**Kalvium Task**

**Key Highlights of the 2024 Lok Sabha Elections**

The 2024 Lok Sabha elections were a defining moment in India's political landscape, characterised by significant voter turnout and notable shifts in power. With major wins, surprising losses, and a range of socio-political dynamics at play, this election cycle has left a lasting impact on the country's democracy.Some Of the Key Points to be Noted Are  
  
**1) Voter Turnout:**

The voter turnout for the 2024 Lok Sabha elections was recorded at 65.79%, which is slightly lower than the 67.40% turnout in the 2019 elections. This figure, however, does not include postal ballots, which are yet to be fully accounted for​. The Chief Election Commissioner, Rajiv Kumar, announced that a total of approximately 64.2 crore (642 million) voters participated in the election process across the country.

**2) BJP’s Victory with Lingering Doubts:**  
The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA) secured 293 seats in the 2024 Lok Sabha elections, achieving a majority but not matching their previous performance. Of these, the BJP won 243 seats, while their alliance partners captured 50 seats. This year, the BJP experienced a loss of 60 seats, which contributed to the overall 60-seat loss for the NDA. The BJP's formation of the government comes with many questions and challenges ahead.

**3) Congress Gains:**  
The Congress party saw a significant improvement in the 2024 Lok Sabha elections, winning 99 seats compared to the 52 seats it secured in 2019. This marked a notable gain for the Congress within the INDIA bloc, which collectively won 234 seats. Key leaders like Rahul Gandhi had significant victories, securing large margins in both Wayanad and Rae Bareli.

The Congress's gains contributed to the INDIA bloc's broader success.

**4) Formation Of INDI Alliance:**

The INDIA alliance, comprising Congress, Samajwadi Party, Trinamool Congress, and others, made substantial gains in the 2024 Lok Sabha elections. They secured a total of 234 seats, a notable increase from 2019, with Congress winning 99 seats, SP 37 seats, and TMC 29 seats. Strategic alliances and effective campaigning by leaders like Rahul Gandhi, Mamata Banerjee, and Akhilesh Yadav were pivotal in consolidating non-BJP votes across key states. The results underscored voter dissatisfaction with the BJP on economic issues and highlighted the alliance's ability to strategically coordinate and capitalize on regional strengths.

**5) BJP's Emphasis on Ram Mandir Over Technology Development:**

The BJP's strategic focus on advancing the Ram Mandir in Ayodhya has taken precedence over its emphasis on technology development. This prioritization underscores the party's deliberate alignment with cultural and religious narratives, potentially overshadowing discussions on technological innovation and infrastructure advancements in its political agenda.

**6) High Profile Losses:**

Notable defeats included BJP's Lallu Singh losing in Faizabad, a significant constituency due to its association with the Ram Mandir.Smriti Irani, who was Union minister for women and child development and minority affairs, lost the Amethi seat to Congress’s Kishori Lal Sharma, a Gandhi family loyalist, by 1,67,196 votes.Rajeev Chandrashekar was serving as union minister He lost the Thiruvananthapuram seat in Kerala to Congress’s Shashi Tharoor, by a margin of 16,077 votes.

**7) Regional Parties Performance:**

Lok Sabha Elections make many regional parties kingmakers. In Uttar Pradesh, Akhilesh Yadav's Samajwadi Party As The Single Largest Party, winning 37 seats of the total 80 seats. The party's stellar performance was a big shock for the BJP and a relief for the INDIA bloc.In Andhra Pradesh Chandrababu Naidu’s Telugu Desam Party swept the Lok Sabha election by winning 16 of the 25 seats in the state. In Tamil Nadu DMK won the maximum number of seats, 21, of the total 39 parliamentary constituencies in the state. The DMK was another party that contributed to the INDIA bloc's seat share.

**8) Failure Of Exit Polls- Modi Media:**

Exit polls, intended to forecast voter behavior by sampling voters leaving polling stations, encountered significant inaccuracies in predicting the outcomes of the Lok Sabha Elections 2024. Each And every news channel showcased that nda will make 350 seats But None of the Modi Media Gave the accurate predictions.

**9) Caste And Community Politics:**

Caste dynamics played a crucial role in several states, with many parties fielding candidates to appeal to specific communities​. After a decade of electoral near-invincibility that combined economic success with a narrative of Hindu supremacy, Modi's party was reduced to 240 seats nationwide. He was able to form a third government only with the help of allies.

It was a reminder that BJP cannot take Hindu votes for granted.

**10) Youth Voters:**

Despite only 40% of eligible 18-19-year-olds registering to vote, 18.5 million young voters are casting their ballots. The youth voting for the first time have shown prominent interest in politics and believe that without their involvement in voting, they do not have a say in the governance of the country and cannot be held accountable. These first-time voters, despite facing various challenges, are united by their commitment to making informed and independent choices.