



ISSN Print: 2394-7500
ISSN Online: 2394-5869
Impact Factor: 8.4
IJAR 2023; 9(5): 102-105
www.allresearchjournal.com
Received: 04-01-2023
Accepted: 07-02-2023

P Sreedhar Reddy
Research Scholar, Department
of Political Science and Public
Administration, Sri
Krishnadevaraya University,
Ananthapuramu, Andhra
Pradesh, India

BV Raghavulu
Retired Professor, Department
of Political Science and Public
Administration, Sri
Krishnadevaraya University,
Ananthapuramu, Andhra
Pradesh, India

Corresponding Author:
P Sreedhar Reddy
Research Scholar, Department
of Political Science and Public
Administration, Sri
Krishnadevaraya University,
Ananthapuramu, Andhra
Pradesh, India

An Analysis of 17th Lok Sabha Elections in Andhra Pradesh

P Sreedhar Reddy and BV Raghavulu

Abstract

The simultaneous elections were held to the Andhra Pradesh legislative Assembly and Lok Sabha in 2019. These were the first elections that have been held in divided Andhra Pradesh. In 2014 also simultaneous elections were held in the state in undivided Andhra Pradesh. The 2019 elections were held under special circumstances in the state. The special status that was guaranteed to the state while dividing the state became hopeless as the NDA led Union Government turned deaf ear to the special status promised by the INC led UPA Government just before 2014 elections. In 2019 the then ruling Telugu Desam Party contested without any alliance with another national and state parties. In these elections the then opposition YSRCP party in the state came with new vigour with successful completion of Padayatra by the party chief YS Jaganmohan Reddy. In this research work an attempt is made to analyse the results of 17th Lok Sabha elections in Andhra Pradesh State.

Keywords: Electors, turnout, forfeited, age, constituency

Introduction

In Andhra Pradesh Assembly as well as Lok Sabha elections were held on April 11, 2019, the second time after bifurcation of the state. The Lok Sabha elections in the country are going to be held in seven phases starting April 11. The counting of votes has taken place on May 23, 2019. Andhra Pradesh had always witnessed a fight between the Congress and Telugu Desam Party until the division of the state. In the run-up to the bifurcation of the state, the Jagan Mohan Reddy-led YSRCP replaced the Congress, going one-to-one with the TDP. Since then, the YSRCP has been the TDP's main contender in the state.

Facts and Figures

Elections to the 175 state and 25 Parliamentary constituencies are going to be held simultaneously on April 11. The result of the Assembly polls will be announced with that of Lok Sabha i.e. On May 23. The total number of electorates as of March 22, as announced by the State Election Commission, was 3, 91, 81,399 comprising 1, 93, 82,068 male, 1, 97, 95,423, women and 3,908 transgender. According to the SEC, a total of 1, 41,822 names of voters were deleted from the electoral rolls between January 11 and March 21.

The Kapus are one-fourth of the Andhra Pradesh's population, making them the most dominant community. The other important communities include Kammas and Reddys with the former constituting around five per cent of the population while the latter forming around seven per cent. Jana Sena Party leader Pawan Kalyan belongs to Kapu community while Chandrababu Naidu and Jagan Mohan Reddy are from Kamma and Reddy community respectively.

Main Contenders

The elections in the state have always been bipolar. The real contest is between the TDP and the YSRCP with the Pawan Kalyan-led Jan Sena Party emerging as an important player. The Congress had been the main rival of the TDP before the division of the state but the grand old party lost its ground following the bifurcation.

The Congress is again trying to regain the lost ground by promising special status for the state if the party is voted to power in the centre. Sensing the anger of Kapu community, which is demanding backward status for itself, Chandrababu Naidu and Jagan Reddy have decided to field a substantial number of Kapu candidates, promising to extend reservation to the community.

Jagan made headlines by taking out an over 3,000km Padyatra, spanning 429 days and covering 134 constituencies.

