

VOTING BEHAVIOUR IN ASSAM SINCE 1985 WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO THE BARPETA DISTRICT ASSEMBLY SEGMENTS.

45

**A report submitted to the Institute of Social change
and Development, Assam, sponsored by the Rajiv Gandhi
Foundation under J. S. T. R. F, 1994**

1995

1994-95



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This is to certify that Sri Pradeep Kumar Das, M.A. Rajiv Gandhi Scholar has worked under my supervision in the preparation of a report to be submitted to the Institute of social Change and Development, Assam sponsored by the Rajiv Gandhi Foundation entitled "Voting Behaviour In Assam Since 1985 With Special Reference To The Barpeta District Assembly Segments". The report is not submitted to any other Institutions.

R. K. Das

(R.K. Das)

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

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~~My thanks are also due to my brothers and sisters and to my freinds for their kind interest in my~~

PREFACE

work.

~~My respected father Sri Mahendra Nath Das was a constant source of inspiration. Similarly my revered mother Sri Abha Das also inspired me throughout the work. I owe my gratefulness to them.~~

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Pradeep Kumar Das.

Date: 29-6-95.

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Howly.

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PREFACE

Over five hundred million voters take part in the world's ^{largest} democratic country- India. The voting behaviour of such a colossal number attracts the attention of the entire world. In India, we have diverse population. Apart from religious and linguistic trends in our polity, there is also caste based politics.

Second, ^cmuscle and money power have also close linkage to a certain extent in some parts of the country which influence the voters.

Third, regionalism, parochialism, extremism and terrorism and so on have raised their ugly faces before the electorates which have considerably influenced the Indian voters.

Fourth, a section of the people who are generally poor and illiterate are still under the command of the leaders and village headmen. The result is that such people can not behave democratically so far as electoral systems are concerned. Above all, there are rampant corrupt practices during election days.

Assam, a component part of the Indian union, is also not free from the aforementioned problems.

Therefore, an attempt has been made to study the behaviour of the voters in the light of the above issues.

The chapter scheme of the study ^{is as} ~~may be~~ indicated ^{below}.

Chapter 1 deals with the introduction, electoral politics and process of Barpeta District in particular, and Assam in general.

Chapter ii Provides the Design of study, statement of the problem, hypothesis and coverage of study, methodology and so on.

Chapter iii ^{deals with} ~~has been discussed~~ voting pattern of the Barpeta district constituencies with special emphasis on Barpeta, Sorbhog and Patacharkuchi constituencies. Besides, analysis and observation, performances of the Governments, election campaign, election expenditure have ^{also} been incorporated.

Chapter iv deals with conclusion and suggestions.

Pradeep Kumar Das.

Date: 28-6-95

Pradeep kumar Das.

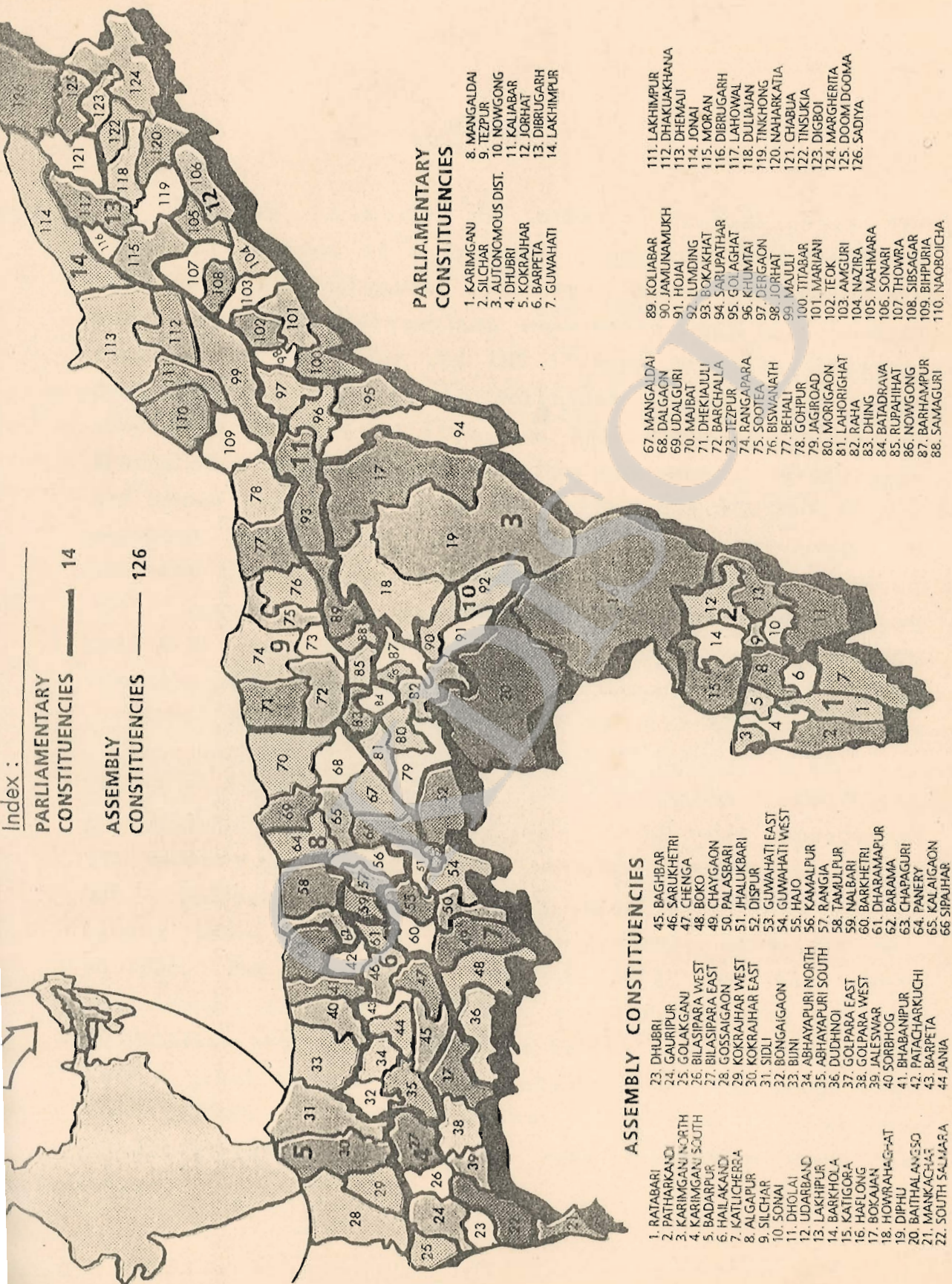
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Introduction.

Voting behavior is closely related with the electoral process of a country. After the adoption of the Indian constitution, elections to the parliament and state legislative assemblies were being held at different intervals. Since 1952, the INC (Indian National Congress) has dominated over the Indian political system though there were some Leftist and Rightist parties. The Congress has the status of a responsible opposition. The Congress has shown that they have failed to win the support of the majority people. But at the same time it must be admitted that the supremacy of the Congress has been permanent. After 1967, Independents, Leftists and Rightists appeared as political forces. The Congress has supported the Congress previously but now they have changed their attitude towards it. This was largely due to the things, due to the rise of sub-national forces. Of course, there was a split in the rank and file of the Congress. Meanwhile, a considerable change in the socio-economic condition has appeared in our country after the nationalization of commercial banks and withdrawal of private industry. The condition was noticed. The Sangh Pariksha of 1961 had also made tremendous influence over the electorate. The rise of national and sub-national forces as stated above had also a great impact over the electorate. The result was the growth of regional parties. In the subsequent elections regional parties had some influence over the voters.

CHAPTER - I INTRODUCTION.

Introduction.

Voting behaviour is closely related with the electoral process of a country. After the ^{adoption} ~~enforcement~~ of the Indian constitution, elections to the ^{parliament} ~~parliament~~ and state legislative Assemblies ^{have been} ~~were being~~ held at different intervals. Since 1952, the INC (Indian National Congress) ^{has} dominated over the Indian political system though there ^{has} been some Leftists and Rightists. ^{But t} ~~They~~ ^{have} ~~could~~ ^{been able to} not claim the status of a responsible opposition. The verdict of the poll ^{has} shown that they ^{have} failed to enlist the support of the ~~majority~~ people. But at the same time, this must be admitted that the supremacy of INC ^{has} ~~was~~ ^{been} not permanent. After 1967, Independents, Leftists and Socialists appeared as political forces. The same voters that supported the Congress previously began to change their attitude towards it. This was largely, among other things, due to the rise of sub-nationalism forces. Of course, there was a split in the rank and file of the Congress. Meanwhile, a remarkable change in the socio-economic condition had also appeared in our country after the nationalisation of commercial banks and withdrawal of privy purses to the erstwhile native rulers. Thus, a change in socio-economic condition was noticed. The Bangladesh war of 1971 had also made tremendous influence over the electorates. The rise of nationalism and sub-nationalism forces as stated above had also a great impact over the electorates. The result was the growth of regionalism. In the subsequent elections, regional forces had some impression over the voters.

In our country, the elected representatives play a significant role in our political system. The temptation of power ^{makes} ~~made~~ some representatives ~~to~~ change their political ideology. Ultimately, Anti-Defection Act had to be enacted in 1985 (52nd ~~nd~~ amendment to the Indian Constitution). The voting age lowered from 21 years to 18 years under 62nd ~~nd~~ amendment has increased the number of voters. So, the above two electoral reforms Contributed towards the voting behaviour.

Electoral process in Assam

In Assam there are 126 Assembly and 14 parliamentary constituencies (Depicted in the Map A). Altogether nine general elections to the state Legislative Assemblies ~~were~~ ^{has} already ^{been} over. ~~It is already mentioned that~~ [✓] Voting behaviour is the result of socio-economic, political and historical developments. In our country, the INC with the support of the masses fought against the Britishers for independence. Ultimately the British rule came to an end in 1947. Election ^s to the ^Parliament and the ^State Legislative Assemblies ~~were~~ ^{were} ~~not~~ being held from 1952 where the INC captured political power both at the centre and states because the people in general were convinced that the Congress would improve the lot of the people. In Assam several Congressmen were in the limelight of the freedom movement. The Congress came to

power . Since 1952 ^{till} ~~to till~~ 1977, it managed majority of seats in ^{the} state Legislative Assembly. But Congress monopoly was challenged, ^{and in} ~~in~~ the ~~next~~ election held in 1978, Congress rule was overthrown and the Janata ^P party was brought to power in Assam. The reason for change of rule might be attributed to the national emergency ^{excesses} in 1975-77. Thus, we have ^{there} ~~noticed~~ a radical change of voting behaviour in Assam's politics. (~~The pictures clarify the party positions diagram & C~~) (Diagrams B and C show the party positions)

The anti-foreigners agitation (1979-1985) led by AASU (All Assam Students Union) and AAGSP (All Assam Gana Sangram Parishad) contributed much for uniting the Assamese ~~speaking~~ people. There was a feeling of fear-psychosis that the foreigners would threaten the socio-economic, political and cultural identity of the Assamese people. The ^{problem of} ~~crisis of~~ identity ^{led to} ~~had confirmed to a large extent~~, the growth of sub-nationalism forces ~~appeared~~ in Assam. ~~politics~~. It may be stated that during the period from 1978 to 1983 there ^{was} ~~was~~ change of Government for three times apart from ^{the imposition of} ~~president's~~ rule. In order to fulfil constitutional obligation, election to the state Legislative Assembly was to be held before March 1983. Though election was strongly protested by AASU and AAGSP but it was held in Feb. 1983 adopting coercive method. The majority of the people of the Brahmaputra valley boycotted the election. Only one-third of total voters

Percentage of Political Partywise vote polled during the
General Election to the Assam legislative Assembly, 1978.

