# Power and Prestige: Delhi Assembly Elections 2025

The Delhi Assembly elections, despite the city's limited legislative powers, hold immense prestige. As the National Capital Region, Delhi attracts a diverse population, making it a melting pot of cultures and classes. The upcoming 2025 elections highlight the shift from identity politics to welfare and civic issues, reflecting the city's dramatic urbanisation and unique challenges.

With a mix of high-net-worth families, middle-class residents, and urban poor, Delhi's political landscape demands attention to a wide range of concerns. The main contenders - AAP, BJP, and Congress - must address these diverse needs in their campaigns.







# Delhi's Unique Political Dynamics

## **Limited Powers, High Stakes**

Despite being little more than a Union Territory with limited legislative powers, Delhi's elections carry significant weight. The ongoing debate over power division between the Lieutenant Governor and the provincial government adds complexity to the political landscape.

## **Changing Voter Priorities**

Class and welfare issues have gained prominence in Delhi's elections, overshadowing traditional identity politics.

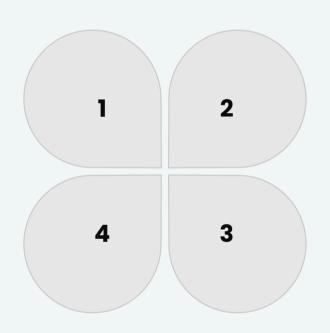
This shift reflects the city's rapid urbanisation and the diverse needs of its population, from affluent families to the urban poor.



# **Delhi's Demographic Diversity**

#### **Affluent Residents**

High-net-worth families residing in posh neighbourhoods, contributing to the city's economic elite.



#### Middle Class

A large segment employed in government, small businesses, and services, forming the backbone of Delhi's economy.

#### **Urban Poor**

Working-class residents and migrants from north India's hinterlands, often living in slums and facing significant challenges.

# **Migrant Workers**

A constant influx of people seeking employment opportunities in the National Capital Region.





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# Key Political Parties and Their Strategies



#### **AAP**

Focuses on welfarist measures and clean governance image. Facing challenges due to recent corruption allegations against key leaders.



#### **BJP**

Emphasising its own welfarism in response to AAP's popular schemes. Aims to maintain its stronghold at the Centre.



## Congress

Striving to regain its lost base in Delhi.
Faces an uphill battle against the dominance of AAP and BJP.



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# **AAP's Changing Narrative**

#### **Past Success**

AAP's previous victories built on anticorruption platform and welfarist measures, appealing to middle and lowerclass voters.

## **Current Strategy**

"Stand-in" Chief Minister Atishi attempts to reorient the party's image while doubling down on welfarist promises to maintain core support.

### Recent Setbacks

Arrests of key leaders Arvind Kejriwal and Manish Sisodia in the liquor policy case have damaged the party's clean governance image.





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# Competitive Welfarism in Delhi **Politics**

### **AAP's Welfare Schemes**

Introduced popular measures targeting core support base, including free electricity and water.

## **BJP's Response**

**Emphasising its own welfare programs** to counter AAP's popularity among voters.

# **Congress's Approach**

Attempting to regain relevance by proposing its own set of welfare measures.

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## **Voter Impact**

Increasing focus on welfare schemes shaping voter preferences and electoral outcomes.

# Campaign Rhetoric and Core Issues

# Mudslinging

Campaigns marked by vituperation and personal attacks between parties, overshadowing substantive policy discussions.

### **Air Pollution**

A critical issue for Delhi residents, yet receiving insufficient attention in campaign promises and debates.

#### **Civic Concerns**

Various urban issues affecting different segments of society remain underaddressed in the heated political discourse.





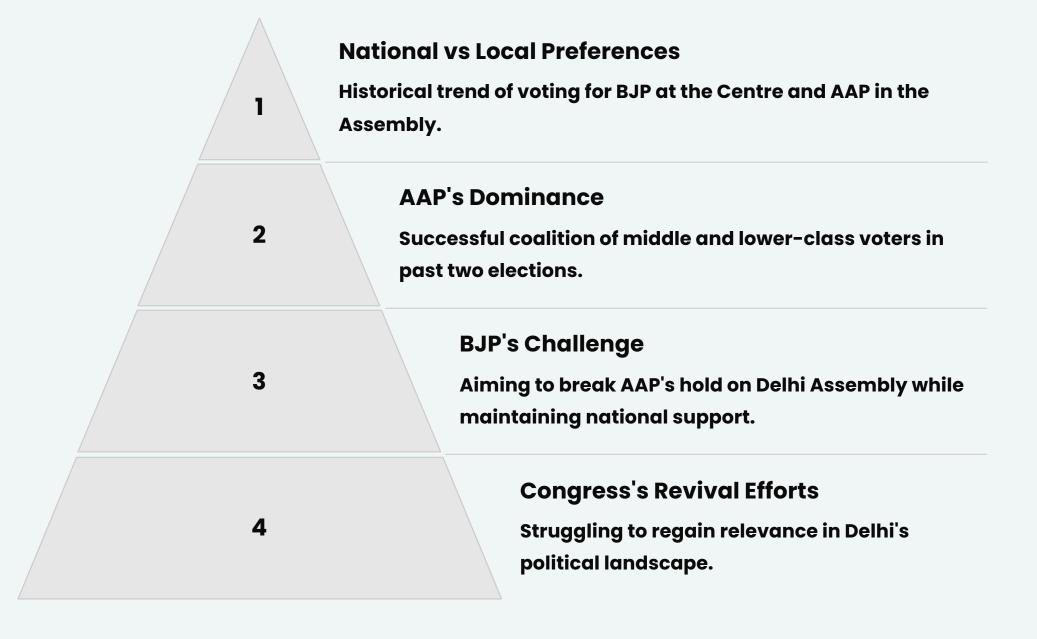


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# **Voting Patterns and Expectations**







# Delhi's Unique Electoral Challenges

#### **Diverse Electorate**

Catering to the needs of a highly diverse population, from affluent neighborhoods to urban slums.

#### **Limited Governance Powers**

Navigating the complex power-sharing arrangement between the state government and the Lieutenant Governor.

#### **Urban Issues**

Addressing pressing concerns like air pollution, infrastructure, and public services in a rapidly growing metropolis.

## **Balancing Act**

Meeting the aspirations of India's potential most populous city while working within constitutional constraints.





# The Road Ahead for Delhi

As Delhi voters head to the polls, they face the crucial task of selecting candidates who can transcend narrow political interests and address the city's complex challenges. The next government must balance the diverse needs of Delhi's population while navigating the unique governance structure of the national capital.

The outcome of this election will not only shape
Delhi's future but also have significant implications
for national politics. As India's showcase city and
potential most populous urban center, Delhi's
governance model and successes or failures will be
closely watched across the country.





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