



PERFORMANCE OF INDIAN NATIONAL CONGRESS IN HARYANA ASSEMBLY ELECTION 2009

Suman*

Neeraj**

INTRODUCTION

In most of the modern states with large areas and population, the government is run by the representatives, who are elected by the people. For electing the representatives, elections are necessary. Elections are fought generally on party basis, though some candidates fight elections as independent candidates. The party, which gets a majority, forms the government. If the representatives, during their tenure, do not work for the welfare of the people, they can be replaced at the time of next elections.

In this way, people maintain their control over the government because their representatives know that they can be voted out of power in the next elections if they do not satisfy the people and work for their welfare. Free and fair elections are the basic characteristics of a democracy by which representative are elected. India is one of the largest democracies of the world where the Member of Parliament (MPs) and Member of Legislative Assembly (MLAs) and administrator at local level are elected directly by the people. For electing the representatives, elections are necessary. MPs and MLAs elections are fought generally on party basis, though some candidates fight elections as independent candidates. In the post-independence period only 'Indian National Congress' was the strongest political party. But in present time the regional parties are becoming powerful. The electoral contest between national parties and regional parties has drawn attention of the political geographers and elections are considered essential for the development of the country.

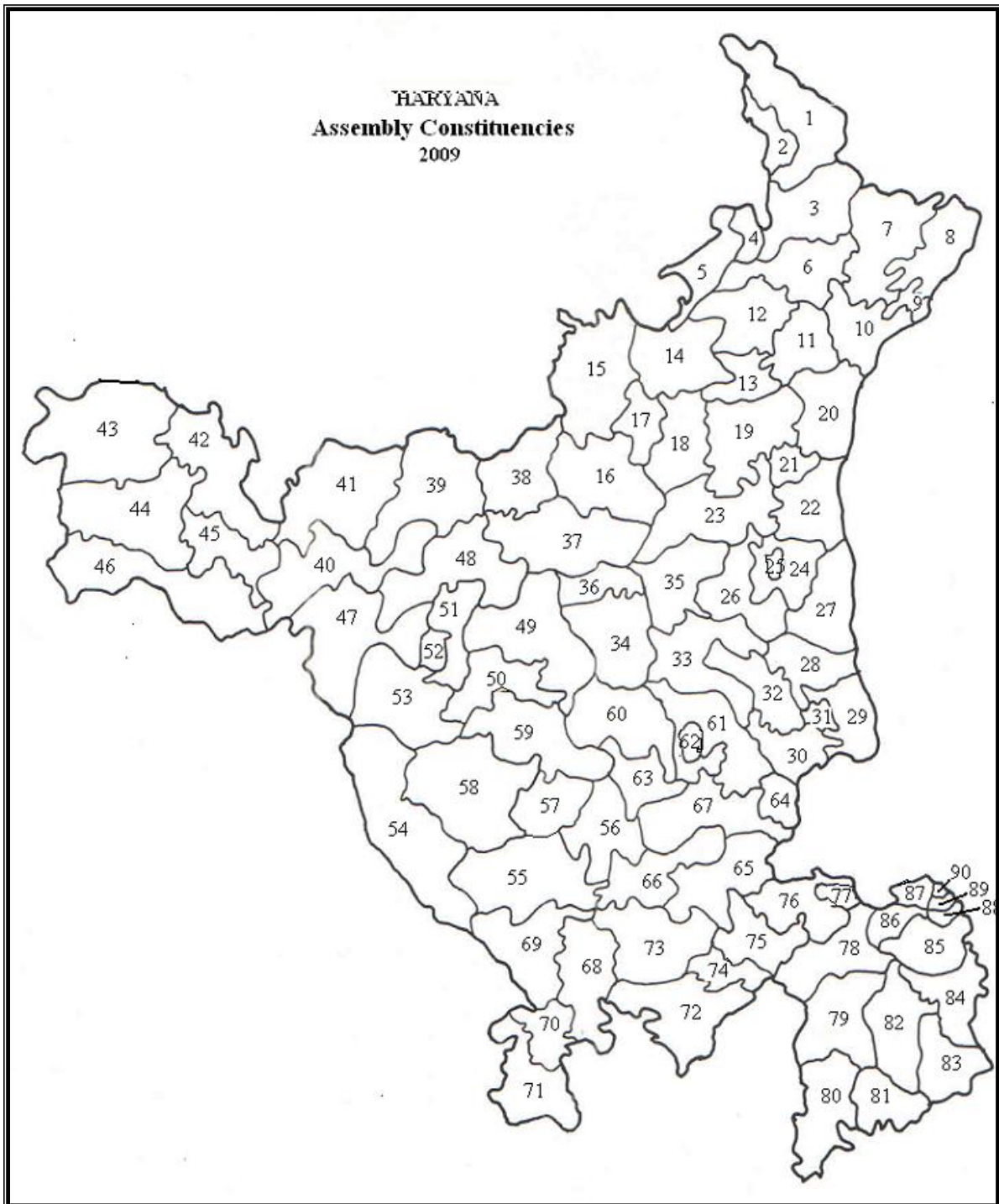
*Assistant Professor, Gaur Brahman Degree College, Rohtak (Haryana)

