

# **Jhansi Lok Sabha Seat Analysis**

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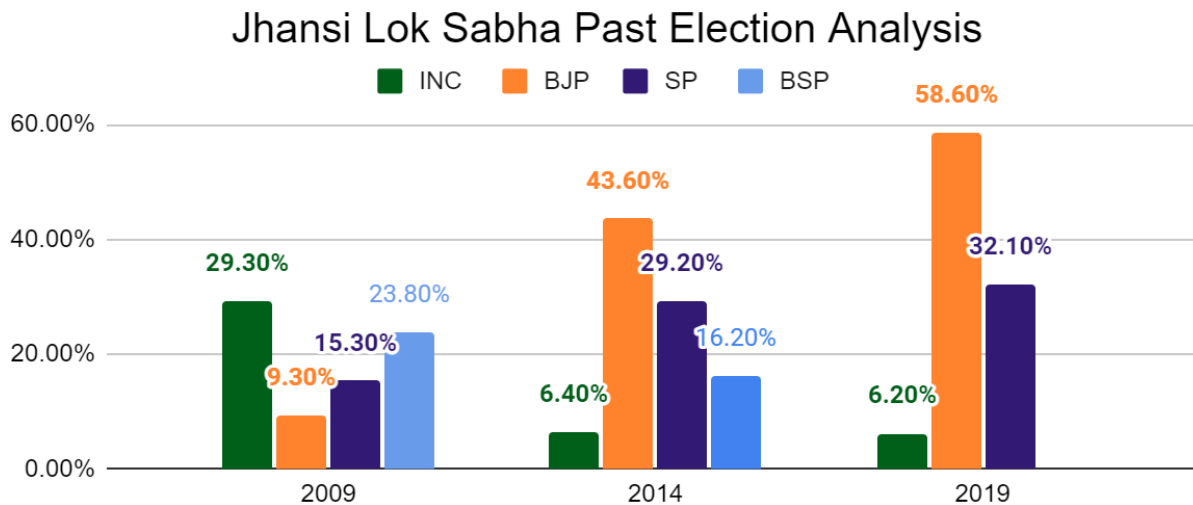
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## Introduction

Jhansi Lok Sabha is one of the seats of Uttar Pradesh, a state having the largest number of Lok Sabha seats (80). Jhansi Lok Sabha seat is surrounded by Madhya Pradesh from three sides and belongs to a region called Bundhelkhand. Jhansi Lok Sabha seat consists of two districts geographically: Jhansi and Lalitpur. It is a general category seat that represents the people of Bundelkhand in Lok Sabha since the first general election of independent India (1952). This seat was predominantly won by INC with some exceptions like Shri Rajendra Agnihotri (General-Brahmin) (in office from 1989 to 1998) from BJP. Dr. Sushila Nayyar, a disciple of Shri Mohan Das Karam Chand Gandhi won the Lok Sabha elections from the Jhansi seat four times. With the advent of the Modi Era in 2014, BJP won this seat in 2014 as well as the 2019 general election. In 2014, Sadhvi Uma Bharati, ex-Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh won the election by defeating former MP Shri Pardeep Jain Aditya of INC by a margin of 14.4 %. In 2019, there was a bigger victory for the BJP and this seat was won by Shri Anurag Sharma of BJP with a margin of 26.8%.



## 2014 Election Analysis

Sadhvi Uma Bharati from BJP (OBC- Lodhi Rajput), ex CM of MP emerged victorious in Lok Sabha Elections 2014. She defeated the then sitting MP of INC, Shri Pardeep Jain Aditya ( General - Jain). The runner up candidate was Dr. Chandra Pal Singh Yadav from Samajwadi Party (OBC-

Yadav) who was defeated by Uma Bharti with a margin of 14.4%. Congress's vote share declined drastically from 2009 elections to 2014 elections (22.9% decline in vote share). In 2009, INC was the winner whereas in 2014, INC candidate Shri Pardeep Jain 'Aditya' was not able to secure his deposit in the election. The reason for this high anti-incumbency was the dissatisfaction among masses against the UPA government. The Modi Wave was also an important factor for this massive victory of BJP in one of the important seat of Uttar Pradesh.

