

Review of: "Indian National Congress's Hits and Misses in General Elections 2024"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Comments on

Indian National Congress's Hits and Misses in General Elections 2024

- Well-written and researched article.
- All aspects covered on the topic, but in my view, one of the major factors responsible for the increase in Congress seats from 52 (2019) to 99 (2024) was the "Khatakhata scheme."
- It needs some detailed elaboration in the text of the article, as it is the most lucrative and costliest (of course, on the Govt exchequer, which contains money from taxpayers) freebie of independent India floated by Congress, amounting to Rs 8500/- per month or Rs one lakh per year to each woman voter of the country.
- Pamphlets were distributed through daily newspapers for this scheme (I myself noticed these on voting day and one day prior to voting) and emphasized providing details like name of voter, bank account number, Aadhar number, etc., to ensure 100% voting in favor of Congress by women voters. Women were asked to deposit these forms at local Congress offices.
- Long queues of women voters outside Congress headquarters in UP and Karnataka were also viral on social media, and demanded the amount after election results were out.
- Is such a bribing practice to voters by political parties good for democracy? The author must throw some light.

Thanks,

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