**Assistant Professor, Department of Geography, M.K.J.K College, Rohtak (Haryana)



STUDY AREA

The Haryana State, having ninety assembly constituencies, has been selected as the study area (fig.1). It lies between 27° 39' N to 30° 55' 5" N and 74° 27' 8" E to 77° 36' 5" E. The area of the state is 44212 Sq Km. The state of Haryana came into existence as a result of linguistic re-organisation of the then Punjab.





List of Assembly Constituencies

Sr. No.	Name of Constituency	Sr. No.	Name of Constituency	Sr. No.	Name of Constituency
1	Kalka	31	Sonepat	61	GarhiSamplaKiloi
2	Panchkula	32	Gohana	62	Rohtak
3	Naraingarh	33	Baroda	63	Kalanaur
4	Ambala Cant.	34	Julana	64	Bahadurgarh
5	Ambala City	35	Safidon	65	Badli
6	Mullana	36	Jind	66	Jhajjar
7	Sadhaura	37	Uchana Kalan	67	Beri
8	Jagadhari	38	Narwana	68	Ateli
9	Yamunanagar	39	Tohana	69	Mahendergarh
10	Radaur	40	Fatehabad	70	Narnaul
11	Ladwa	41	Ratia	71	NangalChaudhary
12	Shahbad	42	Kalanwali	72	Bawal
13	Thanesar	43	Dabwali	73	Kosli
14	Pehowa	44	Rania	74	Rewari
15	Guhla	45	Sirsa	75	Pataudi
16	Kalayat	46	Ellnabad	76	Badshahpur
17	Kaithal	47	Adampur	77	Gurgaon
18	Pundari	48	Uklana	78	Sohna
19	Nilokheri	49	Narnaund	79	Nuh
20	Indri	50	Hansi	80	FerozpurJhirka
21	Karnal	51	Barwala	81	Punhana
22	Gharaunda	52	Hisar	82	Hathin
23	Assandh	53	Nalwa	83	Hodal
24	Panipat Rural	54	Loharu	84	Palwal
25	Panipat City	55	Badhra	85	Prithla
26	Israna	56	Dadri	86	Faridabad NIT
27	Samalkha	57	Bhiwani	87	Badhkal
28	Ganaur	58	Tosham	88	Ballabgarh
29	Rai	59	BawaniKhera	89	Faridabad
30	Kharkhoda	60	Mehem	90	Tigaon

The numbers of constituencies in the table and on the map are same.

OBJECTIVE:

The main objective of the study is to analyze the spatial pattern of voting support of Indian National Congress in assembly election 2009.

DATA BASE

The present study is based on secondary data. 'Statistical Report on Assembly Election 2009 published by State Election Commission, Chandigarh' is used to obtain the data of votes polled in favour of Indian National Congress and seats won by the party.