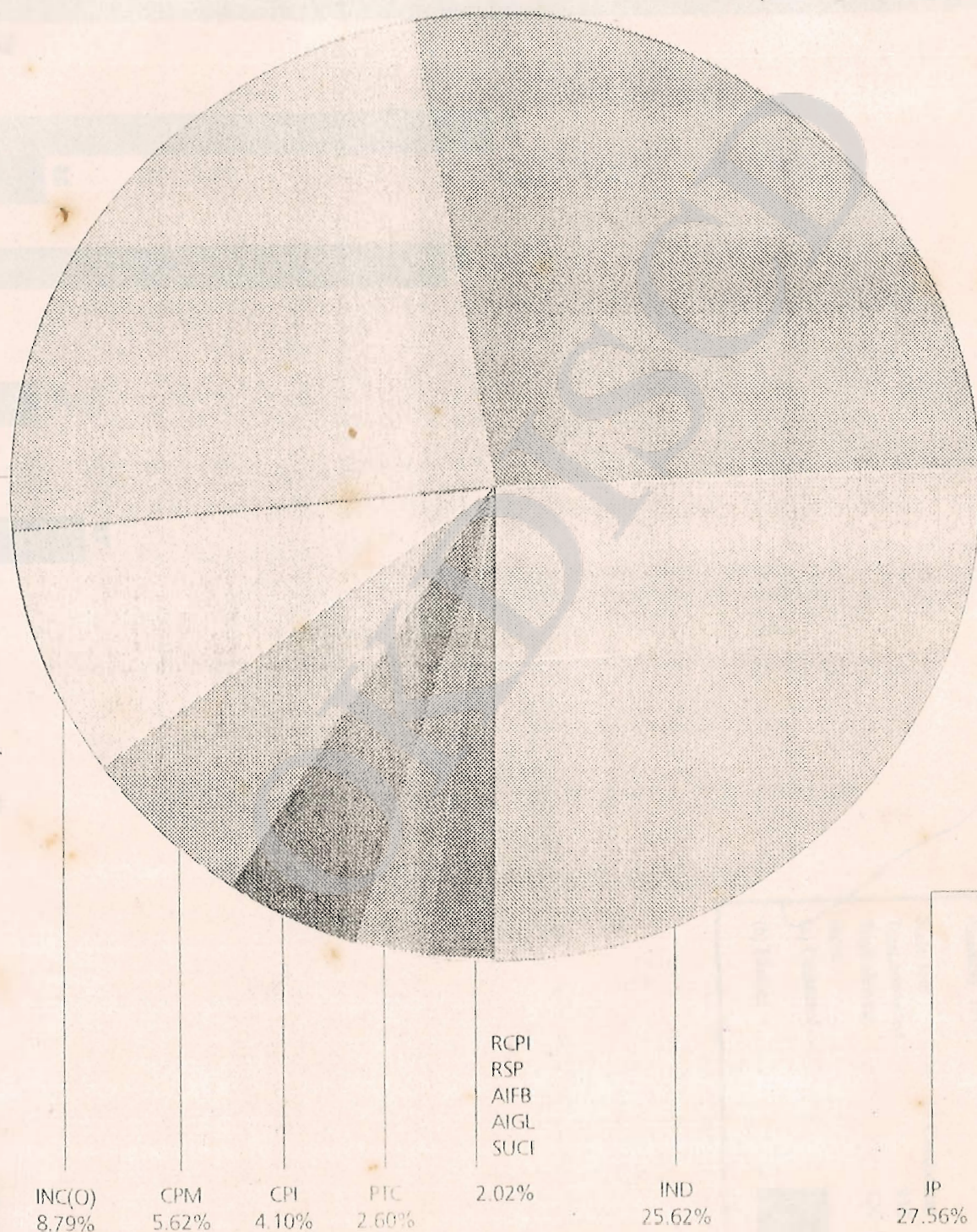


DIAGRAM- B

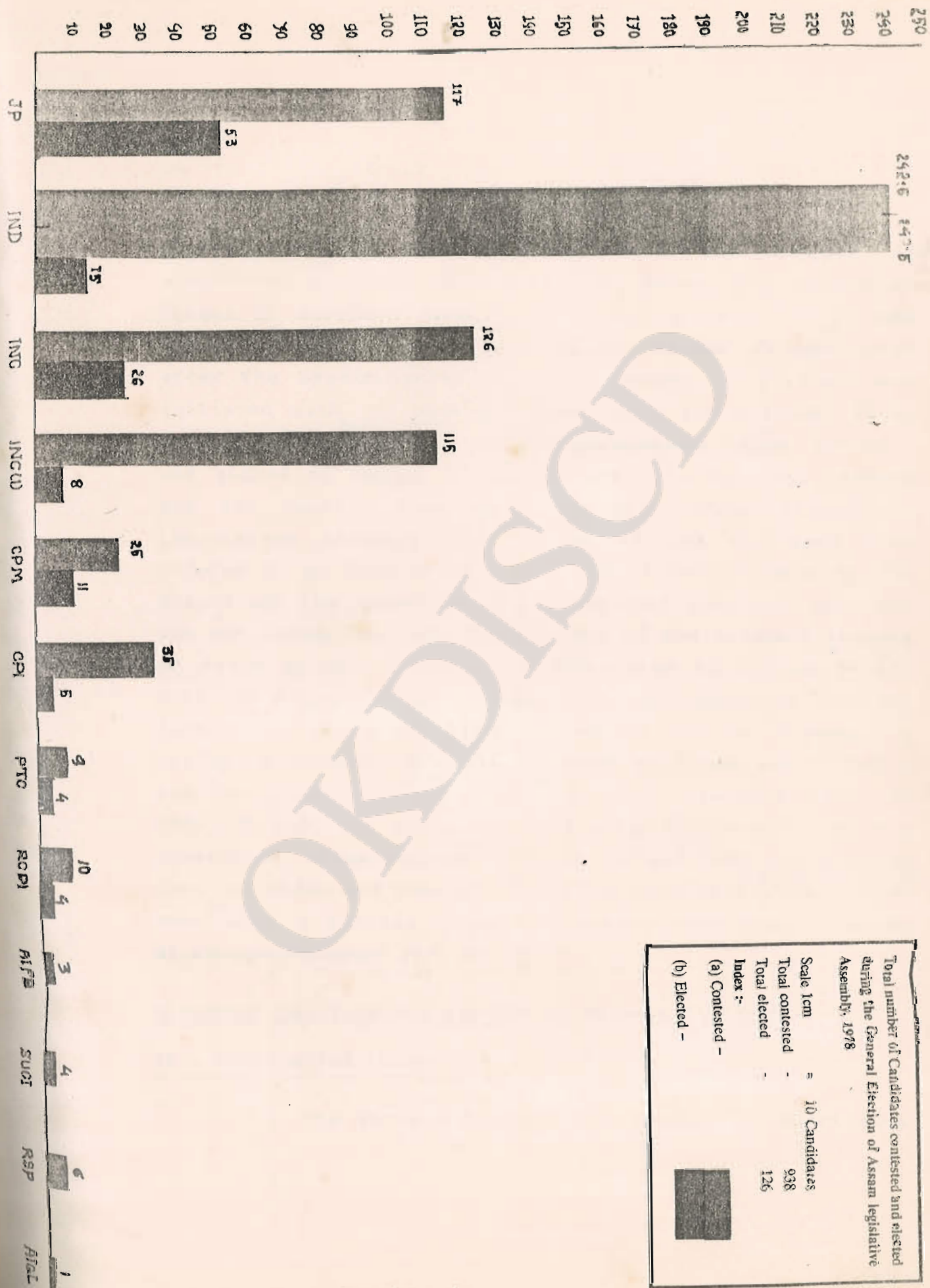


DIAGRAM - C

participated in the election. With the support of ^{the} minorities, Congress came to power in Assam. This Government formed by Hiteswar Saikia was generally boycotted by ~~the~~ majority ^{of the} people. When Rajiv Gandhi became Prime Minister ^M after the assassination of Indira Gandhi, a dialogue was initiated with the movement leaders at the official level and ultimately ^{the} widely discussed and ~~forecast~~ Assam Accord was signed on August 15, 1985 between the movement leaders and the Central Government. As per understanding, ^{the} Assam Legislative Assembly was dissolved and elections were ordered to be held in Dec. 1985. One of the outcomes of the Accord was the formation of two regional political parties - the AGP (Assam Gana Parishad) formed by the movement leaders of Assam agitation and other UMF (United Minorities Front) with the support of minorities. With the support of movement leaders in particular and the people of the Brahmaputra valley in general, AGP came to power in Assam and formed a popular Government. But in the next election held in 1991, AGP lost its popularity and again Congress formed the Government. It was ~~due to~~ ^{The} split of AGP ^{into AGP} and NAGP (Natan Assam Gana Parishad) and inaction of the AGP Government, ^{led to its defeat.} ~~So, it has~~ been ^{Thus} seen a radical change of voting behaviour in Assam ~~electoral politics.~~ ^{can be seen}

Electoral politics and process of Barpeta District

(A). Territorial location

The Barpeta District, our topic for discussion

^{was} is created in 1983 with its head quarter at Barpeta town. The District comprises of eight Assembly constituencies. The District is bordered by Bhutan on the North, Kamrup and Goalpara District on the south, Nalbari District on the East and on the west ^{by} Bongaigaon and Kokrajhar District. The total areas of the ^{at D} District is 3245 sq. k.m.

(B). Total voters at Barpeta District.

The total population of the Barpeta ^{at D} District as per 1991 census is 13,85,659 where male and female population are 7,14,677 and 6,70,982 respectively. ^{population amounts} In rural area ^{to} ~~12,88,341 population have been living.~~ Only 97,318 people ^{live} living in urban areas. In 1985, there were 5,91,548 voters but 1991 election showed an increase which came to 7,24,862. The table shows the total voters of each constituency including male and female at Barpeta District in 1985 and 1991 elections

Table- 1

Assembly- Election.	Constituencies	Male	Female	Total
1985	Barpeta	46679	42751	89430
	Sorbhog	42721	37907	80627
	Patacharkuchi	44067	40224	84291

Assembly- Election	Constituencies	Male	Female	Total
	Bhawanipur	36045	30570	66615
	Jania	38127	33930	72057
	Baghbar	31278	29794	61072
	Sarukhetri	43907	39272	83179
	Chenga	30760	28301	59061

Table- 2

Assembly- Election.	Constituencies	Male	Female	Total voters
	Barpeta	56658	49634	106292
	Sorbhog	53266	49104	102370
	Patacharkuchi	50877	46624	97501
	Bhawanipur	43250	39546	82796
1991	Jania	46510	40991	87501
	Baghbar	37993	34671	72664

Assembly- Constituencies	Male	Female	Total
Election.			voters

Sarukhetri	57124	48515	105639
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Chenga	38592	33782	72374
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Voting behaviour of various Assembly election, of Barpeta district since 1952 to 1991 except 1978, 1983, 1985 showed that majority voters cast their voters in favour of Congress. In 1978, two Janata candidates won from this district. In 1983 Assembly election, as mentioned earlier a small number of voters participated in the district as majority people boycotted the election in response to the election boycott called by the movement leaders. In that election, Congress secured majority of seats and came to power. In 1985 election, after Assam Accord, Congress failed to win a single seat from Barpeta district. National political parties could not establish impact over the electors of Barpeta district in that election. The result was that majority of seats were captured by the regional parties. But in 1991 election, regional political parties failed to repeat its performance of 1985 and as a result the Congress secured 3 seats. However, the election of 1991 showed that 3 independents were also elected.

The economic condition of the ^{people of} Barpeta district is not sound. As stated earlier majority of the people living ^e in rural areas ^{and} have ~~solely~~ ^{solely} to depend on agriculture.

Conclusion:

It appears from the above discussion that the voters of the district ^{do} ~~did~~ ^{always} not behave in a similar way ~~so~~ ^{as} for as ~~the~~ ^{are} elections ~~were~~ ^{will} concerned, hence, it is expected that the proposed study ~~would~~ reveal some interesting points and thoughtful conclusion.

Design of study

The study was conducted in a systematic manner. The first step was to identify the research objectives and to formulate the research questions. The second step was to select the appropriate research design and to identify the sources of data. The third step was to collect the data and to analyze it. The fourth step was to interpret the results and to draw conclusions. The fifth step was to write the report and to present the findings.

Statement of the problem

The problem of the study is the design of a study. The design of a study is the plan or blueprint for the study. It is the set of decisions that the researcher makes about the study. The design of a study is important because it determines the quality of the study. A well-designed study is more likely to produce valid and reliable results than a poorly designed study.

CHAPTER -II- DESIGN OF STUDY.

The design of a study is the plan or blueprint for the study. It is the set of decisions that the researcher makes about the study. The design of a study is important because it determines the quality of the study. A well-designed study is more likely to produce valid and reliable results than a poorly designed study.

Design of study

Indian voters are mostly illiterate. They are tradition bound, and politically apathetic, have ^{yet found} electoral impulse to show ^{ing} behave rationally and responsibly (Indian Govt. and politics, S.L. Sikri). To know the voting pattern and behaviour of different voters a systematic analysis of different factors are essential. ~~It will help us to know the voting pattern of the voters.~~

Statement of the problem:

Election is an integral part of our political system. We have already discussed in the previous chapter about the Governments formed from the first general Assembly election in Assam. Elections have proved to be a powerful instrument of mass political socialization. We have mentioned that Barpeta district comprises of eight assembly segments, where ^{population} mainly ^{comprises} Hindus, Muslims, Bodo-tribes including some tea labourers, Nepaly Hindu, Adivasi, multi-linguistic, religious groups and ethnic groups.

Voting behaviour of various Assembly election of Barpeta district since 1952 ~~to~~ till 1991 except 1978, 1983 and 1985 showed that voters cast their votes in favour of Congress. Regionalism ^{had} greatly ~~ly~~ influence in Assam during the movement of anti-foreigners (1979-1985). One of the outcomes of the Assam Accord was the formation of two regional

Political parties-AGP & UMF. With the support of the people of the Brahmaputra valley, the AGP came to power in Assam in 1985 and it was deemed to be a Government of the Assamese people at the initial stage. In Barpeta district, out of eight Assembly segments, seven seats were captured by the regional parties. But in the next elections held in 1991, regional parties failed to get any single seat. However Independent candidates could capture 3 seats. So, it is genuinely felt the necessity of studying the voting behaviour in Barpeta district through social research.

