Trivedi Centre
for Political Data

**Incumbency Profile Codebook 1.0**
**http://lokdhaba.ashoka.edu.in**
**Last updated: February 25, 2021**


**Contents**

| **Title** | **Page** |
|---|---|

## 1. Introduction

Welcome to Incumbency Profile!

Incumbency Profile is a tool developed by the Trivedi Centre of Political Data to track the political careers of candidates who have contested in any Central or State level Election in India since 1962.

The visualizations are produced using Lok Dhaba. The user can choose the *Legislative House* (a particular state election or general election) to view, along with various other candidate attributes like *Experience*, *Gender*, *Only Winners*, *Number of Assembly Wins*, *Number of Assembly Contestations* etc. The user can also search for a particular candidate by name in a given *Assembly*. Once the user selects the *Legislative House* and other filters, *Candidates* are placed in boxes and displayed Party-wise for the particular election. A Party is displayed if it has more than 2% of the seat share for that election, otherwise it is placed under *Other*. The colour of the *Candidate Box* indicates the previous party of the candidate, or the same party for first-time contestants. A candidate is displayed if at any time in the same *Legislative House*, the candidate stood first or second any time, or has contested from a party that won more than 2% of the Seat Share.

The data used for a particular visualization can be downloaded by going to the bottom of the screen and clicking on the "Browse/download detailed results" link. It directs the user to Lok Dhaba from where the data can be downloaded. The majority of the visualizations were done using R, Python and Surf. Surf is an in-house tool originally developed for cleaning Indian names by TCPD staff members, Shivangi Tikekar and Sudheendra Hangal. Details about the development and performance of Surf will be available in the public domain with the publication of our working paper Kumar et al. 2020.

The Appendix at the end of this document presents detailed screenshots of the Incumbency Visualization. We are constantly in the process of improving the visualization. Should you have any feedback, please write to us at tcpd-contact@ashoka.edu.in or alternatively fill the feedback form.


Thank you.

TCPD Team

## 2. Terms and Conditions

Incumbency Profile is an online tool developed by the Trivedi Centre of Political Data to track the political careers of candidates who have contested in any Central or State level Election in India since 1962. The users are free to download, display or include the data in other products for non-commercial purposes at no cost subject to the following limitations:

**Data Citation:** "TCPD Individual Incumbency Dataset, 1962-current". Trivedi Centre for Political Data, Ashoka University.

**Codebook Citation:** Ananay Agarwal, Prashasti Agarwal, Payoja Ahluwalia, Saloni Bhogale, Jenish Raj Bajracharya, Sudheendra Hangal, Samridhi Hooda, Mohit Kumar, Visvesha Murthi, Basim U Nissa, Vaibhav Parik, Ayaan Sagar, Niharika Tiwari and Gilles Verniers. 2021. "TCPD Individual Incumbency Dataset, 1962-current Codebook 1.0", Trivedi Centre for Political Data, Ashoka University.

**No Endorsement:** The user must not claim or imply that the Trivedi Centre for Political Data endorses the user's use of the data or use of the Centre's logo(s) or trademarks(s) in conjunction with the same.

**No Warranty:** The Centre makes no warranties with respect to the accuracy of the data. While the Statistical Reports published by the ECI comprise the primary data source, we also rely on multiple other sources in cases of discrepancies in ECI's data. While we do our best to ensure that the numbers are accurate, there is room for error. And as such the user must agree that the Centre shall not be held responsible or liable to the user for any errors, omissions, misstatements and/or misrepresentations of the data though the user is encouraged to report the same to us (send us a message or write us at tcpd-contact@ashoka.edu.in).

**Personal data:** The Centre may record visits to Lok Dhaba without collecting the personal information of the users. The records shall be used for statistical reports only.

**Acknowledgement:** The user must agree that the use of the Data presented within the application can be seen as the acknowledgement of unconditionally accepting the Terms of Use presented by the Centre.

