Data Description for "Conceptualizing and Measuring Subnational Democracy Across Indian States"

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Unit of Analysis

The unit of analysis is the second-level administrative division in a given election year. The dataset includes 30 subnational units, specifically all 28 states and the union territories of Delhi and Puducherry. The states of Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Uttarakhand (formerly known as Uttaranchal) were created during the period of observation. Table 1 and 2 convey the included and excluded elections.

Table 1. Observations in the Dataset

State	Elections
Andhra Pradesh	1985, 1989, 1994, 1999, 2004, 2009
Arunachal Pradesh	1990, 1995, 1999, 2004, 2009
Assam	1985, 1991, 1996, 2001, 2006, 2011
Bihar	1985, 1990, 1995, 2000, 2005-Oct, 2010
Chhattisgarh	2003, 2008
Delhi	1993, 1998, 2003, 2008, 2013
Goa	1989, 1994, 1999, 2002, 2007, 2012
Gujarat	1985, 1990, 1995, 1998, 2002, 2007, 2012
Haryana	1987, 1991, 1996, 2000, 2005, 2009
Himachal Pradesh	1985, 1990, 1993, 1998, 2003, 2007, 2012
Jammu & Kashmir	1987, 1996, 2002, 2008
Jharkhand	2005, 2009
Karnataka	1985, 1989, 1994, 1999, 2004, 2008
Kerala	1987, 1991, 1996, 2001, 2006, 2011
Madhya Pradesh	1985, 1990, 1993, 1998, 2003, 2008
Maharashtra	1985, 1990, 1995, 1999, 2004, 2009
Manipur	1990, 1995, 2000, 2002, 2007, 2012
Meghalaya	1988, 1993, 1998, 2003, 2008, 2013
Mizoram	1987, 1989, 1993, 1998, 2003, 2008
Nagaland	1987, 1989, 1993, 1998, 2003, 2008, 2013
Orissa (Odisha)	1985, 1990, 1995, 2000, 2004, 2009
Puducherry	1985, 1990, 1991, 1996, 2001, 2006, 2011
Punjab	1985, 1992, 1997, 2002, 2007, 2012
Rajasthan	1985, 1990, 1993, 1998, 2003, 2008
Sikkim	1985, 1989, 1994, 1999, 2004, 2009
Tamil Nadu	1989, 1991, 1996, 2001, 2006, 2011
Tripura	1988, 1993, 1998, 2003, 2008, 2013
Uttar Pradesh	1985, 1989, 1991, 1993, 1996, 2002, 2007, 2012
Uttarakhand	2002, 2007, 2012
West Bengal	1987, 1991, 1996, 2001, 2006, 2011

Table 2. Excluded Elections

State	Year	Explanation
Bihar	2005-Feb	No government could be formed. Elections were held in October of the same year

List of Variables

For a full list of sources per observation, please email the corresponding author (i.harbers@uva.nl).

Position	Variable Name	Range	Values and Labels	Source
var1	cid	1001-1199	Unique case identification number units	
var2	isostate		ISO 3166-2 codes for the representation of names of countries and their subdivisions	ISO 3166-2 codes defined for Indian states and union territories (https://www.iso.org/obp/ui/#iso:code:3166:IN)
var3	isostate_in		ISO 3166-2 codes defined for GIS operations	
var4	ut		Identifies whether territorial unit is a state or a union territory 0: state 1: union territory	Subdivision category and name of territorial units (https://www.iso.org/obp/ui/#iso:code:3166:IN)
var5	stateut		Name of territorial unit	
var6	year	1985-2015	Year of election	Election files (http://eci.nic.in/eci_main1/ElectionStatistics.aspx)
var7	mov	0-1	Margin of victory (seats) between winner and runner up in legislative elections Measured as (s1–s2)/s, where s1 is the number of seats won by the largest party, s2 is the number of seats won by the second largest party and s is the total number of seats in the legislative assembly 0: minimal margin of victory 1: maximal margin of victory	Election files (http://eci.nic.in/eci_main1/ElectionStatistics.aspx). Number of seats won by the largest party and the second largest party found under 'performance of political parties'. Total number of seats in the legislative assembly found under 'grand total'