Considering the above scope and taking various aspects of voting behaviour the study has to be specially aimed at the following objectives which will be tested and analysed properly during the study of the course.

1. To study the voting behaviour of different constituencies in Barpeta district.
2. To study of the voting behaviour in terms of party manifesto.
3. To study the voting behaviour in terms of personality of the candidate.
4. To discuss the voting behaviour in regard to the performance of Govt. in power.

5. To study the factors which influenced the voters.

Political consciousness and petty politics sometimes affected the voters in a big way. Again some high handed persons of the constituencies for variety of causes influenced the electorates. For the reasons stated above, the voting behaviour is to be studied effectively.

Research Questions or Hypotheses.

For highlighting the above objectives the following hypotheses are to be taken.

1. Voters are aware of their democratic rights.
2. Voters are conscious of the manifesto issued by the political parties.
3. The voters are very often misled by the party leaders.
4. Performance of Government in power is taken into account.
5. Sub-nationalism plays a vital role in terms of voting behaviour.

Coverage of study

For paucity of time, the proposed study would be confined within three constituencies out of eight constituencies in Barpeta district. The study will be undertaken covering hundred voters from each constituencies with the help of random sampling method.

Methodology of the Study

To analyse the objective^{test} and to achieve the hypotheses a questionnaire has been prepared. Considering all factors relating to the voting behaviour, all classes of people irrespective of caste, creed, sex, linguistic and religious groups including ethnic groups have been covered for collecting the required information and preparing ~~of~~ the report in respect of voting behaviour. All the primary and secondary data are included in the questionnaire. The questionnaire was filled up through personal contacts. An attempt was made with the help of ~~an~~ interview to know the feelings of the voters.

Political System in the District

The district consists of 10 constituencies and 100 villages. They are 1. Kalyan, 2. Sankar, 3. Bhandarkar, 4. Bhamburda, 5. Kalyan, 6. Sankar, 7. Bhandarkar, 8. Bhamburda, 9. Kalyan, 10. Sankar. The voting pattern in the district is as follows:

CHAPTER -III-

VOTING PATTERN IN THE DISTRICT.

Year	1985	1990	1995	2000
1. Kalyan	1,20,000	1,30,000	1,40,000	1,50,000
2. Sankar	1,10,000	1,20,000	1,30,000	1,40,000
3. Bhandarkar	1,00,000	1,10,000	1,20,000	1,30,000
4. Bhamburda	90,000	1,00,000	1,10,000	1,20,000
5. Kalyan	80,000	90,000	1,00,000	1,10,000
6. Sankar	70,000	80,000	90,000	1,00,000
7. Bhandarkar	60,000	70,000	80,000	90,000
8. Bhamburda	50,000	60,000	70,000	80,000
9. Kalyan	40,000	50,000	60,000	70,000
10. Sankar	30,000	40,000	50,000	60,000

Voting Pattern in the District

The Barpeta district ^{has} as ~~stated~~ comprises eight Assembly segments. They are 1. Barpeta 2. Sorbhog 3. Patancharkuchi 4. Bhawnipur 5. Sarukhetri 6. Chenga 7. Baghbor and 8. Jania. The voting behaviour of the first three segments are being dealt with. The number of voters in both the elections of 1985 and 1991 are as follows.

Table-3

Year	Male	Female	Total
1985	313518	282748	5,96,266
1991	429999	332288	7,62,287

The break-up of voters in both the elections of the said three segments are as under.

Table-4

Segments	Year	Male	Female	Total
1. Barpeta	1985	46,351	38,301	84,652
	1991	55,658	49,634	1,05,292

Segments	Year	Male	Female	Total
2. Sorbhog	1985	42,721	37,906	80,627
	1991	53,266	49,104	1,02,370
3. Patach- arkuchi	1985	44,067	40,224	84,291
	1991	50,877	46,624	97,501

Now we shall take up the Assemblies particularly pinpointed for our study.

Barpeta Constituency: The Constituency contains both urban and rural voters in which rural voters are in majority. In 1985, the Assembly Constituency Elected the AGP candidate. In the earlier elections we have observed, the INC, Janata, and Independent were elected. Hence, it may be safely concluded that the Constituency has never been a stronghold of any political party. The voters, though mostly rural had exercised their franchises keeping in mind religious considerations, national outlook and even local considerations to some extent. But the urban voters ^{are} ~~were~~ influenced by the current situation prevailed ^{ing} ~~from time to time~~.

In 1985, however, the situation was completely different. The Assam Agitation against foreign ⁿNationals (1979 85) and subsequent ^{signing of the} Assam Accord created a new horizon in Assam politics. This had also tremendous impact over ~~the~~ ^{of the} majority voters ~~in~~ ^{also drew} the Assamese people. Equally, this election could have drawn the attention of the minorities, mostly the religious minority ^{ies} of the constituency. Because of the two opposite forces- one for the Accord and the other against the Accord, the electoral battle became lively and interesting. The Barpeta constituency, which had 84,652 voters, recorded 94.66% of votes. The AGP candidate was elected securing 53% of the valid votes. Apart from AGP, there were candidates from the UMF and the Congress. Usually, the Congress could muster the support of the religious minority ^{ies}. But in 1985, the UMF, the creation of the anti-Accord, captured the vote-bank of the Congress. Congress was severely beaten. It even failed to save the security deposit.

But the situation has undergone a remarkably change in 1991. The misrule of AGP and its failure to keep up the electoral promises made people totally dis^satisfied. The AGP which captured political power in the name of the Accord could do nothing in respect of the implementation of the Assam Accord. Besides, there was deterioration in the law and order ^{situation}. The ULFA and Bodo agitation ~~could~~ ^{could worse} also not handled properly. All these factors were ~~very~~ much responsible for ~~decaying~~ ^{the decline in} of its popularity. Growing

dissatisfaction of the people over the AGP ^{was} ~~had been~~ reflected in the election of 1991.

In the election of 1991, the Congress candidate was elected. This time UMF was not a factor. The religious minority which supported the UMF in 1985, had solidly stood behind the Congress. Over 88% of the voters cast their votes which was little lesser ^{earlier} ~~than~~ the last election. The peoples' participation in the elections like the previous one ^{was} found to be spontaneous. There was ^a ~~stiff~~ ^{competition} ~~neck to neck race~~ between the Congress and the lone independent candidate. The election result clearly showed that the independent candidate could not muster the support of the people. Further, another factor ^{which} contributed to the success of the Congress was the absence of the AGP from the electoral battle. Thus, the Congress candidate ^{and} having secured 50.52% of the valid votes got elected by defeating the independent candidate who could secure ~~over~~ 46% votes.

Sorbhog Constituency: Sorbhog constituency ^{is} ~~was~~ mostly dominated by tribals, minorities ~~and~~ (religious), apart from Assamese speaking people. It is a rural constituency. Over 80% of the voters reside in villages. At one time it was a comfortable seat for the Congress. But the Congress monopoly was challenged by the CPM and since 1977 to 1990, the constituency was under the control of the CPM. The constituency ~~did not have remarkable impact~~

was not effected either by

~~of~~ the Assam agitation ~~por~~ the Accord. In 1983, the election to this constituency ~~was~~ passed smoothly, though a section of the electorates did not participate at the electoral process. The result was that the CPM nominee retained the seat. The same performance was repeated in 1985. Because of the strong base of the party and emergence of the UMF and the AGP, the votes ^{which} earlier used to go to the Congress pockets, were divided amongst the UMF and AGP candidates. In this constituency also there was a record percentage of polling of 80,627 voters, the p.c. of poll was 87. All the three forces very seriously fought the election. Our study reveals that a section of the tribals supported the CPM nominee.

However, the next election depicted a different picture. The constituency witnessed a rise of 20% voters in 1991. Altogether, there were 1,02,370 voters. Like the previous election, the voters very actively took part in the election. There were frequent public meetings, ~~missiles~~ and other forms of election campaigns. One of the important aspects of this election of the constituency was that the religious minorities solidly stood behind the Congress candidate who was a religious minority. Another point to be highlighted ^{was} that the ABSU (All Bodo Students Union) activists extended support to the Congress, probably it was the result of a secret alliance with the Congress.

Over 80% voters exercised their franchise. The Congress secured first position having obtained 37.21% of the valid votes. The losers CPM and AGP, however, secured 33% and 25% of votes respectively. The polling performance shows that the voters really took keen interest.

Patacharkuchi Constituency: This constituency is an Assamese speaking Hindu dominated constituency of the Barpeta District. Patacharkuchi is a part of greater Bajali area. The area is inhabited by agriculturists. It is a surplus area of the district. Politically, since pre-independence period, people are very much conscious. Greater Bajali took active interest during the freedom struggle. No political party could establish its hegemony consistently. The notable political parties, which won this prestigious constituency, include the INC, Janata, AGP besides Independents.

There were as many as 84,291 electorates in the constituency in 1985. The constituency has the privilege to produce a host of elites. One of the salient features of the 1985 election ^{was} ~~is~~ that the AGP candidate was elected ^{ing of the votes} ~~having secured~~ 92% which is the highest number of votes secured by any candidate. Secondly, the remaining candidates lost their security deposits.

80% of the electorates took part in the franchise. As far as the campaign was concerned, the youths and students besides usual campaign approached the voters ~~through~~ ^{by} bicycle throughout the constituency. But this tempo could not be found in the next election.

In 1991 out of 97501 voters, 66,700 ~~had~~ cast their votes. One third of the voters did not turn-up this time. Consequently the AGP could not repeat the

performance of 1985. Why did this happen? The reasons are obvious. First, the inaction of the AGP MLA who at one time was included in the Mahanta Ministry. During AGP regime, ^{there was no} ~~the~~ progress ⁱⁿ of the constituency ~~was stagnant~~. Second, there had been a tussle over the selection of site for the Sub-Divisional Headquarter of Bajali Sub-Division between the people of ^patacharkuchi region and ^pathsala region. Third, apart from these, the split of AGP hurled a terrible blow over the prospect of the AGP.

Another point to be highlighted is that there were so many aspirants for this seat. Apart from national and regional parties-four in number, as many as 17 Independents jumped into the electoral battle. AS there was no suitable candidate of the national and regional party, the peoples' choice went in favour of an Independent. This may be stated that the winning Independent was at one time MLA of the

Congress, who later resigned from the party. The successful candidate could only obtain 22 p.c. of the valid votes. It is also to be stated that like the previous election all other losing candidates lost their security deposits.

The party position of the ^d District is as follows:

Table-5

	<u>1985</u>	<u>1991</u>
1. AGP	4	NIL
2. Congress(I)	NIL	3
3. UMF	3	NIL
4. CPM	1	1
5. Others	NIL	4

The party position of the three Constituencies

Table-6

	<u>1985</u>	<u>1991</u>
1. Barpeta	AGP	Congress(I)
2. Sorbhog	CPM	Congress(I)
3. Patacharkuchi	AGP	Independent

Analysis and Observation:

Every political party releases a manifesto before the electorates for their consideration on the eve of elections. But the electorates do not take into account the manifestoes in their true senses. A survey in the three segments have shown that majority of the voters ~~do not even know the existence of the manifesto.~~ ~~did not take towards it.~~ Out of 300 !

electorates interviewed, 64% of them are not aware of the manifestoes released by the parties. What are the reasons for apathy towards the manifestoes? ^Past experience shows that the ruling parties turned deaf ears towards them. ^{Most} Some of the pledges in reality ^{are not} ~~could not be~~ fulfilled. AS for example, during AGP rule among other promises, it was declared that the Assam Accord would be implemented in letter and spirit. But during its rule, the AGP remained content blaming the centre for not fulfilling the later's obligation in regard to the Accord. As far as the voters are concerned, they are also not interested to see whether the pledges are implemented or not.

In our country, ~~there is no dearth of party.~~ ⁱⁿ In addition to national parties, several regional parties ^{also} have appeared. Due to variety of reasons, in every region, regional parties are being formed. The reasons are economic, social, religious, linguistic and so on. Sometimes, some parties are preferred for

such reasons. As for example, the AGP was voted to power because the party was the outcome of Assam Agitation and ^{The} Assam Accord. The people of the Brahmaputra valley considered the party alone keeping aside the individual status of the candidate concerned. But the study reveals that the people also want that their representative should have the capacity to place their problems before the appropriate authority. In other words, they want a candidate irrespective of his/her party affiliation ^{who can help them to solve their problems.} This means that majority voters do not like to be swept away by the party politics. The study further reveals that majority voters believe that the candidate should have strong personality and commitment to the society in ^{the} real sense. He should be honest, sincere and dutiful.

We have asked whether the voters are guided by the village headman, party leaders, or other persons other than the party. In rural areas still the

village headmen, ~~are~~ ^{have} playing ~~ing~~ decisive roles, party leaders ~~have~~ also influenced ~~them~~ to some extent. But in urban areas these factors have no big role to play. 60% of the voters exercised the right of franchise according to their own judgement.

In both the elections, it has been observed that the ruling party did not have any impact over the voters during electioneering.

The following table will clarify the point.

Overall pattern of influenced and not influenced voters during electioneering.

