

KARNATAKA ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS, 1994
An Analysis of the Role and Performance
of Political Parties and Independents

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The vigour and vitality of a democratic polity is often mirrored in the dynamics of its electoral process. Periodic elections conducted in a free and fair manner are reflective of the democratic values and traditions adopted and nurtured by the system. This paper attempts at analysing the 1994 Karnataka Assembly elections from a multi-track perspective. The issues analysed include the performance of political parties and independents and the causes and consequences of multi-cornered contests. As election statistics by themselves may not be helpful, a modest attempt has been made to weave them into a pattern so as to yield certain generalisations.

I. PARTY-WISE PERFORMANCE

On the 26th of November and 1st of December 1994, the electorate in Karnataka, spread over 224 constituencies, decided on the composition of Tenth Karnataka Legislative Assembly. It needs to be stressed that in no constituency was the election countermanded. In the battle of the ballot, the Janata Dal secured 115 seats, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) 40 seats, the Indian National Congress 36 seats, the Karnataka Congress Party (KCP) 10 seats, the Karnataka Rajya Raitha Sangha(KRRS), the Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP), the All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (AIADMK), the Bharatiya Republican Party (BRP), the Communist Party of India (Marxist), the Indian National League (INL), the Kannada Chaluvali Vatal Paksha (KCVP) all secured one seat each. Independents emerged victorious in 16 constituencies. Table 1 indicates the performance of the different political parties and independents in the elections.

Table 1 also indicates the success rate of the different political parties, in the context of the seats contested and seats won. The highest success rate was that of the Janata Dal, which emerged victorious in more than half the seats it contested. The Indian National League had

a success rate of 50 per cent having emerged victorious in 1 of the 2 seats it contested and the AIADMK and BRP had a success rate of 25 per cent. While the BJP success rate was nearly 18 per cent, for the Congress(I) it was just above 16 per cent, for the CPI(M) just over eight per cent, for the KCP nearly five per cent, for the KCVF just over two per cent, for the BSP just over one per cent and for the KRRS nearly one per cent.

The 1994 Assembly elections in Karnataka saw the Janata Dal being returned to power. It was only the third occasion in the state, when the Congress Party did not secure a majority. Earlier in the 1983 Assembly Elections (Seventh Karnataka Legislative Assembly) no party secured a majority and the Janata Party emerged as the single largest party and in the 1985 Assembly Elections (Eighth Karnataka Legislative Assembly) the Janata Party won a majority of the seats. A comparative analysis of the seats won by the different political parties and Independents in the 1989 and 1994 Karnataka Assembly elections shows that while the Janata Dal strength witnessed a near five-fold increase and the BJP strength witnessed a ten-fold increase, the share of the Congress Party fell by nearly 80 per cent. There was a marginal increase in the number of seats won by Independents.

An analysis of the percentage of votes polled and seats secured by the political parties shows that the first-past-the-post election system that has been adopted in India, does not permit the election results to effectively mirror the preferences of the voters. Table 3 shows that even though the Janata Dal secured only a little over 33 per cent of the votes it won 52 per cent of the seats. The Congress on the other hand, secured a little over 27 per cent of the votes but won only 16 per cent of the seats. In the case of the KCP, it polled a little over 7 per cent of the votes and secured a little over 4 per cent of the seats. The discrepancy between the votes polled and seats secured is not very glaring in the case of the BJP. While it polled nearly 17 per cent of the votes it secured nearly 18 per cent of the seats. One of the inherent limitations of the first-past-the-post election system, especially when it operates in a multi party democratic polity, is that the votes polled by a political party is in most cases not reflected in the seats it is able to win. In the 1989 Assembly elections, the Janata party secured over 27 per cent of the votes and won merely 11 per cent of the seats. Thus from 1989 to 1994, the seats share of the party has registered a near five-fold increase (41 per cent) while its votes share has increased by only six per cent.

