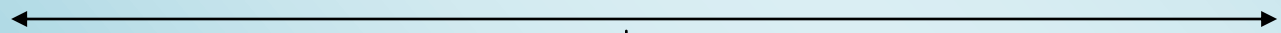


North Asian International Research Journal Consortium

*North Asian International Research Journal of
Social Science & Humanities*

Chief Editor

Dr Rama Singh



Publisher

Dr. Bilal Ahmad Malik

Associate Editor

Dr. Nagendra Mani Trapathi

Honorary

Dr. Ashak Hussain Malik

NAIRJC JOURNAL PUBLICATION

North Asian
International
Research Journal Consortium



Welcome to NAIRJC

ISSN NO: 2454 - 9827

North Asian International Research Journal Social Science and Humanities is a research journal, published monthly in English, Hindi, Urdu all research papers submitted to the journal will be double-blind peer reviewed referred by members of the editorial board. Readers will include investigator in Universities, Research Institutes Government and Industry with research interest in the general subjects

Editorial Board

J.Anil Kumar Head Geography University of Thirvanathpuram	Sanjuket Das Head Economics Samplpur University	Adgaonkar Ganesh Dept. of Commerce B.S.A.U, Aruganbad
Kiran Mishra Dept. of English,Ranchi University, Jharkhand	Somanath Reddy Dept. of Social Work, Gulbarga University.	Rajpal Choudhary Dept. Govt. Engg. College Bikaner Rajasthan
R.D. Sharma Head Commerce & Management Jammu University	R.P. Pandday Head Education Dr. C.V.Raman University	Moinuddin Khan Dept. of Botany SinghaniyaUniversity Rajasthan.
Manish Mishra Dept. of Engg, United College Ald.UPTU Lucknow	K.M Bhandarkar Praful Patel College of Education, Gondia	Ravi Kumar Pandey Director, H.I.M.T, Allahabad
Tihar Pandit Dept. of Environmental Science, University of Kashmir.	Simnani Dept. of Political Science, Govt. Degree College Pulwama, University of Kashmir.	Ashok D. Wagh Head PG. Dept. of Accountancy, B.N.N.College, Bhiwandi, Thane, Maharashtra.
Neelam Yaday Head Exam. Mat.K..M .Patel College Thakurli (E), Thane, Maharashtra	Nisar Hussain Dept. of Medicine A.I. Medical College (U.P) Kanpur University	M.C.P. Singh Head Information Technology Dr C.V. Rama University
Ashak Hussain Head Pol-Science G.B, PG College Ald. Kanpur University	Khagendra Nath Sethi Head Dept. of History Sambalpur University.	Rama Singh Dept. of Political Science A.K.D College, Ald.University of Allahabad

Address: - Dr. Ashak Hussain Malik House No. 221 Gangoo, Pulwama, Jammu and Kashmir, India - 192301, Cell: 09086405302, 09906662570, Ph. No: 01933-212815,

Email: nairjc5@gmail.com , nairjc@nairjc.com , info@nairjc.com Website: www.nairjc.com

THE ELECTORAL TRENDS IN NANDIGAMA CONSTITUENCY FROM 1983-2014

KOTA SANGAMESWAR RAMBABU*

*Research Scholar, Department of Political Science and Public administration, Acharya Nagarjuna University,
Nagarjuna Nagar, Guntur, Andhra Pradesh

ABSTRACT

The question of elections is at the centre of politics everywhere. It is an essential feature of parliamentary democracy that competition for power takes place through periodical free elections. The constitutional requirement that the ruling party renew its mandate at fixed intervals through free elections makes it ultimately accountable to the electorate which is the essence of democracy. The introduction of universal adult franchise for the elections to the State and Central Legislatures has brought the political parties in the country into an intimate and direct relationship with the Indian society with its two principal features namely, a relatively low level of social integration and an essentially agglomerative character. The present paper makes an attempt to study the electoral trends in Nandigama Constituency of Andhra Pradesh.

