

# SEVEN-PART THRILLER

The Election Commission has ended the simmering suspense over the dates of UP elections. Now, it's time for a political thriller in the heartland

## PHASE 7 Total Seats 68

**POLLING ON** | Tue, Feb 25, 2012

It includes 68 constituencies of western UP, the districts bordering Uttarakhand, Haryana and Delhi. Traditionally, it has been a stronghold of Ajit Singh's RLD and BJP, but BSP did reasonably well in 2007 assembly elections. RLD has had two different partners in the 2007 assembly and 2009 LS elections - SP and BJP. This time, it has tied up with Congress.

## PHASE 6 Total Seats 49

**POLLING ON** | Thu, Feb 23, 2012

The constituencies of this phase are mainly in Bundelkhand with parts of west UP - Etawah, Mainpuri, Etah and Firozabad - thrown in. In 2007 assembly elections, BSP dominated the entire region but in 2009 Lok Sabha elections, Congress and SP were successful. Going by the caste equations, the western UP segment is still counted as stronghold of SP and Bundelkhand of BSP.

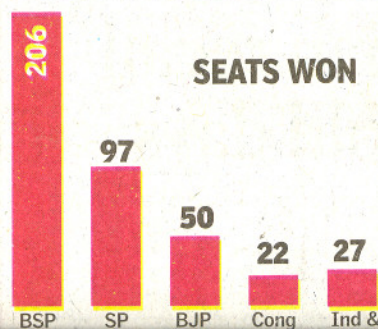
## PHASE 5 Total Seats 56

**POLLING ON** | Sun, Feb 19, 2012

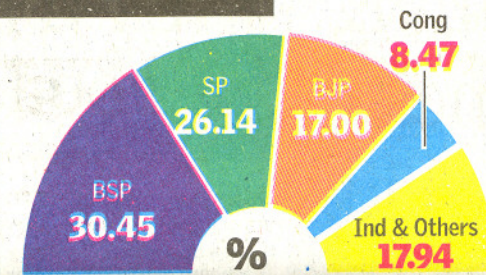
The constituencies going to the poll are from Central UP with some parts of Bundelkhand and West UP. Traditionally, it has been a stronghold of BJP & Congress but in 2007 assembly elections, BSP emerged as a strong force. However, in 2009 LS elections, the Congress and SP were the front-runners. The Bundelkhand segment of the region was dominated by the BSP in 2007

## 2007 ASSEMBLY POLLS OUTCOME

BSP won with a clear majority in the 2007 assembly elections though the difference in the vote share of BSP and SP wasn't much. While Mayawati's party got 30.45% of the total votes polled, Mulayam's Samajwadi Party was favoured by 26.14% of the electorate who voted. But the difference of just 4 percentage points resulted in a huge



## VOTE SHARE



## PHASE 1 Total Seats 60

**POLLING ON** | Sat, Feb 4, 2012

It covers the western UP, Rohilkhand and western part of terai belt. With high concentration of Muslim population, polarisation of votes on communal lines has been a common feature. As a result, SP and BJP were top contenders here till 2007 when BSP emerged as a strong force. The fight is expected to be four-cornered

## PHASE 2 Total Seats 55

**POLLING ON** | Wed, Feb 8, 2012

It covers the eastern region of Terai belt comprising districts bordering Nepal and some parts of Central UP. BSP and SP dominated the region in 2007 assembly elections but Congress emerged as number one in 2009 LS polls. However, in subsequent by-elections, BSP and SP were back to their winnings ways. The two are main contenders

## PHASE 4 Total Seats 56

**POLLING ON** | Wed, Feb 15, 2012

The 56 constituencies where elections will be held in the phase IV fall in south-east UP, the naxal affected area bordering Chhattisgrah and Jharkhand. Some parts of Central UP has also been included. One of the extremely backward regions of the state, the area has been stronghold of BSP and SP because of the presence of large number of dalits, scheduled tribe and OBC population

## PHASE 3 Total Seats 59

**POLLING ON** | Sat, FEB 11, 2012

It includes the northeastern region of the state bordering Nepal and Bihar. The area has a strong Muslim presence. Traditionally, it has been stronghold of BJP and SP. In fact, it was a saffron bastion during the days of the temple movement. But after 2007 elections, BSP has also emerged as a strong player. Congress was able to make a mark in 2009 Lok Sabha elections but could not do better in subsequent by-elections. Agrarian and weavers' issues are likely to make an impact.