II. CONTESTANTS: PARTY SPONSORED AND INDEPENDENTS

The 1994 Karnataka Assembly Elections saw a record 2,497 contestants in the 224 constituencies. On an average there were 11 contestants in each constituency. With every General Election to the State Assembly, the number of contestants has been steadily increasing. The trend in recent times in Karnataka was that the number of Independents entering the electoral contest far out numbered the party sponsored candidates. In the 1983 Assembly elections, of the 1356 contestants, 613 were party sponsored (45 per cent) and 743 (55 per cent) were independents. In the 1985 elections, of the 1795 candidates 607 (34 per cent) were party sponsored and 1188 (66 per cent) were independents. In 1989, of the 2043 contestants, 966 (47 per cent) were party sponsored and 1077 (53 per cent) were Independents. However, in the Assembly elections held prior to 1983, the party sponsored candidates outnumbered the Independents, as is seen in Table 5. In the 1994 elections, the number of party sponsored candidates was marginally higher than the number of independents; 1257 party sponsored and 1240 independents.

The sharp increase in the number of party sponsored candidates in the 1994 Assembly elections, has largely been due to the fact that four parties -- Janata Dal, Congress, BJP and KCP-- fielded candidates in nearly all the constituencies. Further the KRRS fielded candidates in nearly half the constituencies (111) and the BSP put up candidates in 78 constituencies. The highest number of contestants was in Hubli Rural (Dharwad district)- 30 contestants: 6 party sponsored and 24 Independents. The lowest number of contestants was in Gurmitkal (Gulbarga dist) which witnessed a triangular battle, all the three contestants being party sponsored. As in the past, urban constituencies attracted a larger number of contestants as compared to the constituencies in rural areas.

Party-wise performance can also be examined from the perspective of the leading contestants (first and second) in each constituency. Table 6 illustrates the pattern with regard to the principal contestants in the 224 constituencies. It indicates that in 168 of the 224 constituencies (75 per cent) the first and second positions were occupied by the Janata Dal, Congress or BJP contestants. In 56 constituencies (25 per cent), a candidate who was an Independent or hailed from a party other than the Janata Dal, Congress and BJP was either in the first or second position.

This clearly shows that the 1994 elections have witnessed keen electoral contests involving not merely the three major parties - Janata Dal, Congress and BJP - and these elections have heralded a phase of genuine multi-party contests. It needs to be stressed that in the 1989 Assembly elections, the Congress candidates were winners or immediate losers in all but 15 constituencies. This elections has clearly altered the trend and the present ruling party (Janata Dal) was in the first or second position in 163 (73 per cent) constituencies (victorious in 115 and in the second position in 48).

The Congress(I), whose candidates emerged victorious in 36 constituencies, came second in as many as 122 constituencies. The party was thus a principal contestant in 158 (70 per cent) constituencies. The BJP, which emerged victorious in 40 constituencies, was thus a principal contestant in only 64 (29 per cent) constituencies. This implies that BJP candidates came third, fourth and further lower down in as many as 180 (81 per cent) constituencies. Though the BJP may be the leading opposition party in the Assembly and the Congress may have been relegated to the third position, an overall assessment of the performance of the parties show that the Congress has fared much better than the BJP. The fact that a significantly higher number of BJP contestants forfeited their deposits as compared to the Congress contestants (the issue is discussed in detail later) bears testimony to this fact. Further, there was not much of a discrepancy between the percentage of votes polled and seats won in the case of the BJP and this is due to the fact the party had a significant presence in only 64 constituencies. In the case of the KCP, its candidates were victorious in 10 constituencies and came second in 17 constituencies, thus registering their presence in only 27 (12 per cent) constituencies. A significantly high percentage of KCP candidates lost their deposits.

A district-wise study of the performance of the political parties shows that while the Janata Dal drew a blank in only Kodagu district, no Congress candidate was elected in 5 districts: Bangalore (Rural), Mandya, Mysore, Kodagu and Uttara Kannada. The BJP too, failed to win a single seat in 5 districts: Raichur, Kolar, Mandya, Chikamagalur and Belgaum. The KCP was unable to open its account in 13 districts: Bidar, Raichur, Bellary, Kolar, Bangalore Urban, Bangalore Rural, Mandya, Mysore, Kodagu, Hassan, Chikamagalur, Belgaum and Bijapur. It is interesting to note that except in Kodagu district where all the three seats were won by the BJP, no single party won all the seats in any

district. In the 1989 Assembly elections, the Congress made a clean sweep of 3 districts: Hassan, Chikamagalur and Kodagu and the Janata Dal did not win a single seat in 7 districts: Gulbarga, Dakshina Kannada, Mandya, Hassan, Mysore, Kodagu and Chikamagalur.

