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Voting behaviour of people in Bihar : A comparative study of Assembly Elections, 2005 and 2010

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Abstract : *The study of voting behaviour in India is of immense significance as each election witnesses different and complex electoral trends. There are various psephologists in India who have contributed to the study of voting behaviour and it has come to be regarded as an important aspect of the contemporary political research and theory. Most of these studies are analytical and focus not only on the electoral processes of parties but also on the voting patterns. Such studies are aimed at collecting data,*

comparing voting trends and statistics, record and computation of electoral shifts and swings. Here, an attempt is made to analyze the voting behaviour of Bihar Legislative Assembly Elections of 2005 and 2010 through empirical and comparative study. Party identification, political issues, candidates, campaigns, socio-economic status of voters, and other areas have been recognized as important realms for studies in voting behaviors. Apart from these, are caste and communal factors that have played a prominent role in the Lok Sabha and Legislative Assembly election in Bihar. The field study and the data collected and analyzed have enabled us to throw light on the changing dimensions of the electoral politics and voting behaviour in the Assembly elections of Bihar in 2005 and 2012.

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