



Political Achievement Of The BSP In Haryana- A Study Of 2004 Lok Sabha Election

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Abstract

The BSP is national political party in India since 1997. Its main social base is SC/ST /OBC and minority community in India. The BSP is not only a political party but also a social and economic movement for the welfare of Bahujan Samaj. The BSP is a 3rd national party which contested in 435 Lok Sabha seats out of total 543 in 2004 elections. BSP's social base is increasing day by day throughout country. The party has been contesting all Lok Sabha election in Haryana since 1984. After won one Parliamentary seat in 1998 Lok Sabha election, it came in lime light in Haryana's politics. Party contested this election in all 10 parliamentary constituencies. In this election, main election issues were Dalit prime minister, making new roads and preparation of the old, paddy price demanded by farmers, making over bridges, electricity problem, drinking water, SYL water issue in south Haryana, Jat versus Non-Jat etc. In 2004 Lok Sabha election, the party got 04.98% votes. So, the study of the political achievement of the BSP in Haryana state is necessary and relevant.

Key Words

Political Party, social base, vote bank, Lok Sabha election, achievement, parliamentary constituencies, issues, votes, politics, contest

Objectives of Study: Major objectives of this study are:

- (a) Why the BSP's social base is increasing day by day throughout country?
- (b) How the party effects caste polarization in Haryana politics?
- (c) How the party got 4.98% votes in 2004 Lok Sabha election in comparison to 1.96% votes in 1999 Lok Sabha elections in Haryana?

Research Methodology

Secondary sources were used to collect factual material in the presented research paper. Magazines, newspapers, Election website and research texts were used as secondary sources. Historical, comparative, psychological and analytical methods were used to confirm the research hypothesis. The political achievement of BSP in Haryana has been studied in the historical method. In comparative method, a comparative study of securing vote percentage in all 10 PCs was done.

Hypothesis

The first objective of the research paper is to explain why the BSP's social base is increasing day by day. The main reason is that BSP's strong social base exist in Haryana. The second important objective of the research paper is to explain, how the party effects caste polarization in Haryana politics. Due to caste base politics party effected SC voters in Haryana. The third objective of the research paper is to see how the party got 4.98% votes in 2004 Lok Sabha election.

Introduction

Haryana has 10 Parliamentary Constituencies, of which 08 are general seats and 02 are reserved for the Scheduled Caste category i.e. Ambala PC and Sirsa PC. The BSP contested in all 10 PCs in Haryana. The BSP secured 403254 votes (4.98%). In this election, there were 12320557 electors, 8097064 voters, with a voter turnout of 65.72%. The BSP failed to win any constituency. The BJP won 01 PC and secured 17.21% votes. The INC won 09 PCs and secured 42.13% votes.

Electoral Performance of the BSP in 2004 Lok Sabha Elections⁹

01 Ambala (S.C) PC

In this Constituency, Chander Pal contested from the BSP. Kr. Shailja contested from the INC. Aman Kumar contested from the HVP.

Election Issues: Some of the prominent election-related issues in this constituency are:

- a) Construction of overbridges in Kalka and Naraingarh.
- b) Flood problems during the rainy season.

Party Performance

Total votes polled= 847724, Postal votes of the BSP =0

Sr. No.	Name of Assembly	Votes in 2004
1.	Kalka	3139
2.	Naraingarh	6640
3.	Sadhaura (SC)	11415
4.	Chhachhroli	12604
5.	Jagadhri	6847
6.	Mullana (SC)	8178
7.	Ambala Cantt	0477
8.	Ambala City	1375
9.	Naggal	6353
	Total	57028 or 6.73%

The BSP received 6.73% votes and secured 4th position. The INLD received 15.45% votes and secured 3rd position. The BJP received 21.27% votes and secured 2nd position. The INC received 48.99% votes and secured 1st position. The BSP received maximum 12604 votes in Chhachhroli assembly and minimum 447 votes in Ambala Cantt. assembly.

Major causes of defeat¹ – The analysis identifies the following major causes of defeat:

- a) Nagra's expulsion from the party.
- b) MLA, B.S Saini (Jagadhri) left the BSP and joined the INLD.