**3. Table 1: Variable names and description**

| # | Variable Name | Details |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Search | Type the candidate name that you are looking for given the other options. It is not case sensitive. For example, "MAMATA BANERJEE" or "Mamata Banerjee" or "mamata banerjee" will yield similar results.<br><br>Please note however, that this is sensitive to spelling mistakes so the results will vary according to what is typed in the search box. |
| 2 | House | Select the particular Legislative House of Representatives (Vidhan Sabha or Lok Sabha) to be viewed.<br>Currently available are the following:<br>1. Bihar<br>2. West Bengal<br>3. Delhi<br>4. Lok Sabha<br>5. Jharkhand<br>6. Maharashtra<br>7. Haryana |
| 3 | Assembly Number | Select the term of the Legislative House that you want to see. We currently have data from the 3rd Assembly onwards. The following are the terms for the Lok Sabha:<br>3rd  : 1962 - 1967<br>4th  : 1967 - 1971<br>5th  : 1971 - 1977<br>6th  : 1977 - 1980<br>7th  : 1980 - 1984<br>8th  : 1984 - 1989<br>9th  : 1989 - 1991<br>10th : 1991 - 1996<br>11th : 1996 - 1998<br>12th : 1998 - 1999<br>13th : 1999 - 2004<br>14th : 2004 - 2009<br>15th : 2009 - 2014<br>16th : 2014 - 2019<br>17th : 2019 - 2024 |
| 4 | Label | Select the variable that is seen in the candidate box<br>There are 3 options:<br><br>1. *No label*: No number is displayed in the candidate squares below<br><br>2. *Assemblies Won*: The total number of **unique assemblies** in which a candidate has won are displayed in each candidate square. If a candidate has won more than one election within the same Assembly (either by winning in multiple constituencies or |

|   |   | multiple bye-polls), the counter does not increase. Eg - Candidate Kalidas Nilkanth Kolambkar from the 13th Assembly of Maharashtra has won a total of 8 times (7a,8a,9a,10a,10a,11a,12a,13a). But he has won in a total of 7 unique assemblies (7a,8a,9a,10a,11a,12a,13a). So the counter displays 7.<br><br>3. *Assemblies Contested*: The total number of **unique assemblies** in which a candidate has stood for election is displayed in each candidate square. Analogous to above, contesting multiple times within the same assembly (either from different constituencies or multiple bye-polls) does not increase the counter.<br>Eg - Candidate Abdul Karim Chowdhary in the 15th Assembly of West Bengal has contested 9 times (5a,6a,7a,8a,12a,13a,14a, 14a, 15a) but only from 8 unique assemblies (5a,6a,7a,8a,12a,13a,14a,15a). He contested twice in the 14th Assembly, and hence the counter shows 8 and not 9. |
|---|---|---|
| 5 | Position | Choose to display *Only Winners* or *All Candidates*. A winning candidate is displayed as a square, and a losing candidate is displayed in a circle for the assembly number selected |
| 6 | Experience | Filter for candidates based on their political history. There are 3 options -<br><br>1. *Newcomers*: Filter for only those candidates who have stood for elections for the first time<br><br>2. *Previously Contested*: Filter for those candidates who have contested at least once before. In other words, filter for candidates who are not newcomers<br><br>3. *Turncoats*: Filter for candidates who contested earlier from a different party. |
| 7 | Gender | Choose the sex of the candidates you want to filter for.<br>*Male, Female, Other, All* |

## 4. Appendix

In the Appendix below, we go into more detail about the User Interface and how to read candidate data at a glance.

Figure 1 shows the incumbency profile of the 17th Lok Sabha with certain selections. Hovering on the abbreviation of a political party, will show the full name of the party. The number in square brackets will change depending on the selection made. In this case, as "Position" is selected to be "All Candidates", the number shows the total number of assemblies contested across each party (also reflected in the number of boxes (squares and circles) displayed. For instance, in the 2019 Lok Sabha elections, there were 436 individuals who contested on a BJP ticket.

