

HIMACHAL PRADESH POST POLL SURVEY - 2022



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an ear to the ground



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HIMACHALPRADESH

POST POLL SURVEY - 2022

(15th - 22nd November, 2022)

PEOPLES PULSE

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SAMPLE PROFILE:
TOTAL SAMPLE - 1922

| GENDER | |
|--------|------|
| Male | 51 % |
| Female | 49 % |

| RELIGION WISE SAMPLE | |
|----------------------|-----|
| Hindus | 95% |
| Muslims | 2% |
| Sikhs | 1% |
| Others | 2% |

| COMMUNITY WISE SAMPLE | |
|-----------------------|-----|
| SC | 26% |
| ST | 6% |
| OBC | 14% |
| Rajputs | 32% |
| Brahmins | 18% |
| Others | 4% |

NECK TO NECK CONTEST IN HIMACHAL

With the ruling BJP out to break the character of Himachal Pradesh throwing up cyclical results, the Congress is leaving absolutely nothing to chance to ensure that this state continues to live up to its character and give them a shot to power. Himachal Pradesh since 1985 has never returned a ruling party to power.

BJP has campaigned, “**rivaaj badlega**” (the tradition would change) and cite the example of Uttarakhand and Uttar Pradesh where the BJP bucked the trend to retain power in this year’s elections. It would be safe to expect them to have Kerala too at the back of their mind where the Communists for the first time retained power after decades of cyclical elections.

According to Peoples Pulse, Post-Poll survey in Himachal Pradesh, the Congress is likely to get 29-39 seats, the BJP 27-37 seats and others 2-5 seats. The party which began with a lot of hype, AAP, after its victory in adjacent Punjab, will be drawing a blank with a vote share of 2.1 percent. The state has a 68-member Assembly, with a magic figure being 35. There is a strong possibility that Independents would play a key role in government formation.

The difference in the vote share between the Congress and the BJP is just 0.4 percent. The Congress will get a vote share of 45.9 percent, the BJP 45.5 percent and others 6.5 percent. The survey factors a margin of error of + or – (plus or minus) 3 pe cent.

The Congress when compared to the 2017 Assembly elections is gaining 4.2 percent, while the BJP is losing 3 percent. To help put this aspect in perspective, particularly in a smaller state even a difference of one per cent vote can make a dramatic difference. In the last Assembly elections, the Congress lost 16 seats because it trailed by one percent of the vote.

Of the 68 seats in Himachal Pradesh, 38 seats are swing seats which mean that voters change their representative every election. There was an undercurrent against the Jairam Thakur government and reflecting the mood for change. However, barring a few constituencies, the contests appeared to be close in almost every seat. It may have been due to low-key campaigning of resource-starved Congress and high-pitched BJP campaign spearheaded by PM Narendra Modi.

The highest ever-polling percentage of 76.6 percent usually indicates the mood for change but the presence of large number of rebels in the fray has also led to greater voter mobilization, leading to heavy polling.

If the large polling is driven by mood for change, a majority of close contests may go the Congress way. Strong sentiment against the government helps sitting opposition MLAs to overcome anti-incumbency.

When asked if the trend of changing the government every five years, 48 per cent of the respondents answered that the trend would continue, while 41 per cent said that the trend would change this time around.

When asked if they would give the BJP one more chance, 44 percent of the respondents said they would not, while 48 percent said they would.

Regarding the CM choice, the incumbent Mr Jairam Thakur got 24 percent backing as the next CM, 22 percent backed Union minister Mr Anurag Thakur and PCC president Mrs Pratibha Singh had 22 per cent backing her.

The major election issues are price rise, unemployment, MSP, Development, Corruption, One Pension Scheme and Other issues.

Rebels are messing the BJP's happiness more than that of the Congress. The rebel factor is hurting the BJP in 14 constituencies while the Congress is facing them in only three.

Of the 55 lakh voters, there are 2.7 lakh government employees and they would play a key role. When asked if the OPS demand by government employees would impact the outcome of this election, 53 per cent of the respondents replied in the affirmative.

Similarly, 62 percent of the respondents said that youth related issues like unemployment would impact the outcome of the election. Two per cent of the voters are ex-servicemen. 41 per cent of the respondents oppose the process of recruitment for Agniveer.

The Congress has focused largely on local issues, while the BJP hit upon its double-engine Sarkar, Uniform Civil Code and other national issues.

Peoples Pulse conducted a post-poll survey from 15 November to 22 November in 24 Assembly segments selected on the basis of Probability Proportional methodology (PPS). Four Polling Stations selected from each Assembly Segment using the Systematic random Sampling. In each Polling 20-25 randomly selected samples from the Electrol Rolls. A total of 1,920 samples were chosen such that the sample reflects the situation on the ground in terms of caste, religion and age. Gender was given equal representation. The survey consisted of a structured questionnaire, with face-to-face interviews and a secret ballot. The survey was conducted by research scholars of Himachal Pradesh University, Shimla. The survey was coordinated by Dr Sunil Kumar, Dr Rohit Kumar and Dr Rakesh Pawar.

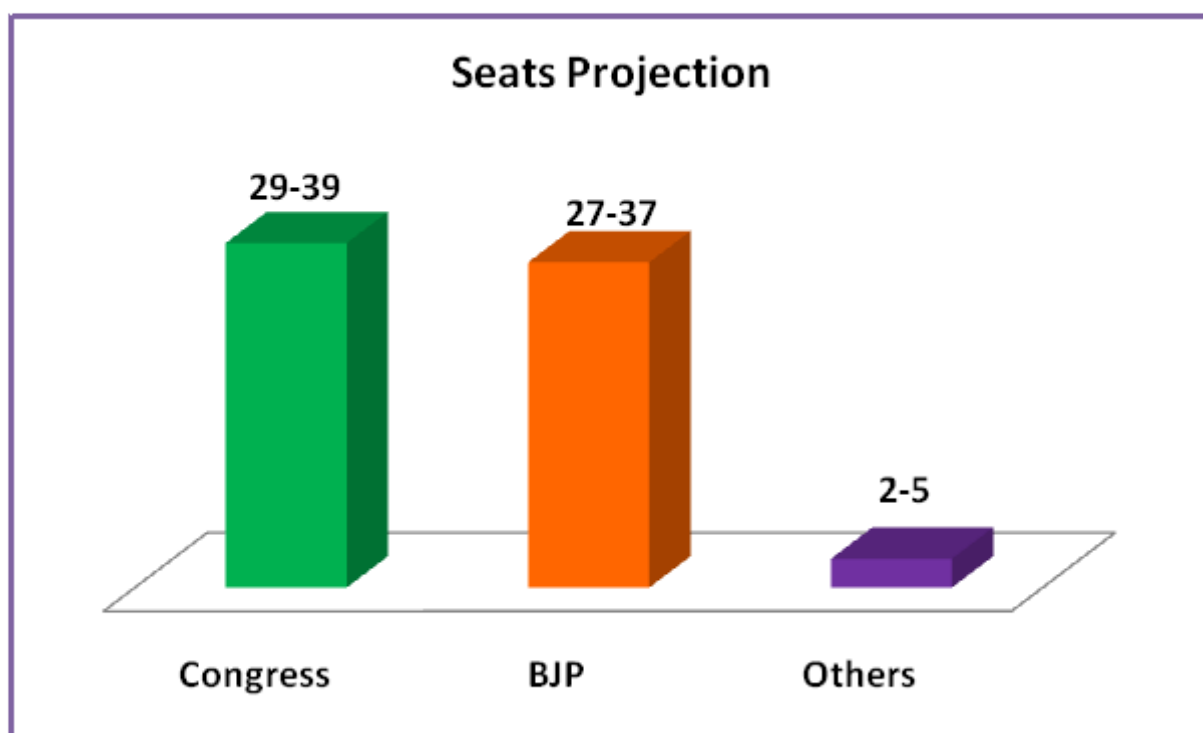
Peoples Pulse has deployed researchers in all the 68 Assembly constituencies in Himachal Pradesh to conduct a mood study and assess the voter dispensation towards the two main political parties. This list is attached for your perusal.



