Lokniti-CSDS-ABP News Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh Surveys

Lokniti, Centre for the Study of Developing Societies (CSDS), Delhi has conducted Post-Poll Surveys in Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh, and a Pre-Poll Survey and an Exit Poll in Rajasthan for ABP News.

The Post-Poll survey in Madhya Pradesh was conducted from November 29 through December 4, 2018 among 5818 voters in 233 locations (polling stations) spread across 57 assembly constituencies (the State has a total of 230 assembly constituencies).

In Chhattisgarh, the Post-Poll survey was conducted in two rounds – the first round was between November 14 and November 19, 2018 after the first phase of polling, and the next round was between November 24 and November 29 after the second phase of polling. 3022 voters in 123 locations situated in 30 assembly constituencies (out of 90) were interviewed in Chhattisgarh during the Post Poll.

The Rajasthan Pre-Poll Survey was conducted between November 26 and December 2 among 5027 voters in 206 locations spread across 50 assembly constituencies (out of 200). The Exit Poll in the State was conducted at 40 polling booths spread across 40 assembly constituencies. While the Pre-Poll involved interviewing voters at their residences about a week or two before they were going to vote, the Exit Poll was conducted on Voting Day outside the polling booth after voters had cast their votes. While arriving at vote share estimates for Rajasthan, data from both surveys has been taken into account.

The sampling design adopted for all 3 States was multi-stage random sampling. The assembly constituencies where the survey was conducted were randomly selected using the probability proportional to size method after excluding the seats where pre-polls had been conducted in October 2018. Thereafter, four polling stations within each of the sampled constituencies were selected using the systematic random sampling method. However, in sampled constituencies with a highly urban profile (urban population >70%) five polling stations were randomly selected instead of four since response rates in urban areas are usually low in election surveys. Finally, 38 voters were randomly selected from the electoral rolls of the sampled polling stations of which the field investigators were asked to interview at least 25.

For the Exit Poll in Rajasthan, 40 assembly constituencies were randomly selected from among the sampled constituencies of the first and second round of pre-poll surveys done by Lokniti-CSDS in the State (20 from each round). Thereafter, one polling station from within each sampled constituency was also selected at random. The total sample size achieved during the Exit Poll was 2270.

Before going to the field for the survey, field investigators were imparted training about the survey method and interviewing techniques at training workshops held in Bilaspur on November 13 (after first phase of voting) and November 23 (after second phase), in Ujjain on November 26-27, and in Udaipur on November 25 (for the Pre-Poll) and December 5-6 (for the Exit Poll). The field investigators conducted face-to-face interviews of the respondents (voters) in Hindi asking them a set of standardized questions.

The duration of an interview during the Exit Poll was timed at 2-3 minutes. Interviews during the Post-Poll and Pre-Poll Surveys took about 30-35 minutes. During the post-polls and pre-poll, at some locations the non-availability of sampled respondents or difficulty in finding households necessitated replacements or substitutions. In order to be representative of the state's population profile, the achieved raw sample has been weighted by gender, locality, religion, and caste group based on Census 2011.

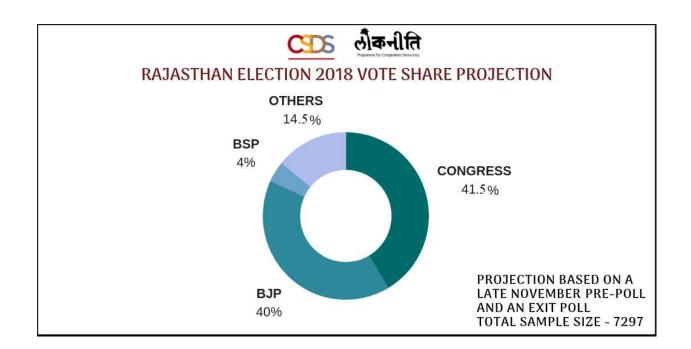
Profile of Achieved Sample

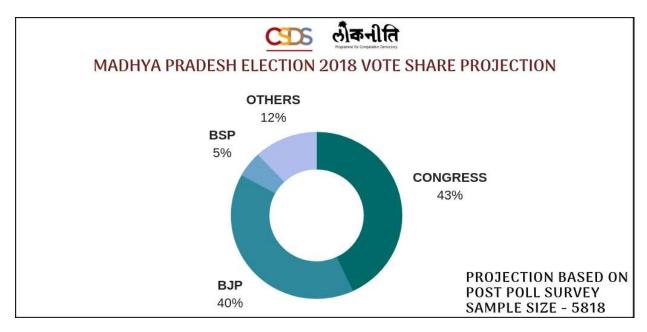
	Madhya Pradesh (Post Poll)		Rajasthan (Pre Poll)		Chhattisgarh (Post Poll)				
	Survey	Census 2011	Survey	Census 2011	Survey	Census 2011			
Scheduled Caste	19.5	15.6%	15.4	17.8%	13.4%	12.8%			
Scheduled Tribe	21.5	21.1%	15.5	13.4%	32.1%	30.6%			
Muslim	7.1	6.6%	5.3	9.1%	1.9%	2.0%			
Women	49	48.2%	45.7	48.1%	49.2%	49.7%			
Urban	27.4	26.5%	24	24.8%	13.3	23.2%			