## **2019 Election Analysis**

Shri Anurag Sharma (General- Brahmin), managing director of the renowned Ayurvedic Indian Brand Shree Baidyanath Ayurved Bhawan Pvt. Ltd.<sup>1</sup>, contested election on the BJP ticket for the first time and won with a margin of 26.8%. BSP and SP contested election under an alliance named MahagathBandhan and Shri Shyam Sundar Singh from SP (OBC- Yadav) was the runner up candidate securing 32.10% votes. It was a bipolar election. INC candidate Shri Shiv Sharan (OBC-Kushwaha) secured only 6.20% vote, though Kushwaha community which constitutes 8.5% of Jhansi's population. Many independent candidates such as Shri Jagat Vikram Singh (OBC-Lodhi Rajput) tried to consolidate votes of Lodhi community and Shri Dilshad Ahmed Siddiqui (OBC- Muslim Kayastha) tried to consolidate muslim votes as they are 5.55% in number. These independent candidates' vote share was so meager (0.4% and 0.2%) that they were not able to affect the electoral results of 2019 Lok Sabha elections of Jhansi Lok Sabha seat. Projects like Bundelkhand Corridor, loan waivers to farmers due to drought and defense corridor worked in favor of BJP. Strict adherence to Rule of Law by the BJP state government led by Yogi Adityanath caught people's eye and saw this as the end of "Gunda Raj" in Uttar Pradesh. Moreover, people of Jhansi Lok Sabha seat had immense trust in the leadership of PM Shri Narendra Modi and 'Modi Magic' worked.

## **Voting Pattern**

Jhansi Lok Sabha constituency consists of 5 assembly seats namely - Jhansi Nagar, Lalitpur, Babina, Mauranipur (SC seat) and Mehroni (SC seat). In Jhansi Nagar, BJP has a strong hold and used to get the highest vote even when it lost the Jhansi Lok Sabha seat in 2009 Lok Sabha elections. Mauranipur and Mehroni are SC reserved seats. The population of SC community is around 24.1% in these seats. BSP had a good hold in both these SC reserved seats.. Muslims constitute 5.55% of the population and their votes used to be divided between INC and SP. A very small section of Muslim community votes for the BJP because of its Hindutva political ideology. The constituency has about 1 lakh Yadav voters, a major section of which votes for Samajwadi Party. Brahmins are

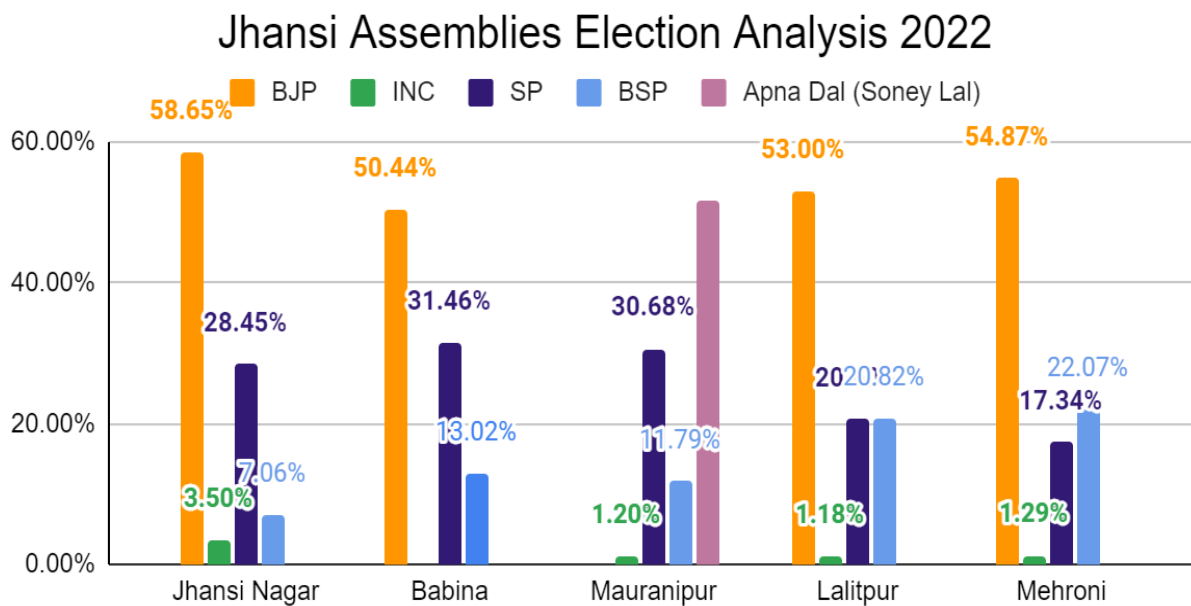
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<sup>1</sup> [AnuragSharma](#)

