

Executive Summary: Haryana and Jammu & Kashmir Vidhan Sabha Elections Report 2024

A FACTUAL ANALYSIS
OF
HARYANA
ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS

2024

UNANSWERED QUESTIONS

HAS ONE MORE VERDICT BEEN MANIPULATED?

Draft Report Authored and Compiled by Vote for Democracy (VFD) Maharashtra

Title of the Draft Report

“Conduct of Haryana and Jammu & Kashmir Vidhan Sabha Elections Report 2024”

Analysis of 'Vote Manipulation' and 'Misconduct during Voting and Counting'

[At pg. 1 of the Report]

Objective and Purpose of Report

The 2024 Vidhan Sabha elections in Haryana and Jammu & Kashmir have been overshadowed by widespread allegations of electoral irregularities and inconsistencies, calling into question the integrity of India's democratic processes. This **draft report**, prepared by Vote for Democracy (VFD), meticulously analyses the conduct of these elections, uncovering significant discrepancies, manipulations, and systemic failures. The findings point to a troubling pattern of non-transparency, voter turnout inflation, and unexplained variations in vote counts, particularly in Haryana, raising serious doubts and mistrust with regards to the free and fair election process. The report authored and compiled by **Vote for Democracy** has been guided and prepared by **Experts**¹.

In this report, we have highlighted the critical issues surrounding the integrity of the electoral process, specifically focusing on the unexplained hikes in voter turnout figures reported by the ECI. The report also traces a pattern of irregularities extending

¹ Dr Pyara Lal Garg, Former Dean, Faculty of Medical Sciences, Panjab University, Chandigarh is the expert who provided the basis for mathematical extrapolations, Prof. Sebastian Morris, IIM Ahmedabad (Retd.), & Member, Independent Panel for Monitoring India's Elections, Professor Harish Karnick (IIT, Kanpur, (Retd) & Member, Independent Panel for Monitoring India's Elections.)

back to the 2019 Lok Sabha elections, where similar unexplained voter turnout increases were observed. The consistency of such data manipulation raises doubts about the Election Commission's ability to conduct fair and free elections, casting a shadow over its credibility.

“Vote Counts Count! Demand Numbers, Not Percentage”

- **Voter lists are in numbers • Vote not percentage • No guesswork! • Real result, real numbers • Winning Margins, lead trails, and the final count —let’s see it all in numbers!**

Elections to the Legislative Assembly (Vidhan Sabha) Haryana October 5, 2024

Issues in the Haryana Vidhan Sabha Counting Process:

- The 2024 Haryana Vidhan Sabha elections saw significant anomalies in the ECI's reporting of polling data. Voter turnout was initially reported at 61.19% at 7:00 PM and 65.65% at 11:45 PM on October 5, without absolute vote counts. On October 7, just hours before counting, the ECI provided constituency-wise percentages but withheld actual vote counts, a deviation from established practices. This inconsistency and lack of transparency raised concerns about the accuracy of the data, especially with the turnout increasing by 6.71% (over 1.3 million votes), undermining the credibility of the election process.
- The ECI's failure to explain the unexpected rise in voter turnout raises serious doubts. According to its own calculations, polling should have concluded by 11:45 PM on October 5, but turnout continued to rise, including a 2.25% hike after polling officially ended. The absence of booth-wise data and video footage further points to potential manipulation of turnout figures, which may have been intended to benefit the ruling BJP. These irregularities raise questions about the integrity of the election results.
- The situation was compounded by political developments, as BJP projected confidence in forming the government despite adverse exit polls. On October 7, Nayab Saini claimed the BJP had "all arrangements" in place to govern alone, further fueling suspicions of data manipulation. The ECI's refusal to release absolute vote counts and the apparent discrepancies have led to calls for greater transparency, with critics arguing that the lack of accountability has eroded public trust in the election process.

This brief draft report attempts to unravel the mysteries

The Problem:

The report revealed that in the case of assembly polls in both Jammu & Kashmir and Haryana (2024), the ECI has totally refused to release the absolute number of votes polled in the state elections at all. Worse, the ECI has made public statements stating that as per rules ECI is not duty bound to release the figures of the votes polled in absolute number in each constituency or in the state as a whole! This time, the counting started without the number of EVM votes polled having been released. The ECI only released the results showing the votes received by each candidate in absolute numbers after the counting of votes and declaration of results. **[At pg. 12 of the Report]**

“Secure Every Vote: Use Forms 17-A and 17-C to Keep it Honest”

