

PERFORMANCE OF REGIONAL POLITICAL PARTIES IN TAMIL NADU LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS HELD BETWEEN 1952 AND 2016

Dr.R.Sankar

*Guest Faculty, Department of Political Science,
Madurai Kamaraj University, Madurai, Tamil Nadu, India*

Introduction

Regional political parties have played an important role in deciding the voting behavior of the electorates. The regional political parties which have contested the elections held between 1952 and 2016 reveal that DMK and AIADMK have been strong regional political parties and they have captured power in Tamil Nadu aligning with other National and Regional political parties. The regional political parties which have contested in the elections held to Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly have been Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam, All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam, Marumalarchi Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam, Pattali Makkal Katchi, Tamizhaga Munnetra Munnani, Puthiya Tamizhagam, Desiya Murpokku Dravida Kazhagam, Justice Party, Commonweal Party, All India Scheduled Castes Federation, We Tamils Party, Thamizhaga Munnetra Munnani, Gandhi Kamaraj National Congress, All India Muslim League, Tamil Nadu Congress (K), Republic Party of India, F.B. (Marxist Group), All India Forward bloc (Ruikar Group), Akhil Bharatiya Ram Rajya Parishad, Madras State Muslim League Party, Tamilnad Toilers Party, Socialist Labour, Tamil National Party, All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (JL), Indian Congress (Jagjivan Ram Bhalla Group), Tamil Nadu Congress (K), Asom Jatiya Parishad, Ambedkar Makkal Iyakkam, Gramma Munnetra Kazhagam, Indian Farmers and Toiler's Party, Indian Peoples Front, M.G.R. Makkal, M.G.R. Kazhagam, United Communist Party of India, Anaithinthiya Thamizhaga Munnetra Kazhagam, Tamil Maanila Congress (Moopanar), Maharashtrawadi Gomantak, Akhil Bharat Hindu Mahasabha, Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist) Liberation, Jammu and Kashmir National Panthers Party, Jharkhand Mukti Morcha, Republican Party of India (Sivaraj), Social Action Party, Tamilar Desiya Iyakkam, Tamilar Kazhagam, Thayaga Marumalarchi Kazhagam, Tamilar Makkal Mandram, Ulaga Makkal Nala Mahizi Sinthanyalar Kazhagam, Melphe Marxist Engelst Leninist Proletariat Health Commune, Mahabharath Mahajan Sabha, PJP, Tharasu Makkal Mandram, Tamil Nadu Hindu Vellalar Youth Kazhagam, Kongunadu Makkal Katchi, Democratic Forward Bloc, Kanchee Aringer Anna Dravida Makkal

Kazhagam, Lok Jan Shakti Party, Lok tantrik Jan Samta Party, M.G.R. Anna D.M. Kazhagam, Makkal Nalurimaik Kazhagam (People's Liberal Party), Makkal Tamil Desam, Nesavaalar Munnetrak Kattchi, Puratchi Bharatham, Puthiya Needhi Katchi, Puthiya Tamilagam, Sirpanch Samaj Party, Tamilar Bhoomi, Tamil Desiyak Katchi, Tamilar Kazhagam, Thaayaga Makkal Katchi, Uzhappalar Katchi, Desiya Murpokku Dravida Kazhagam, Indians Victory Party, Sakthi Baratha Desam, Vivasayi Anbhu Katchi, Viduthalai Chiruthaigal Katchi, Akhila India Jananayaka Makkal Katchi (Dr. Issac), All India Minorities Front, All India Party for the Protection of Civil Rights, Indian National League, Kongu Nadu Munnetra Kazhagam, Lenin Communist Party, Manithaneya Makkal Katchi, Makkal Manadu Katchi, Makkal Sakthi Katchi Social Democratic Party of India, Socialist Unity Centre of India (Communist), Tamilaga Makkal Munnetra Kazhagam and Youth and Students Party. In this paper an attempt has been made to analyze the performance of DMK, AIADMK, MDMK, PMK and Forward Bloc parties from 1952 to 2016.

Performance of Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam in Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly elections held between 1952 and 2016

In the following table an attempt has been made to provide the data relating to performance of Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam party in Tamil Nadu Legislative assembly elections held between 1952 and 2016.

Table 1: Number of Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam Candidates Contested and won in Tamil Nadu State Legislative Assembly Elections during 1962 and 2016

Year	Status		
	Contested	Won	Votes Secured
1962	143	50	3435633 27.10%
1967	174	137	6230552 40.69%
1971	203	184	7654935 48.58%
1977	230	48	4258771 24.89%
1980	112	37	4164389 22.10%
1984	167	24	6362770 29.34%
1989	202	150	8001222 33.18%
1991	176	2	5535668 22.46%

1996	182	173	11423380	42.07%
2001	183	31	8669864	30.92%
2006	132	96	8728716	26.46%
2011	124	23	8249991	22.39%
2016	176	89	13,670,511	31.86%

