



# INDIA'S Presidential Elections

## April / May

### The World's Largest Exercise in Democracy

**X** **When:** 11 April-19 May in 7 phases  
Results declared on 23 May

**X** **Who:** 900 million eligible voters out of a 1.3 billion population

**X** **Voting age:** 18 years

**X** **How it works:**

- Members of the Lok Sabha (Lower House of Parliament) voted in through direct election
- The party/alliance with majority of seats elects leader as PM, who is then head of the Union (Federal) Government
- Candidates elected using "first past the post" system (i.e. the candidate with most votes wins)

**X** **Number of political parties:** 2,354 registered parties (In 2014: 8,251 candidates and 460 parties)

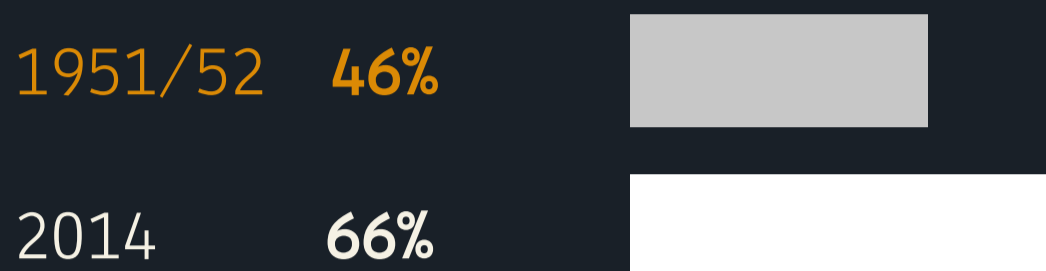
### Election logistics

**X** **Size of the electorate:** 900 million (compared to 830 million in 2014 - the combined populations of Brazil and Europe)

**X** The number of eligible voters has gone up by **more than five times** since the first general elections

**x5**

**X** Voter turnout has increased from 46% in 1951/52 to 66% in 2014



**X** **Number of polling stations:** 1 million (10% higher than the 2014 election)

**10%**

**X** **Election officials:** 11 million will be managing the polling

**X** **Number of electronic voting machines:** 2.3 million



**Prime Minister Narendra Modi** and the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) are **seeking re-election** after a landslide victory in 2014

Opposition is considered fragmented, but competition could come from the Congress Party, led by **Rahul Gandhi**

The election is happening at a time of escalated tensions between India and Pakistan over the **disputed Kashmir region**



### Election expenditure

Expenditure on Lok Sabha elections has **gone up more than three times** between 1999 & 2014

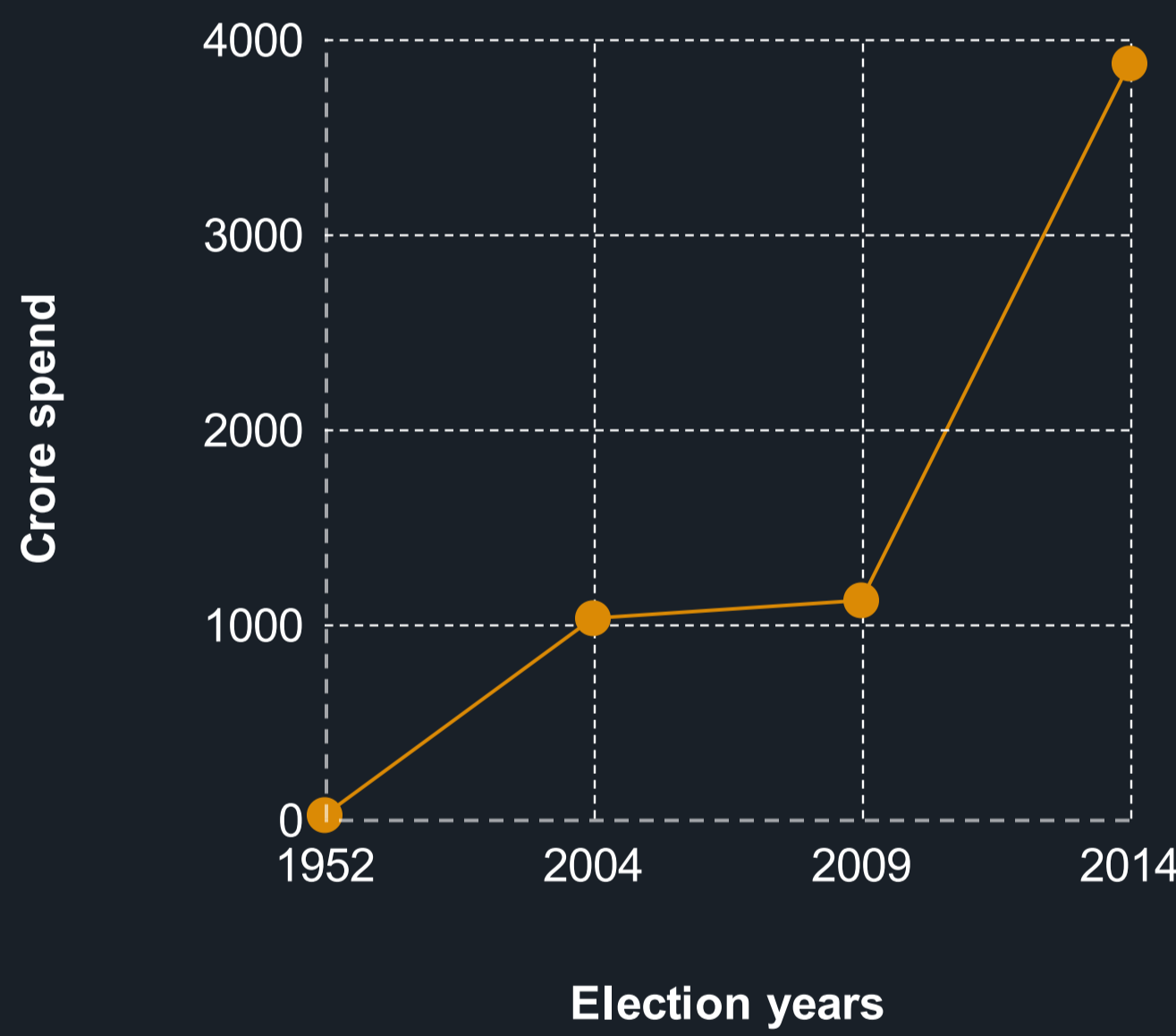
Costs include: electoral offices, preparation and printing of electoral rolls, charges for conduct of election and issuing of photo identity cards

