

## JAIN-Lokniti Karnataka Pre-Poll Survey 2018

### About the Survey

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.

Before going to the field for the survey, field investigators were imparted training about the survey method and interviewing techniques at a day-long training workshop held in Bengaluru. The field investigators conducted face-to-face interviews of the respondents in Kannada asking them a set of standardized questions. The duration of an interview was about 25 minutes. At some locations the non-availability of sampled respondents or difficulty in finding households necessitated replacements or substitutions.

The achieved raw sample is quite representative of Karnataka's population profile. It has nevertheless been weighted by gender, locality, religion, and caste group based on Census 2011. The poll has an overall margin of error of plus or minus 2.3 points. The error margin increases for cross-tabulations.

### Profile of Achieved Sample in Karnataka

	Survey Sample (raw) %	Census 2011 %
Scheduled Castes	22.2	17.1
Scheduled Tribes	10.1	6.9
Muslims	10.8	12.9
Christians	1.8	1.9
Women	49.1	49.3
Urban	27.7	38.7

The fieldwork of the survey was coordinated by Dr. Reetika Syal of JAIN and Dr. Veena Devi of Bangalore University. The survey was designed and analyzed by Prof. Sandeep Shastri, Prof. Sanjay Kumar, Prof. Suhas Palshikar, Dr. Reetika Syal, Dr. Veena Devi, Mr. Himanshu Bhattacharya and Mr. Shreyas Sardesai.

### Survey details in a nutshell

Conducted by	JAIN and Lokniti
Dates of fieldwork	April 13-18, 2018
No. of Assembly Constituencies covered	56
No. of Polling Stations (Locations) covered	224
No. of interviews of voters conducted (Sample size)	3737
Overall Margin of Error	+/- 2.3
Sampling method	Multi-stage random sampling

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**KEY FINDINGS OF JAIN-LOKNITI KARNATAKA PRE-POLL SURVEY 2018****Karnataka assembly election looks set to go down to the wire**

	Voting intention in mid-April %	Change since VS 2013 (% points)	Change since LS 2014 (% points)
Congress	37	-	-4
Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)	35	+3	-8
Janata Dal Secular+ (JDS+)	20	-	+9
Others	8	-3	+3

Note: JDS+=JDS+BSP. For calculating change since 2013, vote shares of KJP and BSRCP have been merged with BJP's.  
Source: JAIN-Lokniti Karnataka Pre-Poll Survey 2018 (conducted in mid-April)

**Voting intention by regions in mid-April, a month before elections**

	Congress (%)	BJP (%)	JDS+ (%)	Others (%)
Hyderabad Karnataka (31 seats)	45	39	9	7
Mumbai Karnataka (50 seats)	35	40	16	9
Coastal Karnataka (21 seats)	34	51	7	8
Central Karnataka (35 seats)	40	37	16	7
Southern Karnataka (51 seats)	37	19	39	5
Bangalore (36 seats)	35	37	20	8

Note: Hyderabad Karnataka includes districts of Bidar, Gulbarga, Koppal, Raichur and Yadgir. Mumbai Karnataka includes districts of Bagalkot, Belgaum, Bijapur, Dharwad, Gadag and Haveri. Coastal Karnataka includes districts of Dakshina Kannada, Kodagu, Udupi and Uttara Kannada. Central Karnataka includes districts of Bellary, Chickamagalur, Chitradurga, Davangere and Shimoga. Southern Karnataka includes districts of Chamarajanagar, Chikkaballapur, Hassan, Kolar, Mandya, Mysore and Tumkur. Bangalore includes districts of B.B.M.P. (Central), B.B.M.P. (North), B.B.M.P. (South), Bangalore Rural, Bangalore Urban and Ramanagaram.

Source: JAIN-Lokniti Karnataka Pre-Poll Survey 2018 (conducted in mid-April)

**Voting intention by locality - Cong-BJP tied in villages and big cities, Cong has edge in towns**

	Congress (%)	BJP (%)	JDS+ (%)	Others (%)
Villages	36	36	21	7
Towns	41	34	20	5
Cities	35	35	16	14

Source: JAIN-Lokniti Karnataka Pre-Poll Survey 2018 (conducted in mid-April)

**Voting intention by gender - Cong ahead currently due to much better showing among women**

	Congress (%)	BJP (%)	JDS+ (%)	Others (%)
Men	35	35	20	10
Women	40	35	20	5

Source: JAIN-Lokniti Karnataka Pre-Poll Survey 2018 (conducted in mid-April)