Traditionally, Karnataka has been divided into four regions: Old Mysore Region, Hyderabad Karnatak Region, Bombay Karnatak Region, and Madras Presidency Region and Coorg. Prior to independence and the reorganisation of the States on linguistic basis, the Old Mysore Region was a part of the Princely State of Mysore, the Hyderabad Karnatak Region was part of the Nizam's territory and, the Bombay Karnatak Region was part of the Bombay Presidency, and the Madras Presidency region was part of British India. While there are 110 Assembly constituencies in the Old Mysore Region, there are 39 in the Hyderabad Karnatak Region, 57 in the Bombay Karnatak Region and 18 in the Madras Presidency Region and Coorg.

An analysis of the region-wise party performance shows that there are clearly discernible trends in each region. While the Janata Dal victories in the Old Mysore Region (57 per cent) and Bombay Karnatak Region (54 per cent) are higher than its overall state average (51 per cent), the party did not do as well in the Hyderabad Karnatak Region (46 per cent) and fared very badly in the Madras Presidency Region and Coorg (17 per cent). In the case of the Congress, the percentage of victories in the Old Mysore Region (9 per cent) was significantly lower than the percentage of victories in the Hyderabad Karnatak Region (25 per cent), Madras Presidency Region and Coorg (22 per cent) and Bombay Karnatak Region (21 per cent). The poor performance in the Old Mysore region has reduced the overall percentage of seats won by the Congress to 16 per cent. While the BJP recorded a significantly high percentage of victories in the Madras Presidency Region and Coorg (56 per cent), its percentage of victories in the Hyderabad Karnatak region (8 per cent) and Bombay Karnatak Region (14 per cent) was relatively lower.

III. THE VOTING PATTERN

A crucial factor that helps explain voting behaviour is the swing of votes for and against a political party in each constituency over successive general elections. In the 1989 Assembly elections in Karnataka, a swing of a little over 3,18,000 votes (1.76 per cent of the

valid votes polled) in favour of Congress candidates in 66 constituencies, helped the party to win these seats (these constituencies had returned non-Congress candidates in the previous elections) and secure a majority in the Assembly.

In the 1994 Assembly Elections there was a swing of votes in favour of the Janata Dal candidates in as many as 137 of the 223 constituencies (one constituency - Davangere - is not being considered as the party did not field a candidate here both in 1989 and 1994). In 79 of these constituencies the swing of votes was more than 10 per cent and in 58 it was between 0.01 per cent and 10 per cent. It is also interesting to note that in 103 of the 137 constituencies where there was a swing of votes in favour of the Janata Dal its candidates emerged victorious. There were as many as 34 constituencies, where in spite of a swing in favour of the Janata Dal, its candidates did not win. In 88 of these 137 constituencies, the Janata Dal candidates wrested the seat from the Congress(I). In 7 constituencies, (held earlier by the Congress but won in these elections by Janata Dal candidates) the swing of votes which ensured these victories (and helped the Janata Dal secure a majority in the Assembly) varied from 0.04 per cent to 1.82 per cent and in terms of votes the number was 4704. Thus a swing of 4704 votes in favour of the Janata Dal candidates in 7 constituencies, which were earlier held by the Congress, helped the Janata Dal to gain these seats and secure a majority for the Janata Dal in the Assembly.

In 86 other constituencies there was a fall in the percentage of votes polled by the Janata Dal candidates in 1994 as compared to the 1989 elections. In 70 of these constituencies, the Janata Dal candidates were defeated and in the other 16, the party candidates emerged victorious in spite of a fall in the percentage of votes secured by the party. In as many as 40 of these 86 constituencies the fall in the Janata Dal vote was more than 10 per cent. In nine such constituencies the Congress(I) retained the seat, in another 10 the seats were wrested by the BJP from the Congress(I), in four the seats were wrested by the KCP from the Congress(I) and in three the seats were wrested by the BJP from the Janata Dal itself.

In the case of the Congress(I), there was an increase in the percentage of the votes polled by the party candidates in 24 constituencies while the percentage of votes polled fell in as many as 200 constituencies. In 15 of these 24 constituencies the swing in favour of the Congress(I) candidates was in the 0.01 per cent to 10 per cent

range. In only seven of these 24 constituencies the Congress candidate emerged victorious. Of the 200 constituencies where the percentage of votes polled by the Congress candidates fell, in 130 the swing against the Congress was more than 15 percent. 147 of these 200 seats were earlier held by the Congress(I) but were lost in these elections. In 25 other constituencies the party retained the seats.