METHODOLOGY

In the present study the unit of analysis is assembly constituencies of Haryana State. In statistical techniques Mean, Standard Deviation, Coefficient of Variation, and Range are used. In Cartographic techniques Line Graph, Bar Diagram and Choropleth Method are used. Mean is used to see the average vote share of Indian National Congress in the election. Standard Deviation is used to see the deviation of the data from its mean. The Coefficient of Variation and Range is used to see whether the data set is homogenous or not. Line Graph and Bar Diagram is used to analyze the performance of Indian National Congress the elections. Choropleth method is used to see the spatial distribution of party's performance and seats won by the party

NATURE OF DATA: AN OVERVIEW

In Assembly Election 2009 the average vote share of Indian National Congress was 35.30 percent. The values of Standard Deviation, Coefficient of variation and Range are 11.84, 33.54 and 67.99 respectively.

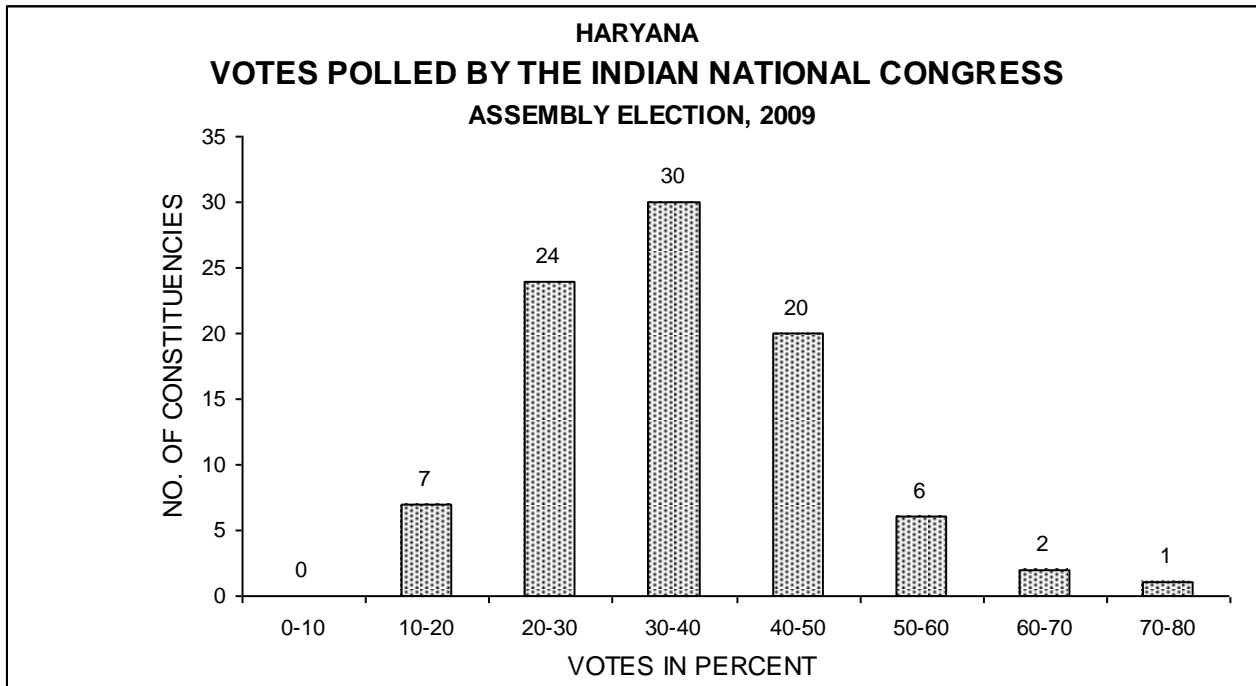
HARYANA

VOTE SECURED BY INDIAN NATIONAL CONGRESS IN ASSEMBLY ELECTION 2009

0-10	0
10-20	7
20-30	24
30-40	30
40-50	20
50-60	6
60-70	2
70-80	1

SOURCE: Calculated from 'Statistical Report on Assembly Election 2000 and 2005' published by 'State Election Commission, Chandigarh'.