FINDINGS

SEATS PROJECTION

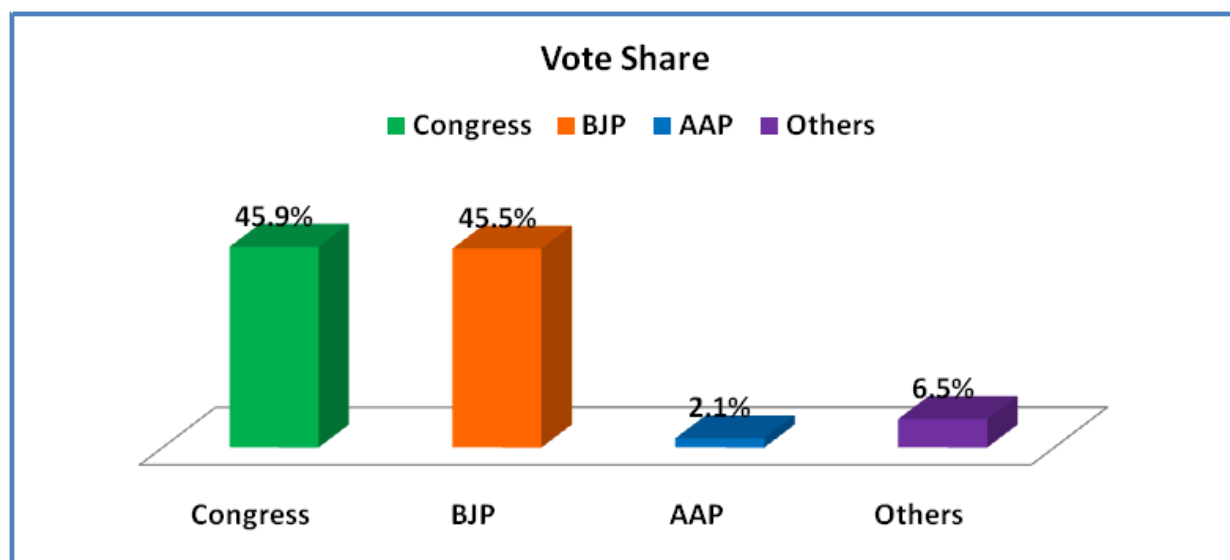
| S.No. | Party | Seats Projection |
|-------|----------|------------------|
| 1 | CONGRESS | 29-39 |
| 2 | BJP | 27-37 |
| 5 | Others | 2-5 |



VOTE SHARE

| S.No. | Party | Vote Share |
|-------|----------|------------|
| 1 | CONGRESS | 45.9% |
| 2 | BJP | 45.5% |
| 3 | AAP | 2.1% |
| 5 | Others | 6.5% |

◆ *Margin of error - Plus or Minus Three per cent*

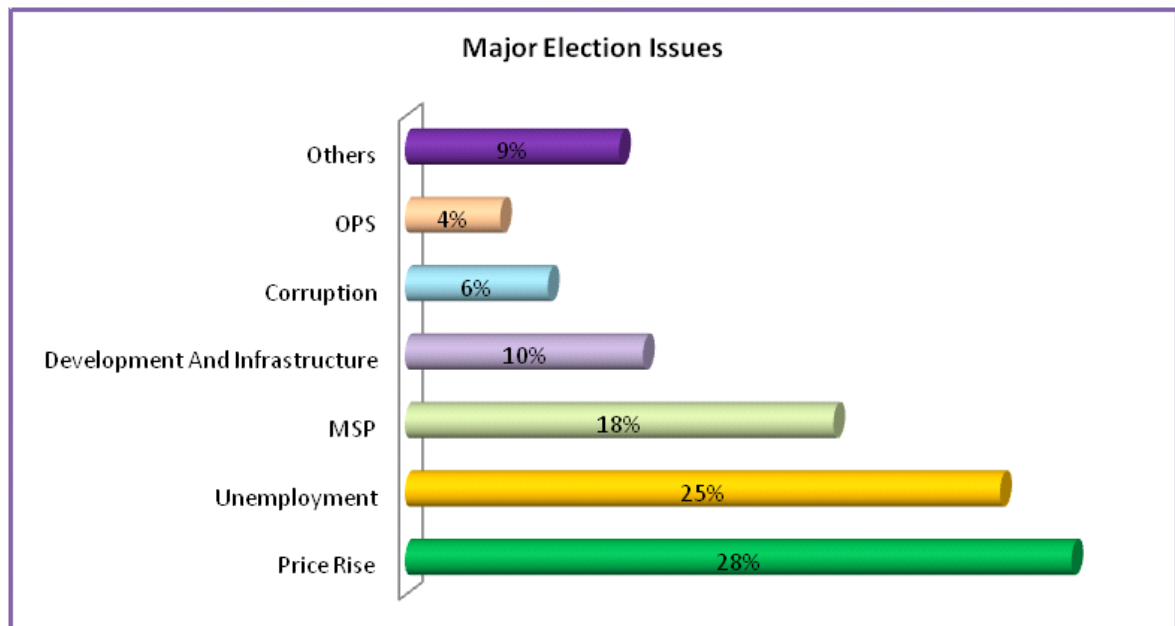


VOTE SHARE SHIFT 2017 - 2022

| S.No. | Party | 2017 | Post Poll Survey - 2022 | Shift |
|-------|----------|-------|----------------------------|---------|
| 1 | CONGRESS | 41.7% | 45.9% | + 4.2 % |
| 2 | BJP | 48.5% | 45.5% | - 3 % |
| 3 | AAP | - | 2.1% | + 2.1 % |
| 7 | Others | 9.8% | 6.5% | - 3.3 % |

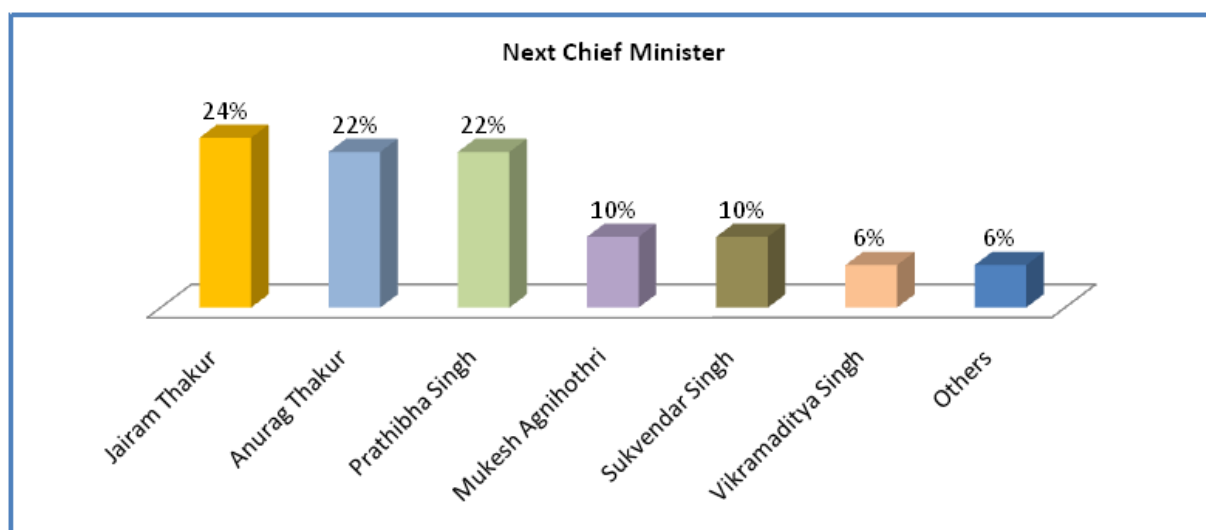
MAJOR ELECTION ISSUES

| Election Issue | Percentage |
|------------------------------|------------|
| Price Rise | 28 % |
| Unemployment | 25 % |
| MSP | 18 % |
| Development / Infrastructure | 10 % |
| Corruption | 6 % |
| OPS | 4 % |
| Others | 9 % |