about 1.5 lakh in number which is the core voter of BJP. In Lok Sabha polls, BJP was leading in SC seats of Mauranipur and Mehroni. In assembly elections too, Jhansi had NDA MLAs (4 BJP and 1 Apna Dal). In 2009, Congress's ex President, Shri Rahul Gandhi personally focused on Jhansi seat and the then INC Candidate Shri Pardeep Jain 'Aditya' as he is a close associate of Shri Rahul Gandhi<sup>2</sup> but the results are not favorable for Congress and the party's graph in the seat has only declined. "Jal, Jawani and Jameen" are the major issues in this seat for a long period of time. From the advent of the 21st century, there have been 13 years of drought, leading to water shortage and fertile land of Jhansi is not utilized fully due to droughts. Migration is also a big problem of the Bundelkhand region, youth of the region have left their homes in search of better opportunities, thus low % of the young population in the region.

### Assembly Election Analysis

Jhansi Lok Sabha is divided into five Assembly seats. Three of them [Jhansi Nagar, Babina and Mauranipur (SC)] lie in the Jhansi district and two of them [Lalitpur and Mehroni (SC)] lie in the Lalitpur district geographically.



<sup>2</sup> [NagpurToday](http://NagpurToday)

## **Jhansi Nagar**

Jhansi Nagar (AC No. - 223) is the center of political activities of Bundelkhand region. It is a general and an urban seat. From the past three Vidhan Sabha Elections (2012, 2017 and 2022), Shri Ravi Sharma (General- Brahman) from BJP is the MLA of Jhansi Nagar Seat. He defeated Shri Sita Ram Kushwaha (OBC- Kushwaha) from BSP in the past three assembly elections. Winning margin of the BJP from this seat has been increasing since the past few elections. It was 23.03% in 2017 Assembly elections and 30.2% in 2022 Assembly Elections. Brahmins (19.86%)<sup>3</sup> constitute the largest population in the region and a major section of this community votes for the BJP. Dalits are 17.38% in number who usually vote for the BSP. Muslims (14.89%) and Kushwahas (14.89%) are also in majority in the constituency. Muslim votes get divided among INC and SP, whereas the majority of Kushwahas voters prefer to vote for BJP. Yadavs (4.96%) generally vote for SP. The seat has a potential to become a tourist spot due to the historical significance.

## **Babina**

Babina (AC No. - 222) is the renowned Cantonment area of Jhansi. It is a general and semi urban seat. BABINA is the abbreviation of British Army Base in North Asia. Shri Rajeev Singh "Parichha" (OBC- Kamera Yadav) from BJP is the two time MLA. He defeated Shri Yashpal Singh Yadav (OBC- Yadav) of Samajwadi Party in the 2017 and 2022 elections. In 2012 Assembly polls, Shri Krishan Pal Singh Rajpoot (OBC- Lodhi Rajput) from BSP won the election by defeating Shri Yashpal Singh Yadav (OBC-Yadav) from SP with a meager margin of 4%. Lodhi Rajputs (21.46%)<sup>4</sup> and Yadavs (21.46%) are predominant in numbers in Babina constituency. Lodhi Rajput and BJP have a good association from long back, Lodhi Rajput voters are more likely to vote for BJP. Yadavs prefer to vote for Samajwadi Party. Dalit voters (21.46%) are also equal in numbers playing a pivotal role in determining the electoral result of the constituency. Dalit vote preference used to be BSP which is now shifting to BJP, thus division of votes of Dalits between BSP and BJP. Water scarcity is a big issue in this seat as Farming is done on a large scale here but the government has got the support of the masses by providing loan waivers to the farmers who were affected by drought.

## **Mauranipur**

Mauranipur (AC No. - 224) is known for its powerlooms. 'Ranipur Terrycot', a famous type of fabric all across India is produced in this region. It is a SC and rural seat. Dr. Rashmi Arya (SC- Koli) from Apna Dal (Soneylal) is the MLA of Mauranipur. In the 2022 Assembly elections, this seat was contested by Apna Dal (Soneylal) on the behalf of NDA alliance. In the 2017 election, Shri Biharilal Arya (SC- Koli) from BJP won the election and Dr. Rashmi Arya (SC- Kori) from

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<sup>3</sup> [AmarUjala/Jhansi Nagar](#)

<sup>4</sup> [AmarUjala/Babina](#)

Samajwadi Party was defeated with a margin of 6.3% . Dalits constitute the largest population with 34.45% voters<sup>5</sup>. SP used to have an upper edge in this seat as Yadavs are the second largest community with 19.69% voters but after the creation of new party Apna Dal (Soneylal) , the vote share of SP declined in this seat significantly and Dr.Rashmi Arya won by margin of 21.16%. Brahmans (9.84%) prefer to vote for BJP. The majority votes of Brahmans and Dalits transferred to Apna Dal ( Soneylal) increasing the margin of win of NDA in this significantly.

