

# NEWSLETTER

TRIVEDI CENTRE FOR POLITICAL DATA



West Bengal State Elections, 2021  
*Courtesy: Sabir Ahamed, TCPD archives*

---

## IN THE MEDIA

The Times of India Blog  
Gilles Verniers  
6 October, 2021

**Meaning of Lakhimpur Kheri: UP govt's actions, like those in Hathras a year back, raise many questions on rule of law**

---

Mojo  
Gilles Verniers  
9 October, 2021

**State Units in Crisis: Congress' Revival unlikely to come from above**

"The Congress has few chief ministers and the party's top brass is in limbo, without the strength or the legitimacy to dictate its will to regional units."

Hindustan Times  
Gilles Verniers  
15 October, 2021

**Uttar Pradesh shows why MLAs do not matter in politics in states**

An analysis of incumbency level datasets prepared by the Trivedi Centre for Political Data suggests that becoming an MLA does not bestow much power, at least beyond the current term, to a person in the politics of states.

---

The Hindu  
Gilles Verniers  
18 October, 2021

**State elections, limits of caste-based strategies**

Caste demographics do not have the deterministic effect on electoral outcomes that is often assumed.

### State elections, limits of caste-based strategies

An examination of women nominations by Congress in recent state assembly polls reveals significant variations, from 0% in Nagaland to 19.4% in Jharkhand.

## EXTERNAL ENGAGEMENTS

CPR-TCPD Discussion  
20 October, 2021

### The Politics of Crime in Uttar Pradesh

This is the first discussion as part of a series on the upcoming state elections in 2022.

Lawlessness and crime have always been salient electoral issues in Uttar Pradesh politics. Increasing number of anti-crime legislations over the past five years and rhetoric by the state government seems to have brought a marked shift in the way the UP police is dealing with law and order situations. Some commentators have argued that these activities have also led to an increase in state violence. The panel will dissect the idea of Law and Order as imagined and exercised in Uttar Pradesh from various perspectives, and link it to the changing ideas of policing, crime, and power.

A virtual panel discussion on:

# The Politics of Crime in Uttar Pradesh

WEDNESDAY, 20 OCTOBER 2021, 6:30-8:00 PM IST

The session will be online via Zoom.

PANELLISTS

- Arunabh Saikia  
Journalist, Scroll
- Beatrice Jauregui  
Associate Professor, Centre for Criminology & Sociolegal Studies, University of Toronto
- Laurent Gayer  
Researcher, CNRS
- Gilles Verniers  
Senior Visiting Fellow, CPR and Assistant Professor of Political Science and Co-Director, Trivedi Centre for Political Data, Ashoka University

MODERATED BY

- Gilles Verniers

## INTERVIEWS & PANEL DISCUSSIONS

Mojo Story  
6 October, 2021

### Will Lakhimpur Violence impact UP 2022 elections ? | Barkha Dutt

Barkha Dutt in discussion with BJP's Amit Puri, SP's Ghanshayam Tiwari, Ashoka University's Gilles Verniers, Social Scientist Badri Narayan, and Congress's Anshul Avijit.

The Hindu  
11 October, 2021

### 'As Delhi becomes a global city, people cling to caste, religious identities more'

The editors of the new book Colossus: The Anatomy of Delhi, which was released in India in September, professor of geography and urban studies at Temple University Sanjoy Chakravorty and assistant professor of political science at Ashoka University Neelanjan Sircar, discuss their findings.

"The kind of social and spatial segregation that is there for the Muslim community at present, it's hard to imagine it will unravel soon, says Neelanjan Sircar."

The Wire  
19 October, 2021

### Podcast | During BJP Rule in UP, Communalisation Not Just an Electoral Strategy but a Feature of Society

Gilles Verniers, assistant professor of political science at Ashoka University and longtime researcher of UP politics, says that the BJP has succeeded in bringing various caste groups through the 'cementing factor' of communalisation.

The Wire  
20 October, 2021

### 'Muslim Population Cannot Overtake Hindus Even in a 1000 Years'| SY Qureshi | Mohan Bhagwat | Arfa

The Wire  
22 October, 2021

### **The Population Myth: Are Muslims Growing Faster than Hindus? Dr SY Quraishi Debunks the Falsehood**

With a population of 138 crores at last count, India has had a numbers debate for a long time now. Layered under that debate though has been the propagation of a narrative – that this is a problem caused by one particular religion. Muslims produce too many children, this is a conspiracy to overtake the majority Hindu population and that Islam forbids family planning. Mitali Mukherjee spoke with Dr SY Quraishi, Former Chief Election Commissioner of India .In his book ‘The Population Myth’, he takes on many of these demographic fears and points to what the data actually suggests.

## **TCPD COLUMNS**

### **Demonstrating women under-representation in Kerala state politics**

Ananay Agarwal

At first glance, one would assume that women are well represented in Kerala politics. After all, the state regularly boasts of India’s best Human Development Indexes. Though some women have historically played an influential role in Kerala politics, they are still woefully underrepresented as a whole. In this article, we take a brief look at the history of Kerala politics, and then use TCPD data to help contextualise the debate.

#### **COMMENTS?**

[tcpd-contact@ashoka.edu.in](mailto:tcpd-contact@ashoka.edu.in)