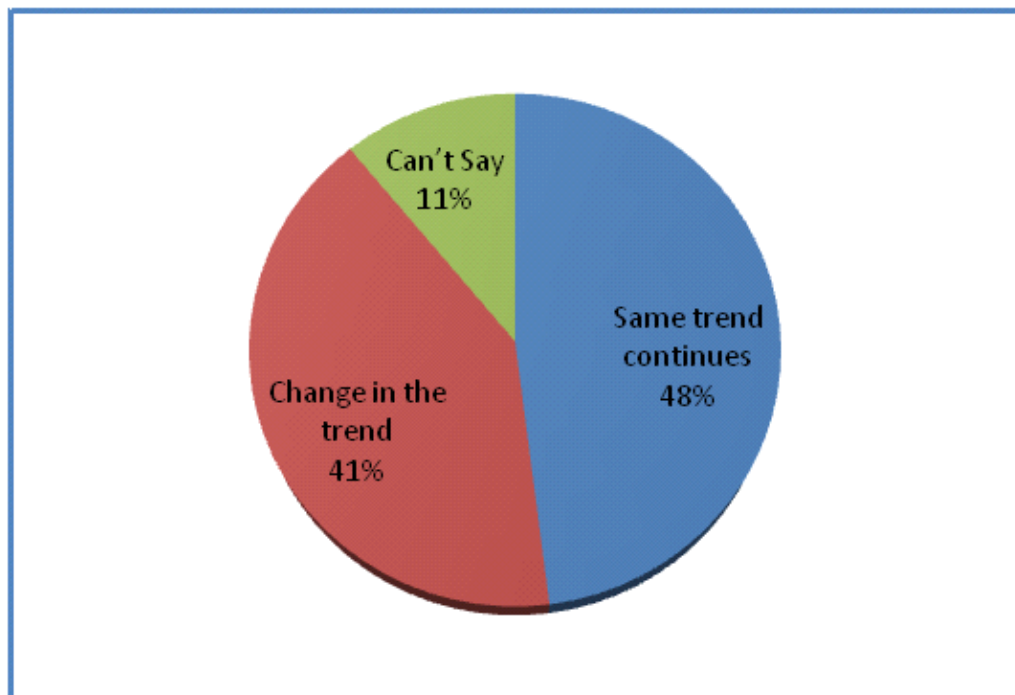
CHIEF MINISTER CHOICE

| Next Chief Minister | Percentage |
|---------------------|------------|
| Jairam Thakur | 24 % |
| Anurag Thakur | 22 % |
| Pratibha Singh | 22 % |
| Mukesh Agnihotri | 10 % |
| Sukvender Singh | 10 % |
| Vikramaditya Singh | 6 % |
| Others | 6 % |



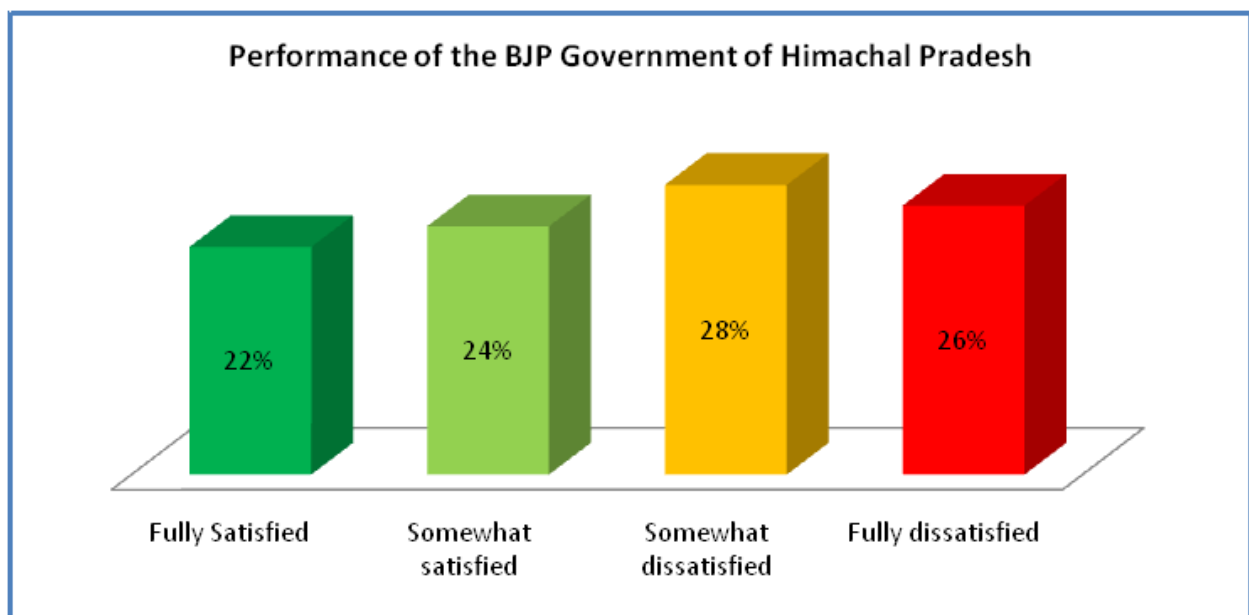
*** In the political History of Himachal Pradesh, there has been a trend of changing the Government every five years? In your opinion, will the same trend continue in this election or will it be different?**

- A. Same trend continues - 48 %**
- B. Change in the trend - 41 %**
- C. Can't Say - 11 %**



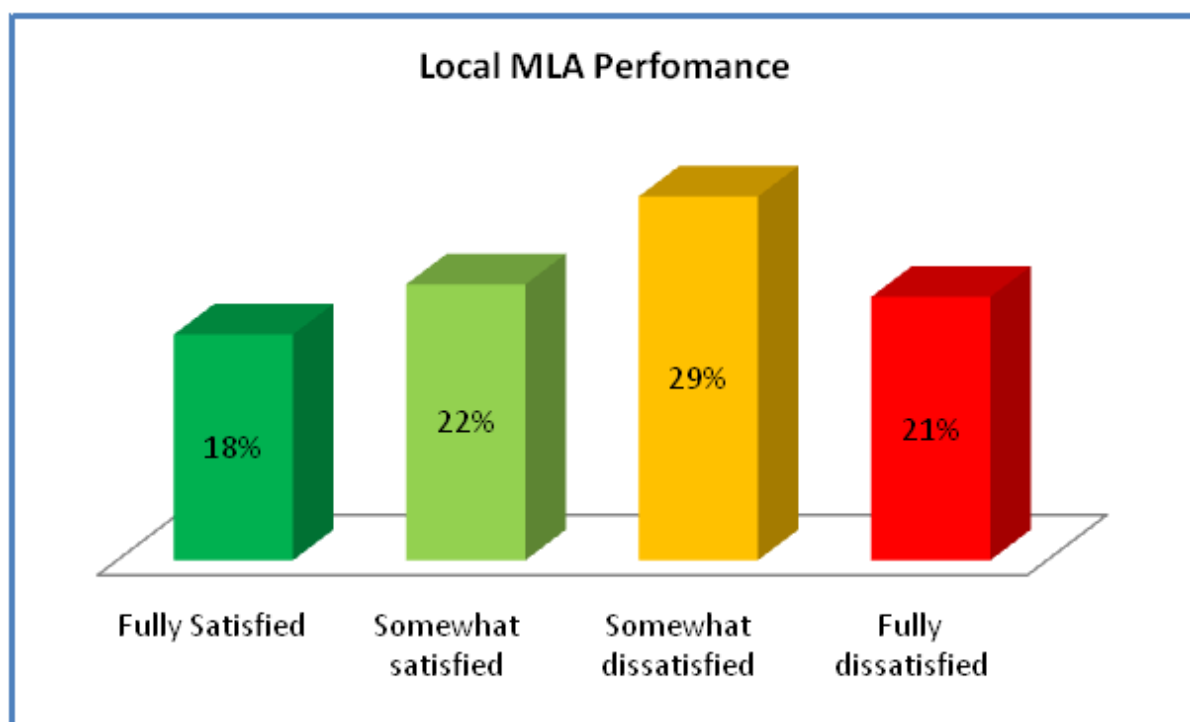
*** Are you Satisfied or dissatisfied with the performance of the BJP Government of Himachal Pradesh over the last five years?**

- | | | |
|----|-----------------------|-------|
| A. | Fully Satisfied | -22 % |
| B. | Somewhat satisfied | -24 % |
| C. | Somewhat dissatisfied | -28 % |
| D. | Fully dissatisfied | -26 % |