INTRODUCTION

Elections are the particularly conspicuous and revealing aspects of most contemporary political systems as they serve to highlight and dramatise a political system, bringing its nature into sharp relief, and provide insights into the other aspects of the system, as also the basic nature and the actual functioning of the system as a whole. During an election so to speak a political system is on display even though the features that are most obviously on display may be only a small part of “the iceberg that lies beneath.” Elections are complex events involving individual and collective decisions which directly affect and are affected by the total political and social process. They open up channels between the individual and his government. They are major agencies of political socialization and political participation. The study of elections provides an opportunity to the student to understand a political system in action using the various techniques and the methods ranging from survey research and participant observation studies to the analysis of aggregate data. Elections may be studied from the point of view of both macro – and micro – political analyses, and of the linkages between these to forms of

analysis. Elections broadly considered are complicated political processes which must be analysed within the context of the total political and social system as V.C. Key Jr. has noted,

“an election itself is a formal act of collective decision that occurs in a stream of connected antecedent and subsequent behaviour; it is not a single event but a concatenation of thousands of events, some of great significance, some more trivial.”

The electoral system must be viewed as a part of the larger political system, and this in turn of the even more comprehensive and more important social system. The whole electoral process is one of societal goal legitimation and accommodation of interests. Conducted regularly and successfully over a period of time they become agencies both for political stability and legitimacy and also for a peaceful but potentially substantial, even revolutionary change. The general elections may be regarded as an important mechanism for the recruitment of political leadership. Through this process the future decision-makers are chosen by the people for a specified duration generally on the basis of declared programmes and policies outlined in party manifestos. Thus a study of the various aspects of an election throws light on the recruitment process of political parties and of its approval or rejection by the electorate. In this process an analysis of the various characteristics of the political elite is of vital importance for explaining their socio-economic background, political attitudes and ideological professions. Elections also serve the basic purpose not only of the continuance and legitimacy of the old (existing) regime but also of an instrument of change and of a redistribution of political power. In this view elections help the electors to scan the record of omissions and commissions of the regime on the one hand (a stock-taking) and to analyse and assess the role, ability and sincerity of the opposition parties competing in the race on the other. Thus the public opinion expressed through the ballot box both under competitive as well as the dominant party systems asserts itself in bringing down one group of the ruling elite, and seeking to replace it by another when the governmental actions are significantly different from what is demanded of them by the general public represented by the electorate. Elections in another sense may be viewed as a competition among the privileged elite and the emerging non-privileged elite structures. Through this device the non-privileged elite assert themselves in their demand for a redistribution of political power and thus for a shift in the political power from one social group to another in successive elections. In Andhra Pradesh in India, for example, we note how the leadership of Brahmins in the initial phase of its political history was replaced by the dominant middle class, the Reddys, and later by the emergence of predominant segment of the weaker sections and the minorities claiming a share in the political process, a shift of power from one social group to another in successive elections. The power of the

electorate is also seen in the eclipse of the Communists and the emergence of the Congress in the series of elections in this State.

The articulation of public policies, mobilization of public opinion, and institutionalization of political participation constitute another dimension of elections in a participatory democracy. The vigilant public participating in large numbers through the instrumentality of periodical elections to the legislatures and the Parliament tend to articulate the general socio-economic interests and the demand for administrative action such as 'rule making' and 'rule application'. The general elections also have a particularly greater significance to developing countries as accelerating the process of modernization, thus providing a barometer to measure accurately the role of the general public as well as the elite. For the political elite are more concerned with competing in elections under the banners of different political parties which are likely to win, to share in the spoils, in the loaves and fishes of office (the patronage potential in the administration). It is during the elections that the elite appear in their true colours revealing their stand on the various issues relevant to development. The elections' further expose the elite to the tremendous challenges which a developing country like India is facing in the process of its modernization with its constraints of primordial loyalties, diversity of social groups and rigidity of age-old social structures continuing to play a not too insignificant role in impeding the process of democratization. The democratic state has to respond to the divergent and often conflicting aspirations and ambitions of its citizens so as to avoid political and social upheavals. Thus the elections in a sense accelerate the process of modernization in developing nations. It is noted that the inter-party election battles often relate to some of the basic issues such as caste, community, village and region, while the purely secular factors like ideology, performance background of the contestants and their commitment to the basic norms tend to be jettisoned in the raging storm of political victory or defeat. Elections also bring to surface the deep social schisms and factional cleavages providing an opportunity to the prominent elite the settle old scores and traditional inter-family disputes born of the continuing race for ascendancy and status.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Balagopal K., (1989) considers that there was a definite shift of voters' preference away from NTR, and all of it cannot be attributed to accident or rigging. Rigging was extensive, but all of them rigged anyway. Notwithstanding all the righteous outrage about Amethi, and notwithstanding Viswanath Pratap Singh's studied projection of a humble profile of low-cost and high morality electioneering, the fact is that they all spent huge amounts and they all rigged. But the voters just did not want NTR and his 'friendly opposition parties'. It would be

insulting the people of Andhra Pradesh to say that they actually wanted the Congress (I) back, but they had no choice. According to author the victory does not mean a defeat for the regional elite of AP, for it is a false notion that the Congress (I) represents exclusively or principally the monopoly bourgeoisie, it does no such thing, it is a principal achievement of the Congress that it has always represented all the propertied classes of the country, though with a definite formula for the running of the economy and the sharing of economic resources and political power.