Table-7

	<u>1985</u>	<u>1991</u>
Influenced voters	27	21
Not influenced voters	71	78
Don't know	2	1
Total	100%	100%
Number of voters	300	300

The study further shows that the women voters particularly in the ^Patacharkuchi segment in 1991 did not come out in large number from their homes to cast their votes. Whereas in other two segments the women voters cast their votes in parity with the male voters. In ^Patacharkuchi about 56% of the women voters took part at the poll. Why did it happen? The answer is that the Assamese women voters in this Assamese-Hindu dominated constituency did not take the election very seriously like that of the women of the other two segments i.e, Sorbhog and Barpeta nor ^{well} they ~~are~~ encouraged by the ^eman-folk. The Muslim women are made to behave in such a way that their own community candidates are safely elected. The high rate of polling ^{by Muslim women} shows 88% in Barpeta and 86% in Sorbhog segments ^{which} is sufficient to explain that Muslim women voters are equally serious in the electoral battle like their males. But in 1985 like all other segments of the district, the women took ^{of Patachar-} ^{Kuchi}

~~took~~ part in the election. ~~The large number of~~ ^{this was} ~~participation was definitely~~ ^{the} outcome of the Assam Accord.

Performances of the two Governments:

As regards the performance of the Government, most of the voters expressed dissatisfaction. ~~The proportion of dissatisfaction has already been expressed by the people in 1991 when they voted out the AGP.~~ One interesting point to be noted ^{is} that the rural voters are silent about the performances of the Government. Our survey reveals that most of the lay voters say over 62% are not bothered about the issue of satisfaction or dissatisfaction. But this may be admitted that the elite section expressed their dissatisfaction not only with the AGP but also with the present Govt.

Overall patterns of satisfied and dissatisfied voters as follows.

Table-8

	<u>1985</u>	<u>1991</u>
1. Satisfied voters	5	14
2. Dissatisfied voters	33	51
3. Don't know	62	35
Total	100%	100%
Number of voters	85	120

Election Campaign:

Election Campaign is vital part of electoral battle. In India various methods are being adopted for campaigns during election days. Popular method is *holding* public meeting. But today we have seen that apart from public meeting, wall-writings, posters and even personal contact with the voters are made. During the election held in 1985, the AGP supporters made election campaign *by* through bicycle, *riding* carrying party flags and badges. In 1991, the Congress hung the party flags in public places in large number to attract voters. Now-a-days, the parties generally preferred personal contact with the voters. Door to door campaign, they believe, *will* ~~would~~ bring fruitful results.

We ~~have~~ raised the issue of campaign before some voters. Majority of them favoured campaign through public meeting. Of the 84 voters interviewed 85% favoured campaign through public meetings while

15% supported personal contact with the voters by the parties/candidates themselves.

Election Expenditure:

Electoral battle incurs a huge amount of money. Wherefrom the money comes to the parties or the candidates? A considerable portion comes to the national parties from the big business houses. Besides, the public also contributes to the party election fund. The Election Commission has, from time to time fixed the limits of expenditure to be borne by the candidates. Demand is very often aired before the Government also to bear certain amount of the expenditure. But the decision ^{has} ~~is~~ not yet ^{been} taken. We ~~have~~ approached some voters to know their feelings about the funding of the election. There ^{was} ~~is~~ a mixed reaction. Of the 132 voters, 52% opposed the idea of state funding while 48% wanted that certain amount should be released for electioneering purposes to the candidates. ^{by the states.}

The study also reveals that most of the voters want higher education of their representatives. They generally prefer that the representative should ~~be~~ at least ^{be} a graduate. Some of the voters also like to suggest constitutional provision about the qualification of a candidate.

Thus, we find that the voters in all these three constituencies took part in the electoral processes very seriously. They are very much conscious of their political rights.

Conclusion and Suggestions

As has been seen the investigation shows that there is a need for a more systematic approach to the study of the history of the Indian people.

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CHAPTER -IV- CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS.

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Conclusion and Suggestions.

We have tested the hypotheses^e drawn in regard to our study. The following conclusions can be drawn.

First, the voters approached by us are cautious of their rights and obligations as ~~members~~ of the society. The elections held in 1985 and 1991 have fully demonstrated their awareness. Particularly, the Muslim voters who were working outside the constituencies, came in groups to exercise their right to vote.

Second, the voters are generally not serious about the manifesto of the parties. They do not take^{it} into account ~~if~~^{nor are} the political parties ~~are~~ sincere about it. The ruling party also forgot^e the pledges made before the electorates. Some of the pledges ~~were~~^{are} so unrealistic that those ~~could not be~~^{can never be} materialised. In other words, those are offered just to hoodwink the people.

Third, voters are very often told sheer lie^{by parties} ~~by the parties~~^{promises which cannot be fulfilled}. Of course, ~~that~~^{this} is the tacticsst to enlist the support of the people. The elected representatives after being elected do not like to visit ~~certain~~^{the} remote areas.

Fourth, sub-nationalism grows up due to variety of reasons. As for example, in 1985, majority of the Assamese ~~speaking~~ people supported AGP while the linguistic and religious minority ^{ies} supported the U.M.F. That was the outcome of the Assam Accord. In 1991, the sub-nationalism ~~forces~~ did not die fully. Muslims gave ~~unstituted~~ support ~~to~~ Congress in the constituencies

where the candidates belonged to the Muslim community. But the same community behaved differently when there ~~was~~ ^{were} no Muslim candidate of the Congress. As for example, in Sarukhetri constituency of the district, the Muslim voters supported the CPM candidate as the ~~later~~ ^{later} belonged to their community. Therefore, it is not difficult to understand that Muslims supported their fellow Muslim candidate irrespective of the party. So far as this community is concerned, it exhibits very interesting and attractive scenerio. In Baghbar constituency where nearly cent percent voters belonged to the Muslim community, a neck to neck contest was found. The difference between the winning candidate and two other defeated candidates were ^a few hundreds only.

Fifth, the study shows that caste politics has no role to play in Assam. ^{the study area.}

Last but not the least most of the voters expressed a sense of strong resentment over the performances of both the Governments. The AGP government failed virtually in all fronts. Mishandling of situation, scandalous performances, deterioration in law and order arising out of ULFA and Bodoland agitation, ⁸ corrupt practices by the Government and so on annoyed the people. Similarly, the present Government ^{has} also caused ^{deep} sense of dissatisfaction over the manners by which Govt. ^{jobs} ~~are~~ ^{posts} ~~are~~ ^{filled up} ~~sold~~. But it must be admitted that the Government has tried to pacify the ethnic groups in the state by granting autonomous character over certain subjects. The picture will be clear after sometime.

Suggestions.

The following suggestions may be advanced.

First, in Assam, Assembly segments are not compact in size. In comparison to other parts of the North-East, the segments are larger in size and population. The present constituencies should be delimited which would definitely bring fruitful results. One, more people would get chance to serve the people as their representatives. Two, the delimitation may help in solving political problem. It is undoubtedly true that behind each and every agitation there are handful ^{of} leaders, who ^{are} ~~have~~ ^{ed} ~~temptation~~ ^{by} for power ~~in their minds~~. Delimitation of constituency may provide chance to such leader. Ofcourse, it depends on the political maturity and will of the Govt. Three, some constituencies are geographically isolated by rivers and forests and others are thickly populated. The elected representative may not have time to establish link with the people. Apart from this, the candidates at the time of election may not approach ~~to~~ the people of such regions. Hence, the necessity is felt.

Second, as far as possible and practicable, certain amount should be granted to the candidates to meet election expenses. But the question may arise ^{as} to whom ^{should} the money be paid. The Govt. may do so as an experiment by making thread-bare discussions. This may bring down the corrupt practices of the legislators.

Third, the model code of conduct chalked by the Election Commission must be adhered to so that free and fair elections are held. The State Govts. must co-operate in this regard.

Fourth, our legislators should have ^{some} a minimum ^{educational} qualification^s. They should be at least graduates of a recognised University. One may ^{think} ~~be afraid~~ that such ^a bold step ^{will} violate the Constitutional provision. The constitution framed five decades ago should have a revolutionary change. In other words, through ^{educational} ~~amendment~~^m, the minimum ^{educational} qualification should be incorporated. This would definitely help us in enacting good laws and also in having efficient political executive^s. One may argue that mere education ^{is} ~~would not be enough for efficient political executive~~. But education in true sense plus morality will be sufficient for us.

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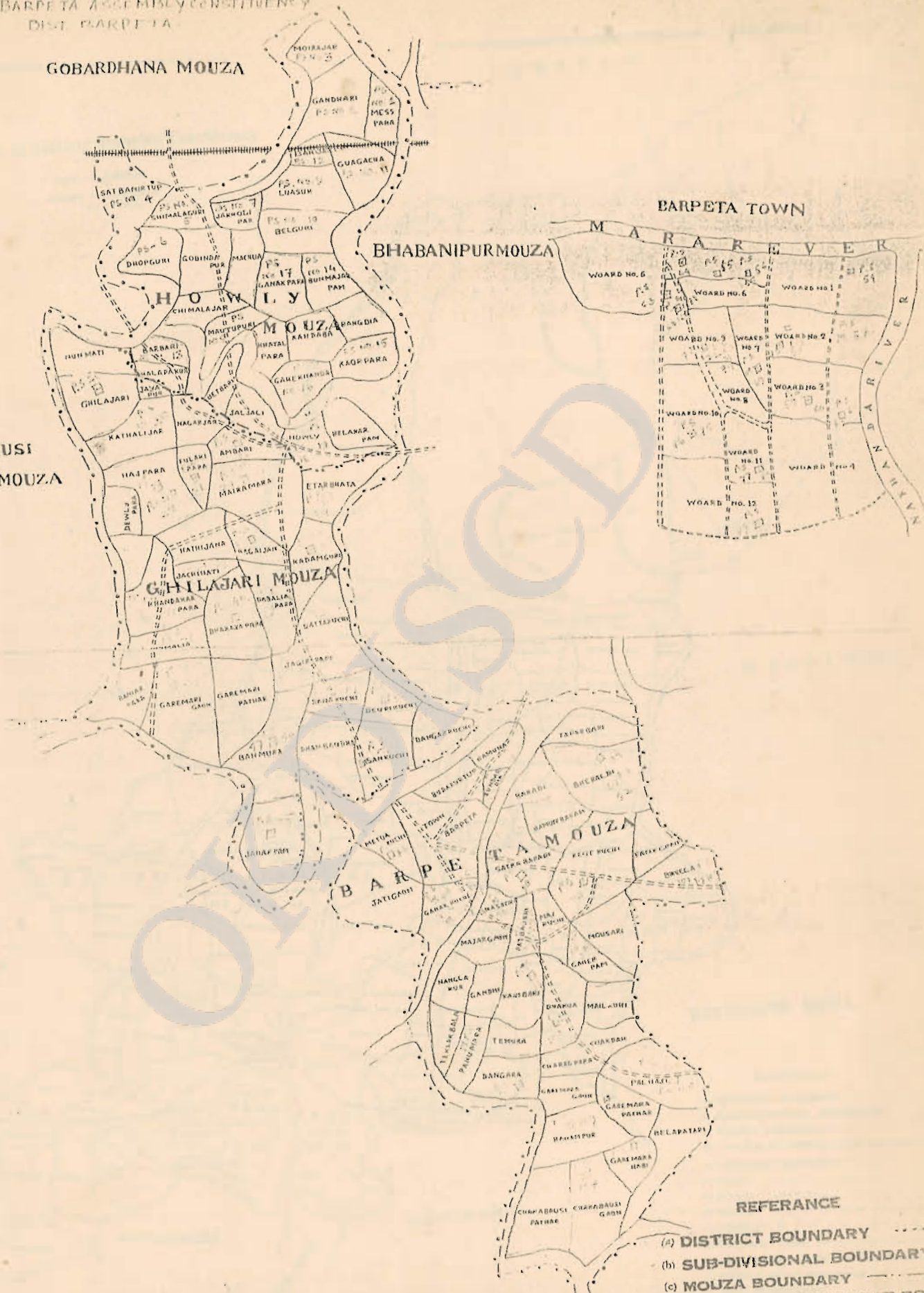
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GOBARDHANA MOUZA