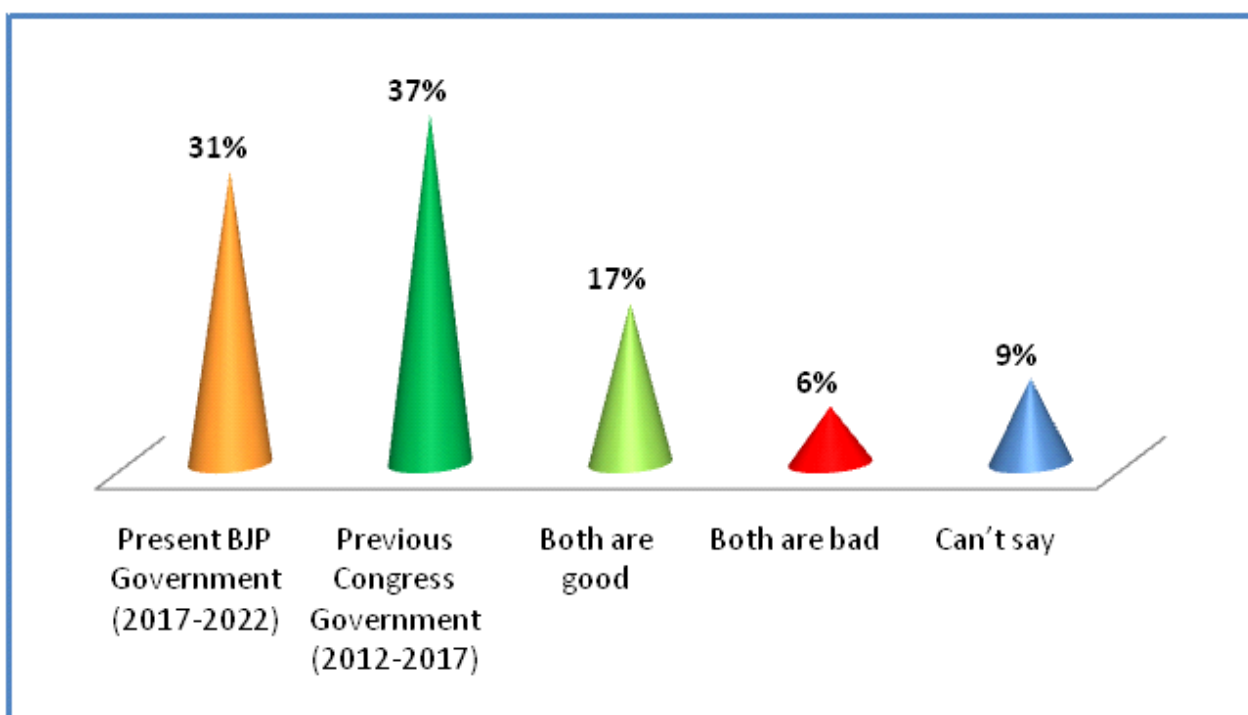
*** Are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the work done by your current local MLA?**

- A. Fully Satisfied - 18 %**
- B. Somewhat satisfied - 22 %**
- C. Somewhat dissatisfied - 29 %**
- D. Fully dissatisfied - 21 %**



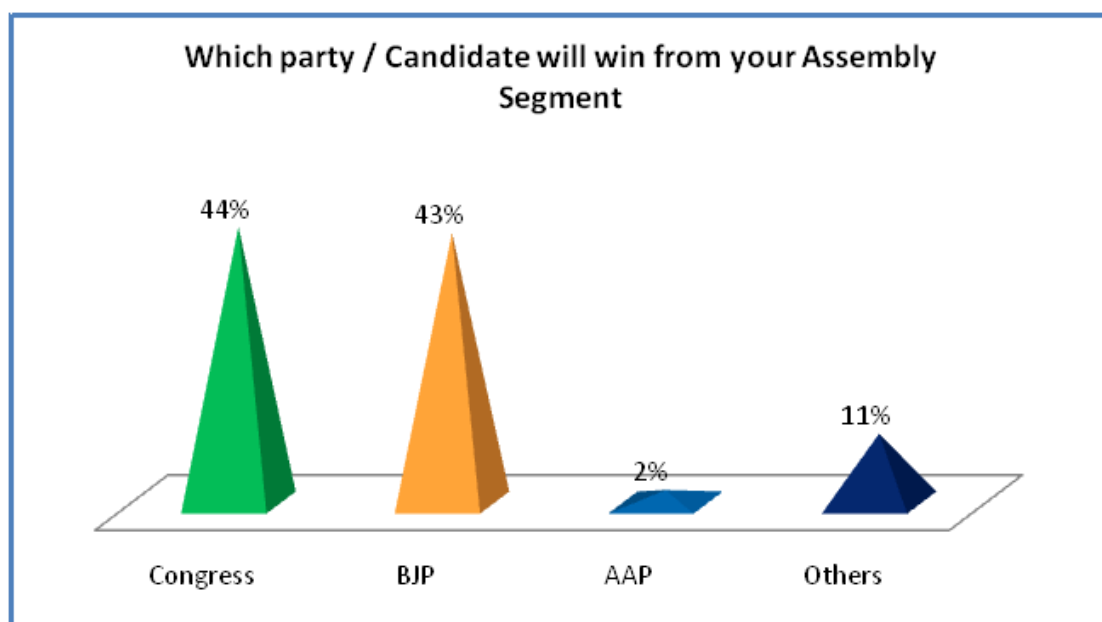
*** If we compare the present BJP Government (2017-22) with the previous Congress Government (2012-2017) which one is better according to you?**

- | | | |
|----|--|--------|
| A. | Present BJP Government (2017-2022) | - 31 % |
| B. | Previous Congress Government (2012-2017) | - 37 % |
| C. | Both are good | - 17 % |
| D. | Both are bad | - 6 % |
| E. | Can't say | - 9 % |



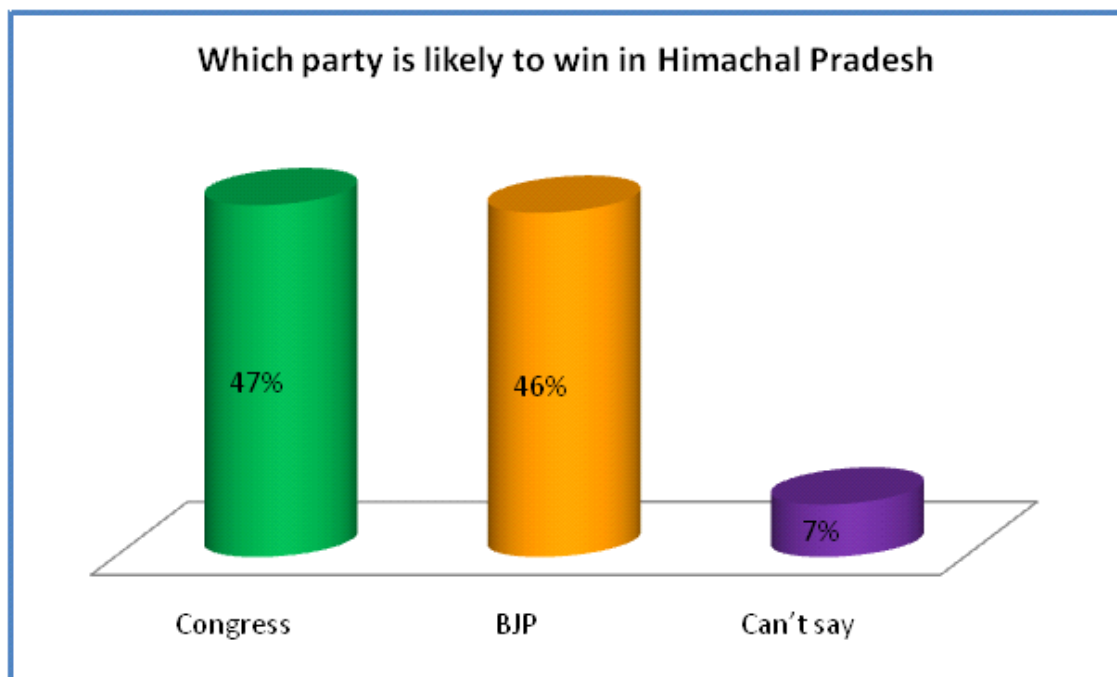
*** In ensuing Assembly elections which party / Candidate will win from your Assembly Segment?**