Balagopal K.,(1995) opines that the voting statistics do not show that it was the cheap rice scheme and prohibition that were primarily responsible for the Telugu Desam Party's phenomenal victory. What is striking is not the increase in TDP votes, but the fall in Congress votes by as much as 12 to 14 percentage points.

Yogendra Yadav (1996) considers that the assembly elections in as many as 16 states between November 1993 and March 1995 provided the first full view of India's post-Congress polity. The elections ushered in a new era in the country's politics, marking the beginning of the third phase in the reconfiguration of the party system. The first phase of the famous 'Congress system', characterized by single-party dominance, lasted the first two decades after independence. The second phase, which may be called the 'Congress-Opposition system,' was still characterized by the one-party salience, though no longer dominance, of the Congress. Despite remaining out of power very often, the Congress retained a salience in the party system not only because it continued to command greater popular support than any opposition party, but also because it was the core around which the party system was structured. The third phase, inaugurated by the assembly elections of 1993-95, definitely signals a move towards a competitive multi-party system which can no longer be defined with reference to the Congress. While it may be too early to expect a fully worked out picture of what the post-Congress system would look like, a comparison of the 1993-95 elections with elections in the previous phases of Indian politics brings out some of the enduring structural changes which have redefined the terrain of electoral politics.

Yogendra Yadav (1999) makes an attempt to contest this all too familiar view from above without yielding to the temptation of building its mirror-image. The changing outcome of the electoral game in this decade is seen here as the reflection of a fundamental transformation in the terrain of politics which in turn is in the process of social change. The voters choose differently in this decade, for, the Structure of choice inherent in elections has undergone a change. Yet the choice often turns out to be far from the act of sovereignty that the fiction of liberal democracy makes it out to be.

Shawn Cole, Andrew Healy and Eric Werker (2012) in their paper examine how governments respond to adverse shocks and how voters react to these responses. The study shows that voters punish the incumbent party for weather events beyond its control. However, fewer voters punish the ruling party when its government responds vigorously to the crisis, indicating that voters reward the government for responding to disasters. The authors suggest that voters only respond to rainfall and government relief efforts during the year immediately preceding the election. In accordance with these electoral incentives, governments appear to be more generous with disaster relief in election years. These results describe how failures in electoral accountability can lead to suboptimal policy outcomes.

Kavita Sharma (2012) in her paper made an attempt to explore the relevance of using political advertising in Indian context. The study investigates the perceptions about the role of political advertising in affecting voting behaviour in regard to information search and evaluation, attitude towards voting, and making of voting choice. It is further hypothesized that the perceptions about the role of political advertising are mediated by the level of one's involvement with voting decision. The study finds very limited support to establish the relevance of using political advertising at the scale it is presently used by various political parties in India.

Sridharan E, (2014) attempt to analyse how the middle class and the other classes voted in the 2014 elections. I focus on the voting for the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and Indian National Congress (INC), voter preferences along the caste/ community and age groups within classes, to the extent relevant, and economic policy, particularly as concerns economic liberalization. The author also attempts to engage with certain theoretical formulations on the middle class, economic liberalization, the BJP and party system change.

Seema (2014) in his paper entitled "Electoral Geography: A History of Assembly Constituency Making in Delhi" deals with the evolution of the Electoral setting in Delhi and the development of Assembly Constituency of Delhi. The electoral geography emphasis on the spatial location, distribution, interrelationships of economic groups, living in physical settings within its limited resources base. Electoral geography consists only of a disconnected set of isolated studies, few in numbers and limited in purposes. This paper also deals with the Historical evaluation of the Delhi as a Capital city of India, and also the process and pattern of assembly elections in Delhi till date.