In only nine constituencies the party had polled above fifty percent. Out of these nine, in two constituencies the party's vote share was above sixty percent (Kharkhoda 64.06 and Jhajjar 60.27) and in one constituency the vote share was above seventy percent (GarhiSamplaKiloi 79.85). In fifty constituencies the party had polled between thirty to fifty percent votes. In only seven constituencies the party's vote share was lower than twenty percent.



PERFORMANCE OF I.N.C. IN ASSEMBLY ELECTION 2000:

In Assembly Election 2009 the party had contested all the ninety seats and won forty seats. Party's performance was good. In nine constituencies party had registered more than fifty percent votes. In majority of the constituencies the party's vote share was between thirty to forty percent. In fifty nine constituencies the party's vote share was above thirty percent.

The areas of very high support (constituencies recording more than 50 percent votes) for the party were Ambala city constituency of Ambala district; Kaithal constituency of Kaithal district; Kharkhoda and Baroda constituencies of Sonapat district; Tosham constituency of Bhiwani district; GarhiSamplaKiloi, Rohtak and Kalanaur constituencies of Rohtak district and Jhajjar constituency of Jhajjar district.

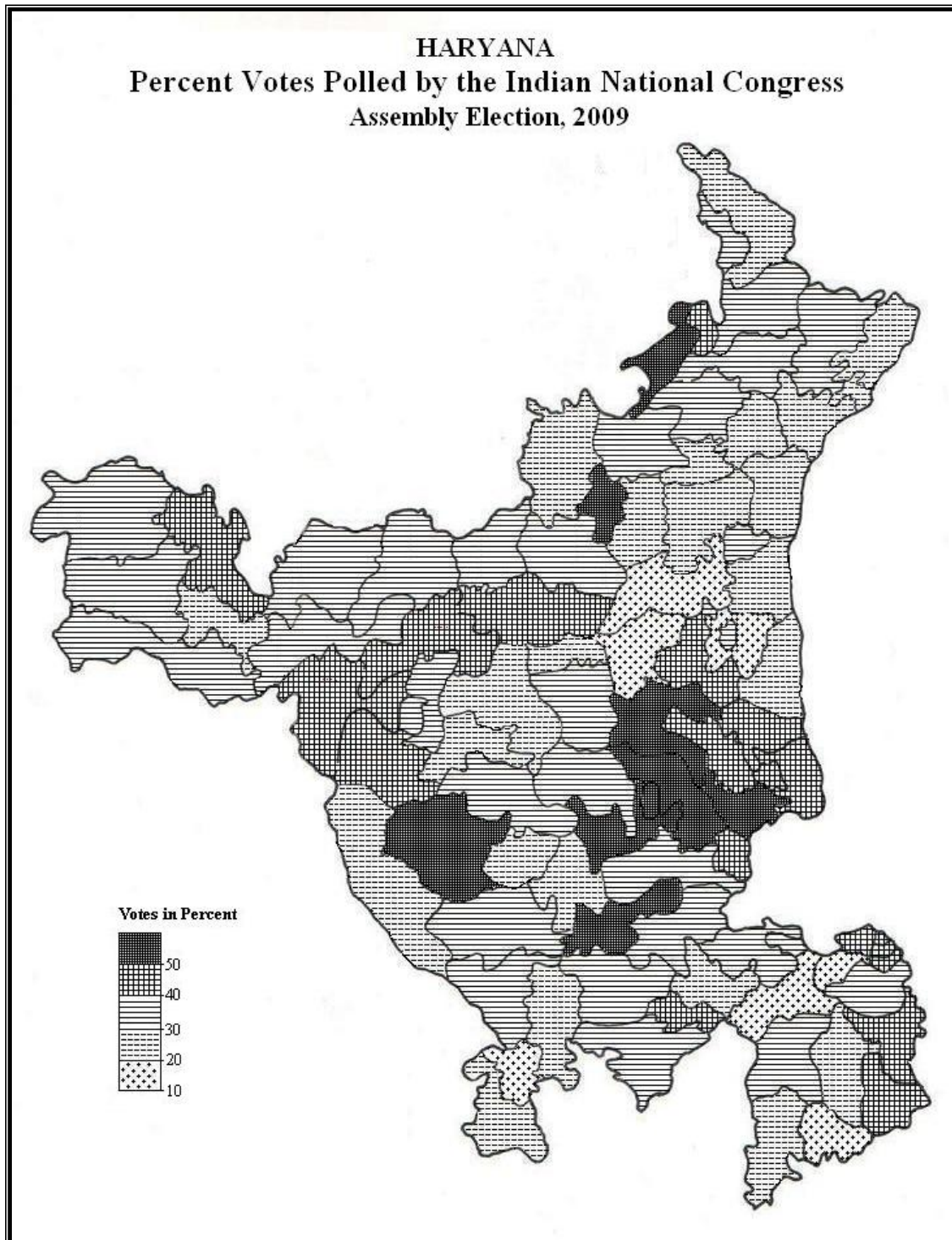
The areas of high support (constituencies recording votes between 40 to 50 percent) for the party were Ambala Cantonment constituency of Ambala district; Israna constituency of Panipat district; Ganaur, Rai, Sonapat and Gohana constituencies of Sonapat district; Uchana Kalanconstituency of Jind district; Kalanwali constituency of Sirsa district; Adampur, Uklana, Hisar, Nalwa constituencies of Hisar district; Bahadurgarh constituency of Jhajjar district; Rewari constituency of Rewari district; Hodal, Palwal, Badkhal, Ballabgarh, Faridabad and Tigaon constituencies of Faridabad district.