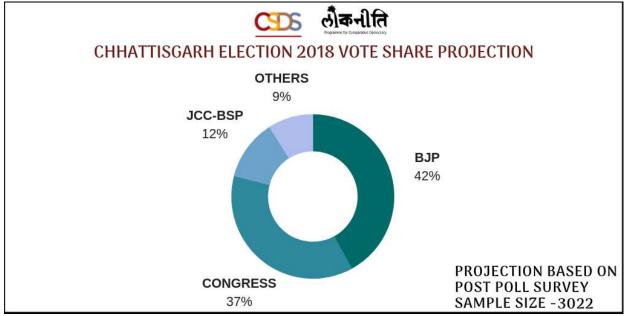
In Madhya Pradesh, the fieldwork of the survey was coordinated by Prof. Yatindra Singh Sisodia and Dr. Ashish Bhatt (Madhya Pradesh Institute of Social Science Research, Ujjain). In Rajasthan, it was coordinated by Prof. Sanjay Lodha and Dr. Nidhi Jain (Mohanlal Sukhadia University, Udaipur). In Chhattisgarh it was coordinated by Dr. Shamshad Ansari (Ad Hoc Asst. Prof., Government Niranjan Kesharwani College, Kota, Bilaspur). The survey was designed and analysed by a team of researchers at Lokniti. The team included Amrit Pandey, Anurag Jain, Dhananjay Kumar Singh, Jyoti Mishra, Himanshu Bhattacharya, Shreyas Sardesai and Vibha Attri. The survey was directed by Prof. Sanjay Kumar, Prof. Suhas Palshikar and Prof. Sandeep Shastri of Lokniti.

Survey details in a nutshell

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	Madhya Pradesh	Rajasthan	Rajasthan	Chhattisgarh
	Post Poll	Pre Poll	Exit Poll	Post Poll
Dates of fieldwork	Nov 29-Dec 4,	Nov 26-Dec 2,	Dec 7, 2018	Nov 14-19 &
	2018	2018		Nov 24-29, 2018
No. of Constituencies covered	57	50	40	30
No. of Polling Stations covered	233	206	40	123
No. of field investigators	114	100	40	60
Total interviews conducted	5818	5027	2270	3022
Error margin	+/-1.8	+/-2 points		+/-3 points







After spending 15 years on the opposition benches, the Congress could be on the verge of making a comeback in Madhya Pradesh. A Post-Poll Survey conducted by Lokniti-CSDS finds the party to have done well in the November 28 assembly elections. As per the survey, the Congress is likely to secure 43% of the total votes polled. This would mean a swing of seven percentage points since the 2013 elections. The incumbent Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) is likely to end up three points behind the Congress with 40% of the total votes. The Bahujan Samaj Party is likely to secure 5% votes and other parties and independent candidates about 12%. The Post-Poll survey found the Congress to be leading in all the regions of the state except Malwa North, where the ruling party seems to be holding on, albeit with a reduced vote share as compared to the 2013 election. On the back of massive Dalit and Adivasi support, the Congress is likely to dominate in the regions of Chambal, Bundelkhand, Vindhya Pradesh, Mahakoshal and Nimar. The survey found a strong sense of fatigue among voters with the Shivraj Singh Chouhan-led BJP government, which has been in power for three continuous terms. Over half of the 5,818 voters interviewed in 57 assembly constituencies (out of 230

constituencies), said that they did not wish to see the Chouhan government return to power. This desire for 'badlaav' is despite the fact that Chouhan continues to be the single most preferred person for the chief minister's post.

In Rajasthan, the election is set to go down to the wire opening up the possibility of the state bucking its trend of changing its government every five years. A Pre-Poll survey as well as an Exit Poll conducted by Lokniti-CSDS in the state found the Congress and BJP locked in a close contest. The Congress is estimated to secure 41.5% of the votes, whereas the BJP could end up with 40% of the votes. The rest of the votes are likely to be garnered by BSP, Hanuman Beniwal's Rashtriya Loktantrik Party, independents and other parties. The survey found the anti-incumbency sentiment to be very strong in the state; however the Congress is unable to capitalize on it fully because of the presence of the rebels and the newly formed parties which have gained traction among a sizeable section of voters. The anti-incumbency sentiment is not uniformly spread in different regions of Rajasthan, opening up the possibility of potential surprises on December 11th.

In Chhattisgarh, the BJP looks set to retain power for a fourth consecutive term, largely due to triangular contests (instead of the traditional bipolar contest with Congress) and a division of the anti-incumbency vote. The ruling party is expected to secure about 42% votes as per the Lokniti-CSDS Post-Poll Survey conducted in 30 assembly constituencies with 3,022 voters. This would mean a marginal increase compared to the 2013 assembly election. The BJP's main opponent in the State, the Congress, is expected to get about 37% votes, down 3 percentage points from the 2013 election. Ajit Jogi's Janata Congress Chhattisgarh (JCC) and its alliance partner, the Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) is likely to secure about 12 percent of the total votes. Like Madhya Pradesh, the survey found a yearning for change in Chhattisgarh too. However, this anti-incumbent vote seems to have got divided between the two opposition parties, with only about three-fifths going to the Congress and about one-fifth gravitating towards the JCC-BSP. The Congress is expected to do better than the BJP in the northern part of the State whereas the battle is expected to be closely fought in the Southern part with a slight edge to the BJP. However it is in Central Chhattisgarh that the BJP seems to be doing well and is likely to make up for its losses in other parts of the State.