Form 17-A = Real-time record	Form 17-C = End-of-day tally	Cross-check to win	Stop Vote Leakage!
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- **Why does the Voter need to know the Number of Votes Polled? [At pages 19 to 23 of the Report]**

VFD has applied a similar logic to the one applied in the July 2023 Report, VFD's experts have calculated the following:

District-wise Hike of Vote Percentage(s) depicted in the Vote Percentage

VFD analysed the hike of vote percentage(s) of 22 districts depicted in the vote percentage. The hike in EVM Votes from the percentage of Votes as at 7 p.m. on October 5, 2024 published by ECI in its first release on voter turnout and thereafter through the release of poll percentage as at 11.45 p.m. on the same day and the Final Vote Percentage Hike released by the ECI on October 7, 2024, explained in the table 3, titled as, **“District Wise Hike in Poll Percentage in Haryana 2024”**

[At pg. 23 to 26 of the Report]

“Fake Hike” of Votes in favour of the BJP starts in 2019

VFD also highlighted in its report that the trial of fake hike of votes in favour of ruling BJP was also initiated during Lok Sabha Elections 2019 when the basic poll percentage of 61.12 % in the 2nd phase 95 seats was hiked substantially by 8.33% and raised to 69.45% as the final figure which is also substantially higher than the overall final poll percentage was 67.11

The same is obvious when we see the data for the rest of the phases of 2019 Lok Sabha polls, the same is highlighted in Table 4 of the Report states the “Change of Voter Turnout Percentage in Lok Sabha Elections 2019” The VFD Report thoroughly discussed the Media Engagement in 2019 Lok Sabha Elections.

[At page 27 of the Report]

- **Haryana Vidhan Sabha Elections 2024: Has ECI fine-tuned an unaccountable process that among other lapses, actually conceals voting figures? [At pg. 28 to 29 of the Report]**

Points for consideration:

the staggering statewide hike in Voting Percentage Figures of 6.71 %, extrapolated in actual figures (from registered voter figures supplied by the ECI itself) is 15,175 Votes per constituency and for all the 90 Constituencies this then amounts to (extrapolated) a total of Thirteen lakhs sixty five thousand seven hundred and fifty Votes (13,65,750 Votes). It is these Votes that have arguably influenced the electoral outcome in close to two dozen seats.

Shockingly, the ECI has refused to divulge the **Number of Votes Polled per Constituency** despite (as explained above) it is in possession of this Data and Figures. For the Vidhan Sabha elections in Haryana of 2024, only district wise Percentage of Votes polled at first 7 p.m. then 11.45 p.m. on October 5, 2024 have been provided. Even the percentage figures (unlike in the case of the Lok Sabha Polls, 2024) have not been provided constituency wise. There is another interesting twist to the saga. Last minute, pre-counting Revised Poll Percentages of Every district have been provided at 8.46 p.m. on October 7, 2024, 12 hours before the commencement of Counting of Votes on October 8. [At pg. 36 of the Report]

Extra seats won by BJP in district wise hike of Votes:

Table no. 5 collated by VFD makes it clear that the hike of 2.25% votes just 12 hours before counting and 45 hours after the hike of voter turnout data by 4.46% as of 11.45 p.m. on October 5, 2024, has possibly resulted into the winning of additional 24 seats by BJP and 2 seats by Indian National Lok Dal. Since the Calculation had to be done from the %age of votes in the state as a whole and that for %age of each district given by ECI, and the same is not matching, as a consequence of the same there may be some discrepancy in actual figures.

VFD prepared table 5 titled as, “**hike in votes and impact on seats won and lost**”, showing unexplained hike in 22 districts. Interestingly, 2 seats were won by Indian National Lok Dal as a consequence of the last minute vote hike of 2.25%. These figures indicate that the BJP may have actually won **24 seats in 14 districts** just by such a Vote Hike manipulation. [At pg. 37 to 40 of the Report]

Low Margin Seats: BJP is main beneficiary:

In the 2024 Haryana elections, the Indian National Congress (INC) showed significant improvement, with its vote share rising to 39.09%, up from 28.08% in 2019, nearing its 2006 vote share of 42.46%. Despite widespread expectations of anti-incumbency against the BJP, the BJP secured a third term in power. In the 17 Haryana Vidhan Sabha seats where the margin of victory was under 5,000 votes, the BJP won 10 seats, the INC claimed 5, and the INLD secured 2. **[At pg. 40 to 42 of the Report]**

The table 6 “**Low margin seats winners, losers and margin**” provides 17 low margin seats where BJP won with very low margin.