In the case of the BJP, of the 223 constituencies (one constituency - Gurmitkal - is not being considered as the party did not field a candidate from this constituency in both 1989 and 1994), the percentage of votes polled by the BJP increased in all but one constituency. In Bidar constituency (which was won by a BJP candidate in 1989 and a Bahujan Samaj Party candidate in 1994) the percentage of votes polled by the BJP witnessed a decline. Several factors need to be borne in mind while seeking explanations for a rise in the percentage of BJP votes in 222 constituencies. In the first place, the BJP had put up candidates in only 119 constituencies the 1989 elections. In 1994, they fielded candidates in 223 constituencies. Thus, in the 104 constituencies where they did not field a candidate in 1989, however small may be the percentage of votes polled by their nominees, it meant a swing in favour of the party. It must also be borne in mind that the BJP stood in either the first or second position in only 64 constituencies.

Of the 222 constituencies where there was a swing of vote in favour of the BJP candidates, in 114 the swing was less than 10 per cent and in 108 it was more than 10 per cent. Of the 108 seats there was a swing of more than 10 per cent, in 35 BJP contestants emerged victorious and in 36 the Janata Dal wrested the seat from the Congress. Of the 114 constituencies in which there was a swing in favour of the BJP candidates of less than 10 per cent, 61 were wrested by the Janata Dal from the Congress(I). Of the 177 seats held by the Congress on the eve of 1994 elections, it was able to retain 28 and lost 149. It wrested 8 seats from others. The Janata Dal retained 15 of its seats, losing nine and wresting 100 from other parties. The BJP retained three of its seats, lost one and wrested 37. The KCP, which did not exist in 1989, wrested all the 10 seats that it won. The AIADMK lost one seat and wrested one. The KRRS lost two seats and wrested one. The IUML, Samajavadi Party and Janata Party (JP) lost the seats they held in the previous Assembly. The Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP), the Bharatiya Republican Party (BRP), the Communist Party of India (Marxist), Kannada Chaluvali Vatal Paksha (KVCP) and the Indian National League (INL)

all wrested one seat each. The Independents retained six seats, lost six seats and wrested 10 seats. Thus 52 (23 per cent) seats were retained by the party which won the seats in the previous elections and 172 (77 per cent) seats were lost/ wrested. This once again implies, a high turnover of parties and candidates and reflects a weak hold of parties over constituencies.

One clearly discernible impact of the multi-cornered contests is seen in the significant number of the contestants who emerge victorious securing less than 50 per cent of the votes. 176 (79 per cent) of the 224 victors polled less than 50 per cent of the valid votes. The split of the votes among several contestants enables a candidate to win the election with less than 50 per cent votes. A party-wise analysis shows that 78 (68 per cent) of the 115 Janata Dal MLAs have polled less than 50 per cent votes. In the case of the Congress party, 32 (89 per cent) of its MLAs polled less than 50 per cent votes. Among the 40 BJP MLAs 34 (85 per cent) secured less than 50 per cent of the valid votes polled. In the case of the 10 KCP MLAs 9 (90 per cent) secured less than 50 per cent of the valid votes polled. It can be seen in Table 10 that among those in the 'Others' category (those hailing from parties other than the Congress, BJP, Janata Dal and KCP) none of the victors polled more than 50 per cent of the valid votes. It is also noticed that a higher percentage of non Janata Dal MLAs secured less than a majority of the valid votes.

The margin of victories in the 224 constituencies is assessed based on the percentage (margin of victory) of the valid votes polled. This approach becomes necessary in view of the fact that the electorate, voter turnout and number of invalid votes varies significantly from constituency to constituency. As a result, viewing margin of victories merely in absolute terms may prevent the emergence of a realistic overall perspective. From Table 11 it becomes clear that 161 of the 224 (71 per cent) victories have been by margins of more than 5 per cent of the valid votes polled. In the case of the Janata Dal, 71 (61 per cent) of the 115 victories were with margins of more than 10 per cent of the valid votes polled. In the case of the Congress Party 25 (69 per cent) of the 36 victories were recorded with margins of less than 10 per cent of the valid votes polled. In the case of the BJP, the victories have been more or less evenly distributed in the less than 10 per cent and more than 10 per cent range. In case of all the parties which have one MLA in the House, the victory margins were all in the less than 15 per cent

range. In terms of percentage, the smallest margin for victory was in Holenarsipura, where the victory margin of the Janata Dal candidate was 0.11 per cent of valid votes polled. The largest victory margin from this perspective, was in Kanakapura, where the victory margin of the Janata Dal candidate was 50.45 per cent of the valid votes.

