

# 1984 Indian general election

General elections were held in <u>India</u> on 24, 27 and 28 December 1984 soon after the assassination of previous <u>Prime</u> <u>Minister</u>, <u>Indira Gandhi</u>, though the vote in <u>Assam</u> and <u>Punjab</u> was delayed until 1985 due to ongoing insurgency.

The elections were a landslide victory for the Indian National Congress (Indira) of Rajiv Gandhi (son of Indira Gandhi), which won 404 of the 514 seats elected in 1984 and a further 10 in the delayed elections. The Telugu Desam Party of N. T. Rama Rao, a regional political party from the state of Andhra Pradesh, was the second largest party, winning 30 seats, thus achieving the distinction becoming the first regional party to become a national opposition party. AIADMK of Tamil Nadu contested the election in alliance with the INC (I), and won 12 seats. [1]

Voting was held immediately after the assassination of Indira Gandhi and the 1984 anti-Sikh riots in November and most of the Indian voters supported Congress (Indira) due to a heavy outpouring of public grief at Gandhi's death.

### 1984 Indian general election



#### 24, 27 and 28 December 1984

541 of the 543 seats in the Lok Sabha 271 seats needed for a majority

Registered	400,375,333
Turnout	64.01% ( 7.09pp)







Leader	Rajiv Gandhi	N. T. Rama Rao	E. M. S. Namboodiripad
Party	INC(I)	TDP	CPI(M)
Alliance			<u>LF</u>
Last election	42.69%, 353	_	6.24%, 37
	seats		seats
Seats won	414	30	22
Seat change	<b>▲</b> 61	New	<b>▼</b> 15
Popular vote	120,107,044	10,132,859	13,809,950
Percentage	46.86%	4.31%	5.87%
Swing	▲ 4.17 <u>pp</u>	New	<b>▼</b> 0.37 <u>pp</u>





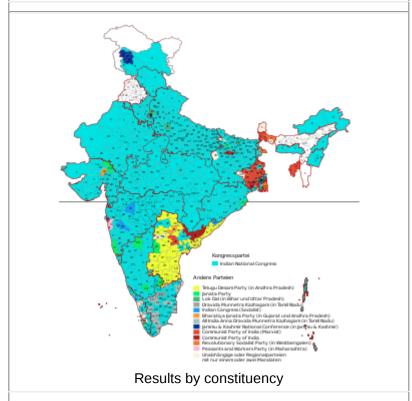


Chandra	Charan Singh	L. K. Advani
Shekhar		
<u>JP</u>	LKD	BJP
	Shekhar	Shekhar

The 1984 elections were the last in which a single party won a majority of seats until 2014, and the only time to date in which a party won more than 400 seats.

## **Results**

Last election	18.97%, 31 seats	New	New
Seats won	10	3	2
Seat change	<b>▼</b> 21	New	New
Popular vote	16,210,514	14,040,064	18,202,853
Percentage	6.89%	5.97%	7.74%
Swing	<b>▼</b> 12.08pp	New	New



**Prime Minister before** election

Rajiv Gandhi

INC(I)

**Prime Minister after election** 

Rajiv Gandhi INC(I)

516	5		
Party	Votes	%	Seats
Indian National Congress (Indira)	115,478,267	49.10	404
Bharatiya Janata Party	18,202,853	7.74	2