The areas of moderate support (constituencies recording votes between 30 to 40 percent) for the party were Panchkula constituency of Panckula district; Naraingarh and Mullana constituency of Ambala district; Sadhaura constituency of Yamunanagar district; Shahbad and Pehowa constituencies of Kurukshtra district; Kalayat constituency of Kaithal district; Karnal constituency of Karnal district; Panipat City constituency of Panipat district; Julana and Narwana constituencies of Jind district; Tohana, Fatehabad and Ratia constituencies of Fatehabad district; Dabwali, Rania and Ellenabad constituencies of Sirsa district; Barwala constituency of Hisar district; Badhra and BawaniKhera constituencies of Bhiwani district; Mehem constituency of Rohtak district; Badli and Beri constituencies of Jhajjar district; Mahendergarh constituency of Mahendergarh district; Bawal and Kosli constituency of Rewari district; Badshahpur, Gurgaon and Nuh constituencies of Gurgaon district and Prithla constituency of Faridabad district.

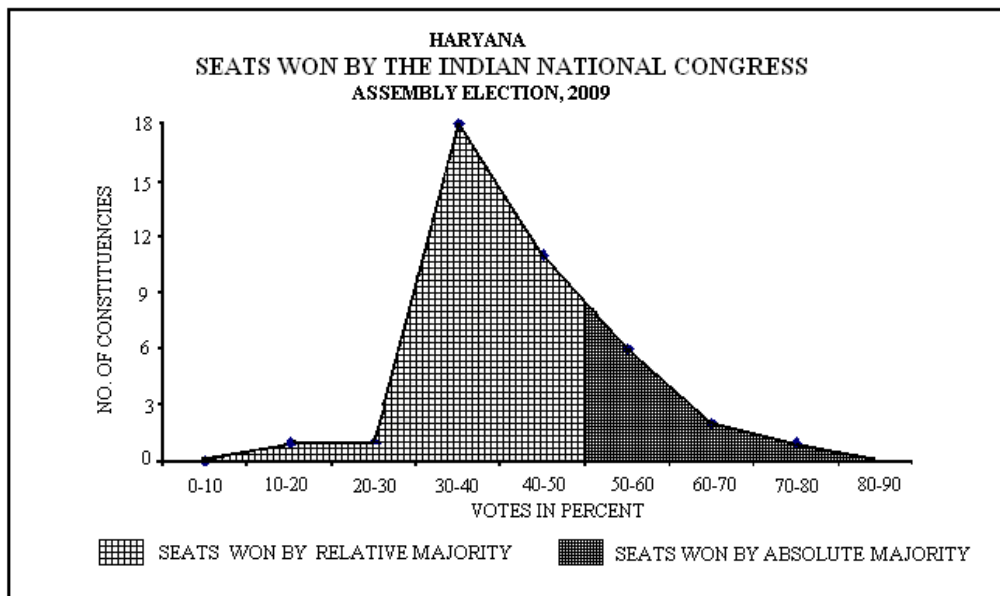
Kalka constituency of Panchkula district; Jagadhari, Yamunanagar and Radaur constituencies of Yamunanagar district; Ladwa and Thanesar constituencies of Kurukshetra district; Guhla and Pundari constituencies of Kaithal district; Nilokheri, Indri and Gharaunda constituencies of Karnal district; Samalkha constituency of Panipat district; Jind constituency of Jind district; Sirsa constituency of Sirsa district; Narnaund and Hansi constituencies of Hisar district; Loharu, Dadri and Bhiwani constituencies of Bhiwani district; Ateli and NangalChaudhary constituencies of Mahendergarh district; Pataudi constituency of Gurgaon district; FerozpurJhirka and Hathin constituencies of Faridabad district recorded low voting support (constituencies recording votes between 20 to 30 percent) for the party.