Of the 2,497 contestants in the 1994 elections, as many as 1942 (78 per cent) forfeited their deposits. (Table 12 provides the details). While 34 of those who stood on the Congress ticket forfeited their deposits, 38 of the Janata Dal nominees forfeited their deposit. In the case of the BJP 134 (60 per cent) of its 223 contestants forfeited their deposits. In the case of the KCP, 184 (84 per cent) of the 219 contestants forfeited their deposits. Of the 111 KRRS contestants as many as 100 (90 per cent) forfeited their deposits. All but one of the 78 BSP nominees, 7 of the 8 CPI nominees, 10 of the 12 CPM nominees, 3 of the 4 BRP nominees, 44 of the 45 KCVP nominees, 2 of the 4 AIADMK nominees, and 47 of the 48 Samajvadi Party nominees lost their security deposits. All the RPI, RPI (K), Janata Party and IUML nominees forfeited their deposits. The high incidence of deposit losing candidates among those sponsored by political parties clearly shows that parties have put up candidates in constituencies even when it was obvious that their electoral prospects were bleak. Such a scenario could lead to the inference that in several constituencies candidates were fielded by parties merely for the sake of registering a formal contest and not with the purpose of seriously winning. The defeat of a high percentage of independents - 1203 (97 per cent) out of 1240- shows that most of the independents were non-serious candidates. It is interesting to note in this context, that 18 sitting MLAs who had once again sought the mandate of the voters (from the same constituencies) forfeited their deposits. 14 of them were Congress nominees, 2 contested the election on the KCP ticket and 2 contested as Independents.

IV. SUMMING UP

The 1994 Assembly elections in Karnataka was one of the most keenly contested elections in the State. It is a sign of the maturity of Indian democracy that no party today can take the electorate for granted and hope to be voted to power irrespective of its capabilities and achievements. The elections saw the defeat of the Congress party in the state for a third time in four decades. The Janata Dal/Party which had

formed the government on two earlier occasions (1983 and 1985) was voted back to power. The election also saw the emergence of the BJP as the largest opposition party in the Assembly with the Congress being relegated to the third position.

An analysis of the votes polled by the major political parties shows that even though the Janata Dal secured a majority in the Assembly, its vote share was only a little over 33 per cent. On the other hand, though the votes share of the Congress party was slightly over 27 per cent it could capture just over 16 per cent of the seats. In the previous elections held in 1989, the Congress polled just 44 per cent of the votes but won nearly 80 per cent of the seats. In this election its seat share went down by 60 per cent but its votes share fell by only 11 per cent. The 1994 Karnataka Assembly elections have once again brought into focus the glaring difference between the percentage of votes polled and seats won by a party. The emergence of a competitive party system and multi-cornered contests in all constituencies is one of the major factors responsible for this trend. As this phenomenon is not unique to Karnataka alone and has been seen both in the Lok Sabha elections and the elections to other state legislatures, a serious debate is needed on reforming the first-past-the-post election system.

The 1994 elections are significant as they confirm the trend of multi party competition in Karnataka. The 1983 and 1985 election results in Karnataka can no longer be considered as isolated exceptions to one party (Congress) domination in the state. The elections also saw the humbling of political stalwarts and favourites who enjoyed the blessings of political fathers/godfathers, irrespective of the party they belonged to. This is a welcome trend in a democratic polity. Carrying forward the process of electoral reforms has become imperative if the democratic fabric of the society has to be strengthened and the mandate of the voter is to be more effectively mirrored in the election results.