- A. Congress - 44 %**
- B. BJP - 43 %**
- C. AAP - 2 %**
- D. Others - 11 %**



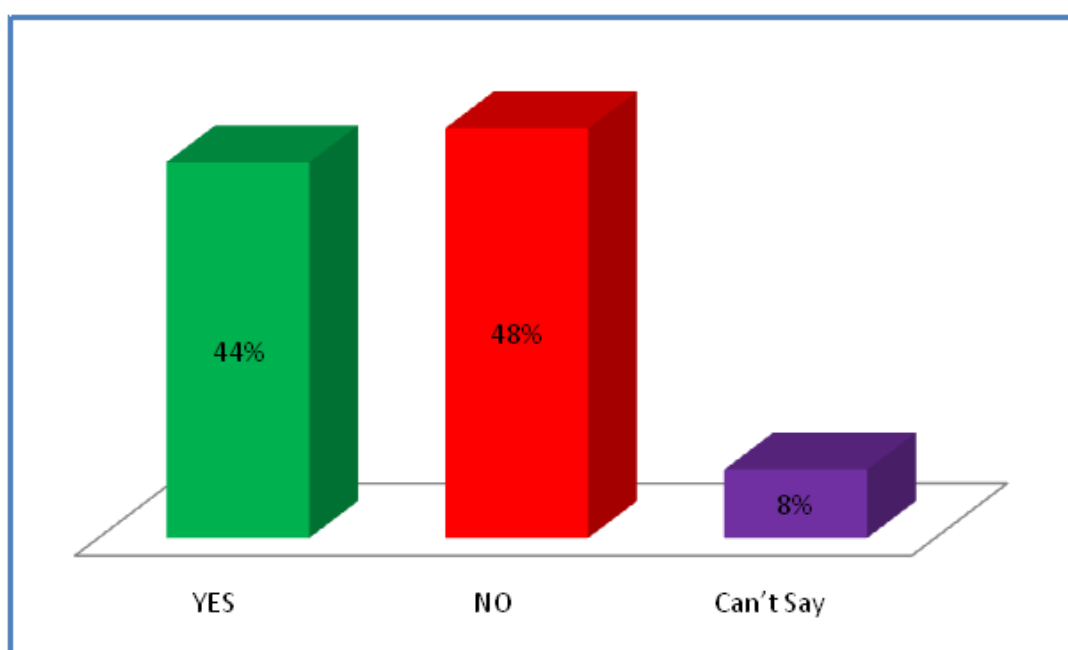
*** In Your Opinion which party is likely to win in Himachal Pradesh?**

- A. Congress - 47 %**
- B. BJP - 46 %**
- C. Can't say - 7 %**



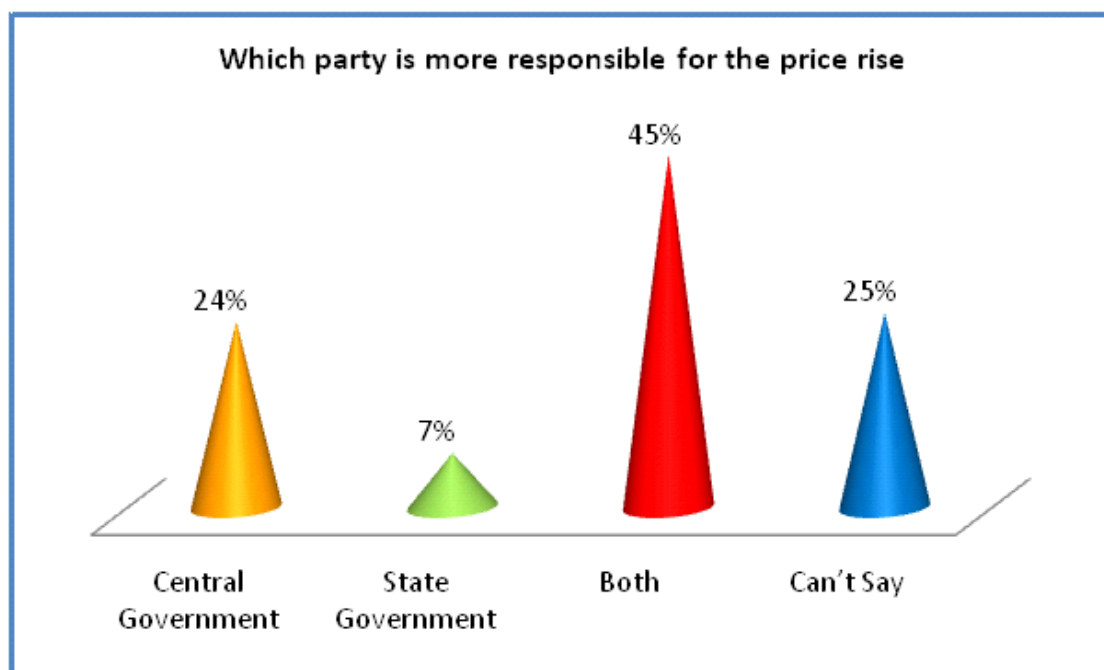
*** Do you think the present BJP government led by Jai Ram Thakur should be given another chance?**

- A. Yes - 44 %**
- B. No - 48 %**
- C. Can't say - 8 %**



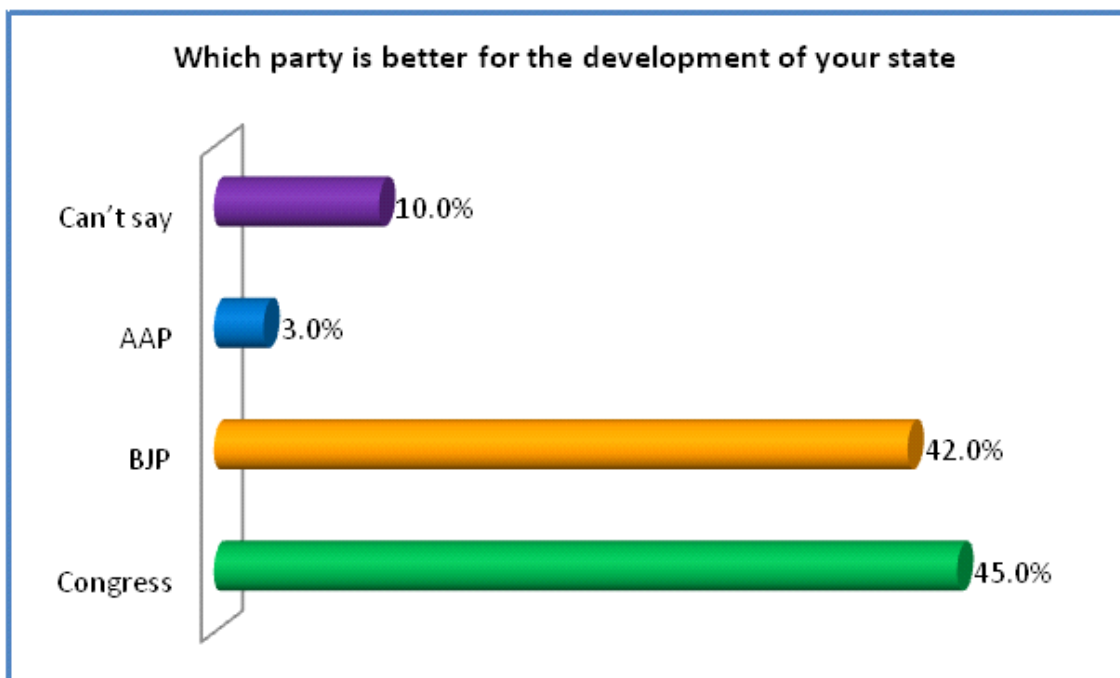
*** According to you, which party is more responsible for the price rise of essential commodities?**

- A. Central Government - 24 %**
- B. State Government - 7 %**
- C. Both - 45 %**
- D. Can't say -25 %**



