

Assam Postpoll 2001-Survey Findings

Q1: Before you went to vote, did you know that electronic voting machines were to be used?

	N	(%)
1: No	1181	95.6
2: Yes	55	4.4
Total	1236	100.0

Q2: In your opinion, was this method better, worse, or no different to the earlier method of stamping a ballot paper?

	N	(%)
1: No difference	2	.1
2: EVM worse	4	.3
3: EVM better	44	3.6
8: Can't say/Don't know	1186	96.0
Total	1236	100.0

Q3: While talking to people about the just concluded assembly elections, we found that some people were able to vote and some were not able to vote. How about you? Were you able to vote or not?

	N	(%)
1: No	66	5.3
2: Yes	1170	94.7
Total	1236	100.0

a: (*If not voted*) What was the main reason that you could not vote in this election?

		N	(%)	Valid (%)
Valid	1: Did not know as voter	2	.2	3.0
	2: Out of Station	14	1.1	21.2
	3: Note well/too weak to go	22	1.8	33.3
	4: Have no interest/did not feel like voting	5	.4	7.6
	6: Somebody had already voted before I went to vote	1	.1	1.5
	7: Fear of violence at polling station	1	.1	1.5
	8: Others	21	1.7	31.8

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		N	(%)	Valid (%)
	Total	66	5.3	100.0
Missing	9: Not Applicable	1170	94.7	
Total		1236	100.0	

- b: (*If voted*) When did you finally make up your mind about who to vote for, on the polling day, after campaign started or much before the campaign begin?

		N	(%)	Valid (%)
Valid	1: On polling day	183	14.8	15.6
	2: After campaign started	335	27.1	28.6
	3: Much before campaign began	615	49.8	52.6
	8: Can't say	37	3.0	3.2
	Total	1170	94.7	100.0
Missing	9: Not applicable	66	5.3	
Total		1236	100.0	

- c: (*If voted*) Who did you vote for?

		N	(%)	Valid (%)
Valid	01: Congress	454	36.7	38.8
	02: BJP	107	8.6	9.1
	04: CPI	3	.2	.2
	05: CPI(M)	41	3.3	3.5
	06: BSP	1	.0	.0
	08: Independent	223	18.0	19.0
	09: Others	64	5.1	5.4
	16: NCP(Pawar)	3	.3	.3
	19: SUCI	1	.0	.0
	31: JD(S)	1	.0	.0
	33: SP	1	.0	.0
	34: Samta	8	.6	.6
	60: AGP-BJP allies	9	.7	.8
	61: AGP	228	18.5	19.5
	98: Don't know	30	2.4	2.5
		Total	1170	94.7
Missing	99: Not Voted/Blank/Refuse	66	5.3	

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Total	1236	100.0	
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Q4: Suppose there were no alliances and all the parties were contesting election separately, which party would you have voted for?

	N	(%)
01: Congress	512	41.4
02: BJP	172	13.9
03: JD(united)	2	.2
04: CPI	8	.6
05: CPI(M)	45	3.7
06: BSP	1	.1
08: Independent	103	8.3
09: Others	51	4.1
11: Kerala Cong (B)	2	.2
16: NCP(Pawar)	15	1.2
31: JD(S)	3	.3
34: Samta	2	.1
60: AGP-BJP allies	3	.2
61: AGP	263	21.3
70: Cong. and allies	1	.1
76: MGP	2	.1
88: Kerala Cong. (Josheph)	2	.2
98: Don't know	9	.7
99: Blank/Refuse	39	3.2
Total	1236	100.0

Q5: Did you attend any election meeting during the recent election campaign?

	N	(%)
1: No	816	66.0
2: Yes	420	34.0
Total	1236	100.0

Q6: Did you participate in any campaign activity like canvassing, organize meeting, joining procession, collecting money etc.?

	N	(%)
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	N	(%)
1: No	1015	82.1
2: Yes	221	17.9
Total	1236	100.0

Q7: Did any candidate, party worker or canvasser come to your house during the campaign to ask you for your vote?