Total votes	241,246,887	100.00	
nvalid/blank votes	6,062,678	2.51	
Valid votes	235,184,209	97.49	
Total	235,184,209	100.00	516
Appointed <u>Anglo-Indians</u>			2
Independents	18,623,803	7.92	Ę
Jammu & Kashmir Peoples Conference	646	0.00	(
Jharkhand Party	18,837	0.01	(
Republican Party of India	22,877	0.01	(
People's Party of Arunachal	78,455	0.03	
Maharashtrawadi Gomantak Party	83,122	0.04	-
Jammu & Kashmir Panthers Party	95,149	0.04	
Naga National Democratic Party	113,919	0.05	
Tamil Nadu Congress (K)	144,076	0.06	
Manipur Peoples Party	149,019	0.06	
Republican Party of India (Khobragade)	165,320	0.07	
Socialist Unity Centre of India	196,767	0.08	
Gandhi Kamraj National Congress	217,104	0.09	
All India Muslim League	224,155	0.10	
Kerala Congress	258,591	0.11	
Jharkhand Mukti Morcha	332,403	0.14	
Peasants and Workers Party of India	463,963	0.20	
Doordarshi Party	508,426	0.22	
Kerala Congress (Joseph)	598,113	0.25	
Indian Union Muslim League	658,821	0.28	
Jammu & Kashmir National Conference	1,010,243	0.43	
All India Forward Bloc	1,055,556	0.45	
Revolutionary Socialist Party	1,173,869	0.50	
Indian National Congress (Jagjivan)	1,511,515	0.64	
Indian Congress (Socialist)	3,577,377	1.52	
All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam	3,968,967	1.69	-
Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam	5,695,179	2.42	
Communist Party of India	6,363,430	2.71	
Telugu Desam Party	10,132,859	4.31	3
Communist Party of India (Marxist)	13,809,950	5.87	2
Lokdal	14,040,064	5.97	
Janata Party	16,210,514	6.89	1

Registered voters/turnout	379,540,608	63.56	
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Source: ECI (https://www.eci.gov.in/eci-backend/public/api/download?url=LMAhAK6sOPBp%2FNFF0iRfXbEB1EV SLT41NNLRjYNJJP1KivrUxbfqkDatmHy12e%2FzVx8fLfn2ReU7TfrqYobglioTRtrX9vvkQ8lDf9Brh2QljusDaFYGfpJ M9zoHo8J9PwdGGp0XefbaBYdvPF8WFYJhpk%2BW%2Bp89Gy9OKaFe1hlV80Naz6W6EWVdsoeDF0ia)

## **Delayed elections in Assam and Punjab**

The elections in <u>Punjab</u> were held in September 1985 after the signing of the <u>Rajiv–Longowal Accord</u> between Prime Minister <u>Rajiv Gandhi</u> and Akali leader <u>Harchand Singh Longowal</u> on 24 July 1985. The elections were held alongside elections to the <u>Punjab Legislative Assembly</u>. [2] In Assam elections were held in December 1985 after the signing of the <u>Assam Accord in August 1985</u>.



Results from 1985

Party	Votes	%	Seats
Indian National Congress (Indira)	4,628,777	32.14	10
Shiromani Akali Dal	2,577,279	17.90	7
Communist Party of India (Marxist)	462,576	3.21	0
Indian Congress (Socialist)	457,705	3.18	1
Communist Party of India	369,687	2.57	0
Plain Tribals Council of Assam	310,150	2.15	1
Bharatiya Janata Party	263,284	1.83	0
Janata Party	420,082	2.92	0
Lokdal	46,627	0.32	0
Independents	4,864,958	33.78	8
Total	14,401,125	100.00	27
Valid votes	14,401,125	95.70	
Invalid/blank votes	646,951	4.30	
Total votes	15,048,076	100.00	
Registered voters/turnout	20,834,725	72.23	

Source: ECI (https://www.eci.gov.in/eci-backend/public/api/download?url=LMAhAK6sOPBp%2FNFF0iRfXbEB1EV SLT41NNLRjYNJJP1KivrUxbfqkDatmHy12e%2FzVx8fLfn2ReU7TfrqYobglu%2BY1riOdtLqDPjuHK%2BWBTls%2Fs7eWaiORvgh9NZUu3Dhn2%2B0peSE%2F6jkqAXewxbNCqdDnW5UMpJMTM2Ys0Nt%2BP%2FJ2%2BdBIBswoUnKE3KB7EMq)

## See also

- List of members of the 8th Lok Sabha
- Election Commission of India
- 1982 Indian presidential election

## References

- 1. Kumaresan, S. (4 March 2019). "AIADMK- Congress combine ride on sympathy wave in 1984" (https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/tamil-nadu/2019/Mar/04/aiadmk--cong-combine-ride-on-sympathy-wave-in-84-1946778.html). The New Indian Express. Retrieved 19 May 2024.
- 2. Narain, Iqbal (1986). "India in 1985: Triumph of Democracy". *Asian Survey*. **26** (2): 253–269. doi:10.2307/2644461 (https://doi.org/10.2307%2F2644461).