### **Lalitpur**

Lalitpur (AC No. - 226) is a general and semi urban seat. Shri Ram Ratan Kushwaha (OBC-Kushwaha) from BJP is the two time MLA (2022 and 2017). He defeated Shri Chandra Bhushan Singh Bundela “Guddu Raja” (General- Rajput) from BSP with a sizeable margin of 32.2%. In 2017 , Shri Ram Ratan Kushwaha defeated Shrimati Jyoti Singh (OBC- Lodhi Rajput) by a margin of 21.5%. From the past three assembly elections (2012, 2017 and 2022) , the winning party might be different but the winning candidate belongs to the Kushwaha community. Yadavs (9.15%)<sup>6</sup> are present in Lalitpur in large numbers but SP which is generally preferred by Yadavs ends up as the runner up party in the constituency. Muslims (4.36%) and Brahmans (4.78%) are also present in good numbers in the constituency. Brahman voters prefer to vote for BJP and majority of Muslim voters vote for SP. Bulk Drug Park was established by the UP government in Lalitpur in 2023 which will not only make Lalitpur a hub of medicines but also provide employment and solve the problem of migration.

### **Mehroni**

Mehroni (AC No. - 227) is a SC and rural seat. It is located near Betwa river and present in Lalitpur district geographically. Shri Manohar Lal (SC-Kori) from BJP is a two time MLA from this seat (2017 and 2022). He defeated Shri Feran Lal (SC) from BSP with a record breaking margin of 32.4 % in 2017 and in 2022 defeated Shri Kiran Ramesh Khatik (SC) from BSP with a margin of 32.8%. Ahirwars (15.28%)<sup>7</sup> are a predominant community in this region who primarily vote for BSP. Kushwahas (12.34%) are also present in large numbers who are more likely to support BJP. Yadavs (9.35%) are another significant community in the constituency who prefer to vote for Samajwadi Party. Lalitpur Power Project is located in Mehroni which will reduce unemployment and control migration of youth.

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<sup>5</sup> [AmaraUjala/Mauranipur](#)

<sup>6</sup> [AmarUjala/Lalitpur](#)

<sup>7</sup> [AmarUjala/Mehroni](#)

## Prediction of 2024 Elections

According to seat distribution of I.N.D.I. Alliance, under the INC-SP alliance, INC candidate Shri Pardeep Jain (General-Jain) will contest from this constituency in 2024 General Elections ). He has been given a ticket from Jhansi by INC for the third time. He was defeated by Sadhvi Uma Bharati in 2014 elections by a sizeable margin of 4,91,621 votes . BSP is not a part of I.N.D.I Alliance and it has expelled its candidate Shri Rakesh Kushwaha (OBC-Kushwaha) from the party because of his anti party actions<sup>8</sup>. BJP has given ticket to incumbent MP Shri Anurag Sharma (General-Brahmin). He is President of Bundelkhand Ekikaran Samiti<sup>9</sup> which tries to unite people of Bundelkhand and demand for a separate Bundhelkhand state and not be divided in parts of UP and MP. Shri Anurag Sharama's continuous efforts for separate Bundhekhhand state are in consonance with the aspiration of the masses and thus make him a popular leader. Bundelkhand which was the most backward area in Uttar pradesh now have many infrastructure development projects like Bundelkhand expressway development into Solar expressway, approval of Rs. 550 crore for Defense corridor in Bundelkhand, Smart City Project completion in Jhansi and approval of Bundelkhand Industrial Development Authority by both BJP led state and central government will help BJP in attracting voters. The INDI alliance candidate seems to be behind the NDA candidate this time as well. On combining the vote share of INC and SP (38.3%) for General Elections 2019 as well, it is less than the vote share of the BJP candidate (58.60%). Apart from this, various opinion polls like INDIA TV also suggest the same . BJP has a vote margin of 20.3% which is a huge number to cover by the I.N.D.I Alliance. In the UP Legislative Assembly, Jhansi seat has all 5 NDA MLAs who will campaign for Shri Anurag Sharma. In the Lok Sabha 2024 too, the massive popularity of PM Shri Narendra Modi will be helping the BJP candidates to secure more votes. BJP is having a clear upper edge in Jhansi Lok Sabha constituency for 2024 General elections.

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<sup>8</sup> [AajTak](#)

<sup>9</sup> [TheNewIndianExpress](#)