Observations of poll experts:

These two observations by poll experts need to be also factored in while understanding the Haryana Assembly Results Conundrum

1. Dr Prannoy Roy Decodes Election Results: BJP’s Haryana Hat-trick, J&K Chooses NC-Congress.
2. This comment on ‘X’ (formerly twitter) is noteworthy:
<https://x.com/DushyantNaagar/status/1844428839419802020>

[At pg. 42 of the Report]

“No More Data Doubt’s! Let’s See the Vote Counts!”

Simple is clear	End rounding risks	Trust the process	Build trust, not confusion
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Key Insights from the 2024 Haryana Elections Report

- The ECI has not provided any answer as to the huge difference in the change of Votes between the state of Haryana and that of Jammu and Kashmir where polls have been held simultaneously in 2024.
- The ECI has not provided any answer as to its refusal to place actual figures of EVM Votes polled as was done in the Lok Sabha Polls of 2024.
- Questionable phenomenon of Hike in Votes favouring BJP/NDA to the disadvantage of Opposition in 2024 Elections of Lok Sabha and Haryana Vidhan Sabha
- The ECI has, to date, not provided any answer to the huge difference of change in Voting Figures between the State of Jharkhand 2019 Assembly Polls where the Election was held in Five Phases that that of the Haryana Assembly held in October 2024 in one phase.

- The ECI has refused to provide any answer to the issue as to why such a substantial Voter Percentage Hike was not seen in the Initial and Final Figures of Voter Turnout in the Seven Phases of the Lok Sabha Polls of 2019.
- In 2019 in Phase -1 the Voter turnout changed only by a small percentage as compared to the initial percentage given by ECI
- Therefore, does not the ECI owe an explanation to Indians as to why the final data of Lok Sabha Election in 2019 changed by 0.66% to a maximum of 3.45% whereas in small state of Haryana with only 2,03,54,350 registered Electors the hike in voting has been 6.71% 50 hours after end of poll schedule?
- The report prepared Tables 7 to 11, covering data on vote hikes and turnout percentages in the Lok Sabha 2024 elections. These tables expose concerning patterns in alleged vote discrepancies, poll percentage shifts, and turnout fluctuations, pointing to troubling irregularities in the ECI's election management in Haryana and J&K Assembly Election 2024, raising doubts about the integrity of these electoral processes. **[At pg. 43 to 52 of the Report]**

Pertinently, the VFD findings reveals that District wise hike of votes from 7.00 p.m. percentage on October 5, published by ECI and thereafter at 11.45 p.m. on same day and final hike on October 7, published by PIB Delhi at 8.46 p.m. just around 12 hours before start of counting gave 44 seats to BJP out of 55 seats (80%) in 13 districts.

Table 12: Change in District-wise percentage of Votes from October 5, 2024, 7 & 11.45 PM and 8.46 p.m. on October 7, 2024. Pursuing table 12, it becomes crystal clear that it is highly likely if not probable that the BJP has won 44 seats in 13 districts just by a possible Vote Hike manipulation, and also prepared Table 13 for “**Voter Percentage Hike Decrease of Votes in Mewat district**” [With Observation] **[At pg. 53 of the Report]**

Key Findings from the 2024 Haryana Elections Report

- BJP wins 37 Seats out of 44 (strike rate 84.09%) in Ten Districts - Table 14 with observations
- Votes from EVM Recovered do not Tally with Votes Polled and Declared by ECI
- Specific Observations on EVM Vote Percentages and specific Seats
- **Why should ECI give Actual Number of Votes Polled in EVMs rather than Percentage of Votes?**
- Discrepancy between Votes Polled and Votes recovered at counting - Table 15
- Voters in Queue at 7.00 p.m. after closure of Polls for 11.45 p.m. Bulletin by ECI
- Voting could not have continued beyond 11.45 p.m. on October 5 in any case once the hike in EVM Votes has been calculated as per average hike per polling booth
- In any case, the 2nd hike of EVM Votes cannot and should not occur after 50 hours of end of scheduled time of Poll - Table 16 **(Projected Hike of Actual Votes in 22 districts based on Extrapolation of Unexplained High Percentage Hike)**