Table 1

Seats Contested and Won by Parties and Independents
Karnataka Assembly Election, 1994

Party	Seats Won (Seats contested in brackets)	Success Rate
Janata Dal	115 (221)	52.04
Congress	36 (223)	16.14
B.J.P.	40 (223)	17.94
K.C.P.	10 (219)	4.57
K.R.R.S.	1 (111)	0.90
B.S.P.	1 (78)	1.28
AIADMK	1 (4)	25.00
B.R.P.	1 (4)	25.00
I.N.L.	1 (2)	50.00
C.P.M.	1 (12)	8.33
K.C.V.P.	0 (45)	2.22
C.P.I.	0 (8)	-
I.U.M.L.	0 (2)	-
S.P.	0 (48)	-
R.P.I.	0 (11)	-
R.P.I. (K)	0 (4)	-
Janata Party	0 (36)	-
Other Parties	0 (6)	-
Independents	16 (1240)	1.29

Note: BJP: Bharatiya Janata Party; KCP: Karnataka Congress Party; KRRS: Karnataka Raja Raitha Sangha; BSP: Bahujan Samaj Party; AIADMK: All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam; BRP: Bharatiya Republican Party; INL: Indian National League; CPI(M): Communist Party of India (Marxist); KCVP: Kannada Chaluvati Vatal Paksha; CPI: Community Party of India; IUML: Indian Union Muslim League; SP: Samajwadi Party; RPI: Republican Party of India; RPI (K): Republication Party of India (Khobargade).

Table 2

Seats Won by Political Parties and Independents in the 1989 and 1994 Elections

Party	Seats won in the 1989 Election	Seats won in the 1994 Election	Increase/Decrease
Janata Dal	24	115	+ 91
Congress	178	36	-142
B.J.P.	4	40	+ 36
K.C.P.*	-	10	
K.R.R.S.	2	1	-1
B.S.P.*	-	1	
AIADMK	1	1	
B.R.P.*	-	1	
I.N.L.*	-	1	
C.P.M.	0	1	+ 1
K.C.V.P.*	-	1	
Janata Party	2	0	- 2
Independents	13	16	+ 3

* These parties did not exist during the 1989 elections.

Table 3

Percentage of Votes Polled and Seats Won by Parties and Independents

Party	Votes Polled	Percentage of Votes Polled	Seats	Percentage of Seats Won
Janata Dal	69,35,136	33.49	115	52.04
Congress	56,60,218	27.34	36	16.14
B.J.P.	35,14,250	16.97	40	17.86
K.C.P.	15,06,849	7.28	10	4.46
K.R.R.S.	5,86,832	2.83	1	0.45
B.S.P.	1,60,720	0.78	1	0.45
C.P.M.	91,279	0.44	1	0.45
S.P.	74,454	0.36	-	-
I.N.L.	60,802	0.29	1	0.45
C.P.I.	51,793	0.25	-	-
AIADMK	43,378	0.21	1	0.45
K.C.V.P.	37,632	0.18	1	0.45
B.R.P.	28,132	0.14	1	0.45
Janata Party	34,895	0.17	-	-
R.P.I.	2,743	0.01	-	-
R.P.I. (K)	1,854	0.01	-	-
I.U.M.L.	811	0.01	-	-
Other Parties	4,301	0.01	-	-
Independents	19,09,866	9.23	16	7.13

Table 4

Total Number of Contestants
Karnataka Assembly Elections: 1952-1994

Election	Contestants	Constituencies	Average Contestants Per Constituency
1994	2497	224	11
1989	2043	224	9
1985	1795	224	8
1983	1356	223	6
1978	1165	224	5
1972	820	216	4
1967	727	216	3
1962	675	208	3
1957	560	208	3
1952	394	99	4

Table 5

Total Number of Contests : Party Sponsored and
Independents: Karnataka Assembly Elections 1952-94

Year of Election	Total	Party Sponsored (in Percentage)	Independents (in Percentage)
1994	2497	1257 (50.3)	1240 (49.7)
1989	2043	966 (47.3)	1077 (52.7)
1985	1795	607 (33.8)	1188 (66.2)
1983	1356	613 (45.2)	743 (54.8)
1978	1165	680 (58.4)	485 (41.6)
1972	820	572 (69.8)	248 (30.2)
1967	727	397 (54.6)	330 (45.4)
1962	675	500 (74.1)	175 (25.9)
1957	560	322 (57.5)	238 (42.5)
1952	394	241 (61.2)	153 (38.8)