	N	(%)
1: No	634	51.3
2: Yes	554	44.8
8: Can't say/Don't know	48	3.9
Total	1236	100.0

Q8: What is your assessment of the work done by the AGP government in Assam during the last five years. Are you satisfied, somewhat satisfied, or not at all satisfied?

	N	(%)
1: Not at all	410	33.2
2: Somewhat Satisfied	514	41.6
3: Very Satisfied	96	7.8
8: Can't say/Don't know	215	17.4
Total	1236	100.0

Q9: Who would you prefer as the next Chief Minister of Assam?

	N	(%)
0: Don't know	342	27.7
1: Prafulla Kumar Mahanta	250	20.3
2: Sarat Sinha	32	2.6
3: Tarun Gogoi	255	20.7
4: Hema Prabha Saikia	27	2.2
5: Bhriugu Kumar Phukan	17	1.3
6: Gunin Hazarika	3	.2
7: Parmod Gogoi	1	.1
8: Any one from Congress	142	11.5
9: Others	167	13.5
Total	1236	100.0

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Q10: Prior to this AGP government, there was the Congress government in Assam. Which one do you think was better? The Congress or the AGP government?

	N	(%)
0: None	167	13.5
1: Both	156	12.6
2: Congress	522	42.2
3: AGP	239	19.3
8: Can't say/Don't know	153	12.4
Total	1236	100.0

Q11: After this election, which party or alliance would you like to form the next government in Assam?

	N	(%)
01: Congress	470	38.0
02: BJP	46	3.7
03: JD(united)	1	.1
04: CPI	4	.3
05: CPI(M)	8	.6
08: Independent	8	.7
09: Others	52	4.2
10: DMK and allies	1	.1
11: Kerala Cong (B)	1	.1
12: UDF-Independent	1	.1
16: NCP(Pawar)	10	.8
18: TMC	1	.1
19: SUCI	1	.0
20: AIADMK and allies	1	.1
28: INL	1	.1
31: JD(S)	2	.2
40: Left Front	1	.0
42: CPI(ML)	2	.1
50: UDF	1	.1
60: AGP-BJP allies	234	18.9
61: AGP	99	8.0
70: Cong. and allies	116	9.4
82: AIADMK	1	.0

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	N	(%)
88: Kerala Cong. (Josheph)	1	.1
92: ATDP(Anna)	1	.1
98: Don't know	144	11.7
99: Blank/Refuse	28	2.3
Total	1236	100.0

Q12: What is your assessment of the work done by the Vajpayee government at the Centre in the last one-and-half years. Are you satisfied, somewhat satisfied, or not at all satisfied?

	N	(%)
1: Not at all	180	14.6
2: Somewhat Satisfied	520	42.1
3: Very Satisfied	210	17.0
8: Can't say/Don't know	325	26.3
Total	1236	100.0

Q13: Now I would like to know your opinion about the coalition government. Some people believe that there is no harm in coalition govt. Others believe that in special circumstances there is no alternative to it. While, for others, coalition governments are not good for the state in any case. What is your opinion in this regard?

	N	(%)
1: There is no harm	187	15.2
2: Acceptable in special circumstances	359	29.0
3: Not good in any case	258	20.9
8: Can't say/Don't know	432	34.9
Total	1236	100.0

Q14: How do you rate the present government of Assam in terms of corruption. Is it very corrupt, somewhat corrupt, or not corrupt at all?

	N	(%)
1: Very Corrupt	454	36.7
2: Somewhat Corrupt	425	34.4
3: Not corrupt at all	95	7.6
8: Can't say/Don't know	262	21.2
Total	1236	100.0

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Q15: Have you heard about the AGP-BJP alliance in Assam?

	N	(%)
1: No	355	28.7
2: Yes	881	71.3
Total	1236	100.0

a: (***If Yes***) Did you change your mind about voting after hearing about this alliance?

		N	(%)	Valid (%)
Valid	1: No	609	49.3	69.1
	2: Yes	195	15.8	22.2
	8: Can't say/Don't know	77	6.2	8.7
	Total	881	71.3	100.0
Missing	9: N.A.	355	28.7	
Total		1236	100.0	

Q16: What is your opinion on AGP-BJP alliance in Assam? Are you in favour or against this alliance?