02 Kurukshetra PC

In this Constituency, Mona Ram Kashyap contested from the BSP. Navin Jindal contested from the Congress. Abhay Chautala contested from the INLD. Jitender Singh contested from the HVP. Sardar Jagjit Singh contested from the Ekta Shakti Party. Randhir Singh contested from the Lok Jan Shakti Party

Election Issues: Some of the prominent election-related issues in this constituency are:

- (b) Construction of Railway overbridge at Kaithal –Jind Road in Yamuna Nagar.
- (c) Low market value of sugarcane in Haryana

Party Performance

Total votes polled: 850858, Postal votes of the BSP: 3

Sr. No.	Name of Assembly	Votes of the BSP
1.	Yamuna Nagar	1810
2.	Shahabad	2086
3.	Radaur (SC)	1587
4.	Thanesar	1664
5.	Pehowa	1410
6.	Guhla (SC)	2642
7.	Kaithal	2238
8.	Pundri	5522
9.	Pai	4095
	Total	23057 or 2.71%

The BSP received 2.71% votes and secured 6th position. The Ekta Shakti Party received 8.67% votes and secured 5th position. The HVP received 9.2% votes and secured 4th position. BJP received 14.92% votes and secured 3rd position. INLD received 23.72% votes and secured 2nd position. The Congress received 42.55% votes and secured 1st position. The BSP candidate received maximum 5120 votes in Pundri assembly and minimum 1410 votes in Pehowa assembly.

Causes of Defeat: The analysis identifies the following major causes of defeat:

- a) Balwan Singh left the BSP and joined the BJP on 16th April 2004.
- (b) Balwan Singh's 13-year association with the party resulted in the loss of the Jat and farmers' vote bank after his departure.²

03 Karnal PC

In this Constituency, Ashok Kumar contested from the BSP. Arvind Sharma contested from the INC. I.D Swami contested from the BJP. Ashok Arora contested from the INLD.

Election issues³: Some of the prominent election-related issues in this constituency are:

- a. Electricity shortage for farming and industrial area.
- b. Poor condition of the state highways and city roads.

Party Performance

Total votes polled =818927, Postal votes of the party=7

Sr. No	Name of Assembly	Votes of the party in 2004
1.	Indri	16073
2.	Nilokheri	8472
3.	Karnal	2766
4.	Jundla (SC)	8655
5.	Gharaunda	9371
6.	Assandh (SC)	5977
7.	Panipat	3685
8.	Samalkha	6483
9.	Naultha	5833
	Total	67392 or 8.32%

The BSP received 8.32 % votes. The Congress received 38.95% votes and secured 1st position. The BJP received 18.23 % votes and secured 2nd position. The INLD received 13.86% votes and secured 3rd position. Maratha Ekta Shakti received 10.07 % and secured 5th position. BSP received maximum 16073 votes in Indri assembly and minimum 2796 votes in Karnal assembly.

Causes of defeat: The analysis identifies the following major causes of defeat:

- State President Ashok Sherwal left the BSP.
- Dalit voters diverted to the Congress and other parties.

04 Sonapat PC

In this Constituency, Sujan Gupta contested from the BSP. Kishan Singh Sangwan contested from the BJP. Jagbir Singh Malik contested from the HVP.

Election Issues: Some of the prominent election-related issues in this constituency are:

- Jat versus non-Jat candidates.
- Electricity problems affecting farming and industrial area.

Party Performance

Total votes polled =737119, Postal votes of the BSP=01

Sr. No.	Name of Assembly	Votes of the BSP
1.	Bahadurgarh	1736
2.	Baroda (SC)	5747
3.	Gohana	8186
4.	Kailana	1871
5.	Sonapat	3963
6.	Rai	3059
7.	Rohat	2328
8.	Julana	4284
9.	Safidon	5990
	Total	37165 or 5.04 %

The BSP received 5.04% votes and secured 4th position. The INLD received 26.98% votes and secured 2nd position. The BJP received 31.67% votes and secured 1st position. BSP received maximum 8186 votes in Gohana Assembly and minimum 1736 votes in Bahadurgarh assembly.

Causes of defeat: The analysis identifies the following major causes of defeat:

- c) There was a neck -to -neck fight between the BJP and the INC.
- e) Lack of the Party's grass root level leader's presence and movement.

05 Rohtak PC

In this Constituency, B.S. Hooda contested from the Congress. Bhim Singh Sihag contested from the INLD. Caption Abhimanyu contested from the BJP. Usha Ahlawat contested from the HVP. Geeta Grewal contested from the BSP. Bimla Kadian contested from the R.P.I. Bharpoor Singh contested from the RLD.

Election Issues: Some of the prominent election-related issues in this constituency are:⁴

- a) Construction of Jhajjar railway line.
- b) S.Y.L issue.

