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Weekly

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**Reporting Fact of the Matter** 

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## Congress is winning Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, says survey

ABP-CVoter survey shows Congress winning assembly polls in three big states in 2018



New Delhi: An opinion poll by ABP News television channel has predicted the Congress winning all the three assembly elections in Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh. Good news has been predicted for the Congress party on the electoral battlefront in the coming elections in three big state assemblies of Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh. The opinion poll by Ananda Bazaar Patrika television channel has predicted the Congress winning all the three assembly elections. If this translates into actual performance, it could be big bonanza time for the Congress and a big set back for the ruling BJP, just ahead of the Lok Sabha elections in 2019. In what is the first opinion poll in the electoral season, television channel ABP News along with polling agency CVoter has predicted a complete and comprehensive victory for the Congress party in the coming elections in Rajasthan. The polls says out of the 200 seats in the Rajasthan assembly, Congress is slated to win 130 with a predicted vote share of 40% as opposed to its current tally of 25 seats.

The BJP's predicted vote share is 39%—just one percentage point short of the Congress—but its seat tally is predicted to drop sharply from the existing 160 seats to just 57. Others including smaller parties and independents are slated to get 13 seats, up one from the last time's 12 seats, with a vote share of 21%.

In Chattisgarh, Congress is predicted to get a comfortable majority in the state assembly, winning 54 seats in a house of 90 with a vote percentage of 40%. In 2013, Congress had notched up 39 seats, falling short by just 7. The BJP, which is in power with 49 seats, is predicted to come down to 33 seats with a vote percentage of 39%. In Madhya Pradesh also the ABP News-CVoter survey predicts a wafer-thin majority for the Congress, predicting that in a house of 230, Congress will cross the half way mark of 115. It has shown Congress winning 117 seats with a vote percentage of 42%, though in 2013 Congress had only 57 seats.

BJP, which is trying for a straight fourth term in Madhya Pradesh, may narrowly miss the bus with the prediction that it will get 106 seats with a vote share of 40%. The BJP in 2013 had won 167 seats. Others including smaller parties and independents are shown as winning 7 seats, with a vote share of 18%.

## With Freedom comes responsibility...



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"The secret of happiness is freedom, and the secret of freedom, courage." This quote of Thucydides, a Greek Historian is so fitting, as we are on the threshold of 72nd Independence Day celebration of our country. On this day, we remember the heroic stories of courage and struggle for freedom; selfless and unrelenting efforts of our freedom fighters in attaining the freedom that we enjoy today. They sacrificed their lives that we may

have freedom and happiness. The struggle for freedom was painfully long, tedious and required sacrifices on the part of many freedom fighters, who even gave up their luxurious life for the cause of freedom. During this Independence Day, let us proudly salute them and pay our tribute and homage to these legends of our country. It is their sacrifice that has brought us a long way on the path of progress and development. India's rich history urges us to continue to march ahead with head held high towards advancement and progress.

While on one hand it gives us a patriotic feeling when we fondly remember our revolutionaries and their tremendous courage, on the other hand it is equally important to understand that patriotism is also being a responsible citizen with courage, commitment and a sense of belonging to the nation. In this context, Ronald Regan the 40th US President has aptly said, "With Freedom comes responsibility, a responsibility that can only be met by the individual." True freedom demands complete responsibility. In other words, freedom without responsibility, will only lead to approximities and the individual." True freedom demands complete responsibility.

bility that can only be met by the individual." True freedom demands complete responsibility. In other words, freedom without responsibility will only lead to anarchism; it is no freedom at all. A truly free person will robe himself/herself in patriotism that seeks the well being and prosperity of his/her fellow citizens and of the country at large.

Looking back on the years since our first independence day, India has certainly come a long way witnessing drastic changes and progress such as improvement in the economy, an increase in the rate of literacy, a tremendous growth in the fields of business, construction, agriculture, energy, medicine, transportation, communication, information technology, education and so forth. India is a fertile land today where we can reap a rich harvest of peace and prosperity. Our country is poised to become a leading nation of the world. This is possible only if we understand that freedom is not a privilege but a responsibility to make our society a better place for ourselves and for others around us. The spirit of patriotism that is rooted in freedom and responsibility needs to be revitalized and rekindled among the citizens. The fire of 'Patriotism' and love for our Nation has to be kept alive amongst the pre-

sent generation just as the lives of our freedom fighters reflected these very sentiments. It is high time that we come forward boldly and say, "I want to do something for the country in my own little way." India has been blessed with more than 50% of its population below the age of 25. We are the youngest country in the world. Statistics show that 300 million children are enrolled in the school and colleges. In this light, educational institutions are the ready hubs where young minds are moulded and groomed. It is here that the seed of true patriotism needs to be sown among our youngsters as they are the ones who will hold the future of our country secure. They are full of energy and are willingly learners to contribute to nation building. Let our youngsters know that along with respect and honour for our freedom heroes, patriotism also means ensuring cleanliness, promotion of hygiene and sanitation, garbage management (Reduce, Reuse and Recycle), conservation of water, fuel and electricity; also taking care of public properties, pollution control, giving back to society through acts of service, skill management and undertaking eco-friendly activities are all a part of being a patriotic person. India is indeed a precious gift to us and it is only we as individuals who can make it a land of peace, harmony and a superpower in the years to come. To let this happen, Mahatma Gandhi urges us, "You must be the change you wish to see in the world." On this Independence Day, as patriotic and responsible citizens, let us pledge for Green India, Clean India, Beautiful and Prosperous India! Wish you a very happy Independence Day! Jai Hind!

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