MAKA CHAKABAUSI
MOUZA

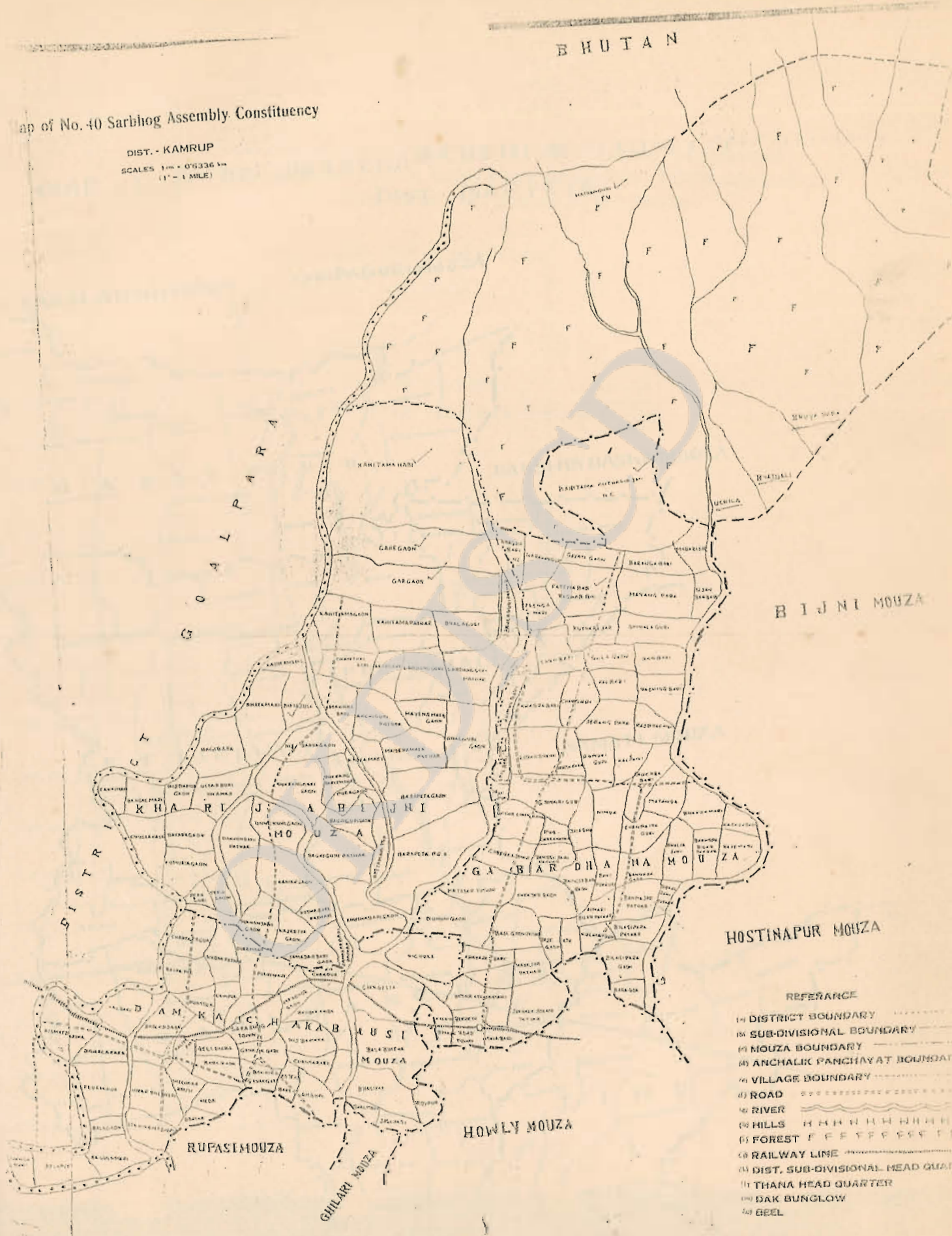


REFERENCE

- (a) DISTRICT BOUNDARY
- (b) SUB-DIVISIONAL BOUNDARY
- (c) MOUZA BOUNDARY

Б H U T A N

SCALES 1 cm = 0.6336 km
(1" = 1 MILE)

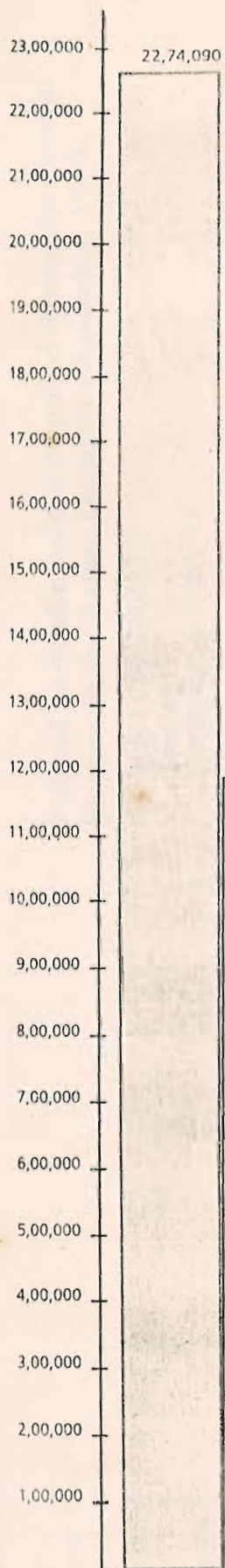


REFERENCE

- (1) DISTRICT BOUNDARY
 (2) SUB-DIVISIONAL BOUNDARY
 (3) MOUZA BOUNDARY
 (4) ANCHALIK PANCHAYAT BOUNDARY
 (5) VILLAGE BOUNDARY
 (6) ROAD
 (7) RIVER
 (8) HILLS
 (9) FOREST
 (10) RAILWAY LINE
 (11) DIST. SUB-DIVISIONAL HEAD QUARTER
 (12) THANA HEAD QUARTER
 (13) DAK BUNGLOW
 (14) DEEL

42. PATACHARKUCHI ASSEMBLY CONSTITUENT
DIST. BARPETA.





Political party wise valid vote polled during the general election to the Assam Legislative Assembly, 1983 against the total valid vote polled in the State.

Scale : 1 cm = 1,00,000 votes
Total valid vote
polled = 22,74,090

Index

(a) Total valid vote polled

(b) Total valid vote polled by each party



INC (I)

IND

IC(S)

CPM

PTC

CPI

22,74,090

11,94,657

6,60,553

1,37,685

1,16,923

1,05,526

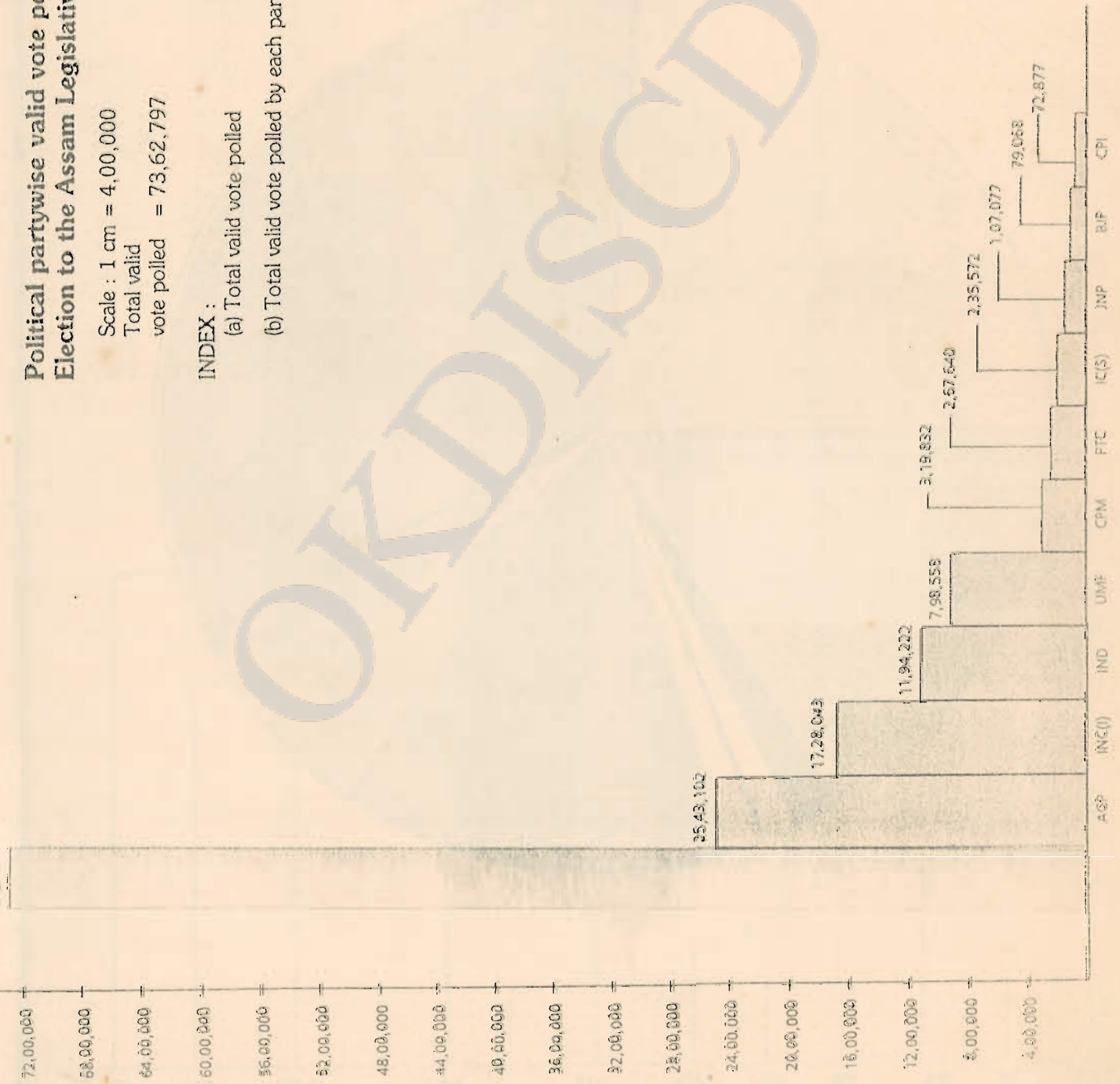
58,746

Political partywise valid vote polled during the General Election to the Assam Legislative Assembly, 1985.

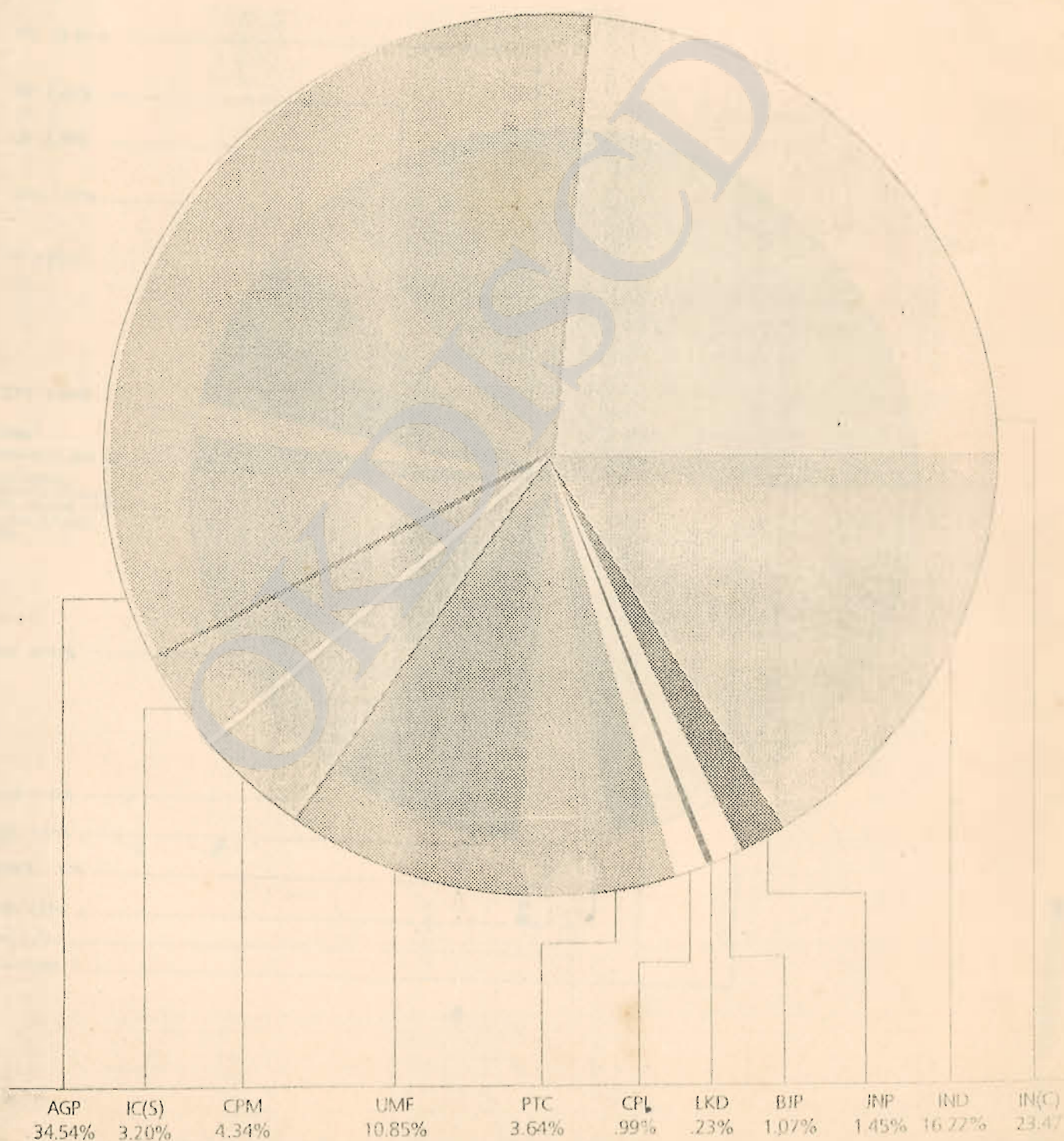
Scale : 1 cm = 4,00,000
 Total valid
 vote polled = 73,62,797