**Voting intention of communities: Lingayats for BJP, AHINDA for Cong, Vokkaligas for JDS**

	Congress (%)	BJP (%)	JDS+ (%)	Others (%)
Upper castes	25	50	12	13
Vokkaligas	24	27	46	3
Lingayats	23	60	13	4
Other OBCs	40	35	15	10
SCs	47	28	21	4
STs	42	38	17	3
Muslims	62	19	11	8
Others	31	32	9	28

Source: JAIN-Lokniti Karnataka Pre-Poll Survey 2018 (conducted in mid-April)

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**3 in every 5 Lingayats support the idea of getting a separate religion status for their community**

	Support separate Lingayat religion (%)	Oppose separate Lingayat religion (%)	No response (%)
<b>Overall</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>27</b>
Lingayat	62	29	9
Non-Lingayats	30	39	31

Source: JAIN-Lokniti Karnataka Pre-Poll Survey 2018 (conducted in mid-April)

Question asked: Do you support or oppose the proposal to grant religious minority status to Lingayats and Veerashaiva-Lingayats who believe in Basava Tatva philosophy?

**Lingayat issue not determining Lingayat vote choice; those favoring separate religion status are favoring BJP even more**

	Voting for Cong (%)	Voting for BJP (%)	Voting for JDS+ (%)
Lingayats who support separate religion status for Lingayats	23	63	10
Lingayats who oppose separate religion status for Lingayats	22	57	19
Lingayats who are non-committal on separate religion status	30	51	13
Others who support separate religion status for Lingayats	42	34	19
Others who oppose separate religion status for Lingayats	37	29	25
Others who are non-committal on separate religion status	41	27	18

Source: JAIN-Lokniti Karnataka Pre-Poll Survey 2018 (conducted in mid-April)

**Spontaneous CM choice of voters: Siddaramaiah followed closely by B S Yeddyurappa**

	%
Siddaramaiah	30
Someone else from Congress	6
B S Yeddyurappa	25
Someone else from BJP	6
H D Kumaraswamy	20
Someone else from JDS	1
Others	2
No response	10

Source: JAIN-Lokniti Karnataka Pre-Poll Survey 2018 (conducted in mid-April)

Question asked: After the upcoming assembly election, who would you prefer as the next Chief Minister of Karnataka?  
The question was asked in an open-ended manner and no choices were offered to the respondent.**CM candidate is not likely to be a major voting consideration; plurality of voters said they will cast votes looking at candidate, particularly BJP leaning voters**

	Party to be my voting consideration (%)	Candidate to be my voting consideration (%)	CM choice to be my voting consideration (%)
<b>Overall</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>9</b>
Congress leaning voters	45	42	9
BJP leaning voters	39	50	7
JDS leaning voters	34	46	16
Voters leaning towards Others	36	52	3

Note: The rest of the respondents did not respond.

Source: JAIN-Lokniti Karnataka Pre-Poll Survey 2018 (conducted in mid-April)

Question asked: While deciding whom to vote for in the coming election, what would be the most important consideration for you – the party or the local candidate in your constituency or the chief ministerial candidate of a party?

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**Candidate consideration to be most important voting issue followed by development**

Most important voting issue will be...	%
Candidate's work, personality	26
Development and performance	25
Party	12
Leadership	5
Welfare schemes	5
Poverty	2
Several other issues combined (each <2%)	18
No response	7

Source: JAIN-Lokniti Karnataka Pre-Poll Survey 2018 (conducted in mid-April)

Question asked: While deciding whom to vote for in the coming Assembly elections, what will be the single most important election issue for you?

The question was asked in an open-ended manner and no choices were offered to the respondent.

**Most people satisfied with performance of Siddaramaiah and Modi governments**

Assessment of...	Fully Satisfied with it (%)	Somewhat Satisfied with it (%)	Somewhat Dissatisfied with it (%)	Fully Dissatisfied with it (%)
Siddaramaiah government's performance	27	43	16	12
Modi government's performance	25	39	17	14

Note: The rest of the respondents did not respond.

Source: JAIN-Lokniti Karnataka Pre-Poll Survey 2018 (conducted in mid-April)

Questions asked: 1) Are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the performance of the Congress government in Karnataka over the last five years? (*Probe further whether fully or somewhat*) 2) Are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the performance of the Narendra Modi-led Central government over the last four years? (*Probe further whether fully or somewhat*)**State government's assessed well by voters on electricity, road and water fronts**

In the last five years...	Improved (%)	Remained same (%)	Deteriorated (%)
Condition of roads in my area has...	62	29	8
Supply of electricity in my area has...	62	33	4
Supply of drinking water in my area has...	58	32	9
Irrigation facilities in my area have... ( <i>farmer responses only</i> )	40	43	15
Religious harmony in my area has...	39	38	14

Note: The rest of the respondents did not respond

Source: JAIN-Lokniti Karnataka Pre-Poll Survey 2018 (conducted in mid-April)

Question asked: Now I will read out a few things. Please tell me whether each of these has improved, remained same or has worsened in your area during last five years?