	N	(%)
1: In favour of AGP-BJP alliance	302	24.5
2: Against AGP-BJP alliance	357	28.9
3: Any Other	122	9.8
8: Can't say/Don't know	456	36.9
Total	1236	100.0

Q17: Have you heard about AMDT Act?

	N	(%)
1: No	611	49.5
2: Yes	625	50.5
Total	1236	100.0

a: (***If Yes***) What is your opinion about this Act?

		N	(%)	Valid (%)
Valid	1: The Act should continue as it is	189	15.3	30.2

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		N	(%)	Valid (%)
	2: The Act should be repealed	221	17.9	35.4
	3: The Act should be strengthened	100	8.1	16.0
	8: Can't say/Don't know	115	9.3	18.3
	Total	625	50.5	100.0
Missing	9: N.A.	611	49.5	
Total		1236	100.0	

Q18: Have you heard about incident of the killing of Border Security Force (BSF) by Bangladesh Rifles (BDR)?

		N	(%)
	1: No	479	38.8
	2: Yes	757	61.2
	Total	1236	100.0

a: (*If Yes*) How do you rate the Central government's handling of the situation?

		N	(%)	Valid (%)
Valid	1: Very good	81	6.6	10.7
	2: Good	340	27.5	44.9
	3: Bad	137	11.1	18.1
	4: Very bad	36	2.9	4.7
	8: Can't say/Don't know	163	13.2	21.6
	Total	757	61.2	100.0
Missing	9: N.A.	479	38.8	
Total		1236	100.0	

Q19: How far has the AGP government succeeded in solving the insurgency problem in Assam, to a great extent, somewhat or not at all?

		N	(%)
	1: Not at all	503	40.7
	2: Somewhat	406	32.8
	3: A great extent	56	4.6
	8: Can't say/Don't know	271	21.9
	Total	1236	100.0

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Q20: Peoples opinion are divided on insurgency issue, some people say government should suppress insurgency by any means, while others say that this problem should be solved by dialogue/negotiation. What would you say, should insurgency be suppressed or resolved by negotiation?

	N	(%)
1: Should be suppressed	66	5.3
2: Resolved through dialogue/negotiation	935	75.6
3: Others	24	2.0
8: Can't say/Don't know	211	17.0
Total	1236	100.0

Q21: Thinking of how you (or your family, in the case of first time voters) have voted in previous elections, how would you describe yourself? Were you AGP supporter, Congress supporter, BJP supporter, supporter of any other party or supporter of no particular party?

	N	(%)
1: AGP supporter	297	24.1
2: Congress Supporter	435	35.2
3: BJP supporter	131	10.6
4: Supporter of any other party	91	7.4
5: Supporter of no particular party	121	9.8
8: Can't say/Don't know	161	13.0
Total	1236	100.0

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

B1: What is your age?

	N	(%)
1: Up to 25 years	233	18.8
2: 26 to 35 years	413	33.4
3: 36 to 45 years	256	20.7
4: 46 to 55 years	155	12.5
5: 56 years and above	180	14.5
Total	1236	100.0

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B2: Gender

	N	(%)
1: Male	706	57.1
2: Female	530	42.9
Total	1236	100.0

B3: What is your highest level of education?

	N	(%)
0: Non literate	392	31.7
1: Below primary	109	8.9
2: Primary pass/Middle fail	202	16.3
3: Middle pass/Matric fail	178	14.4
4: Matric	147	11.9
5: Intermediate	125	10.1
6: Graduate or equivalent	71	5.7
7: Post Graduate	7	.5
8: Professional degree	5	.4
9: N.A.	1	.1
Total	1236	100.0

B4: What is your Exact Caste/Jati/Tribe?