During 1962 election to the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly, 143 Candidates from the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam contested, 50 Candidates got elected, secured 3435633 votes and percentage of votes polled was 27.10%; during 1967 election to the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly, 174 Candidates from the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam contested, 137 Candidates got elected, secured 6230552 votes and percentage of votes polled was 40.69%; during 1971 election to the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly, 203 Candidates from the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam contested, 184 Candidates got elected, secured 7654935 votes and percentage of votes polled was 45.58%; during 1977 election to the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly, 230 Candidates from the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam contested, 48 Candidates got elected, secured 4258771 votes and percentage of votes polled was 24.89%; during 1980 election to the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly, 112 Candidates from the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam contested, 37 Candidates got elected, secured 4164389 votes and percentage of votes polled was 22.10%; during 1984 election to the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly, 167 Candidates from the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam contested, 24 Candidates got elected, secured 6362770 votes and percentage of votes polled was 29.34%; during 1989 election to the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly, 202 Candidates from the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam contested, 150 Candidates got elected, secured 8001222 votes and percentage of votes polled was 33.18%; during 1991 election to the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly, 176 Candidates from the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam contested, 2 Candidates got elected, secured 5535668 votes and percentage of votes polled was 22.46%; during 1996 election to the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly, 182 Candidates from the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam contested, 173 Candidates got elected, secured 11423380 votes and percentage of votes polled was 42.07%; during 2001 election to the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly, 183 Candidates from the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam contested, 173 Candidates got elected, secured 8669864 votes and percentage of votes polled was 30.92%; during 2006 election to the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly, 132 Candidates from the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam contested, 96 Candidates got elected, secured 8728716 votes and percentage of votes polled was 26.46%; during 2011 election to the Tamil Nadu

Legislative Assembly, 124 Candidates from the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam contested, 23 Candidates got elected, secured 8249991 votes and percentage of votes polled was 22.39%; during 2016 election to the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly, 176 Candidates from the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam contested, 89 Candidates got elected, secured 13,670,511 votes and percentage of votes polled was 31.86%¹.

Performance of All India Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam in Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly elections held between 1952 and 2016

In the following table an attempt has been made to provide the data relating to performance of All India Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam party in Tamil Nadu Legislative assembly elections held between 1952 and 2016.

Table 2: Number of All India Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam Candidates Contested and won in Tamil Nadu State Legislative Assembly Elections during 1977 and 2016

Year	Status			
	Contested	Won	Votes Secured	
1977	200	130	5194876	30.36%
1980	177	129	7303010	38.75%
1984	155	132	8030809	37.03%
1987	1	1	47212	0.22%
1989	4	2	148630	0.62%
1991	168	164	10940966	44.39%
1996	168	4	5831383	21.47%
2001	141	132	8815387	31.44%
2006	188	61	10768559	32.64%
2011	165	150	14150289	38.40%
2016	227	134	17617060	41.06%

During 1977 election to the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly, 200 Candidates from the All India Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam contested, 130 Candidates got elected, secured 5194876 votes and percentage of votes polled was 30.36%; during 1980 election to the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly, 177 Candidates from the All India Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam contested, 129 Candidates got elected, secured 7303010 votes and percentage of votes polled was 38.75%; during 1984 election to the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly, 155 Candidates from the All India Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam contested, 132 Candidates got elected, secured 8030809 votes and percentage of votes polled was 37.03%; during 1989 election to the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly, 4 Candidates from the All India Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam contested, 2 Candidates got elected, secured 148630

votes and percentage of votes polled was 0.62%; during 1991 election to the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly, 168 Candidates from the All India Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam contested, 164 Candidates got elected, secured 10940966 votes and percentage of votes polled was 44.39%; during 1996 election to the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly, 168 Candidates from the All India Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam contested, 4 Candidates got elected, secured 5831383 votes and percentage of votes polled was 21.47%; during 2001 election to the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly, 141 Candidates from the All India Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam contested, 132 Candidates got elected, secured 8815387 votes and percentage of votes polled was 31.44%; during 2006 election to the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly, 188 Candidates from the All India Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam contested, 61 Candidates got elected, secured 10768559 votes and percentage of votes polled was 32.64%; during 2011 election to the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly, 165 Candidates from the All India Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam contested, 150 Candidates got elected, secured 14150289 votes and percentage of votes polled was 38.40%; during 2016 election to the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly, 227 Candidates from the All India Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam contested, 134 Candidates got elected, secured 17617060 votes and percentage of votes polled was 41.06%².

Performance of Marumalarchi Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam in Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly elections held between 1952 and 2016

In the following table an attempt has been made to provide the data relating to performance of Marumalarchi Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam party in Tamil Nadu Legislative assembly elections held between 1952 and 2016.