Pawan Kalyan is trying to capitalize on Kapu communities disillusionment against the ruling TDP. In 2014, Pawan Kalyan had offered his support to the TDP-BJP alliance and the Chandrababu-led party outperformed the YSRCP by a margin of less than one per cent. Telangana CM KCR has announced his support to Jagan in the run-up to polls. The BJP is not too behind when it comes to attracting Kapus with the saffron party appointing Kanna Lakshminarayana, a powerful Kapu leader in the Guntur district, as its state unit chief.

Key Issues

The main issue seems to be the demand for grant of special status to the state. Besides this, jobs, clean drinking water, sanitation and reservation for the Kapu community are among the key issues. Chandrababu Naidu is striving to keep his promise of extending five per cent reservation to Kapu community from the 10 per cent announced by the centre for the Economically Weaker section. East Godavari

and West Godavari are considered to be dominated by the Kapus. There are 26 unreserved Assembly seats in the region. The announcement of various welfare schemes like doubling of old age pensions, cash benefit to self-help group women Rytu Raksha scheme for farmers by Naidu are expected to revive the chances of the TDP, which is battling anti-incumbency. Jagan has also offered *navratnas*-a basket of nine welfare schemes.

Results and Discussions

In the following pages the electoral trends in Andhra Pradesh have been analyzed with a focus on voter turnout.

Voters Participation

In a representative democratic setup the voters/ people are considered as the final decision makers to decide their rulers at regular intervals. The success of largely depends on the participation of the voters in the polling. Table 1 gives a clear picture of gender wise and constituency category wise number of electors in Andhra Pradesh in 2019 Lok Sabha elections.

Table 1: Gender Wise and Constituency Category Wise Number of Electors in Andhra Pradesh in 2019 Lok Sabha Elections

Particulars		GEN	SC	ST	State Total
	No of seats	20	4	1	25
Electors	Male	15769061	3042294	709698	19521053
	Female	16036967	3102364	741626	19880957
	Third Gender	3342	521	94	3957
	Total	31809370	6145179	1451418	39405967
	NRIs	4343	731	16	5090
	Service	49145	9021	2084	60250
Voters	Male	12514599	2529962	523085	15567646
	Female	12711487	2562524	544258	15818269
	Third Gender	620	65	19	704
	Postal	228106	48923	10873	287902
	Total	25454817	5141474	1078235	31674526
	NRIs	5	0	0	5
	Poll %	80.02	83.67	74.29	80.38
	Rejected Votes (Postal)	49076	9100	3313	61489
	(Votes Rejected / Votes Not Retrived From EVM)	119	0	384	503
	NOTA Votes	344822	76023	47977	468822
	Valid Votes Polled	25060800	5056351	1026561	31143712
	Tendered Votes	105	9	5	119

Source: Report of the Election Commission of India, General Elections, 2019 (17th Lok Sabha)

It can be noted from table 1 that there are 25 Lok Sabha seats in Andhra Pradesh. Out of which 16 per cent of Lok Sabha seats in Andhra Pradesh was reserved for the scheduled Castes and 4 per cent of seats for Scheduled Tribes. To elect these 25 members there are 39405967 registered electors in the state. Among these registered voters 31674526 electors constituting 80.38 per cent of total electors exercised their franchise in the 2019 general elections in the state. There are some variations in the participation rate of various category of voters in these elections. Among the general electors 80.02 per cent casted their vote in the elections. The participation rate of scheduled Caste voters in 2019 elections stood at 83.67 per cent. The participation rate of Scheduled Tribes is low i.e.

74.29 per cent compared other category electors. In 2019 Lok Sabha elections the participation rate of male electors is slightly high (79.75 per cent) than the female (79.56 per cent) electors. The participation rate of third gender electors is as low as 17.79 per cent. Among the registered NRI electors (5090) only 05 electors constituting 0.10 per cent participated in these elections.

Nominations Process

The real political struggle in the elections starts with filing of nominations by the interested candidates on party ticket or independents. Table 2 presents the particulars of nominations filed, rejected and withdrawn for 17th Lok Sabha candidature in Andhra Pradesh.