	N	(%)
01: Brahmin	27	2.2
04: Kayasthas	63	5.1
09: Other Upper Caste	131	10.6
24: Saikya	12	1.0
29: Other Peasant OBCs	102	8.2
35: Kumhar (Potters)	4	.3
39: Other Craftsmen OBCs	26	2.1
44: Goswami	11	.9
49: Other Service OBC	65	5.3
50: Chamar	10	.8
53: Rajbanshis	89	7.2
57: Dhobi,Julaha,Kewat(non OBC)	4	.3

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	N	(%)
59: Other SC	90	7.3
60: Boro	93	7.6
61: Karbi	21	1.7
62: Abor	4	.3
63: Miri	82	6.6
64: Naga	1	.0
66: Khasi	1	.1
69: Other ST	87	7.0
70: Ashrafs	46	3.7
71: Mughal (Khan)	5	.4
73: Other Upper Muslims	49	4.0
74: Peasant+Traders	2	.2
75: Craftsmen	26	2.1
79: Other Muslims	104	8.4
85: Upper Christians	1	.1
86: OBC Christians	5	.4
87: Dalit Christians	1	.1
88: Christian no caste	7	.6
95: No Religion No caste	47	3.8
99: N.A.	20	1.6
Total	1236	100.0

a: What is your Caste Group?

		N	(%)	Valid (%)
Valid	1: Scheduled Caste(SC)	148	12.0	12.2
	2: Scheduled Tribe (ST)	283	22.9	23.3
	Other Backward Caste (OBC)	263	21.3	21.7
	4: Others	519	42.0	42.8
	Total	1213	98.2	100.0
Missing	9: N.A.	23	1.8	
Total		1236	100.0	

B5: Which religion do you follow?

N	(%)
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	N	(%)
1: Hindu	915	74.1
2: Muslim	268	21.7
3: Christian	46	3.8
4: Sikh	2	.2
5: Buddhist	2	.1
8: Others	1	.1
9: N.A.	1	.1
Total	1236	100.0

B6: Area/Locality

	N	(%)
1: Village	1144	92.6
2: Town	75	6.1
3: City (500,000+)	17	1.4
Total	1236	100.0

a: (*If Town/City*) Type of house where R lives

		N	(%)	Valid (%)
Valid	1: House/Flat/Bungalow (5+Bedrooms)	9	.7	9.9
	2: House/Flat (3 or 4 Bedrooms)	32	2.6	36.8
	3: House/Flat with 2 bedrooms	21	1.7	24.5
	4: House/Flat with 2 pucca rooms	8	.7	9.3
	5: House with 1 pucca room	6	.5	6.4
	6: Mainly Kutcha house	10	.8	11.9
	7: Slum/Jhuggi Jhopri	1	.1	1.2
	Total	87	7.0	100.0
Missing	0: N.A.	1149	93.0	
Total		1236	100.0	

b: (*If Village*) Type of house where R lives

		N	(%)	Valid (%)
Valid	1: Pucca with 5 or more dwelling rooms (both wall and roof made of pucca material)	71	5.7	6.2

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		N	(%)	Valid (%)
	2: Pucca with 3-4 dwelling rooms (both wall and roof made of pucca material)	74	6.0	6.5
	3: Pucca with 1-2 dwelling rooms (both wall and roof made of pucca material)	46	3.7	4.0
	4: Pucca-Kutcha 5 or more dwelling rooms (either wall or roof made from pucca material and other of kutcha material)	51	4.1	4.5
	5: Pucca-Kutcha 3-4 dwelling rooms (either wall or roof made from pucca material and other of kutcha material)	86	7.0	7.6
	6: Pucca-Kutcha 1-2 dwelling rooms (either wall or roof made from pucca material and other of kutcha material)	130	10.5	11.4
	7: Kutcha with 3 or more rooms (both wall and roof made from kutcha material)	318	25.8	28.0
	8: Kutcha with 1-2 rooms (both wall and roof made from kutcha material)	226	18.2	19.8
	9: Hut (both wall and roof made from grass, leaves, mud, un-burnt brick or bamboo)	138	11.2	12.1
	Total	1139	92.1	100.0
Missing	0: N.A.	97	7.9	
Total		1236	100.0	

B7: What is the main occupation of the main earner of the family?