NANDIGAMA CONSTITUENCY

Nandigama Assembly constituency is an SC (Scheduled Caste) reserved constituency of the Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly, India. The Mandals of Kanchikacherla, Chandarlapadu and Veerullapadu and part of Nandigama Mandal forms the parts of the Constituency. The major villages covered in the Nandigama Mandal under Nandigama constituency were Pedavaram, Thakkellapadu, Munagacherla, Latchapalem, Lingalapadu, Adiviravulapadu, Chandapuram, Kethaveeruni Padu, Kanchela, Ithavaram, Ambarupeta, Nandigama, Satyavaram, Pallagiri and Raghavapuram .

It is one among 16 constituencies in the Krishna district. Until 2009, the Nandigama constituency is a general constituency. It is part of the Vijayawada Lok Sabha constituency along with another six Vidhan Sabha segments, namely, Tiruvuru, Vijayawada Central, Vijayawada West, Vijayawada East, Mylavaram, and Jaggayyapeta.

ELECTORAL TRENDS

After the formation of Andhra State in 1953, the first Assembly elections were held in the Andhra State in 1955. The Nandigama Constituency was formed in 1955. The constituency is a general constituency up to 2009. At present it is reserved for Scheduled Castes. Table 1 gives the particulars of registered voters in Nandigama Constituency during the period of 1983-2014.

Table 1
Registered Electors in Nandigama Constituency

Year	General		Service/Postal		Total
	Male	Female	Male	Female	
1983	49563	49780	0	0	99343
1985	57785	57190	0	0	114975
1989	67228	66896	0	0	134124
1994	72677	71084	4	1	143766
1999	77397	76623	9	5	154034
2004	77327	78766	20	7	156120
2009	83550	87386	21	8	170965
2014	90732	93329	21	10	184092
2014 (Bye Election)	NA	NA	NA	NA	184064

Source: http://eci.nic.in/eci_main1/ElectionStatistics.aspx#

It is evident from table 1 that the female voters outnumbering the male voters in 1983, 2004, 2009 and 2014. In 2009, the highest share i.e. 51.11 per cent of female voters is registered in the constituency. There is a gradual increase of registered voters in the constituency. But, in 2009 elections there is a negative growth rate (-0.09 per cent) of male voters in the constituency. The growth rate of female voters fluctuating between 2.80 per cent (2004) to 14.89 per cent (1985). There are no registered service/postal voters in the constituency up to 1989. Thereafter also their share in total registered voters is negligible.

VOTERS TURNOUT

The particulars with regard to number of registered voters who cast their vote in the Assembly elections in Nandigama constituency during 1983 to 2014 are presented in table 2.

Table 2
Voters Turnout in Nandigama Constituency

Year	General		Service/Postal		Total
	Male	Female	Male	Female	
1983	37398	35916	0	0	73314
1985	45563	44501	0	0	90064
1989	53870	49858	0	0	103728
1994	57633	52027	332	107	110099
1999	60127	57040	331	89	117587
2004	62853	61885	369	186	125293
2009	68368	70506	459	365	139698
2014	77425	78835	712	525	157497
2014 (Bye Election)	NA	NA	NA	NA	127434

Source: http://eci.nic.in/eci_main1/ElectionStatistics.aspx#

The data in table 2 shows that the percentage of registered voters who cast their vote in different elections in Nandigama constituency is not evenly distributed. In 1983 nearly 73.80 per cent of registered voters cast their vote. It increased to 78.33 per cent in 1985 elections. But it continuously declined up to 1999. From 2004 onwards it is gradually increasing. In 2004 80.25 per cent, in 2009 81.71 per cent and in 2014 85.55 per cent of registered voters cast their vote. It is pertinent to note from table 2 that the per cent of male voters who cast vote

in elections is higher than the female during all 8 elections in the constituency. However, the per cent of male and female who cast vote in different elections in the constituency is erratically distributed.

ELECTORAL RESULTS

The State of Andhra Pradesh is a bastion to Indian national Congress since the formation of Andhra State and even after formation of Andhra Pradesh. There is no political party in the state to debacle the chances of its victory in elections. The formation of Telugu Desam Party (TDP) by Telugu matinee idol Mr. N.T. Rama Rao on 29 March 1982 changed the political scenario of the state. There is a sudden change in the political equations in the state. Within one year of its formation, the TDP party faced the elections held to Andhra Pradesh Assembly in 1983. In these elections, TDP registered the landslide victory in the state. As the newly formed TDP party is unrecognized party before 1983 elections, the candidates contested on the symbol that party are recognized as independent candidates. So in 1983 elections the candidate won on TDP symbol is candidate as independent candidate in the constituency. Table 3 gives the details of election results in Nandigama constituency since 1983.