Table 2: Nominations Filed, Rejected and Withdrawn Particulars for Lok sabha Seats in 2019 in Andhra Pradesh

Particulars	Category	GEN	SC	ST	Total
		No. of Seats	20	4	1
Nominations Filed	Male	329	49	9	387
	Female	52	7	4	63
	Third Gender	0	0	0	0
	Total	381	56	13	450
Nominations Rejected	Male	67	8	2	77
	Female	25	3	1	29
	Third Gender	0	0	0	0
	Total	92	11	3	106
Nominations Withdrawn	Male	17	1	0	18
	Female	6	1	0	7
	Third Gender	0	0	0	0
	Total	23	2	0	25
Contesting Candidates	Male	245	40	7	292
	Female	21	3	3	27
	Third Gender	0	0	0	0
	Total	266	43	10	319
Deposit Forfeited	Male	207	33	6	246
	Female	17	1	2	20
	Third Gender	0	0	0	0
	Total	224	34	8	266

Source: Report of the Election Commission of India, General Elections, 2019 (17th Lok Sabha)

The data in table 2 shows that initially for 25 Lok sabha seats 450 nominations were filed. The average number of nominations filed per constituency in the state stood at 18. Among the total nominations 106 nominations constituting 23.56 per cent of total filed nominations were rejected by the concerning authorities. Among the total filed nominations 25 nominations constituting 5.56 per cent of total filed nominations were withdrawn. At last, 319 candidates remained in the fray for 25 seats from the State. The average number of contesting candidates per each Lok sabha constituency stood at 13 persons. The average number of contestants per general constituencies, Scheduled Caste reserved constituencies and Scheduled Tribe reserved constituencies stood at 13 persons, 11 persons and 10 persons respectively. After the final counting of votes 83.39 per cent of contesting candidates have been forfeited their deposits.

Age Wise Classification of Contesting Candidates

The age wise classification of contesting candidates is presented in table 3.

Table 3: Age Group Wise Analysis of Contesting Candidates

S. No	Age Group	No. of contestants
1	below 30 years	23
2	30 to 39 Years	59
3	40 to 49 years	92
4	50 to 59 Years	79
5	60 to 69 Years	53
6	70 and above	13
	Total	319

Source: Report of the Election Commission of India, General Elections, 2019 (17th Lok Sabha)

According to table 3 the two dominant age groups from which the contesting candidates coming from are 40 to 49 years and 50 to 59 years. To be more precise 28.84 per cent of contesting candidates coming from 40 to 49 years age group and 24.76 per cent of contestants belongs to 50 to 59 years age group. The age group of 18.50 per cent of sample respondents is 30 to 39 years. About 16.61 per cent of

sample respondents belong to 60 to 69 years age group. The age group of 7.21 per cent of contestants is below 30 years. The contestants from 70 and above years constitute 4.08 per cent of total contestants.

Candidates per Constituency

Table 4 gives the details of number of candidates contested per constituency in 2019 Lok Sabha elections in Andhra Pradesh.

Table 4: Number of Candidates per Constituency

S. No	Number of Candidates	No. of Constituencies
1	1	0
2	<=15	22
3	> 15 <=31	3
4	> 31 <=47	0
5	> 47 <=63	0
6	> 63	0
	Total Candidates	319
7	Min	8
8	Max	20
9	Avg	13

Source: Report of the Election Commission of India, General Elections, 2019 (17th Lok Sabha)

Table 4 reveals that there is no unanimously elected candidates for any seat in the state in 2019 Lok sabha elections. In 22 constituencies the number candidates in fray is less than 15 or 15. In 3 Lok Sabha constituencies in the state the number of candidates in fray is more than 15 and less than 31 or 31. The minimum number of candidates in fray in the state for Lok Sabha elections of 2019 is 8 and maximum candidates are 20. In no other constituency the number of contesting crosses 20 candidates crosses 20. The average number of candidates in fray stood at 13.