INDEX :

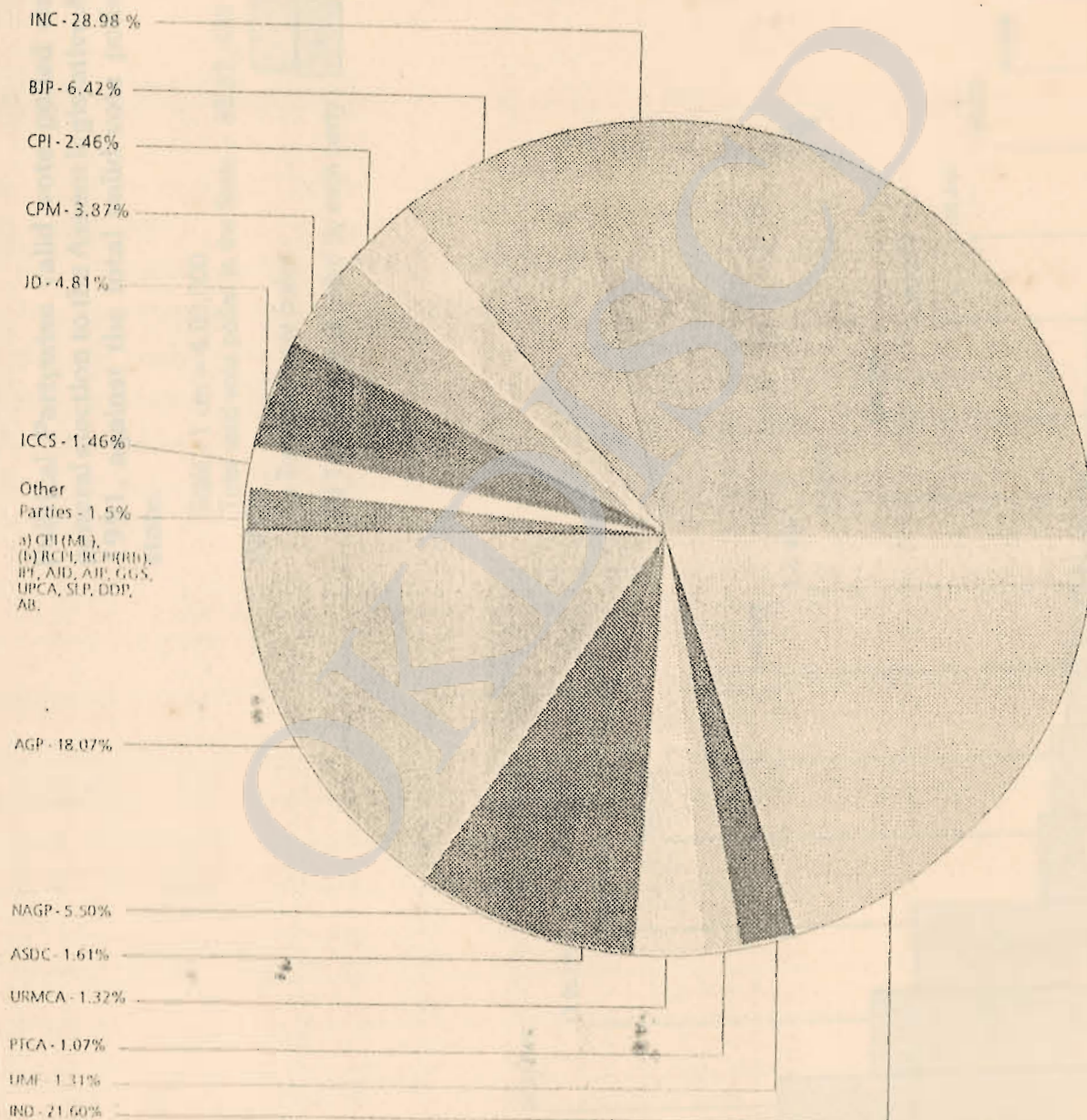
- (a) Total valid vote polled
- (b) Total valid vote polled by each party



Percentage of Political Partywise vote polled during the
General Election to the Assam legislative Assembly, 1985.



Percentage of Political Partywise vote polled during the General Election to the Assam legislative Assembly, 1991



Political Partywise valid vote polled during the general election to the Assam legislative Assembly 1991, against the total valid vote polled in the state.

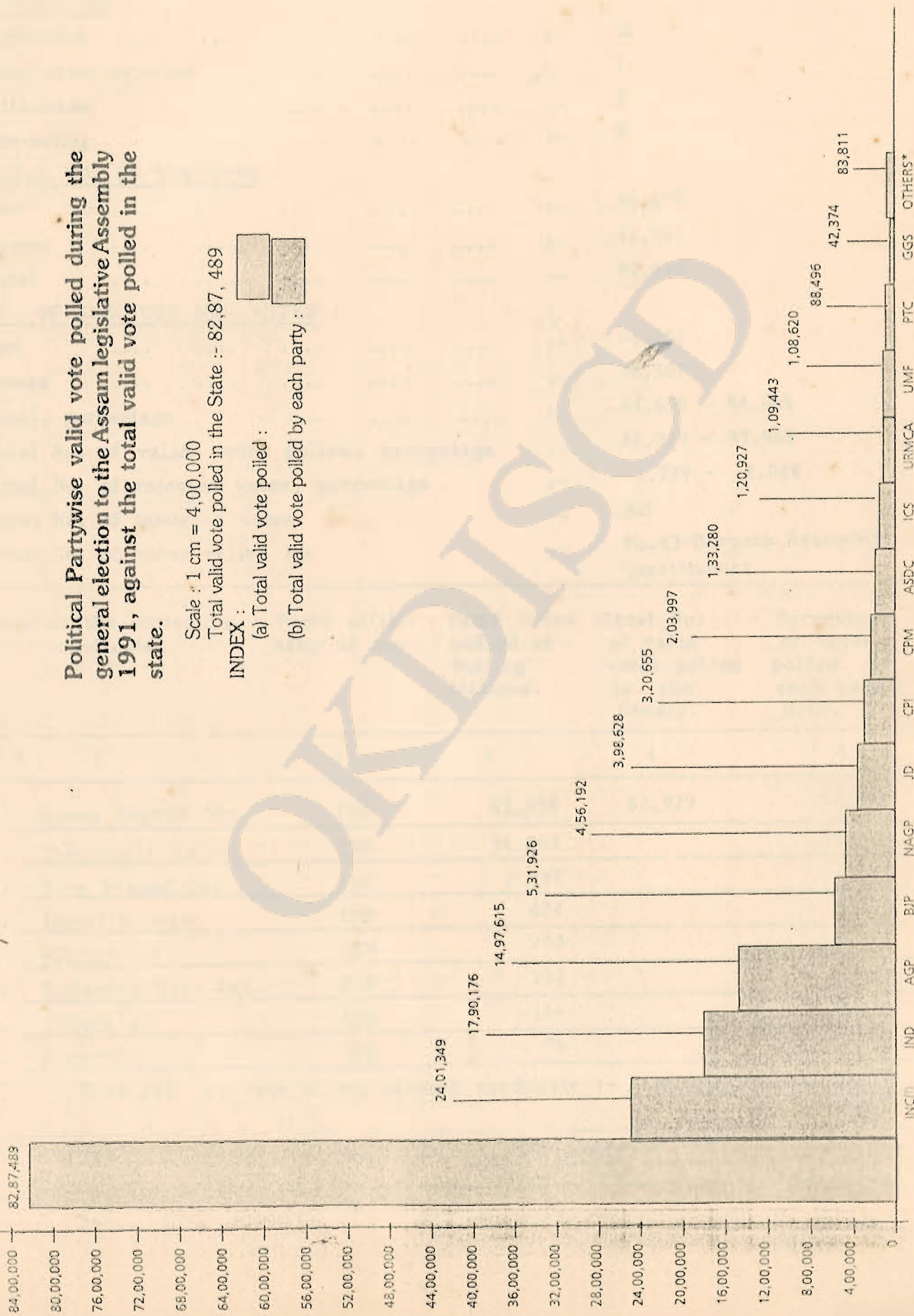
Scale : 1 cm = 4,00,000

Total valid vote polled in the State :- 82,87,489

INDEX :

(a) Total valid vote polled :

(b) Total valid vote polled by each party :



* JD(S), JP, Lokdal, CPI(M), RCPI, RCPI (RB), IPF, AJP, UPCA, SUP, DDP, AB.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY GENERAL ELECTIONS, 1955.

Name of the Assembly Consty.

No. 43. Barpeta

CANDIDATES :

Nominated	.....	:-	12
Nomination rejected	.....	:-	1
Withdrawn	.....	:-	3
Contesting	.....	:-	8

TOTAL NO. OF ELECTORS :

Men	.....	:-	46,679
Women	.....	:-	42,751
Total	.....	:-	89,430

NO. OF ELECTORS WHO VOTED :

Men	.....	:-	46,351
Women	.....	:-	38,307
Total, percentage	.....	:-	84,658 - 94.66%
Total No. of valid votes polled, percentage	.....	:-	82,929 - 97.96%
Total No. of rejected votes, percentage	.....	:-	1,729 - 2.04%
Total No. of tendered votes	.....	:-	Nil
Total No. of votes polled by	.....	:-	No.43-Barpeta Assembly Constituency

Name of the contesting candidate.	Party affiliation if any.	Valid votes polled at Polling Stations.	Total No. of valid votes polled in the Consty.	Percentage of votes polled by each candidate.
1. Kumar Deepak Das	IND	43,908	82,929	52.94%
* 2. Tamimuddin Ahmed	IND	35,803		43.17%
* 3. Tara Prasad Das	INC	2,087		2.51%
* 4. Ismail Hussain	INP	424		0.51%
* 5. Karban Ali	IND	253		0.30%
* 6. Sailendra Nath Das	JNP	212		0.25%
* 7. Khabadi ali	IND	166		0.20%
* 8. Riazuddin	IND	76		0.09%

Name and address of the elected candidate :- Kumar Deepak Das.

Elected Town P. O. Bini.

Date of Declaration of result :- 18th December, 1955

Indicator of the amount of security deposit.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY GENERAL ELECTIONS. 1985.

No. and name of the Assembly Constituency. :- No.42. Patacharkuchi

CANDIDATES :

Nominated	.....	:-	11
Nomination rejected	.....	:-	1
Withdrawn	.....	:-	2
Contesting	.....	:-	8

TOTAL NO. OF ELECTORS :

Men	.....	:-	44,067
Women	.....	:-	40,224
Total	.....	:-	84,291

NO. OF ELECTORS WHO VOTED :

Men	.....	:-	39,706
Women	.....	:-	34,529
Total, percentage	.....	:-	74,235 - 88.07%
Total No. of valid votes polled, percentage	.....	:-	73,286 - 98.72%
Total No. of rejected votes, percentage	.....	:-	949 - 1.28%
Total No. of tendered votes	.....	:-	Nil
Total No. of votes polled by	.....	:-	No.42. Patacharkuchi Assembly Constituency

Name of the contesting candidate	Party affiliation, if any	Valid votes polled at Polling Stations.	Total No. of valid votes polled in the Consty.	Percentage of votes polled by each candidate.
----------------------------------	---------------------------	---	--	---

1	2	3	4	5
1. Pabin Ch. Deka	IND	67,428	73,286	92.00%
2. Nagen Pathak	INC	4,229		5.77%
3. Imran Ali	IND	405		0.55%
4. Bhubneswar Barman	JNP	672		0.91%
5. Atul Kalita	IND	196		0.26%
6. Kailash Malla Barua	IND	135		0.18%
7. Achyut Kr. Choudhury	BJP	166		0.19%
8. Pabi Ram Das	IND	105		0.14%

Name and address of the elected candidate :- Pabin Ch. Deka.

Poll:- Jalkhanga, P.O.- Jalkhanga, Dist. Nalbari

Date of Declaration of result :- 17th December, 1985

The undersigned declares that the above is a true and correct copy of the original.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY GENERAL ELECTIONS, 1985.

No. and name of the Assembly Consty.

No. 44 Sorbhog

CANDIDATES :

Nominated :- 5
 Nomination rejected :- Nil
 Withdrawn :- Nil
 Contesting :- 5

TOTAL NO. OF ELECTORS :

Men :- 42,721
 Women :- 37,906
 Total :- 80,627

NO. OF ELECTORS WHO VOTED :

Men :- 37,518
 Women :- 32,693
 Total, percentage :- 70,211 - 87.08%
 Total No. of valid votes polled, percentage :- 66,503 - 94.72%
 Total No. of rejected votes, percentage :- 3,708 - 5.28%
 Total No. of tendered votes :- Nil
 Total No. of votes polled by :- No. 40, Sorbhog Assembly Constituency.