Party Performance

Total votes polled -662049, Postal votes of the BSP -8

Sr. No.	Name of Assembly	Votes of the BSP
1.	Hasangarh	1380
2.	Kiloi	2704
3.	Rohtak	1809
4.	Meham	7266
5.	Kalanaur (SC)	4963
6.	Beri	1646
7.	Salhawas	1995
8.	Jhajjar (SC)	1211
9.	Badli	1246
	Total	24228 or 3.66%

The BSP received 24228 votes and secured 4th position. The INLD received 15.93% and secured 3rd position. The BJP received 26% and secured 2nd position. The Congress received 48.97% votes and secured 1st position. BSP received maximum 7266 votes in Meham Assembly and minimum 1211 votes in Jhajjar assembly.

Causes of defeat: The analysis identifies the following major causes of defeat:

- a) First time, the party contested this constituency election.
- b) Dulina incident influenced the voters and voting in favour of Congress against the INLD.⁵

06 Faridabad P.C

In this Constituency, Abdul Malik contested from the BSP. Avatar Singh Bhadana contested from the Congress. Ram Chander contested from the BJP. Mohammad Ilias contested from the INLD.

Election issues: Some of the prominent election-related issues in this constituency are:

- a) Construction and repairing of roads in this constituency.
- b) SYL issue for getting adequate irrigation water in south Haryana.

Party Performance

Total votes polled- 844661, Postal votes of the BSP-0

Sr. No.	Name of Assembly	Votes of the BSP
1.	Faridabad	7488
2.	Mewla-Maharajpur	8900
3.	Ballabgarh	8503
4.	Palwal	10665
5.	Hasanpur (SC)	12176
6.	Firozpur Jhirka	3641
7.	Nuh	4766
8.	Tawru	7801
9.	Hathin	7519
	Total	71459 or 8.46%

The BSP received 71459 (8.46 %) votes and secured 4th position. The BJP received 171714 votes and secured 3rd position. The INLD secured 2nd position. The Congress won the constituency and secured 1st position. The BSP received maximum 12176 votes in Hasanpur (SC) assembly and minimum 3641 votes in Firozpur Jhirka Assembly.

Causes of defeat: The analysis identifies the following major causes of defeat:

- Muslim voters divided between the INLD and the Congress.
- Being Muslim candidate, resulted in loss of Hindu votes for the party.

07 Mahendragarh PC

In this Constituency. Rohtash Khatana contested from the BSP. Rao Inderjeet contested from the Congress. Dr. Sudha Yadav contested from the BJP. Anil Rao contested from the HVP. Swami Dharm Dev contested from the INLD.

Election issues: Some of the prominent election-related issues in this constituency are:

- Water crises due to the declining groundwater level in this area.
- Electricity-related problems in rural areas.

Party Performance

Total votes polled-848872, Postal votes of the BSP- 0

Sr. No.	Name of Assembly	Votes of the BSP
1.	Sohna	19597
2.	Gurgaon	4013
3.	Pataudi (SC)	1149
4.	Bawal (SC)	6957
5.	Rewari	4211
6.	Jatusana	3997
7.	Mahendragarh	3293
8.	Ateli	1781
9.	Narnaul	11168
	Total	56166 or 6.62%

The BSP received 6.62% votes and secured 5th position. The INLD received 13.56% votes and secured 4th position. The SP received 14.25% votes and secured 3rd position. The BJP received 17.46% votes and secured 2nd position. The Congress received 42.24% votes and secured victory. The BSP received maximum 19597 votes in Sohna assembly and minimum 1149 votes in Pataudi (SC) assembly.

Causes of Defeat: The analysis identifies the following major causes of defeat:

- Raghu Yadav left the BSP and this resulted in loss to BSP.
- On the basis of Dulina incident, Saroj, wife of Daya Chand said that we will voting to the Congress for defeating Shri O.P. Chautala of the INLD.⁶

08 Bhiwani PC

In this Constituency, Ramanand Jangra contested from the BSP. the three sons of political elites were contesting to each other. Surender Singh, son of Ex. CM Sh. Bansi Lal contested from the HVP. Ajay Singh, son of Ex. CM Sh. O.P. Chautala contested from the INLD. Kuldeep Singh, son of Ex. CM Bhajan Lal contested from the Congress party. Ram Vilash contested from the BJP.

Election Issues⁷: Some of the prominent election-related issues in this constituency are:

- Issue related to S.Y.L water for south Haryana.
- To convert Dadri tehsil into a district.

Party Performance

Total Votes Polled-871144, Postal Votes of BSP-4

Sr. No.	Name of Assembly	Votes of the BSP
1.	Badhara	814
2.	Dadri	1080
3.	Mundal Khurd	3976
4.	Bhiwani	2229
5.	Tosham	2246
6.	Loharu	1062
7.	Bawani-Khera SC	3750
8.	Hansi	1121
9.	Adampur	934
	Total	17216 or 1.98%

The BSP received 1.98% votes and secured 5th position. The BJP received 2.81% votes and secured 4th position. The INLD received 27.77% votes and secured 3rd position. The HVP received 30.60% votes and secured 2nd position. The Congress won this constituency and secured 33.40% votes. BSP received maximum 3976 votes in Mundal-Khurd assembly and minimum 814 votes in Badhara assembly.