Performance of Political Parties

The performance of parties such as the seats won and valid votes polled by political parties in 2019 Lok sabha Elections in Andhra Pradesh is presented in table 5.

Table 5: Seats won and valid votes polled by political parties in 2019 Lok sabha Elections in Andhra Pradesh

Party Type	Party Name	Total Valid Votes Polled in the State	Total Electors in the State	Seats Won	Total Valid Votes Polled by Party	% Valid Votes Polled by Party
N	Bahujan Samaj Party	31143712	39405967	0	83613	0.27
N	Bharatiya Janata Party	31143712	39405967	0	303985	0.98
N	Communist Party of India	31143712	39405967	0	26536	0.09
N	Communist Party of India (Marxist)	31143712	39405967	0	37895	0.12
N	Indian National Congress	31143712	39405967	0	406977	1.31
					859006	2.76
S	All India Forward Bloc	31143712	39405967	0	1687	0.01
S	Indian Union Muslim League	31143712	39405967	0	2387	0.01
S	Samajwadi Party	31143712	39405967	0	6753	0.02
S	Telugu Desam	31143712	39405967	3	12515345	40.19
S	Yuvajana Sramika Rythu Congress Party	31143712	39405967	22	15537006	49.89
	-	-	-	-	28063178	90.11
Un recognized parties	-	-	-	-	1973503	6.34
Independent	-	-	-	-	248025	0.80
NOTA	-	-	-	-	468822	1.51

Source: Report of the Election Commission of India, General Elections, 2019 (17th Lok Sabha)

It is evident from table 4 that 5 national parties contested in 2019 Lok sabha elections in the state. In all the national parties secured only 2.76 per cent of valid votes in the elections. In these elections the national parties failed to secure one seat. In 2019 Lok Sabha elections 5 recognized State Parties took part in the elections. The 5 recognized state parties together secured 90.11 per cent of total valid votes polled. Among them Yuvajana Sramika Rythu Congress Party secured 49.89 per cent of votes and emerged victorious in 22 Lok sabha constituencies in the state. The then ruling Telugu Desam Party with 40.19 per cent vote share secured 3 Lok sabha seats. The remaining 3 recognized State parties together able to secure only 0.03 per cent of votes. Independents secured 0.80 per cent of votes and the remaining 1.51 per cent of votes was voted for 'None of the above' contesting candidates.

Conclusion

In 2019 simultaneous elections held in Andhra Pradesh, the Telugu Desam Party (TDP) suffered a crushing defeat at the hands of YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) in an election that was projected as a battle between the forces of development, represented by Naidu with 14 years of experience as Chief Minister and forces of disruption led by Jagan who carries the stigma of illegal assets case against him.

References

1. Statistical Report on General Elections, 2019 to the 17th Lok Sabha, Election Commission of India, New Delhi; c2019.
2. Aiyar, Yamini, Louise Tillin. 'One nation,' BJP, and the future of Indian federalism. *India Review*. 2020;19(2):117-35.
3. Chatterjee, Niladri, Zaad Mahmood, Eleonor Marcussen. Politics of vaccine nationalism in India: global and domestic implications. *Forum for Development Studies*. 2021;48(2):357-69.
4. Sujatha V. I: COVID-19 pandemic and the politics of risk: perspectives on science, state and society in India. *Contributions to Indian Sociology*. 2021;55(2):254-67.
5. Kalhana. *Adguduguna Praja Sankalpam.*, Sakshi Funday; c2017 Nov 5. p. 10-13.

6. Kalya Lakshmi Sainath. The Power of in the Context of Andhra Pradesh-2019 Election Results, *International Journal of All Research Writings*. 2019 Aug 1(2):1-2.
7. Lakshmana Venkat Kuchi. Verdict Andhra Pradesh and Telangana: Regional Parties Dominate Poll Space", *The Hindu Centre for Politics and Public Policy*; c2019 p. 1-11.