	0.5	16.0	12.3	17.1	22.4	22

Punjab	47.2	47.7	1.6	0.6	37.4	32.1	31.9	30.1	-
Rajasthan	48.1	44.1	8.4	10.9	24.8	24.1	17.8	14.8	13.4
Tamil Nadu	49.9	49.5	5.6	7.7	48.5	38.9	20.0	19.0	1.1
Uttar Pradesh	47.7	41.6	18.5	14.6	22.2	14.9	20.6	17.9	0.5
Uttarakhand	49.1	46.2	11.9	4.9	30.2	31.4	18.8	29.4	2.9
West Bengal	48.7	51.0	25.2	27.0	31.8	23.4	23.5	30.7	5.8

Note: Census figures for women, urban, SCs and STs are from Census 2011; \*Census figures for Muslims are from Census 2001

The interview was conducted face to face at the place of residence of the respondent using a standard structured questionnaire in the language spoken and understood by the respondent. The voting questions were asked using a dummy ballot paper and dummy ballot box to ensure secrecy. The estimate of vote shares for different political parties are based on a careful analysis of the respondents' stated preference of voting for a party as marked on the ballot paper, which carried the elections symbols of all the major political parties in the State. Since all surveys suffer from the problem of over-estimation of votes for big parties and underestimation for smaller parties, the estimate of vote shares was made after carefully adjusting the vote share of smaller parties and independents as base. A comparison of the proportion of important social categories in the total survey sample of a State with their actual proportion in the population of that State was also made while deciding the state-wise estimate of vote shares. Undecided voters who did not disclose their vote preference have been excluded while deciding the estimated vote share.

The total of 20957 completed interviews is not uniformly spread in all the 21 states where the survey was conducted. The sample in big states like Uttar Pradesh (2633), Maharashtra (1662), Andhra Pradesh (1308), West Bengal (1440), Bihar (1557), Madhya Pradesh (1121) is bigger compared to some smaller states like Himachal Pradesh (299), Uttarakhand (344), Haryana (702) Chhattisgarh (529) and Assam (798). It must be noted however that in Kerala the achieved sample size of 607 was less than expected. While reading the table of vote shares, it may be appropriate to remind the reader that there is greater confidence on the vote share estimates for parties in States where the sample is bigger, compared to states where the sample is small.

The survey was designed and analysed by a team of researchers at the Centre for the Study of Developing Societies, Delhi. The team included Anuradha Singh, Ashish Ranjan, Dhananjai Kumar Singh, Himanshu Bhattacharya, K.A.Q.A Hilal, Kanchan Malhotra, Jyoti Mishra, Nitin Mehta, Rahul Verma, Shreyas Sardesai and Vibha Attri. Suhas Palshikar and Sandeep Shastri provided their suggestions during the entire exercise. The survey was directed at the national level by Sanjay Kumar.

The survey was coordinated by scholars from the Lokniti Network: E Venkatesu (Andhra Pradesh), Dhruva Pratim Sharma (Assam), Rakesh Ranjan (Bihar), Anupama Saxena and Shamshad Ansari (Chhattisgarh), Biswajeet Mohanty (Delhi), Bhanu Parmar and Mahashweta Jani (Gujarat), Kushal Pal (Haryana), Ramesh K Chauhan (Himachal Pradesh), Ellora Puri & Aijaz Ashraf Wani (Jammu and Kashmir), Harishwar Dayal (Jharkhand), Veena Devi and Reetika Syal (Karnataka), Sajad Ibrahim (Kerala), Yatindra Singh Sisodia (Madhya Pradesh), Nitin Birmal (Maharashtra), Prabhat Mohanty (Odisha), Jagroop Singh Sekhon (Punjab), Sanjay Lodha and Nidhi Seth (Rajasthan), Ramajayam (Tamil Nadu), A.K. Verma, Asmer Beg, and Sudhir Kumar (Uttar Pradesh), Annpurna Nautiyal (Uttarakhand) and Suprio Basu (West Bengal)