Table 6

Principal Contestants

Principal Contestants First and Second Position	Number of Constituencies
Janata Dal - Congress	109
Janata Dal - BJP	30
Janata Dal - BJP	29
Janata Dal - KCP	6
Janata Dal - KRRS	3
Janata Dal - Independents	15
Congress - KCP	8
Congress - Independents	7
Congress - KCVP	1
Congress - AIADMK	1
Congress - KRRS	1
Congress - CPI(M)	1
Congress - SP	1
BJP - KCP	3
BJP - Independents	2
BJP - BSP	1
BJP - INL	1
KCP - Independents	2
KRRS - Independents	2
BRP - AIADMK	1
Independents - Independents	2
Total	224

Table 7
Region-wise Party Performance

Region (Total seats in region in brackets)	Seats Won (Percentage of seats won in brackets)				
	Janata	Cong	BJP	KCP	Others
Old Mysore (110)	63 (57)	10 (9)	19 (17)	4 (4)	14 (13)
Hyderabad Karnatak (39)	18 (46)	10 (25)	3 (8)	3 (8)	5 (13)
Bombay Karnatak (57)	31 (54)	12 (21)	8 (14)	2 (4)	4 (7)
Madras Presidency Region and Coorg (18)	3 (17)	4 (22)	10 (56)	1 (5)	
Total Seats won	115 (51)	36 (16)	50 (18)	10 (4)	23 (11)

Table 8
Swing of Votes: 1989 to the 1994 Karnataka
Assembly Elections

Percentage of Swing	Number of Constituencies		
	Janata Dal	Congress	BJP
More than - 30	7	25	-
-30 to -20	6	60	-
-20 to -15	14	50	-
-15 to -10	13	36	1
-10 to -5	18	17	-
-5 to 0	28	12	-
0 to 5	32	12	67
5 to 10	26	3	47
10 to 15	20	4	40
15 to 20	16	3	23
20 to 30	17	1	21
More than 30	26	1	24
Total	223*	224	223**

- * In one constituency the Janata Dal did not put up a candidate in both the 1989 and 1994 elections.
 ** In one constituency the BJP did not put up a candidate in both the 1989 and 1994 elections.

Table 9
Seats Wrested, Retained and Lost by Political Parties
and Independents

Party	Wrested	Retained	Lost
Janata Party	100	15	9
Congress	8	28	149
BJP	37	3	1
KCP	10	0	1
AIADMK	1	0	1
KRRS	1	0	2
INL	1	0	0
BRP	1	0	0
BSP	1	0	0
CPM	1	0	0
KCVF	1	0	0
Samajavadi Party	0	0	1
IUML	0	0	1
Janata Party	0	0	2
Independents	10	6	6
Total	172	52	172

Table 10
Percentage of Votes Polled by the Winning Candidates

	JD	CONG	BJP	KCP	Others*	TOTAL
Secured more than 50 per cent of the Valid Votes	37	4	6	1	0	48
Secured less than 50 per cent of the Valid Votes polled	78	32	34	9	23	176
Total	115	36	40	10	23	224

- * Others include AIADMK:1, BRP:1, BSP:1, KRRS:1, INL:1, KCVF:1, CPM:1 and Independents:16.

Table 11
Margin of Victories
(In terms of percentage of valid votes)

Percent- age	JD	Cong	BJP	KCP	A I	B R P	B S P	C P M	I N L	K R S	K C V P	IN D	Total
0-1	6	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	12
1-3	10	8	6	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	27
3-5	12	4	3	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	24
5-10	16	12	7	3	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	4	44
10-15	13	4	12	-	-	1	-	-	1	1	-	1	33
15-20	19	2	6	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	31
20-30	20	4	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	32
> 30	19	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	21
	11 5	36	40	10	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	16	224

Table 12
Number of Contestants Who
Forfeited Their Deposit

Party	No. of contestants who forfeited their deposit	Party	No. of Contestants who forfeited their deposit
Janata Dal	38	Congress	34
BJP	134	KCP	184
KRRS	100	BSP	78
CPI	7	CPM	10
BRP	3	RPI	11
RPI (K)	4	Samajvadi Party	47
KCVF	44	Janata Party	36
IUML	2	AIADMK	2
Other Parties	6	Independents	1203
		Total	1942