- Hike of Votes in the last hour, 12 hours before Counting suggests manipulation - Table 17 (Projected Hike in Actual Votes in 22 Districts on the basis of unexplained Percentage Hikes)
- Poll Percentages Hiked after Closure of Polls by 11.45 p.m on October 5, 2024 in districts of Panchkula and Charkhi-Dadri - Table 18 **(Mismatch in Five Districts between the EVM Poll Percentages at Close of Poll and After Close of Poll (Day before Counting))**
- It appears clear therefore that some game was there in as much as that all these seats fall in the category of the 24+2 seats won by BJP and the INLD as a result of the last- minute hike of 2.25% votes around 7.00 p.m. on October 7, 2024 just 12 hours prior to the start of counting. There is no explanation from the ECI on the questions raised - Table 19 **(Margin of Victory/Loss in 14 Seats, 8 of which are Low Margin Seat as compared to unexplained Voter Percentage Hike)**
- Issue of Non-Consumption of Battery of the EVMs -99% charged Battery - Table 20 **(EVM Battery Charge in Eight Assembly Constituencies)**
- Impact of Failure of Alliance between Congress and AAP - Table 21 **(Table showing Vote Loss due to Absence of Alliance between INC and AAP)**
- As such an alliance would have gained not the Congress **[At pg. No. 55 to 70 of the Report]**

Key observations and mismatch reported by VFD

- ECI indulges in excessive arbitrariness on Non-Release Number of EVM Votes Polled and Resultant Mismatch of EVM Votes Polled at Every Stage.
- Huge & Universal Mismatch in Votes.
- Mismatch in Table - Table 22 **(Table 22: Mismatch of EVM Votes is seen in all the 22 districts of Haryana where Hikes were High)** [at page no.. of the Report]
- Mismatch Table: State as a Whole and District Wise Poll Percentage, Table 23 **(Mismatch of EVM Votes is seen in all the 22 districts)**
- Mismatch Table: State as a whole and District wise Poll Percentage, Table 24 **(Mismatch of EVM votes as per poll % declared by ECI at 11.45 pm on October 5, 2024 for each of the 22 districts and the state as a whole)**
- Mismatch in Table: table 25 **(Mismatch in EVM Votes District-wise and State as a whole, 8.46 p.m., October 7, 2024)**
- Mismatch in 22 Districts that saw a Selective Spike in Vote Percentage, Table 26 **(Mismatch Table in 22 Districts that saw a Selective Spike in Vote Percentage)**
- Significant Mismatch in 11 Constituencies, Table 27 **(Significant Mismatch in 11 Constituencies)**
- Mismatch of EVM Votes Polled and Recovered at Counting, Constituency and District-wise, Table 28 **(Mismatch of EVM Votes Polled and Recovered at Counting, Constituency and District-wise)** [at pg. 71 to 82 of the Report]

Jammu and Kashmir 2024 polls

The J & K Elections in Three phases and Voter turnout at 7 p.m., 11.45 p.m. and 3rd day Voter Turnout Percentages provided by ECI clearly suggest that here too the practice of hiking votes has been carried out. While the issue of Voter Percentage Hike in Haryana has at least attracted some independent media attention post counting on October 8, the scant attention on Jammu and Kashmir conceals a disturbing trend. In Kashmir, the Voter Percentage Hike is minimal in both the 7 p.m. and later Phases of Collation and Counting in all the Percentage of Polled Votes declared by ECI.

- **Vote Poll Percentage Discrepancies in Jammu Region, Phase wise hike of votes (Table 30):** Table 30 indicates that in J&K in the first two phases voting was in Kashmir and the change of poll percentage over time was minimal. It was 2.53% in the First Phase and 3.02% in the Second phase. However, in the Third phase when elections took place for 40 seats in the Jammu region the hike was 0.99% more than Second phase and 1.48% higher as compared to the First phase, when overall hike is calculated in all the three phases of J&K in all the 90 constituencies one finds that as per ECI release total electors in J& K are 23.27 lakh +25.78 Lakh +39.18 Lakh = 88.23 Lakh where in total hike of votes is 88873+77856+1,57,112= 2,93,841 and the cumulative hike comes to be 3.33%.

VFD Haryana and Jammu & Kashmir

VFD concludes in Table 31 (**Comparative Total Hike in Voting Percentage in Haryana and J&K**) that the total hike of 6.71% in Haryana and 4.01% in Jammu where as in Kashmir in Phases 1 and Two it is only 2.53% and 3.02% respectively with a cumulative hike of 3.33% from 7:00 PM to 11:45 PM on October 5, 2024. It therefore appears that the higher rise/hike has been affected to possibly allow substantial gains to the BJP and where there is normal variation in percentages, the Opposition has won.

[At pg. 83 to 84 of the Report]

“Clear, Clean and Transparent Polling—For Every Vote!”

We demand full transparency!

Queue count transparency	Booth-wise queue data	Video evidence
Polling officer's accountability	VVPAT transparency	SLU codes for disputes

The entire **Draft Report** may be viewed here <https://votefordemocracy.org.in/>