Name of the contesting candidate	Party affiliation, if any	Valid votes polled at Polling Stations.	Total No. of valid votes polled in the Consty.	Percentage of votes polled by each candidate.
----------------------------------	---------------------------	---	--	---

1	2	3	4	5
1. Hemem Das	CPM	26,158	66,503	39.33%
2. Davie Ledger	IND	18,489		27.80%
3. Jagadindra Narayan Biswas	IND	17,301		26.01%
4. Pranita Talukder	INC	2,793		4.19%
5. Chandra Brahma	IND	1,762		2.64%

7. Name and address of the elected candidate :- Hemem Das,

8. Constituency P.O.:- Anguri, Via - Sorbhog

9. Date of Declaration of result :- 18th December, 1985

10. Signature of Returning Officer

Date

100
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY GENERAL ELECTIONS, 1985.

No. and name of the Assembly Consty. :- No.47, Chenga.

CANDIDATES :

Nominated	.....	:-	15
Nomination rejected	.....	:-	1
Withdrawn	.....	:-	5
Contesting	.....	:-	9

TOTAL NO. OF ELECTORS :

Men	.....	:-	30,760
Women	.....	:-	28,301
Total	.....	:-	59,061

NO. OF ELECTORS WHO VOTED :

Men	.....	:-	28,906
Women	.....	:-	25,280
Total, percentage	.....	:-	54,186 - 91.75%
Total No. of valid votes polled, percentage	.....	:-	52,231 - 96.30%
Total No. of rejected votes, percentage	.....	:-	1,955 - 3.61%
Total No. of tendered votes	.....	:-	Nil
Total No. of votes polled by	.....	:-	47. Chenga Assembly Constituency

Name of the contesting candidate	Party affiliation, if any	Valid votes polled at Polling Stations.	Total No. of valid votes polled in the Consty.	Percentage of votes polled by each candidate.
1	2	3	4	5
1. Muktar Hussain	IND	19,412	52,231	37.17%
2. Md. Liakat Ali Khan	IND	15,289	-	29.27%
3. Chanakya Pathak	IND	14,945	-	28.61%
* 4. Sirajul Hussain Saikia	INC	992	-	1.90%
* 5. Md. Haroon Ojah	IND	652	-	1.25%
* 6. Md. Halim Bhuyan	JNP	365	-	0.70%
* 7. Md. Ilimuddin Dewan	ICS	225	-	0.43%
* 8. Ranjit Thakuria	IND	217	-	0.42%
* 9. Niranjan Pathak	BJP	134	-	0.26%

Name and address of the elected candidate :- Muktar Hussain.
Vill. Haripur, P.O. Gomaphulbari.

Date of Declaration of result :- 18th December, 1985.

(*) Indicates forfeiture of security deposit.

(W) Indicates Woman Candidate.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY GENERAL ELECTIONS. 1985.

No and name of the Assembly Consty.

:- No.46. Sarukhatri.

CANDIDATES :

Nominated :- 6

Nomination rejected :- Nil

Withdrawn :- 2

Contesting :- 4

TOTAL NO. OF ELECTORS :

Men :- 43,907

Women :- 39,272

Total :- 83,179

NO. OF ELECTORS WHO VOTED :

Men :- 42,471

Women :- 35,307

Total, percentage :- 77,778 - 93.51%

Total No. of valid votes polled, percentage :- 76,041 - 97.77%

Total No. of rejected votes, percentage :- 1,737 - 2.23%

Total No. of tendered votes :- Nil

Total NO. of votes polled by :- 46. Sarukhetri Assembly Constituency

Name of the contesting candidate	Party affiliation, if any	Valid votes polled at Polling Stations.	Total No. of valid votes polled in the Consty.	Percentage of votes polled by each candidate.
----------------------------------	---------------------------	---	--	---

1	2	3	4	5
1. Dinabandhu Choudhury	IND	39,088	76,041	51.40%
2. Samir Khan	IND	26,397	-	34.71%
3. Nizamuddin Khan	CPM	8,424	-	11.08%
4. Amir Hamza Talukdar	INC	2,132	-	2.80%

Name and address of the elected candidate :- Dinabandhu Choudhury

Ward No.3. Sartheribari Town.

Date of Declaration of result :- 19th December, 1985.

Signature of security deposit.

Date.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY GENERAL ELECTIONS, 1985

No. and name of the Assembly Consty.

:- NO 45 Baghbar.

CANDIDATES :

Nominated	.....	:-	9
Nomination rejected	.....	:-	Nil
Withdrawn	.....	:-	Nil
Contesting	.....	:-	9

TOTAL NO. OF ELECTORS :

Men	.....	:-	31,278
Women	.....	:-	29,794
Total	.....	:-	61,072

NO. OF ELECTORS WHO VOTED :

Men	.....	:-	30,074
Women	.....	:-	24,639
Total, percentage	.....	:-	54,713 - 89.59%
Total No. of valid votes polled, percentage	.....	:-	53,276 - 97.37%
Total No. of rejected votes, percentage	.....	:-	1,437 - 2.63%
Total No. of tendered votes	.....	:-	Nil
Total No. of votes polled by	.....	:-	45. Baghbar Assembly Constituency

Name of the contesting candidate.	Party affiliation if any.	Valid votes polled at Polling Stations.	Total No. of valid votes polled in the Consty.	Percentage of votes polled by each candidate.
1	2	3	4	5
1. Sheikh A. Hamid	IND	30,747	53276	57.71%
2. Jalaluddin	IND	15,427	-	28.95%
* 3. Ibrahim Ali	INC	2,612	-	4.90%
* 4. M. Abdul Kasem	IND	2,207	-	4.14%
* 5. Giasuddin Ahmed	IND	778	-	1.46%
* 6. Abdul Kaddus	IND	639	-	1.19%
* 7. Jaharul Islam	BJP	505	-	0.94%
* 8. Abul Hussain	IND	189	-	0.35%
* 9. Nuru] Islam Khan	IND	177	-	0.33%

Name and address of the elected candidate :- Sheikh A. Hamid.

Vill. Kadamtola, P.O. Kadamtola,

Date of Declaration of result :-

18th December, 1985.

SPC indicates signature of security deposit.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY GENERAL ELECTIONS, 1985.

No. and name of the Assembly Consty. :- No.44. Jania

CANDIDATES :

Nominated	.....	:-	13
Nomination rejected	.....	:-	Nil
Withdrawn	.....	:-	1
Contesting	.....	:-	12

TOTAL NO. OF ELECTORS :

Men	.....	:-	38,127
Women	.....	:-	33,930
Total	.....	:-	72,057

NO. OF ELECTORS WHO VOTED :

Men	.....	:-	35,410
Women	.....	:-	29,570
Total, percentage	.....	:-	64,980 - 90.18%
Total No. of valid votes polled, percentage	:-		63,189 - 97.24%
Total No. of rejected votes, percentage	:-		1,791 - 2.76%
Total No. of tendered votes	:-		Nil
Total No. of votes polled by	:-		No.44. Jania Assembly Constituency

Name of the contesting candidate.	Party affiliation if any.	Valid votes polled at Polling Stations.	Total No. of valid votes polled in the Constv.	Percentage of votes polled by each candidate.
1	2	3	4	5
1. A.F.Golam Osmani	IND	47,693	63,189	75.47%
* 2. Kaji Anowar Hussain	IND	5,438		8.60%
* 3. Nasiruddin Ahmed	CPM.	9,159		8.16%
* 4. Abdus Samad Choudhury	IND	1,983		3.13%
* 5. Mahmmad Idris Ali	INC	1,323		2.09%
* 6. Khandakar Jafer Ali	IND	434		0.68%
* 7. Manewar Hussain	JNP	317		0.50%
* 8. Abdul Latip	ICS	298		0.47%
* 9. Abdur Rashid Mia	IND	258		0.40%
* 10. Prahlad Ch. Kalita	IND	123		0.19%
* 11. Mahammed Badal Khan	BJP	82		0.12%
* 12. Gasmat Ali	IND	78		0.12%

Name and address of the elected candidate :- A.F. Golam Osmani.

Ward NO.8. Silebar Town.

Date of Declaration of result :- 18th December, 1985

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY GENERAL ELECTIONS, 1984.

No. and name of the Assembly Consty.

:- No.41. Bhabanipur

CANDIDATES :

Nominated	.....	:-	11
Nomination rejected	.....	:-	Nil
Withdrawn	.....	:-	2
Contesting	.....	:-	9

TOTAL NO. OF ELECTORS :

Men	.....	:-	36,045
Women	.....	:-	30,570
Total	.....	:-	66,615

NO. OF ELECTORS WHO VOTED :

Men	.....	:-	33,735
Women	.....	:-	27,604
Total, percentage	.....	:-	61,339 - 92.08%
Total No. of valid votes polled, percentage	.....	:-	58,706 - 95.71%
Total No. of rejected votes, percentage	.....	:-	2,633 - 4.29%
Total No. of tendered votes	.....	:-	Nil
Total No. of votes polled by	.....	:-	No.41. Bhabanipur Assembly Constituency

Name of the contesting candidate	Party affiliation, if any	Valid votes polled at Polling Stations.	Total No. of valid votes polled in the Consty.	Percentage of votes polled by each candidate.
1	2	3	4	5
1. Surendra Nath Medhi	IND	28,545	58,706	48.62%
2. Kanak Ch. Boro	IND	13,375		22.78%
* 3. Janmejoy Nargiary	PTCA	9,483		16.15%
* 4. Purnananda Kherkatari	IND	3,538		6.02%
* 5. Sarbananda Choudhury	INC	2,118		3.60%
* 6. Jitendra Basumatary	IND	691		1.17%
* 7. Raghu Talukdar	JNP	533		0.94%
* 8. Gambhir Das	IND	213		0.36%
* 9. Sukumar Basumatary	ICS	190		0.32%

Name and address of the elected candidate :- Surendra Nath Medhi.

Dakhinhati, P.O.- Bhabanipur, Barpeta

Date of Declaration of result :- 17th December, 1984

Candidates for failure of security deposit.
Candidate's Name and Address

ANNEXURE—V

BIDHAN SABHA GENERAL ELECTIONS, 1991

No. and name of the Assembly Constituency : 43 Barpeta L.A.C.

CANDIDATES :

Nominated	...	...	...	:	9
Nomination rejected	...	...	...	:	Nil
Withdrawn	...	...	...	:	5
Contesting	...	...	...	:	4

TOTAL NO. OF ELECTORS :

Men	...	...	...	:	56658
Women	...	...	...	:	49634
Total	...	...	...	:	106292

NO. OF ELECTORS WHO VOTED :

Men	...	...	...	:	49177
Women	...	...	...	:	44262
Total	...	...	...	:	93439

Total No. of valid votes polled ... : 90473

Total No. of rejected votes ... : 2966

Total No. of tendered votes ... : 5

Valid votes secured by the Contesting Candidate in 43 Barpeta L.A.C.

Name of the contesting candidate	Party affiliation if any	valid votes polled at polling Stations	Total No. of valid votes polled in the Consty.	Percentage of votes polled by each candidate
1	2	3	4	5
1. Ismail Hussain	INC	45705	90473	50.52
2. Mukul Das	IND	41968		46.38
★ 3. Fakimuddin	URMCA	1730		1.97
★ 4. Tamizuddin Ahmed	UMF	1020		1.13

Name and address of the elected candidate : Ismail Hussain, Howli Town,
P. O. Howli, Ward No-4 Dist. Barpeta, Assam.

Date of Declaration of result : 18/6/91

(★) Indicates forfeiture of security deposit : 2

(W) Indicates Women Candidate : Nil

ANNEXURE-V

BIDHAN SABHA GENERAL ELECTIONS, 1991

No. and name of the Assembly Constituency : 42 Patachar Kuchi L.A.C.

CANDIDATES :
 Nominated : 23
 Nomination rejected : Nil
 Withdrawn : 2
 Contesting : 21

TOTAL NO. OF ELECTORS :

Men : 50877
 Women : 46624
 Total : 97501

NO. OF ELECTORS WHO VOTED :

Men : 40676
 Women : 26024
 Total : 66700
 Total No. of valid votes polled : 64011
 Total No. of rejected votes : 2689
 Total No. of tendered votes : Nil

Valid votes polled secured by contesting candidates in 42 Patachar Kuchi L.A.C.

Name of the contesting candidate	Party affiliation if any	Valid Votes Polled at polling stations	Total No of valid votes polled in the consty	Percentage of votes polled by each candidate.
1	2	3	4	5
E 1. Krishna Kanta Lahkar	IND	13987	64011	21.85
S.T★ 2. Premananda Hazarika	IND	8382		13.10
★ 3. Paresh Haloi	NAGP	8212		12.83
★ 4. Bhubaneswar Barman	JD	4808		7.51
★ 5. Arjun Shing	INC	4195		6.55
★ 6. Sampurnananda Talukdar	AGP	4065		6.35
★ 7. Bhaben Chaudhury	IND	4013		6.27
★ 8. Monoranjan Kalita	IND	3861		6.03
★ 9. Nagendra Kalita	IND	2575		4.02
★ 10. Paramananda Goswami	IND	2272		3.55
S.T★ 11. Ganeswar Boro	IND	2154		3.37
★ 12. Malin Deka	IND	1277		2.00
★ 13. Dilip Baruah	IND	1229		1.92
★ 14. Niranjan Sarma	IND	854		1.33
★ 15. Gadadhar Dutta	IND	623		0.97
★ 16. Dinesh Chandra Medhi	IND	585		0.92
★ 17. Dinesh Das	IND	257		0.40
★ 18. Kiran Chaudhury	IND	227		0.35
★ 19. Harekrishna Das	IND	179		0.28
★ 20. Prasanna Patgiri	IND	154		0.24
★ 21. Subhash Jain	IND	102		0.16

Name and address of the elected candidate : Krishna Kanta Lahkar, Vill - Pathsala
 P.O. Pathsala Dist. Barpeta.