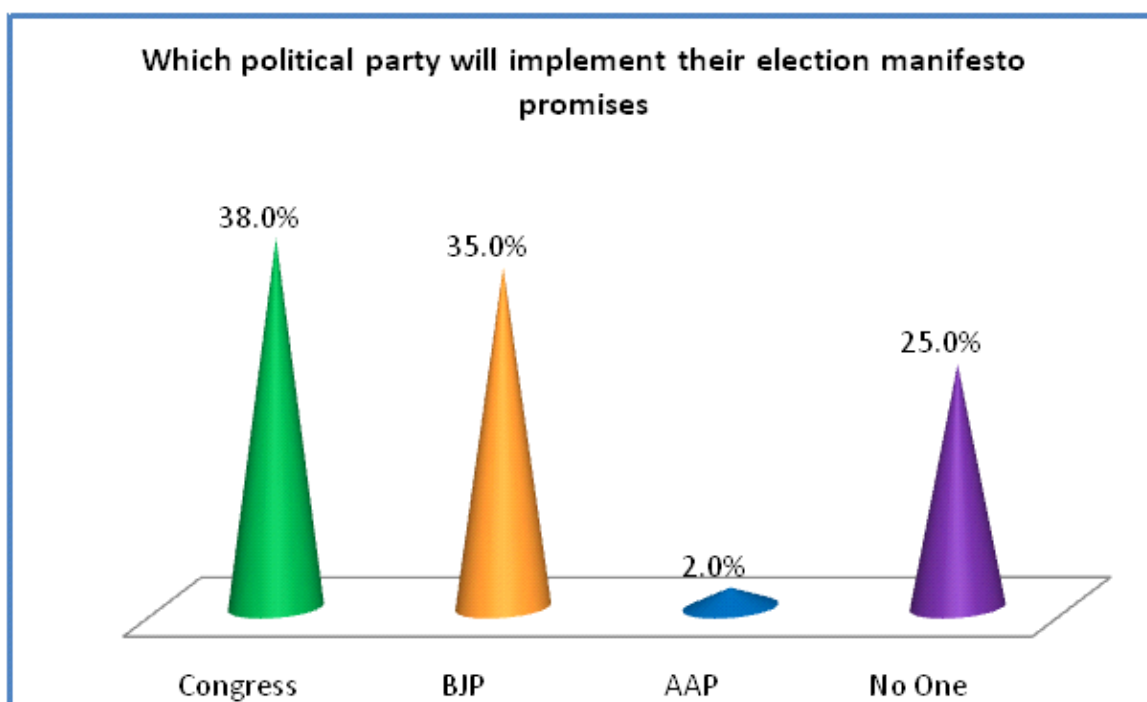
*** Which party is better for the development of your state -Himachal Pradesh?**

| | | |
|--------------|---|------|
| B. Congress | - | 45 % |
| A. BJP | - | 42 % |
| C. AAP | - | 3 % |
| E. Can't say | - | 10 % |



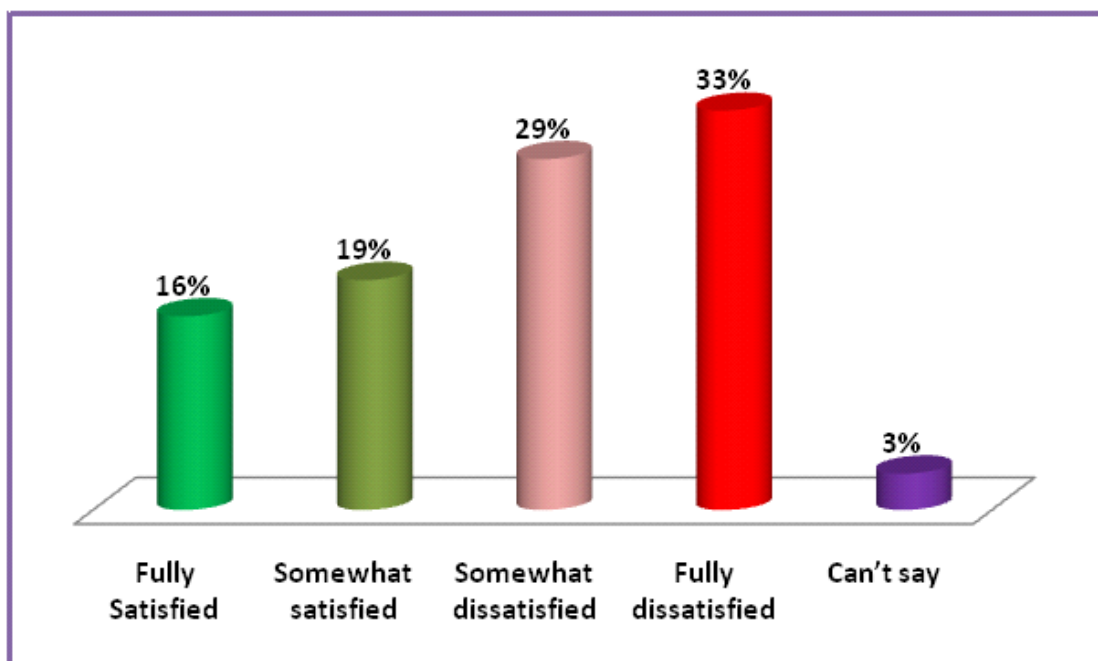
*** In your opinion, which political party will implement their election manifesto promises?**

| | | |
|-------------|---|------|
| A. Congress | - | 38 % |
| B. BJP | - | 35 % |
| C. AAP | - | 2 % |
| E. No one | - | 25% |



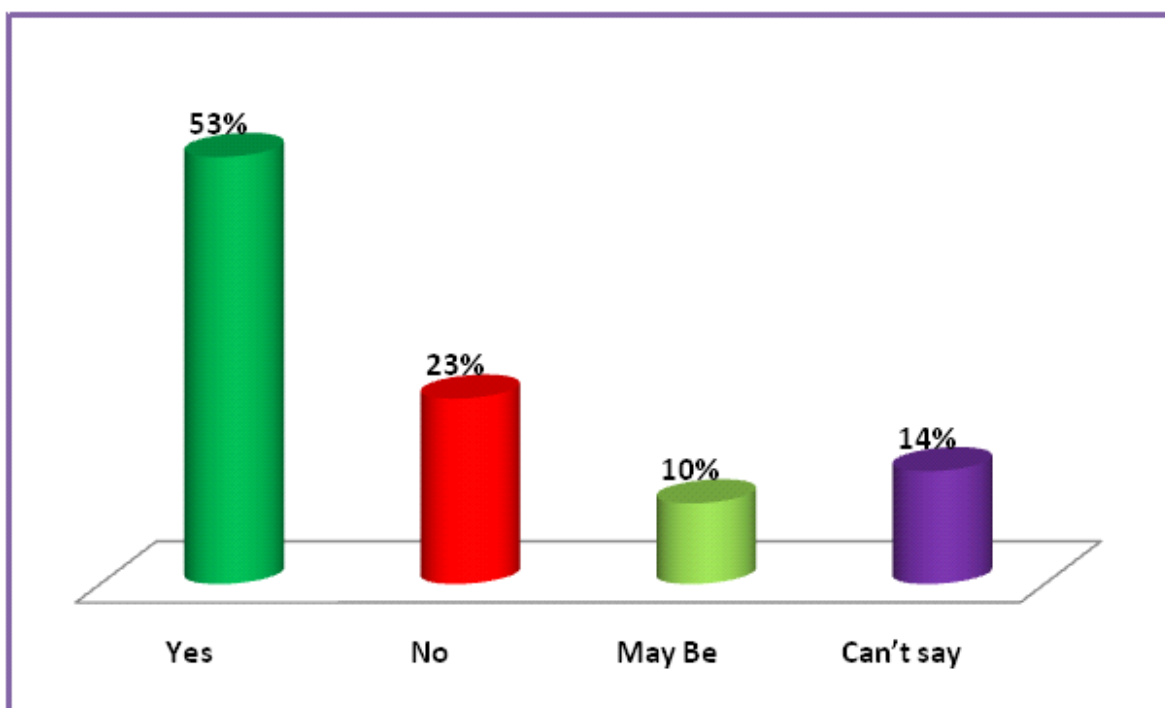
*** Are you Satisfied or dissatisfied with performance of the chief Minister Mr.JairamTakkur over the last five years? (2017- 2022)**

| | | |
|----|-----------------------|--------|
| A. | Fully Satisfied | - 16 % |
| B. | Somewhat satisfied | - 19 % |
| C. | Somewhat dissatisfied | - 29 % |
| D. | Fully dissatisfied | - 33 % |
| E. | Can't Say | - 3 % |