Table 3: Number Marumalarchi Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam Candidates Contested and won in Tamil Nadu State Legislative Assembly Elections during 1996, 2001 and 2016

Year	Status		
	Contested	Won	Votes Secured
1996	177	0	1569168 5.78%
2001	211	0	1304469 4.65%
2006	35	6	1971565 5.98%
2016	28	0	373713 0.87%

During 1996 election to the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly, 177 Candidates from the Marumalarchi Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam contested, no one candidate got elected, secured 1569168 votes and percentage of votes polled was 5.78%; during 2001 election to the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly, 211 Candidates from the

Marumalarchi Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam contested, no one candidate got elected, secured 1304469 votes and percentage of votes polled was 4.65%; during 2006 election to the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly, 35 Candidates from the Marumalarchi Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam contested, six Candidates got elected, secured 1971565 votes and percentage of votes polled was 5.98%; during 2016 election to the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly, 28 Candidates from the Marumalarchi Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam contested, no one Candidates got elected, secured 373713 votes and percentage of votes polled was 0.87%³.

Performance of Pattali Makkal Katchi in Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly elections held between 1952 and 2016

In the following table an attempt has been made to provide the data relating to performance of Pattali Makkal Katchi party in Tamil Nadu Legislative assembly elections held between 1952 and 2016.

Table 4: Number of Pattali Makkal Katchi Candidates Contested and won in Tamil Nadu State Legislative Assembly Elections during 1991 and 2016

Year	Status		
	Contested	Won	Votes Secured
1991	194	1	1452982 5.89%
1996	116	4	1042333 3.84%
2001	27	20	1557500 5.56%
2006	31	18	1863749 5.65%
2011	30	3	1927783 5.23%
2016	232	0	2300775 5.36%

During 1991 election to the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly, 194 Candidates from the Pattali Makkal Katchi contested, 1 Candidates got elected, secured 1452982 votes and percentage of votes polled was 5.89%; during 1996 election to the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly, 116 Candidates from the Pattali Makkal Katchi contested, 4 Candidates got elected, secured 1042333 votes and percentage of votes polled was 3.84%; during 2001 election to the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly, 27 Candidates from the Pattali Makkal Katchi contested, 20 Candidates got elected, secured 1557500 votes and percentage of votes polled was 5.56%; during 2006 election to the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly, 31 Candidates from the Pattali Makkal Katchi contested, 18 Candidates got elected, secured 1863749 votes and percentage of votes polled was 5.65%; during 2011 election to the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly, 30 Candidates from the Pattali Makkal Katchi contested, 3 Candidates got elected, secured 1927783 votes and

percentage of votes polled was 5.23%; during 2016 election to the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly, 232 Candidates from the Pattali Makkal Katchi contested, no one Candidates got elected, secured 2300775 votes and percentage of votes polled was 5.36%.

Performance of Desiya Murpokku Dravida Kazhagam in Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly elections held between 1952 and 2016

In the following table an attempt has been made to provide the data relating to performance of Desiya Murpokku Dravida Kazhagam in Tamil Nadu Legislative assembly elections held between 1952 and 2016.

Table 5: Number of Desiya Murpokku Dravida Kazhagam Candidates Contested and won in Tamil Nadu State Legislative Assembly Elections during 2006 and 2016

Year	Status			
	Contested	Won	Votes Secured	
2006	232	1	2764223	8.38%
2011	41	29	2903828	7.88%
2016	104	0	1034384	2.41%

During 2006 election to the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly, 232 Candidates from the Desiya Murpokku Dravida Kazhagam contested, one Candidate got elected, secured 2764223 votes and percentage of votes polled was 8.38%; During 2011 election to the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly, 29 Candidates from the Desiya Murpokku Dravida Kazhagam contested, 29 Candidate got elected, secured 2903828 votes and percentage of votes polled was 7.88%; During 2016 election to the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly, 104 Candidates from the Desiya Murpokku Dravida Kazhagam contested, no one

Candidate got elected, secured 1034384 votes and percentage of votes polled was 2.41%⁵.

Conclusion

The results of the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly elections held between 1952 and 2016 reveal that Congress Party has won the elections independently from 1952 to 1962. After 1967 the DMK or AIADMK has won the elections aligning with other political parties. Thus coalition politics is a reality in the electoral politics of Tamil Nadu after 1967 as all the political parties have vote banks in Tamil Nadu and strong coalition of political parties has decided the victory of DMK or AIADMK. Thus, all regional parties play an important role in deciding the formation of Government in Tamil Nadu.

References

1. Statistical Report on General Election, from 1962 to 2016 to the Legislative Assembly of Tamil Nadu, Election Commission of India New Delhi
2. Statistical Report on General Election, from 1971 to 2011 to the Legislative Assembly of Tamil Nadu, Election Commission of India New Delhi
3. Statistical Report on General Election, 1996, 2001, 2006 and 2016 to the Legislative Assembly of Tamil Nadu, Election Commission of India New Delhi
4. Statistical Report on General Election, during 1991 and 2016 to the Legislative Assembly of Tamil Nadu, Election Commission of India New Delhi
5. Statistical Report on General Election, during 2006 and 2016 to the Legislative Assembly of Tamil Nadu, Election Commission of India New Delhi