	N	(%)
01: Scientist	4	.3
02: Engineers	2	.2
03: Doctors	3	.2
04: Lawyers	1	.0
05: Accountants	3	.2
06: College/University Teachers	15	1.2
08: Modern Artist	2	.1
09: Other Higher Professional	3	.2
10: Science Technician	4	.3
11: Computer Operator	5	.4
13: Medical Technician	3	.2
14: School Teachers	42	3.4
15: Nursery Teachers	7	.6

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	N	(%)
16: Folk & Commercial Artist	1	.0
18: Priests	1	.1
19: Other Lowers Professional	20	1.7
20: Elected Official (Central)	2	.2
21: Elected Official (District)	4	.3
22: Managers	3	.2
23: Officer Class-I	3	.3
24: Officer Class-II	18	1.5
25: Class-III Employee	23	1.9
26: Superintendents	2	.2
27: Traditional Clerks	7	.6
28: Class-IV Employee	30	2.4
29: Other Administrative employee	9	.7
30: Big Businessmen	5	.4
31: Medium Businessmen	30	2.4
Small Businessmen	70	5.6
Petty Businessmen	22	1.7
34: Hawkers	2	.2
35: Sales Executive	2	.1
36: Salespersons	6	.5
37: Shop Assistants	5	.4
39: Other Businessmen	18	1.5
40: Waiters	2	.2
41: Dhobi	2	.2
42: Barbers	5	.4
43: Ayahs, Maids	2	.1
44: Chowkidars	8	.7
45: Sweepers	1	.1
49: Other Sevice Workers	11	.9
50: Mechanics	6	.5
51: Electricians	3	.3
52: Jewelers	4	.3
53: Tailors	7	.5
54: Weavers	2	.2
55: Shoemakers	1	.1
57: Carpenters	17	1.4

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	N	(%)
59: Other Skilled Workers	36	2.9
61: Measons	1	.0
62: Potters	1	.1
64: Furniture	2	.2
65: Rickshaw-Pullers	10	.8
66: Unskilled Labours	12	1.0
69: Other Semi-Skilled Workers	8	.7
70: Cultivators 20+ Acres	20	1.6
71: Cultivators 10-20 Acres	31	2.5
72: Cultivators 5-10 Acres	38	3.1
73: Cultivators 1-5 Acres	107	8.7
74: Cultivators 0-1 Acre	75	6.1
75: Tenant-5+ Acres	26	2.1
76: Tenant-0-5 Acres	76	6.2
77: Plantation	88	7.1
78: Agricultural Lab	74	6.0
79: Other Agricultural Workers	24	2.0
80: Live-Stick Firming	4	.3
81: Dairy Firming	5	.4
83: Shepherds	1	.0
84: Forest Produce Gatherers	3	.3
86: Fishermen	5	.4
90: House-Wife/Husbands	65	5.3
91: Students	6	.5
92: Employment Seekers	8	.6
93: Unemployed	21	1.7
95: Others Occupation	27	2.2
96: Political Activist	1	.0
98: Unidentifiable	9	.7
99: N.A.	6	.5
Total	1236	100.0

B8: Do you or your family own the following

a: Car/Jeep/Tractor

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	N	(%)
1: No	1193	96.5
2: Yes	43	3.5
Total	1236	100.0

a: Pumping Set

	N	(%)
1: No	1142	92.4
2: Yes	94	7.6
Total	1236	100.0

c: Colour TV

	N	(%)
1: No	1044	84.5
2: Yes	192	15.5
Total	1236	100.0

d: Scooter/Motor Cycle

	N	(%)
1: No	1073	86.8
2: Yes	163	13.2
Total	1236	100.0

e: Telephone

	N	(%)
1: No	1114	90.1
2: Yes	122	9.9
Total	1236	100.0

f: Electric fan/Cooler

	N	(%)
1: No	821	66.4
2: Yes	415	33.6

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	N	(%)
Total	1236	100.0

g: Bicycle

	N	(%)
1: No	265	21.4
2: Yes	971	78.6
Total	1236	100.0

h: Transistor/Radio

	N	(%)
1: No	450	36.4
2: Yes	786	63.6
Total	1236	100.0

i: Wrist watch/clock

	N	(%)
1: No	300	24.3
2: Yes	936	75.7
Total	1236	100.0