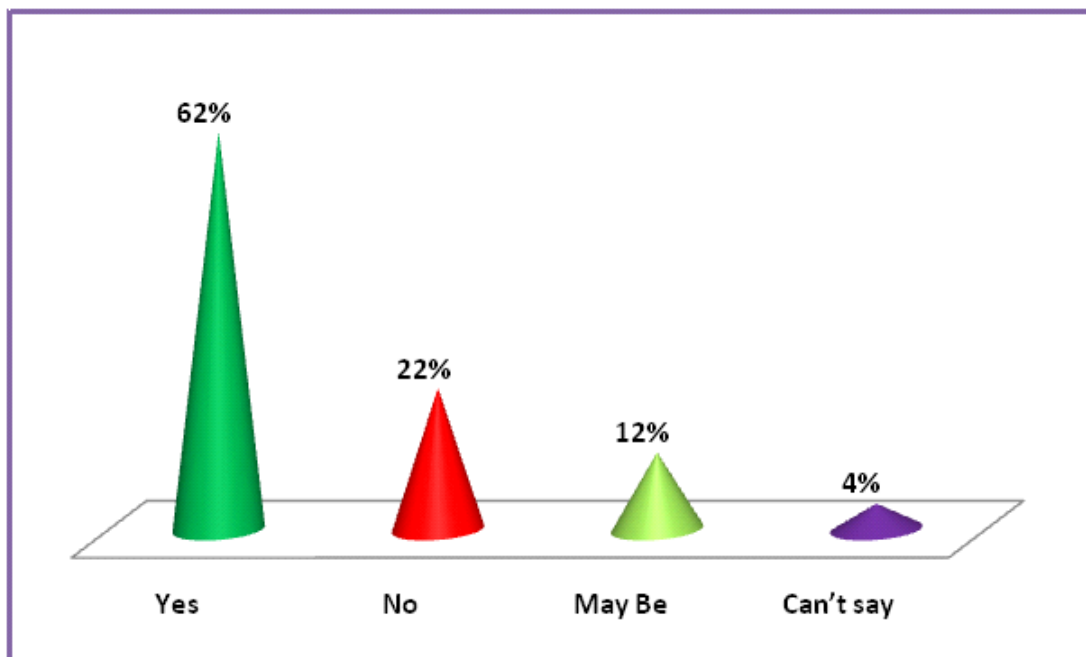
*** In your opinion, will the issue of Old Pension Scheme (OPS) demand by government employees is affect the election outcome?**

| | |
|--------------|--------|
| A. Yes | - 53 % |
| B. No | - 23 % |
| C. May be | - 10 % |
| D. Can't Say | - 14 % |



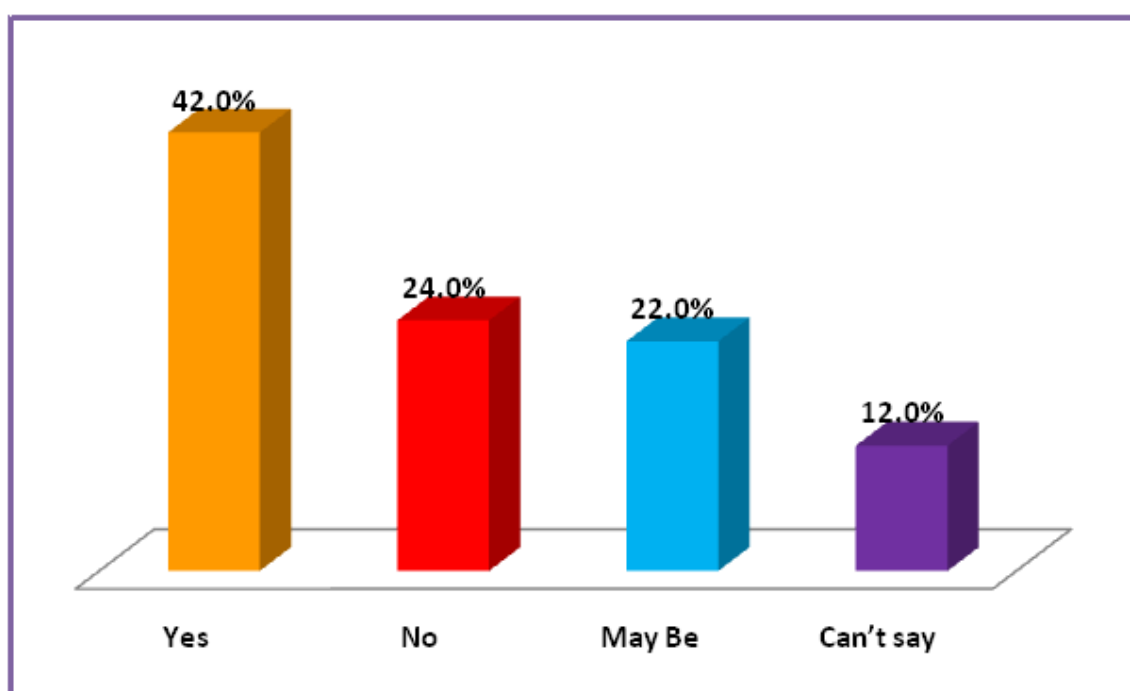
*** In your opinion, how far the unemployment or Youth related issues can affect the election outcome?**

| | |
|--------------|--------|
| A. Yes | - 62 % |
| B. No | - 22 % |
| C. May be | - 12 % |
| D. Can't Say | - 4 % |



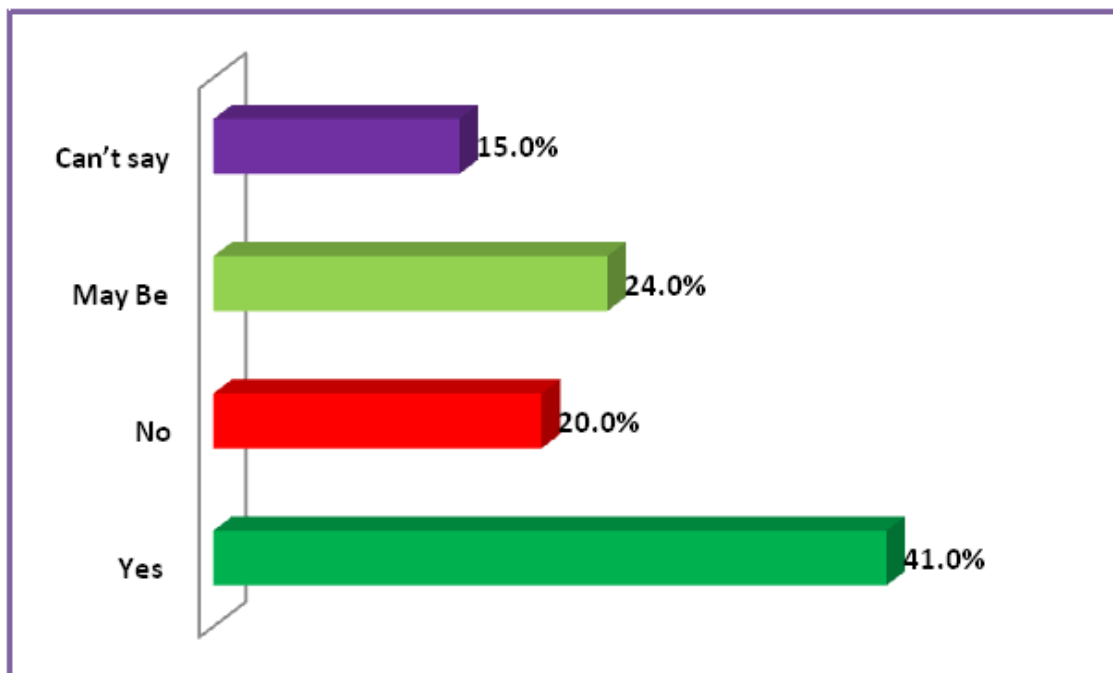
*** In your opinion, in the Himachal Pradesh Assembly elections would Narendra Modi be a factor? If yes, how much?**

| | |
|--------------|--------|
| A. Yes | - 42 % |
| B. No | - 24 % |
| C. May be | - 22 % |
| D. Can't Say | - 12 % |



*** Have you heard about the policy of government to recruitment in arm forces called Agniveer? If yes, will it affect the election outcome?**

| | |
|--------------|--------|
| A. Yes | - 41 % |
| B. No | - 20 % |
| C. May be | - 24 % |
| D. Can't Say | - 15 % |