Government also pays shares to states for the polls (Figures for 2004 also include expenditure incurred on state/UT legislative assembly elections held with 2004 LS polls)

Figures relate to demand from states/UTs for **2009** general elections

### Central Government's Lok Sabha poll spend

[1 Crore Rs = \$250,000]



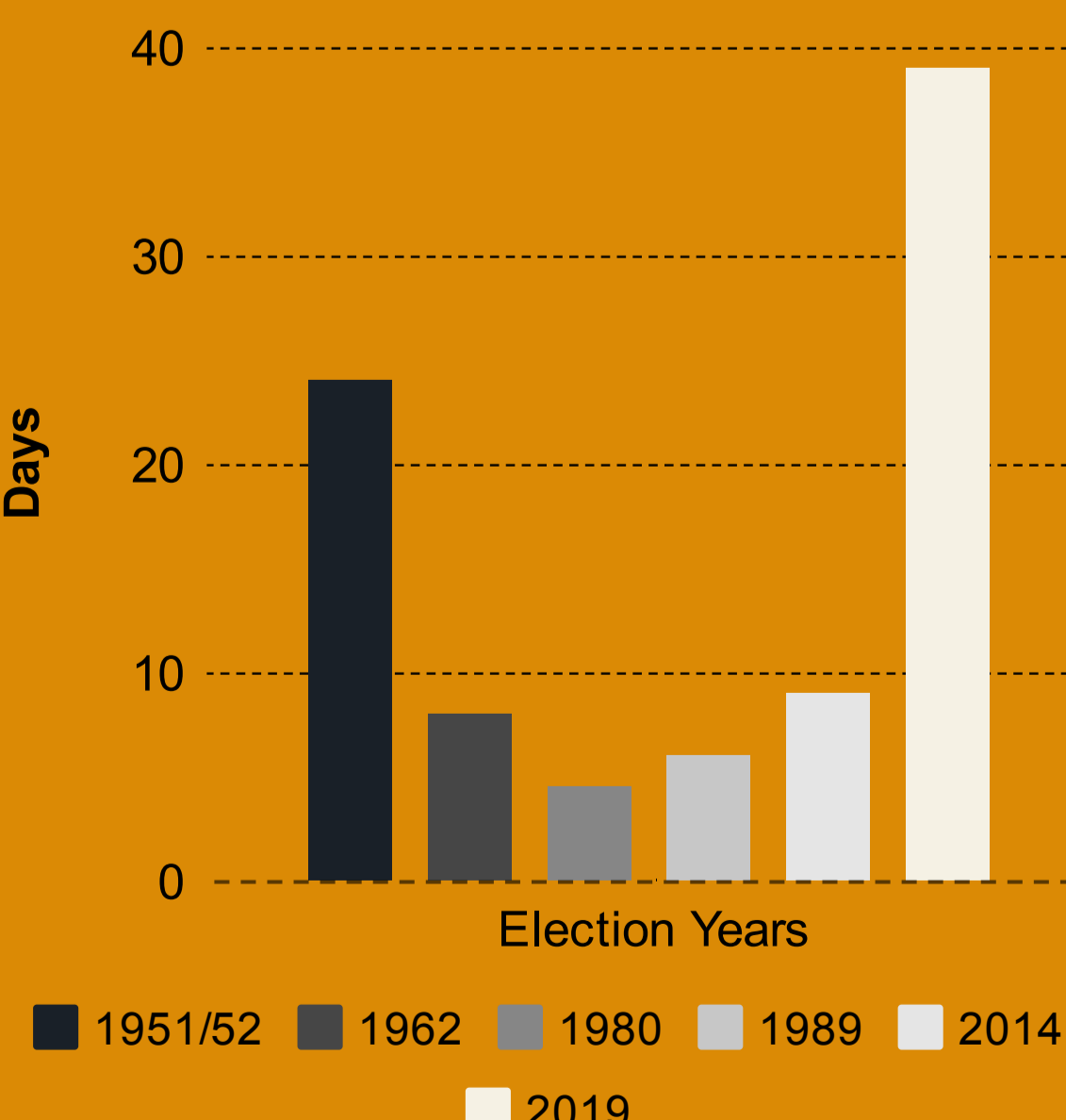
### The Phases of Voting

How long will the polling last?

11 April - 19 May

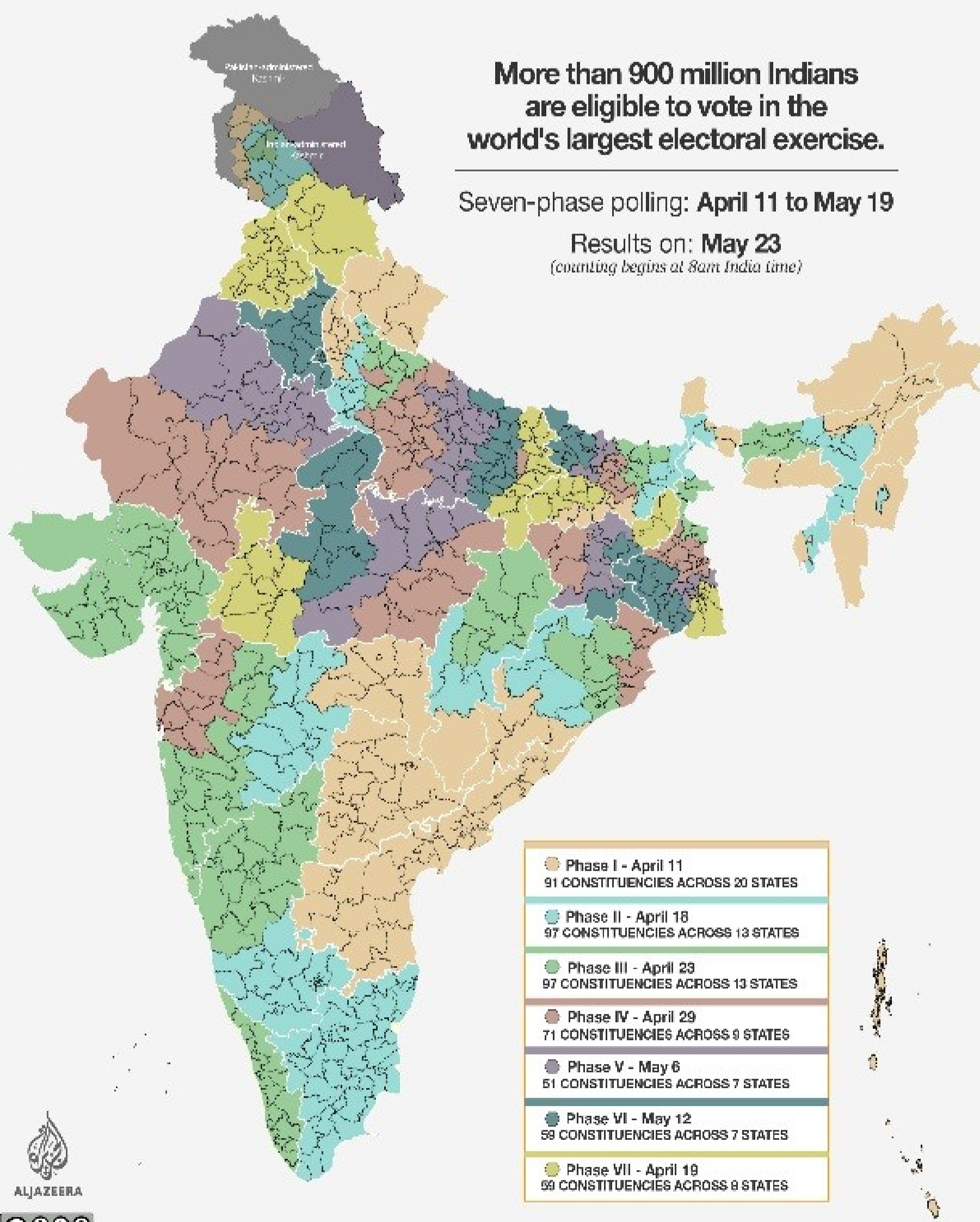
It is done in 7 phases (spread across several days)

### Duration of Polling



### INDIAN ELECTIONS 2019

#### The phases of voting



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