Table 3
Gender Wise and Party Wise Candidates Won From Nandigama Constituency

Year	Candidate	Sex	Party	Votes	% of Votes
1983	Vasanth Nagesawararao	M	IND	37117	51.31%
1985	Vasanth Nagesawararao	M	TDP	45206	50.65%
1989	Venkateswara Rao Mukkpati	M	INC	51421	50.63%
1994	Devineni Venkata Ramana	M	TDP	57854	53.20%
1999	Devineni Uma Maheswara Rao	M	TDP	65673	57.08%
2004	Devineni Uma Maheswara Rao	M	TDP	63445	50.69
2009	Tangirala Prabhakara Rao	M	TDP	60489	43.32
2014	Thangirala Prabhakara Rao	M	TDP	78721	50.01
2014 (Bye Election)	Thangirala Sowmya	F	TDP	99748	78.27

Source: http://eci.nic.in/eci_main1/ElectionStatistics.aspx#

It is clear from table 3 that the clear edge of Telugu Desam Party candidates in all elections held after the formation of the party. The first candidate who recognized as independent candidate by Election Commission of India also contested on the ticket of TDP party. Except the present MLA all others are male candidates won from

the constituency since 1983. In all elections except 2009 held in the constituency from 1983, the winning candidates bagged more than 50 per cent of valid votes. In latest bye elections held in September 2014, the TDP candidate bagged as many as 78.27 per cent of valid votes. The number of valid votes secured by winning candidates is gradually increasing except in 2004 and 2009 elections.

CONCLUSION

It is conspicuous to note from the study that inspite of victory of Indian National Congress in 1989, 2004 and 2009 elections, the constituency remained as a stronghold for Telugu Desam Party. The existing socio-economic composition of the voters of the constituency made it possible for Telugu Desam Party to win over the candidates of other parties.

REFERENCES

1. Balagopal K., "The Elections in Andhra Pradesh" Economic and Political Weekly, December 23-30,1989, pp.2817-2821.
2. Balagopal K.,("Andhra Elections: What Happened and What Did Not Happen", Economic and Political Weekly January 21, 1995 , pp.136-139.
3. Kavita Sharma, "Political Advertising and Voting Behaviour in India: The Mediating Role of Voting Decision Involvement", International Journal of Law and Social Sciences (JLSS) Vol.1 No.1, Jan 2012, pp.43-49.
4. Seema, "Electoral Geography: A Spatio- Temporal Analysis of Delhi and is Assembly Elections", International Journal of Development Research, Vol. 4, Issue, 1, , January, 2014, pp. 136-143.
5. Shawn Cole, Andrew Healy and Eric Werker, "Do voters demand responsive governments? Evidence from Indian disaster relief", Journal of Development Economics, Vol. 97, 2012, pp. 167–181.
6. Sridharan E, "Class Voting in the 2014 Lok Sabha Elections: The Growing Size and Importance of the Middle Classes", Economic & Political Weekly Vol. XLIX, No 39, September 27, 2014, pp. 72-76.
7. V. O. Key, Jr., 'A Theory of Critical Elections,' Journal of Politics, XVII (February 1955), p.3.
8. Yogendra Yadav, "Reconfiguration in Indian Politics: State Assembly Elections, 1993-95", Economic and Political Weekly January 13-20, 1996, pp.
9. Yogendra Yadav, "Electoral Politics in the Time of Change India's Third Electoral System, 1989-99", Economic and Political Weekly August 21-28, 1999. Pp.2393-2399.
10. MaCallum R.B, The Study of Psephology, Parliamentary Affairs, Vol.VIII, Autumn, 1955, p.508.

Publish Research Article

Dear Sir/Mam,

We invite unpublished Research Paper, Summary of Research Project, Theses, Books and Book Review for publication.

Address:- Dr. Ashak Hussain Malik House No-221, Gangoo Pulwama - 192301

Jammu & Kashmir, India

Cell: 09086405302, 09906662570,

Ph No: 01933212815

Email: nairjc5@gmail.com, nairjc@nairjc.com, info@nairjc.com

Website: www.nairjc.com