**Siddaramaiah's welfare schemes have benefitted many; 4 in 5 have benefitted from Anna Bhagya**

	%
Someone in my household has benefitted from Anna Bhagya (free rice, subsidized food grains)	80
Someone in my household has benefitted from Ksheera Bhagya (flavored milk to school kids)	45
Someone in my household has benefitted from Indira Canteens (subsidized meals)	21
Someone in my household has benefitted from Anila Bhagya (LPG connections to BPL homes)	41
Someone in my household has benefitted from Krishi Bhagya (financial assistance to farmers)	31

Note: Only farmer responses taken into consideration for question on Krishi Bhagya

Source: JAIN-Lokniti Karnataka Pre-Poll Survey 2018 (conducted in mid-April)

Question asked: Have you or any of your family members benefited from these schemes?

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**Strong desire for changing the State government despite a positive assessment of its performance**

	%
Congress govt. should get another chance	39
Congress government should <b>not</b> get another chance	51
No response	10

Source: JAIN-Lokniti Karnataka Pre-Poll Survey 2018 (conducted in mid-April)

Question asked: Should the present Congress government in Karnataka get another chance?

**Voting preference of those who don't want to give Cong govt. another chance***Anti-incumbency vote is getting divided between BJP and JDS*

	%
BJP	53
JDS	32
Others	15

Source: JAIN-Lokniti Karnataka Pre-Poll Survey 2018 (conducted in mid-April)

**Only strong satisfaction with Cong govt's performance is leading to a strong pro-incumbency sentiment, those moderately satisfied are more likely to want a change in government**

	Congress govt. should get another chance (%)	Congress govt. should not get another chance (%)
Fully satisfied with Congress govt's performance	75	20
Somewhat satisfied with Congress govt.'s performance	33	54
Somewhat dissatisfied with Congress govt's performance	13	76
Fully dissatisfied with Congress govt's performance	13	77

Note: The rest of the respondents did not respond.

Source: JAIN-Lokniti Karnataka Pre-Poll Survey 2018 (conducted in mid-April)

**Narendra Modi liked more than Rahul Gandhi by survey respondents**

	%
Like Modi more than Rahul	43
Like Rahul more than Modi	28
Like both Modi and Rahul	10
Dislike both Modi and Rahul	12
No response	7

Source: JAIN-Lokniti Karnataka Pre-Poll Survey 2018 (conducted in mid-April)

Question asked: Which of these two leaders do you like more - Rahul Gandhi or Narendra Modi?

**Nearly 3 in every 5 support idea of having a separate official flag of Karnataka**

	%
Support proposal of separate official flag of Karnataka	58
Oppose proposal of separate official flag of Karnataka	28
No response	14

Source: JAIN-Lokniti Karnataka Pre-Poll Survey 2018 (conducted in mid-April)

Question asked: The Karnataka government has proposed to have a separate official flag for the State. The flag will be yellow, red and white with the State emblem in the middle. Do you support or oppose this move?

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**About 2 in every 3 view Tipu Sultan as ‘a great son of Karnataka’**

	%
Agree that Tipu should be seen as ‘a great son of Karnataka’	64
Disagree that Tipu should be seen as ‘a great son of Karnataka’	25
No response	11

Source: JAIN-Lokniti Karnataka Pre-Poll Survey 2018 (conducted in mid-April)

Question asked: Tipu Sultan should be seen as a great son of Karnataka - do you agree or disagree with this statement?

**English signage in public places slightly more acceptable to voters than Hindi signage**

	%
Okay with Hindi signage in public places as long as they are in Kannada as well	43
<b>Not okay</b> with Hindi signage in public places even if they are in Kannada as well	46
No response	11
Okay with English signage in public places as long as they are in Kannada as well	51
<b>Not okay</b> with English signage in public places even if they are in Kannada as well	37
No response	12

Source: JAIN-Lokniti Karnataka Pre-Poll Survey 2018 (conducted in mid-April)

Question asked: Are you okay/fine with having signage in public places in Hindi as long as they are in Kannada as well?