Date of Declaration of result : 18.6.91

(★) Indicates forfeiture of security deposit 20

(W) Indicates Women Candidate

ANNEXURE— V

BIDHAN SABHA GENERAL ELECTIONS, 1991

No. and name of the Assembly Constituency : 40 Sorbhog L.A.C.
CANDIDATES :

Nominated	...	...	...	:	8
Nomination rejected	...	...	...	:	2
Withdrawn	...	---	...	:	1
Contesting	...	...	...	:	5

TOTAL NO. OF ELECTORS :

Men	...	...	...	:	53266
Women	...	...	...	:	49104
Total	...	...	...	:	102370

NO. OF ELECTORS WHO VOTED :

Men	...	...	...	:	46562
Women	...	...	...	:	40630
Total	...	...	...	:	87192
Total No. of valid votes polled	...	...	...	:	84485
Total No. of rejected votes	...	...	...	:	2707
Total No. of tendered votes	...	---	...	:	Nil
Total No. of votes polled by	...	...	...	:	87192

Valid votes secured by Contesting Candidates in 40 Sorbhog L.A.C.

Name of the contesting candidate		Party affiliation if any	Valid votes polled at polling Stations	Total No. of valid votes polled in the consty.	Percentage of votes polled by each candidate
1		2	3	4	5
E 1.	Samsul Hoque	INC	31436	84485	37.21
2.	Hemen Das	CPM	27991		33.13
3.	Hiren Mazumdar	AGP	21211		25.11
★ 4.	Hara Kumar Goswami	URMCA	2635		3.12
★ 5.	Muktananda Pathak	IND	1212		1.43

Name and address of the elected candidate : Samsul Haque Vill-Kalah Bhangu
P.O. Kalah Bhangu Dist-Barpeta

Date of Declaration of result : 18/6/91

(★) Indicates forfeiture of security deposit 2

(W) Indicates Women candidate Nil

ANNEXURE - V

BIDHAN SABHA GENERAL ELECTIONS, 1967

No. and name of the Assembly Constituency : 46 Sarukhetri L.A.A.

CANDIDATES :

Nominated	...	...	...	:	20
Nomination rejected	...	...	...	:	1
Withdrawn	...	...	...	:	3
Contesting	...	...	...	:	16

TOTAL NO. OF ELECTORS :

Men	...	...	...	:	57124
Women	...	...	...	:	48515
Total	...	...	...	:	105639

NO. OF ELECTORS WHO VOTED :

Men	...	...	...	:	45366
Women	...	...	...	:	38197
Total, percentage	...	...	...	:	83563
Total No. of valid votes polled	...	...	...	:	79448
Total No. of rejected votes	...	...	...	:	4115
Total No. of tendered votes	...	...	...	:	Nil

Valid votes secured by contesting candidate in 46 Sarukhetri L.A.C.

Name of the contesting candidate	Party affiliation if any	Valid votes polled at polling stations	Total No. of valid votes polled in the consty	Percentage of votes polled by each candidate.
1	2	3	4	5
E 1. Nizamuddin Khan	CPM	22511	79448	28.33
SC 2. Kandarpa Kumar Das	INC	18504		23.29
★ 3. Abhay Chandra Barman	AGP	7785		9.80
★ 4. Samir Khan	IND	5820		7.32
★ 5. Abhay Chandra Nath	IND	4820		6.07
★ 6. Dinabandhu Chaudhury	NAGP	3839		4.83
★ 7. Dhiraj Bhuyan	IND	3290		4.14
★ 8. Duowar Hussain	JD	2772		3.49
★ 9. Amitabh Roy	IND	2583		3.25
★ 10. Jaanendra	IND	2484		3.13
★ 11. Debeswar Deka	IND	1657		2.07
★ 12. Nizamuddin Molla	URMCA	1426		1.80
★ 13. Insan Ali	IND	1337		1.68
★ 14. Harballav Barman	IND	401		0.50
★ 15. Baharul Islam	IND	164		0.21
★ 15. Menser Ali	IND	55		0.07

Name and address of the elected candidate : Nizamuddin Khan, Vill. Chasirbhitha
P.O. Khablar Bhitha, Dist-Ba. Peta.

Date of Declaration of result : 13.6.91

(★) Indicates forfeiture of security deposit 14

(W) Indicates Women Candidate— Nil

ANNEXURE-V

BIDHAN SABHA GENERAL ELECTIONS, 1991

No. and name of the Assembly Constituency : 45 Baghbor L.A.C.

CANDIDATES :

Nominated	...	...	...	:	6
Nomination rejected	...	...	...	:	Nil
Withdrawn	...	...	...	:	Nil
Contesting	...	...	...	:	6

TOTAL NO. OF ELECTORS :

Men	...	...	...	:	37993
Women	...	...	...	:	34671
Total	...	...	...	:	72664

NO. OF ELECTORS WHO VOTED :

Men	...	...	...	:	33354
Women	...	...	...	:	29122
Total	...	...	...	:	62476

Total No. of valid votes polled. ... : 59613

Total No. of rejected votes ... : 2863

Total No. of tendered votes ... : Nil

Valid votes secured by the Contesting Candidate in 45 Baghbor L.A.C.

Name of the contesting candidate	Party affiliation if any	Valid votes polled at polling Stations	Total No. of valid votes Polled in the Consty.	Percentage of votes polled by each candidate.
1	2	3	4	5
E 1. Dildar Rezza	INC	15801	59613	26.51
2. Seikh A. Hamid	UMF	15368		25.78
3. Jalaluddin Ahmed	IND	15249		25.58
4. Abdus Samad	JD	11442		19.19
★ 5. Abu Hussain	AGP	1622		2.72
★ 6. Abu Saleh Mahammad Musa	IND	131		0.22

Name and address of the elected candidate : Dildar Rezza Vill—Alupatichar N.C.
P.O. Alupati Dist. Barpeta

Date of Declaration of result : 17-6-91

★) Indicates forfeiture of security deposit 2

W) Indicates Women Candidate. Nil

ANNEXURE-V
BIDHAN SABHA GENERAL ELECTIONS, 1991

No. and name of the Assembly Constituency : 47, Chenga L.A.C.

CANDIDATES :

Nominated	...	...	...	:	16
Nomination rejected	...	...	...	:	Nil
Withdrawn	...	...	...	:	2
Contesting	...	...	...	:	14

TOTAL NO. OF ELECTORS :

Men	...	...	...	:	38592
Women	...	...	...	:	33782
Total	...	...	...	:	72374

NO. OF ELECTORS WHO VOTED :

Men	...	...	...	:	32189
Women	...	...	...	:	27191
Total	...	...	...	:	59380

Total No. of valid votes polled : 56550

Total No. of rejected votes : 2830

Total No. of tendered votes : Nil

Valid votes secured by contesting candidate in 47 Chenga L.A.C.

	Name of the contesting candidate	Party affiliation if any	Valid votes polled at Polling Stations	Total No. of valid votes polled in the Consty.	Percentage of votes polled by each candidate.
	1	2	3	4	5
E	1. Liakat Ali Khan	IND	25102	56550	44.39
★	2. Hemanta Talukdar	INC	8792		15.55
★	3. Hare Krishna Medhi	IND	6699		11.85
★	4. Seleman Ali	JD	5470		9.67
★	5. Amiya Talukdar	AGP	3338		5.90
★	6. Muktar Hussain Khan	UMF	1985		3.51
★	7. Sukur Ali	GGs	1555		2.75
★	8. Matiyar Rahman Bhyyan	JP	1238		2.19
★	9. Larendra Nath Chaudhury	IND	1097		1.94
★	10. Matiyur Rahman	URMCA	542		0.96
W★	11. Hamida Khatun	IND	248		0.44
★	12. Mokshed Ali	IND	222		0.39
★	13. Bhabendra Pathak	IND	173		0.30
★	14. Kunjalal Pathak	AJD	89		0.16

Name and address of the elected candidate : Liakat Ali Khan Vill- Fulbari P.O. Gomafalbari
Dist- Barpeta Via- Baharihat

Date of Declaration of result : 11-6-91

(★) Indicates forfeiture of security deposit 13

(W) Indicates Women Candidate NO

ANNEXURE—V
BIDHAN SABHA GENERAL ELECTIONS, 1991

No. and name of the Assembly Constituency : 41 Bhawanipur L.A.C.

CANDIDATES :

Nominated	...	...	...	:	22
Nomination rejected	...	...	...	:	Nil
Withdrawn	...	...	...	:	2
Contesting	...	...	...	:	20

TOTAL NO. OF ELECTORS :

Men	...	...	...	:	43250
Women	...	...	...	:	39546
Total	...	...	...	:	82796

NO. OF ELECTORS WHO VOTED :

Men	...	...	...	:	39319
Women	...	...	...	:	28967
Total	...	...	...	:	68286

Total No. of valid votes polled : 65500

Total No. of rejected votes : 2786

Total No. of tendered votes : Nil

Total No. of votes polled by : 68286

Valid votes secured by contesting candidate in 41 Bhawanipur L.A.C.

	Name of the contesting candidate	Party affiliation if any	Valid votes polled at Polling Stations	Total No. of valid votes polled in the Consty.	Percentage of votes polled by each candidate.
	1	2	3	4	5
ST E	1. Milan Boro	IND	23394	65500	35.75
	2. Surendra Nath Medhi	AGP	14405		22.02
	3. Chandradhar Das	INC (S)	13625		20.82
★	4. Tarini Charan Das	JD	3326		5.08
★	5. Monoranjan Das	NAGP	2537		3.88
★	6. Jamal uddin Khan	IND	1390		2.13
★	7. Jaser Ali Aah	IND	1187		1.82
★	8. Ganesh Nath	IND	1023		1.56
★	9. Khagendra Kalita	IND	949		1.45
★	10. Bimal Kumar Talukdar	IND	759		1.16
★	11. Krishna Kanta Das	INC	692		0.96
★	12. Sarbananda Chaudhury	IND	528		0.81
★	13. Raghu Talukdar	IND	361		0.55
★	14. Bhagendra Talukdar	IND	313		0.48
★	15. Syed Ali Sikdar	IND	308		0.47
★	16. Satish Khataniar	IND	276		0.42
★	17. Gambhir Das	IND	218		0.33
★	18. Bhaben Brahma	IND	146		0.22
★	19. Janak Talukdar	IND	36		0.05
★	20. Abdul Habir	IND	27		0.04

Name and address of the elected candidate : Milan Boro Vill- Bariamari, P.O. Rupahi Dist- Barpeta

Date of Declaration of result : 19-6-91

(★) Indicates forfeiture of security deposit 17

(W) Indicates Women Candidate Nil

ANNEXURE V

BIDHAN SABHA GENERAL ELECTIONS, 1991

No. and name of the Assembly Constituency : 44 Jania L.A.C.

CANDIDATES :

Nominated	...	...	...	:	15
Nomination rejected	...	...	...	:	1
Withdrawn	...	...	...	:	2
Contesting	...	...	...	:	12

TOTAL NO. OF ELECTORS :

Men	...	...	...	:	46510
Women	...	...	...	:	40991
Total	...	...	...	:	87501

NO. OF ELECTORS WHO VOTED :

Men	...	...	...	:	40486
Women	...	...	...	:	35315
Total,	...	...	...	:	75801
Total No. of valid votes polled.	...	...	...	:	71292
Total No. of rejected votes,	...	...	...	:	4509
Total No. of tendered votes	...	...	...	:	Nil
Valid votes secured by contesting candidates in 44 Jania L.A.C.					

Name of the contesting candidate	Party affiliation if any	Valid votes Polled at Polling stations	Total No or valid votes polled in the consty	Percentage of votes polled by each candidate
1	2	3	4	5
E 1. Ashaque Ali	IND	15492	71292	21.74
2. Jalil Talukdar	IND	12995		18.18
★ 3. Khand Abdul Gafur	INC	9045		12.69
★ 4. Ataur Rahman	IND	8210		11.52
★ 5. Eusuf Ali	IND	7602		10.67
★ 6. Idrish Ali	IND	5487		7.70
★ 7. Nurul Amin	AGP	3924		5.51
★ 8. Abbu Bakkar Siddique	URMCA	3166		4.44
★ 9. Abdus Sobhhan	IND	2934		4.12
★ 10. Nazmul Haque	IND	1252		1.76
★ 11. Sorbas Ali Ahmed	IND	752		1.06
★ 12. Abdus Sattar	IND	433		0.61

Name and address of the elected candidate : Ashaque Ali Vill. Gunialguri
P.O. Gunialguri

Date of Declaration of result : 12-6-91

(★) Indicates forfeiture of security deposit 10

(W) Indicates women candidate

Nil