The areas of very low voting support (constituencies recording votes between 10 to 20 percent) for the party wereAssandh constituency of Karnal district; Panipat Rural constituency of Panipat district; Safidon constituency of Jind district; Narnaul constituency of Mahendergarh district; Sohna and Punhana constituencies of Gurgaon district and Faridabad NIT constituency of Faridabad district.

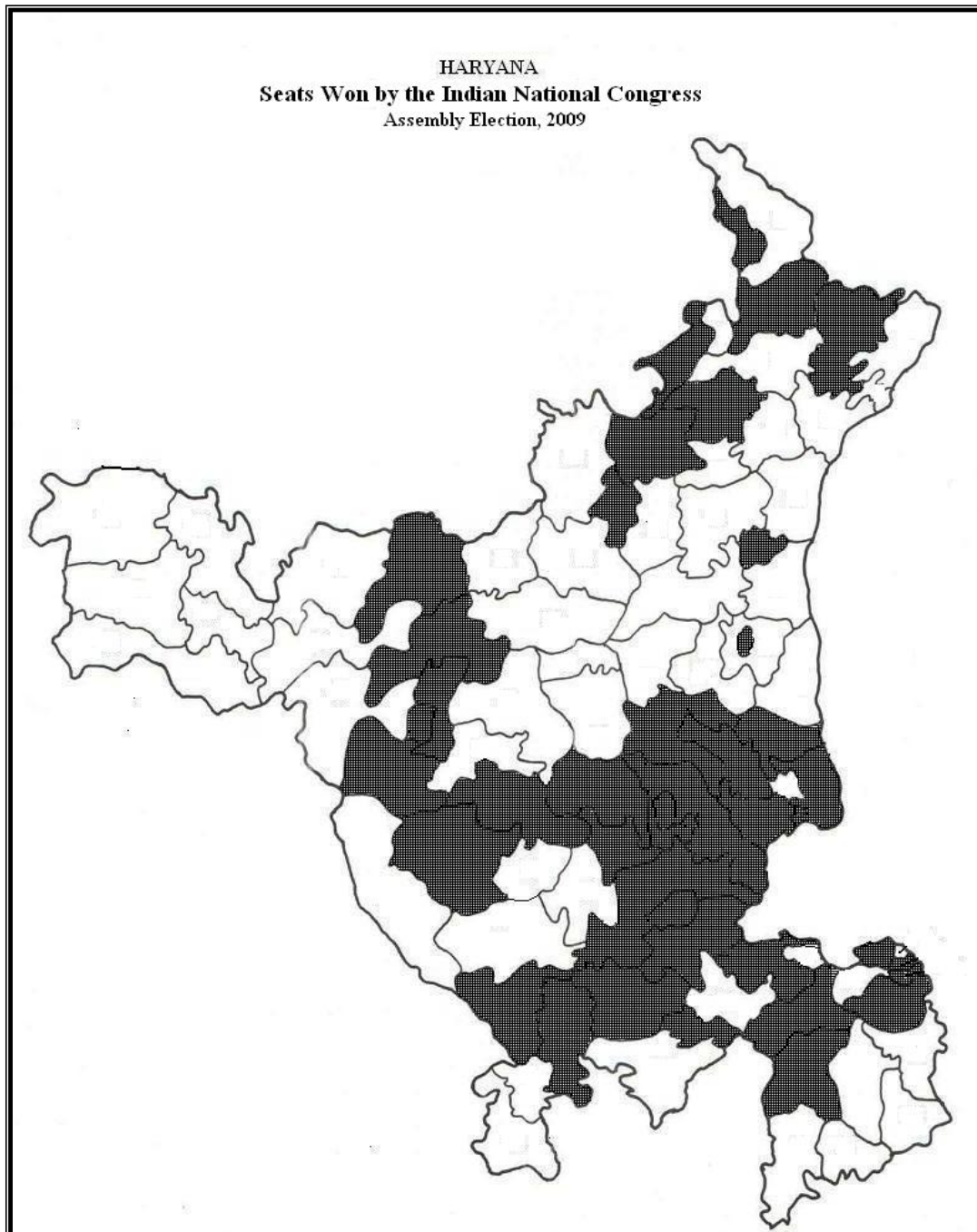


SEAT WON

In Assembly election, 2009 the Indian National Congress contested all the ninety seats in Haryana. In Assembly election, 2009 the Indian National Congress won 40 seats. Out of these forty seats only nine seats were won by absolute majority and remaining thirty seats were won by relative majority.



These were Panchkula, Naraingarh, Ambala City, Sadhaura, Shahbad, Pehowa, Kaithal, Karnal, Panipat City, Ganaur, Rai, Kharkhoda, Gohana, Baroda, Tohana, Uklana, Barwala, Hisar, Nalwa, Tosham, BawaniKhera, Mehem, GarhiSamplaKiloi, Rohtak, Kalanaur, Bahadurgarh, Badli, Jhajjar, Beri, Ateli, Mahendergarh, Kosli, Rewari, Badshahpur, Sohna, Nuh, Prithla, Badhkal, Ballabgarh and Faridabad



EXPLANATION OF THE PERFORMANCE OF INDIAN NATIONAL CONGRESS

After the formation of the state, Indian National Congress was the only dominant political party in the state. The Congress ruled the state for a long time and gave birth to other regional parties of state because the senior leader of regional parties, i.e. Indian National Lok Dal, Haryana Vikas Party, Haryana Janhit Congress, have started their political carrier under the banner of Indian National Congress. In Assembly Election 2009 the party had



