

CASTE AND GENDER POLITICS: A STUDY OF KURUKSHETRA PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY OF HARYANA

Dr. Jai Kishan Bhardwaj*, Dr. Tripti Choudhary*

ABSTRACT

The general elections in 2019 witnessed the second surge of Modi wave with the state of Haryana being no exception. Gender and caste politics dominate the Parliamentary elections of Haryana and the constituency of Kurukshetra exemplifies it. The present paper analyses the role of caste and male dominance in the outcome of elections in this Parliamentary constituency.

KEYWORDS: Election, Caste, Male-dominance, Kurukshetra.

Introduction

Main Players in Haryana politics are ruling Bhartiya Janta Party (BJP), Indian National Congress (INC), Indian National Lokdal (INLD), Jannayak Janta Party (JJP) and Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) in different legislative elections and Lok Sabha elections in the state. Haryana politics is usually criticised for infamous self-serving politics of Aaya Ram Gaya Ram who notoriously engage in horse-trading. Unholy political alliances and political corruption are the other features which serves their own clan rather than it serves their voters.

The state of Haryana (Abode of God) came into existence on 1st November 1966 from the erstwhile Punjab based on the recommendation of Shah Commission. The state produced many heroes and known as Haryana Shakti which is now considered as the sports hub of the nation. In defence sector, so many soldiers from the state are serving the nation. The state has major contribution to the green revolution in the 1960s. It has uncovered that Harappa civilization started from Rakhi Garhi and there are traces of it also found in Hissar district.¹

Haryana is one of the wealthiest states of India with third highest per capita income in the country and one of the well-developed states as the GDP ranks 2nd in the country.

*&**Assistant Professor, Institute of Law Institute of Law, K.U. Kurukshetra, K.U. Kurukshetra, jkbhardwaj@kuk.ac.in, tripti@kuk.ac.in