HIMACHAL PRADESH ELECTIONS – 2022 MOOD SURVEY

| S. No. | Assembly Segment | Reservation | District | Sure Win | Edge | Keen Contest Between | Remarks |
|--------|------------------|-------------|----------|----------|------|----------------------|---|
| 1 | Churah | SC | Chamba | - | INC | BJP vs INC | Sitting MLA Hansraj{BJP} faces 10 years anti-incumbency |
| 2 | Bharmour | ST | Chamba | - | BJP | BJP vs INC | Sitting BJP MLA Jia Lal denied ticket, undercutting official candidate Dr Janak Raj |
| 3 | Chamba | General | Chamba | - | INC | - | BJP changed ticket to beat anti-incumbency, BJP rebel in fray |
| 4 | Dalhousie | General | Chamba | - | BJP | BJP vs INC | AshaKumari(INC) faces 10 years anti-incumbency |
| 5 | Bhattiyat | General | Chamba | - | INC | BJP vs INC | Sitting MLA B.Jaryal(BJP) faces 10 years anti-incumbency |
| 6 | Nurpur | General | Kangra | - | BJP | BJP vs INC | Sitting BJP MLA Rakesh Pathania shifted to Fatehpur seat to beat anti-incumbency |
| 7 | Indora | SC | Kangra | - | INC | BJP vs INC Vs Ind | |

| S. No. | Assembly Segment | Reservation | District | Sure Win | Edge | Keen Contest Between | Remarks |
|--------|------------------|-------------|----------|----------|------|----------------------|---|
| 8 | Fatehpur | General | Kangra | - | INC | BJP vs INC vs AAP | BJP rebel Kirpal Parmar (Ind)also in race |
| 9 | Jawali | General | Kangra | - | INC | BJP Vs INC | Veteran INC leader Chander Kumar |
| 10 | Dehra | General | Kangra | - | BJP | Ind Vs INC Vs BJP | Ramesh Dhwal(BJP) shifted from Jwalamukhi. |
| | | | | | | | |
| 11 | Jaswan-Pragpur | General | Kangra | - | BJP | - | - |
| 12 | Jawalamukhi | General | Kangra | - | INC | - | BJP shifted Ravinder Ravi from Dehra |
| 13 | Jaisinghpur | SC | Kangra | BJP | - | - | - |
| 14 | Sullah | General | Kangra | BJP | - | - | Ex-MLA Jagjivan Pal(INC) contesting as rebel |
| 15 | Nagrota | General | Kangra | - | INC | - | |
| 16 | Kangra | General | Kangra | - | BJP | INC vs BJP | Sitting INC MLA P.Kajal defected, contesting as BJP candidate |

| S. No. | Assembly Segment | Reservation | District | Sure Win | Edge | Keen Contest Between | Remarks |
|--------|------------------|-------------|----------------|----------|------|----------------------|---|
| 17 | Shahpur | General | Kangra | - | INC | - | BJP's Sarveen faces 15 years anti-incumbency |
| 18 | Dharamshala | General | Kangra | INC | - | - | - |
| 19 | Palampur | General | Kangra | INC | - | - | - |
| 20 | Bajinath | SC | Kangra | - | INC | - | - |
| 21 | Lahaul & Spiti | ST | Lahaul & Spiti | - | INC | - | - |
| 22 | Manali | General | Kullu | INC | - | - | - |
| 23 | Kullu | General | Kullu | - | INC | - | - |
| 24 | Banjar | General | Kullu | INC | - | - | - |
| 25 | Anni | SC | Kullu | - | IND | INC vs IND vs BJP | Two rebels, one each from BJP,INC. in the fray.INC rebel strong |
| 26 | Karsog | SC | Mandi | - | BJP | BJP vs INC | New candidates Mahesh Raj |
| 27 | Sundernagar | General | Mandi | - | INC | - | Ex-BJP minister's son contesting as rebel Abhishek |
| 28 | Nachan | SC | Mandi | - | BJP | - | |

| S. No. | Assembly Segment | Reservation | District | Sure Win | Edge | Keen Contest Between | Remarks |
|--------|------------------|-------------|----------|----------|------|----------------------|---|
| 29 | Seraj | General | Mandi | BJP | - | - | CMs constituency |
| 30 | Darang | General | Mandi | - | INC | - | |
| 31 | Jogindernagar | General | Mandi | - | BJP | BJP vs INC | Sitting Ind MLA Rana,contesting as BJP candidate |
| 32 | Dharampur | General | Mandi | - | BJP | BJP & INC | BJP replaced six-time MLA M Singh by his sonRajat Thakur. Chandershekhar(INC) has sympathy vote |
| 33 | Mandi | General | Mandi | - | BJP | BJP & INC | Ex-BJP spokesperson Pravin Sharma in fray as rebel |
| 34 | Balh | SC | Mandi | INC | - | - | - |
| 35 | Sarkaghat | General | Mandi | - | BJP | - | INC infighting |
| 36 | Bhoranji | SC | Hamirpur | - | INC | BJP vs INC | |
| 37 | Sujanpur | General | Hamirpur | - | INC | BJP vs INC | 10 year anti-incumbency against R.Rana (INC) |
| 38 | Hamirpur | General | Hamirpur | - | BJP | BJP vs Ind vs INC | Ind also strong |

| S. No. | Assembly Segment | Reservation | District | Sure Win | Edge | Keen Contest Between | Remarks |
|--------|------------------|-------------|----------|----------|------|----------------------|---|
| 39 | Barsar | General | Hamirpur | - | INC | BJP vs INC | Inder pal (INC) faces 10 year anti-incumbency |
| 40 | Nadaun | General | Hamirpur | - | INC | - | - |
| 41 | Chintpurni | SC | Una | - | INC | - | - |
| 42 | Gagret | General | Una | - | INC | - | - |
| 43 | Haroli | General | Una | INC | - | - | - |
| 44 | Una | General | Una | - | BJP | - | - |
| 45 | Kutlehar | General | Una | - | BJP | INC vs BJP | BJP's Virender Kanwar faces 20 years of anti-incumbency |
| 46 | Jhanduta | SC | Bilaspur | BJP | - | - | - |
| 47 | Ghumarwin | General | Bilaspur | - | INC | BJP vs INC | - |
| 48 | Bilaspur | General | Bilaspur | - | BJP | - | JP Nadda's constituency. BJP rebel in the fray, |
| 49 | Sri Naina Deviji | General | Bilaspur | - | INC | - | |

| S. No. | Assembly Segment | Reservation | District | Sure Win | Edge | Keen Contest Between | Remarks |
|--------|------------------|-------------|----------|----------|------|----------------------|---|
| 50 | Arki | General | Solan | - | INC | - | Awasthy(INC) won the seat in byelection |
| 51 | Nalagarh | General | Solan | - | INC | BJP vs INC vs Ind | KL Thakur BJP rebel strong |
| 52 | Doon | General | Solan | - | INC | - | Ram Kumar (INC) well entrenched. |
| 53 | Solan | SC | Solan | - | BJP | INC vs BJP | DR Shandil(INC) faces 10 year of anti-incumbency. |
| 54 | Kasauli | SC | Solan | - | INC | - | - |
| 55 | Pachhad | SC | Sirmaur | - | BJP | BJP vs INC vs IND | Factor GR and Swarn samaj BJP undercut |
| 56 | Nahan | General | Sirmaur | - | INC | BJP vs INC | Rajput slogan Solanki ,Gujjar anti BJP |
| 57 | Sri Renukaji | SC | Sirmaur | - | BJP | BJP vs INC | Vinay Kumar(INC) faces 10 years of anti-incumbency, BJP has fielded one of his close relative |
| 58 | Paonta Sahib | General | Sirmaur | - | BJP | - | - |
| 59 | Shilai | General | Sirmaur | - | INC | BJP vs INC | Impact Hatti reservation countered SC backlash |

| S. No. | Assembly Segment | Reservation | District | Sure Win | Edge | Keen Contest Between | Remarks |
|--------|------------------|-------------|----------|----------|------|----------------------|---|
| 60 | Chopal | General | Shimla | BJP | - | - | Ex-INC MLA Subhash Manglait contesting as rebel |
| 61 | Theog | General | Shimla | - | CPIM | CPM vs INC vs Ind | Multi-cornered fight with five major contestants. |
| 62 | Kasumpti | General | Shimla | - | INC | BJP vs INC | OPS issue may help INC candidate facing 10 years of anti-incumbency |
| 63 | Shimla | General | Shimla | - | BJP | BJP & INC | OPS issue may help Congress Sitting MLA BJP replaced Minister Suresh Bhardwaj with a new candidate to counter anti-incumbency |
| 64 | Shimla Rural | General | Shimla | INC | - | - | Vikramaditya s/o late CM,VBS banking on sympathy vote |
| 65 | Jubbal – Kotkhai | General | Shimla | - | IND | - | INC candidate Rohit Thakur won seat in by-election |
| 66 | Rampur | SC | Shimla | - | INC | BJP vs INC | Congress candidate faces 15 years of Anti-incumbency |
| 67 | Rohru | SC | Shimla | INC | - | - | Pocket borrow of late Virbhadra Singh |
| 68 | Kinnaur | ST | Kinnaur | INC | - | - | BJP rebel in the fray |



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