Causes of defeat: The analysis identifies the following major causes of defeat:

- The BSP fielded a new candidate in this constituency.
- Neck to neck fight among three Lal (Sh. Bhajan Lal, Sh. Devi Lal and Sh. Bansi Lal)

09 Hisar PC

In this constituency, Saint Ram Parkash contested from the BSP. Jai Parkash contested from the Congress. Surender Barwala contested from INLD. Kanwal Singh contested from the HVP. Swami Raghwanand contested from the BJP. Some other small parties and Independents also contested the election.

Election Issues: Some of the prominent election-related issues in this constituency are:⁸

- (a) Demand for construction of Hisar-Mumbai rail line up to Agroha.
- (b) Demand for construction of an overbridge in Hisar city.

Party Performance

Votes Polled :769851, Postal votes of the BSP: 1

Sr. No.	Name of Assembly	Votes of the BSP
1.	Barwala	3623
2.	Narnaund	2124
3.	Hisar	1543
4.	Ghirai	2791
5.	Kalayath (SC)	4810
6.	Narwana	2095
7.	Rajaund	3748
8.	Jind	1996
9.	Uchana Kalan	2329
	Total	25060 or 3.26%

BSP received 3.26% votes and secured 4th position. The BJP received 8.41% votes and secured 3rd position. The INLD received 29.15% votes and secured 2nd position. The Congress won this constituency and secured 52.89% votes. BSP received maximum 4810 votes in Kalayat assembly and minimum 1543 votes in Hisar assembly.

Causes of defeat: The analysis identifies the following major causes of defeat:

- (a) The BSP fielded a new candidate in this constituency.
- (b) Saint Ram Parkash was threatened by other party's workers and leaders.

10 Sirsa (SC) PC

In this Constituency, Dr. Ramesh Bhukkal contested from the BSP. Atama Singh Gill contested from the Congress. Dr. Sushil contested from the INLD. Mahavir Parsad contested from the BJP. Reher Chand contested from the HVP.

Election Issues: Some of the prominent election-related issues in this constituency are:

- (a) Construction of rail line for Fatehabad, Bhuna and Ratia city.
- (b) Ghaggar flood solution during rainy season in Fatehabad and Sirsa Distt.

Party Performance

Total votes polled – 841685, Postal votes the BSP – 0

Sr. No	Name of Assembly	Votes of the BSP
1	Bhattu Kalan	4294
2	Tohana	6528
3.	Ratia (SC)	1219
4.	Fatehabad	1535
5.	Darba Kalan	2519
6.	Ellenabad (SC)	2610
7.	Sirsa	1009
8.	Rori	2126
9.	Dabawali	2611
	Total	24448 or 2.90%

BSP received 2.9% votes and secured 5th position. The HVP received 5.47% votes and secured 4th position. The BJP received 13.68 % votes and secured 3rd position. INLD received 33.02% and secured 2nd position. Congress received 41.51% votes and secured victory. The party received maximum 6528 votes in Tohana assembly and minimum 1009 votes in Sirsa assembly.

Causes of defeat: The analysis identifies the following major causes of defeat:

- (a) BSP 's candidate was new and outside of this constituency.
- (b) One side wave of the Congress party.

Conclusion: In this election, the BSP received 4.98% votes. The party received 3.02% more votes in comparison to 1999 elections. It is clear from above mentioned Lok Sabha result that party has its existence in politics of Haryana. There are differences in representation of various areas on different election issues. It is found that national leadership of Ms. Mayawati effected the political equation of Haryana. The party contested this Lok Shaba Election in all 10 PCs, first time without any alliance and tried for increasing its vote bank in rural as well as urban areas. It is clear that party increased its vote bank in last 20 years (establishment of the party in 1984). In this election, the party could not win any Lok Sabha Constituency.

Some major causes of defeat of the party in Haryana are - negative role of Ex. state President A.K. Nagra, Lack of the Jat leadership of Balwan Singh, Lack of the effect of Central leaders, Ashok Sherwal left the party, lack of activeness of state leadership. One side wave of the Congress, non-dalit voters did not vote in favour of the party. It is also found that party cannot achieve its goal without alliance.

Above all, the party has its existence in Haryana. Social bases of the party are increasing day by day slowly. Party's ideology is spreading continuously through the country. There is big social base like SC/BC/ Minority in Haryana, whom, the party assumes its real vote bank.

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