**Figure 1**

Figure 2 shows details of the pop-up box which comes up when hovering on a box. The pop-up box will display detailed information about the candidate. Information in the pop-up box is organized as follows:
- The current assembly is placed above the horizontal bar, and previous contestations below.
- Electoral wins are listed in white and electoral losses are listed in grey.
- Each entry in the pop-up box, starting from the left, is to be read as follows: - Constituency (Assembly Number, Year of Election) Party, Position. So for example, we can see: CHINDWARA(17a, 2019) INC, #1 in the screenshot below. The constituency is Chindwara
  - The election was held in the 17th Assembly
  - The election was held in the year 2019
  - The candidate ran on a ticket from the party INC
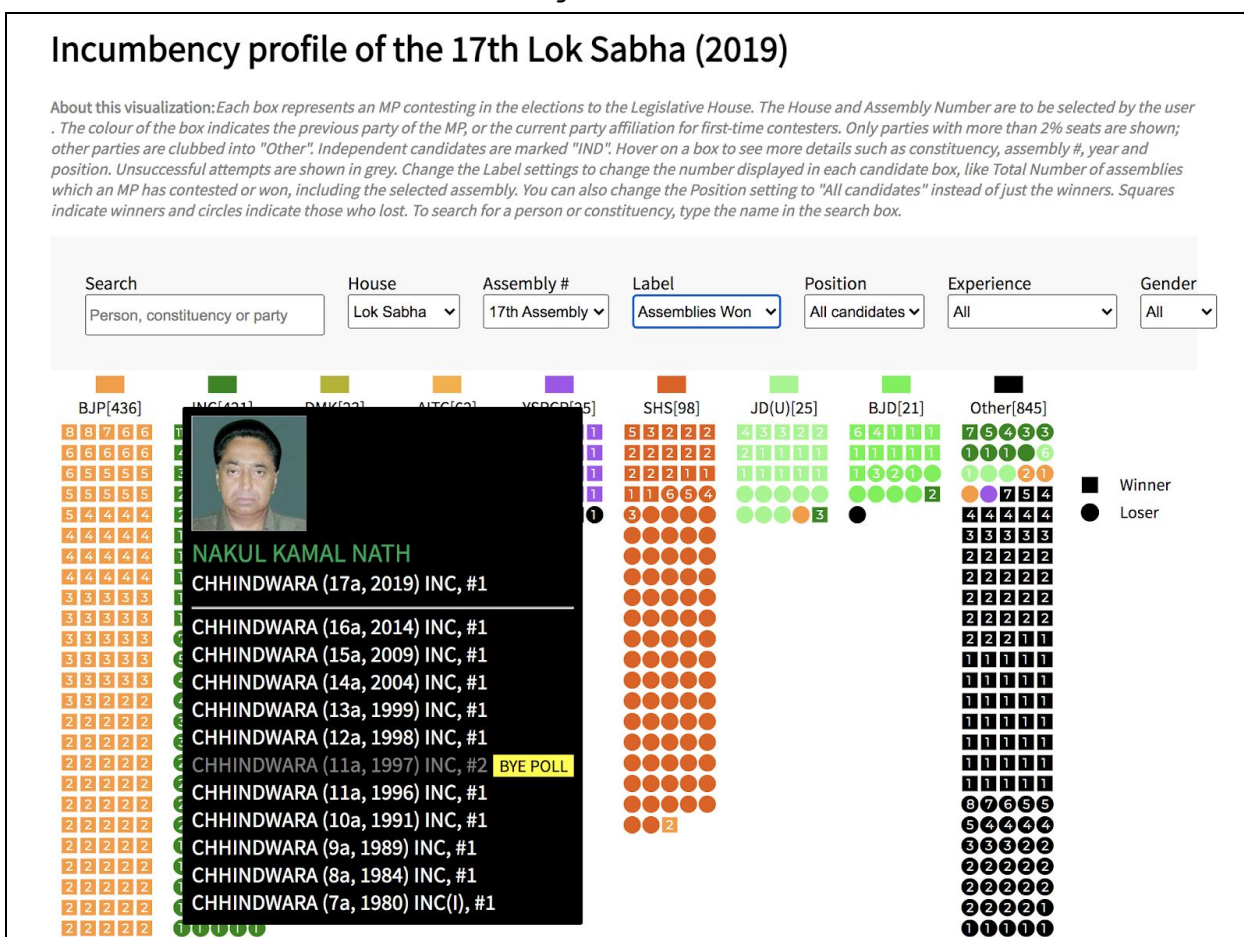  - The candidate placed #1 in the election

**Figure 2**

Figure 3 shows the bottom portion of the visualization. There are three links.

1. **Browse/download detailed results:** Takes the user back to the Lok Dhaba website to browse/download the data used to render the visualization on the screen.
2. **Documentation:** Link to this document
3. **Feedback Form:** Link to a Google Form via which you can submit feedback on the visualization.

**Figure 3**



Browse/download detailed results || Documentation || Feedback Form

Visualization originally developed by Shivangi Tikekar and Sudheendra Hangal.
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