var8	enpl	1-7.92	Effective number of parties competing in legislative elections Measured as 1/∑vi2, where vi represents the number of votes cast for party i during the legislative elections A curvilinear transformation is included Measured as 1-(1-x/5)^2	Election files (http://eci.nic.in/eci_main1/ElectionStatistics.aspx). Independent candidates coded as separate parties
var9	seats	30-425	Number of legislative seats	Election files (http://eci.nic.in/eci_main1/ElectionStatistics.aspx). Total number of seats in the legislative assembly found under 'grand total'
var10	majorparty		Ruling party or the largest party within the ruling coalition	Election web pages (http://www.elections.in), academic sources and news articles (prioritized in that order) per election year
var11	coalition		Ruling party and whether it is part of a coalition +: coalition	Election web pages (http://www.elections.in), academic sources and news articles (prioritized in that order) per election year
var12	rulingseats	14-265	Number of legislative seats controlled by the ruling party or coalition	Election web pages (http://www.elections.in), academic sources and news articles (prioritized in that order) per election year
var13	sop	0-55,33	Percentage of legislative seats controlled by the opposition Measured as 100 – ((s1/s) x 100), where s1 is the number of seats won by the ruling party or coalition and s is the total number of seats in the legislative assembly	Election web pages (http://www.elections.in), academic sources and news articles (prioritized in that order) per election year

var14	changeparty	0-1	Tenure of incumbent party's or majority incumbent party in ruling coalition in 3 consecutive election periods 0: no change in party 1: change in party	Election web pages (http://www.elections.in), academic sources and news articles (prioritized in that order) per election year
var15	changecm	0-1	Change in chief minister in 3 consecutive election periods 0: no change in chief minister 1: change in chief minister	State web pages (http://www.elections.in/) per election year
var16	pr	0-1	Whether the legislative assembly was placed under president's rule during the election period 0: no president's rule during election period 1: president's rule during election period	State web pages (http://www.elections.in), academic sources and news articles (prioritized in that order) per election year
var17	duration	7-13545	Duration of president's rule Measured as d1 – d2, where d1 is the start date and d2 the end date of the period of presidential rule	State web pages (http://www.elections.in), academic sources and news articles (prioritized in that order) per election year
var18	nbdeath	0-112	Number of fatalities due to election-related violence	Times of India; event database
var19	prc_consta	0-100	Percentage of constituencies affected by election-related violence or intimidation	Times of India; event database
var20	elec_seq	1-8	Election sequence, starting with the first election after 1985	
var21	isostate_n	1-30	encode isostate, gen (isostate_n)	
var22	enpl5	.359-.999	Curvilinear transformation of ENPL	
var23	nbdeath_log		Number of fatalities due to election-related violence, logged	
var24	n_changeparty	0-1	Changeparty, normalized	
var25	n_enpl5	0-1	Curvilinear transformation of ENPL, normalized	
var26	n_sop	0-1	SOP, normalized	
var27	n_nbdeath_log	0-1	nbdeath_log, normalized	

var28	n_prc_consta	0-1	prc_consta, normalized	
var29	n_contestation5	0-1	gen n_contestation5 = (n_enpl5 + n_sop)/2	
var30	n_cleanlog	0.01-1	gen n_cleanlog = (n_nbdeath_log+ n_prc_consta)/2	
var31	n_small_index5	0-2	gen n_small_index5 = changeparty + n_contestation5	
var32	index	0-2	gen index5l = n_small_index5 * pr * n_cleanlog	
var33	index5_cleanl	0-2	gen index5_cleanl = n_small_index5 * n_cleanlog	
var34	mean_index5l	0-1.75	by isostate_n, sort: egen mean_index5l = mean(index5l)	
var35	trends	0-1.75	smooth 4253 index5l, generate (trends)	