contested all the ninety seats and won forty seats. Party's performance was not very good comparatively. The seats were reduced to forty from sixty seven in assembly election, 2005 and Congress won the assembly election, 2009 with least majority. It was for the first time since 1972 that a party government was being repeated in the state. It was under Hooda's leadership that the Congress repeated its assembly election, 2005 performance in 2009. In the Assembly election, 2009 the Congress was benefited from the lack of a credible and united opposition. Failure of the opposition parties to form alliances seems helped the Congress to keep its success. But there were some reason that affected the party negatively. Dissensions within the senior Congress leaders have also started. Compensation for land acquired for industry, land acquired for setting up six SEZs, complaints about the implementation of the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme and reduced rates of compensation for crop failure were some major issues.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, when the performance of Indian National Congress is analyzed, it was found that Congress was considered as an aggregative party supported by the all sections of the society. Various welfare schemes were initiated by the Congress Government for the overall development of the state. It was for the first time since 1972 that a party government was being repeated in the state. Next assembly election is going to be held in 2014. The conviction of former Haryana Chief Minister Om Prakash Chautala and his elder son Ajay Singh Chautala in a case pertaining to irregularities in recruitment of junior teachers over a decade back has increased the difficulties for the party which could be a challenge for Congress in assembly election, 2014. So it seems that the Congress will again benefited by the absence of strong opposition.

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