



# DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

## PANDU COLLEGE

Guwahati-781012, Kamrup (Metro), Assam



### NOTICE

**Date:** March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2026

**Subject:** Practical Assignment – Paper: Political Processes in India

All students of 4<sup>th</sup> Semester are hereby notified that as part of the internal assessment and practical component of the course, you are required to undertake a **field-based research study** on the following topic:

**“Determinants of Youth Voting Behaviour in Assam: A Survey of Students in Higher Educational Institutions”**

**Submission Deadline:** 30<sup>th</sup> April, 2026

**Total Marks:** 20

#### Assignment Requirements

##### 1. Field Survey

- Each student must collect **primary data through a questionnaire survey**.
- A **minimum of 4 respondents is mandatory**.
- Respondents must be:
  - **Youth aged between 16–25 years, and**
  - **Preferably from other colleges or higher educational institutions** (not limited to your own class/group).

##### 2. Questionnaire

- The **sample questionnaire has been attached** and must be used.

##### 4. Report Writing

- The final report must follow the **attached reporting format**.
- It should reflect both **empirical findings and critical interpretation**.

5. **Mode:** Manuscripts have to be typed and submitted both offline and online

*Pariamita Bhagwati*

## Questionnaire

### Determinants of Youth Voting Behaviour in Assam: A Survey of Students in Higher Educational Institutions

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#### RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION

Questionnaire ID: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Survey: \_\_\_\_\_

District: \_\_\_\_\_

Specific Location (Town/Area): \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Institution: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Institution:

Government

Private

Autonomous

#### SECTION 1: INFORMED CONSENT

##### Informed Consent Statement

You are invited to participate in an academic research survey on **youth voting behaviour in Assam**. The purpose of this study is to understand the factors that influence voting behaviour among young people.

Your participation is **voluntary**. You may skip any question or withdraw at any time. No personally identifying information (such as name, phone number, or voter ID) will be collected. Your responses will be used **only for academic and research purposes** and will remain confidential.

**Do you agree to participate in this survey?**

Yes

No

(If “No”, discontinue the questionnaire.)

## SECTION 2: SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

**1. Age:** \_\_\_\_\_

**2. Gender:**

Male

Female

Other

Prefer not to say

**3. Current status:**

Student

Student + Part-time work

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**4. Level of education:**

Undergraduate

Postgraduate

Research Scholar

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**5. Discipline/Stream:**

Arts/Humanities

Science

Commerce/Management

Law

Engineering/Technology

Medical/Health Sciences

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**6. Year/Semester:** \_\_\_\_\_

**7. Background (where you grew up):**

Urban

Semi-urban

Rural

**8. Current residence in study area:**

With family

Hostel

Rented/PG accommodation

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**9. First-generation college student?**

Yes

No

Not sure

## SECTION 3: ELECTORAL PARTICIPATION

**10. Are you a registered voter?**

Yes

No

**11.** Have you voted in any election?

Yes

No

**12.** If yes, which elections? (tick all that apply)

Lok Sabha

State Assembly

Local body elections

Student union elections

**13.** How likely are you to vote in the next election?

Very likely

Likely

Not sure

Unlikely

Very unlikely

#### **SECTION 4: POLITICAL AWARENESS AND ENGAGEMENT**

**14.** How frequently do you follow political news?

Very frequently

Frequently

Occasionally

Rarely

Never

**15.** How interested are you in politics?

Very interested

Interested

Neutral

Slightly interested

Not interested

**16.** Primary source of political information (choose one):

Family

Friends/Peers

Teachers/Classroom

Newspapers

Television

Social Media

Online news portals

Political campaigns

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**17.** How often do you discuss political issues?

Frequently

Sometimes

Rarely

Never

18. Do you believe voting is an important democratic responsibility?

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neutral
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

## SECTION 5: DETERMINANTS OF VOTING BEHAVIOUR

### Instruction

Please indicate your response:

**SA = Strongly Agree | A = Agree | N = Neutral | D = Disagree | SD = Strongly Disagree**

#### A. Candidate-Centric Factors

Statement	SA	A	N	D	SD
I consider the personal image of the candidate while voting	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Honesty and integrity of the candidate influence my vote	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Educational qualification of the candidate matters	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A candidate's communication skills influence my choice	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I prefer candidates who are approachable and relatable	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

#### B. Party and Ideology Factors

Statement	SA	A	N	D	SD
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Statement	SA	A	N	D	SD
I usually prefer a particular political party	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Party ideology influences my voting decision	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Past performance of the party matters	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Party manifesto influences my vote	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]

C. Leadership Factors

Statement	SA	A	N	D	SD
A strong national leader influences my vote	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Local leaders influence my vote more than national leaders	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]

D. Issue-Based Factors

Statement	SA	A	N	D	SD
Development (roads, education, healthcare) influences my vote	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Unemployment is a key factor in my voting decision	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Price rise/inflation affects my vote	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Corruption influences my voting choice	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Law and order is an important factor	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Local issues matter more than national issues	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
National issues matter more than local issues	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]

E. Social Influence Factors

Statement	SA	A	N	D	SD
My family influences my voting decision	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Friends/peers influence my political views	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Teachers influence my political understanding	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]

F. Media and Campaign Influence

Statement	SA	A	N	D	SD
Social media influences my voting behaviour	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Television news influences my vote	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Newspapers influence my political opinion	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Election campaigns influence my vote	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Political advertisements influence youth voting behaviour	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]

G. Democratic Attitudes

Statement	SA	A	N	D	SD
My vote can make a difference	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Youth should actively participate in elections	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Voting does not significantly change outcomes	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]

## SECTION 6: PRIORITIZATION (what influences you whom to vote)

Rank the following factors from **1 (most important) to 8 (least important)**:

- Candidate personality/image \_\_\_\_\_
- Political party \_\_\_\_\_
- Leadership \_\_\_\_\_
- Development issues \_\_\_\_\_
- Family influence \_\_\_\_\_
- Peer influence \_\_\_\_\_
- Media influence \_\_\_\_\_
- Local issues \_\_\_\_\_

## SECTION 7: OPEN-ENDED RESPONSES

1. What is the **single most important factor** influencing youth voting behaviour in your opinion?

2. Why do some young people choose **not to vote**?

3. Do you think youth today vote more based on **issues, leaders, or social influence**?  
Explain briefly.

4. What can be done to increase youth participation in elections?

### **SECTION 8: INVESTIGATOR DECLARATION**

I confirm that this questionnaire was administered ethically, with informed consent, and without collecting any personal identifiers.

Name and Roll no. of Investigator: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

# Report on Findings: Determinants of Youth Voting Behaviour

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## Student Details

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Class/Roll No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Respondents Surveyed: **Minimum: 4**

## 1. Introduction

Briefly describe the purpose of your survey.

## 2. Profile of Respondents

Summarize key characteristics (age group, gender, background, etc.):

## 3. Political Awareness and Participation

What level of political awareness did you observe?

Did respondents show willingness to vote? Explain:

#### **4. Key Determinants of Voting Behaviour**

Which factors were most important? (e.g., candidate, party, development, media, family)

Which factors were least important?

#### **5. Role of Social Influence**

Did family, friends, or teachers influence respondents?

#### **6. Role of Media**

How important was social media and news in shaping opinions?

## **7. Issue vs Leader vs Party**

Did respondents focus more on issues, leaders, or parties?

## **8. Observations on Youth Voting Behaviour**

What patterns or trends did you observe?

## **9. Conclusion**

What is your overall conclusion about youth voting behaviour?

## **Declaration**

I confirm that this report is based on responses collected through the questionnaire.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_