

India's Voting Behavior and Its Determinants

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Abstract:

In democratic politics, one of the most widely used terms is "voting." The people elect their representatives and construct their government through elections, which are the lifeblood of democracy. Voting is a method for citizens to express their support or opposition to various political parties' government choices, policies, and programs. Voting behavior refers to citizens' actions and inactions about voting for their local, regional, or national government members. Studying the factors influencing election behavior is an essential topic of empirical research. Different factors such as gender, race, and pressure groups invoking religious and communal aspects, the influence of money, or the charismatic personality of a leader influence an empirical study of the determinants that inspire and influence voters to exercise their right to vote in favor or against a particular candidate. The primary goal of this study is to draw attention to voting behavior in India and highlight the elements that influence voting behavior in India.

Keywords: *Voting, Determinants, Voting Behaviour, Election, Constituency, etc.*

Introduction:

"In the current era of democratic politics, casting a vote is one of the most commonly used words. Adult citizens in democratic countries use "voting" to express their acceptance or displeasure of government choices, policies, and programmes. Casting a spell Voting is a crucial part of the democratic process, and decisions taken at the grassroots level can influence the power elites. Voting may be seen as the core decision-making mechanism in a democracy for this reason. However, as Richard Rose and Harve Massavir point out, voting serves six essential functions:

1. It involves an individual's choice of governors or significant governmental policies;
2. It allows individuals to contribute to a reciprocal and ongoing exchange of influence with officeholders and candidates;
3. It contributes to the development of an individual's allegiance to the existing constitutional regime, and
4. It contributes to the development of an individual's commitment to the current constitutional rule.
5. It has emotional significance for individuals; and
6. It may be functionless of any emotional or political significant personal consequences for some individuals.

The study of voting behavior has become an essential feature of current political research and theory.

role in democratic government. It is a method for people to express and implement their political opinions and control society's political organization. However, numerous factors influence voter behavior, including religion, caste, community, language, money, policy or ideology, polling objectives, and the like. Political parties employ these elements to win elections. As a result, it is critical that these determinants not be used in elections, and that elections be conducted in a free and fair way.

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