

Young Leaders in the Parliament

Know your MP

The 2014 General Elections have been historic for a number of reasons. One is the ruling party's margin of victory, largest in the history of Indian democracy (not even in 1984 was the vote share so sharply divided). Another is because the 16th Lok Sabha will have the largest number of 'young' Members ever – (by young we mean MPs less than 35 years of age).

Here we take a look at the profiles of our younger MPs, and the challenges they will face in administering their constituencies.

Shrikant Shinde

Member of Parliament, Kalyan

Twenty seven year old Shrikant Shinde has always known the hurly-burly of politics. Son of Eknath Shinde, the Shiv Sena MP from Kopri-Panchpakhadi, the first time contender has won from Kalyan, Maharashtra. He defeated his opponent, National Congress Party candidate Anand Paranjpe (former MP from the same constituency in 2004) by a margin of over 2, 50,000 votes. Though Shinde actively participated in his father's campaigns, this is the first time he had ever contested elections.

A doctor by profession, Dr. Shinde recently appeared for his final paper exams for his masters in orthopaedics, a fact widely reported in local newspapers. Dr. Shinde strongly believes in his candidature being the result of his own hard work, and is determined to prove his mettle during his tenure in the Parliament. Dr. Shinde's constituency Kalyan is one of the major suburbs of Mumbai. One of the major issues in the area is a lack of infrastructure projects, and has promised to improve the state of the district's roads, as well as improve the frequency of trains from Kalyan to South Mumbai.

Dr. Shinde's constituency, Kalyan has a population of 11,060,148 in Maharashtra state, which accounts for 9.84 per cent of the state's population. The overall male literacy rate was 88.72 per cent in 2011 while the female literacy rate was 79.77 per cent, both of which are higher than the national average. An indicator of the extent of economic development in a region is the workforce participation rate and the distribution of workers across sectors of work. The male WPR and female WPR in Thane district are 52.42 per cent and 21.74 per cent respectively. In terms of education, there are a total of 6932 schools in this district with 39.20 per cent private schools. Similarly, there are 11.75 primary health centres and 5.42 community health centres for 10,000,000 people in the district. (Data compiled from Census 2011).

Raksha Khadase*Member of Parliament, Raver*

Raksha Khadase, (26 years of age) hadn't thought of politics seriously until she married BJP leader Eknath Khadase's son Nikhil in 2006. Since 2010, she has at various times, been elected to the local gram panchayat and the zilla parishad. In 2014, with consensus among her party members, she contested the elections from Raver, in Maharashtra. Backed heavily by her political father-in-law, Ms. Khadase was touted as the winner against a host of independent and other political candidates, including former Congress MP Dr. Ulhas Patil and NCP's Manish Jain. Ms. Khadase trounced her competition, and won with an overwhelming margin of over 4,00,000 votes.

A graduate of computer science, Ms. Khadase must overlook the concerns of Jalgaon district. Jalgaon district in Maharashtra is on the Deccan plateau, which is why agriculture and associated activities are broadly practiced here. Some of the main concerns include improving the state of manufacturing in the district. Ms. Khadase has promised to increase the number of cotton and banana processing units in Jalgaon district, and improve her female constituents' access to central government small scale industries' schemes.

Jalgaon district with a population of 4,229,917 in Maharashtra state, accounts for 3.76 per cent of the state's population. The overall male literacy rate was 85.37 per cent in 2011 while the female literacy rate was 70.56 per cent. An indicator of the extent of economic development in a region is the workforce participation rate and the distribution of workers across sectors of work. The male WPR and female WPR in Jalgaon district are 54 per cent and 33.31 per cent respectively. In terms of education, there are a total of 2987 schools in this district with 31.30 per cent private schools. Similarly, there are 70.92 primary health centres and 30.73 community health centres for 10,000,000 people in the district. (Data compiled from Census 2011).

Prabakaran KRP*Member of Parliament, Tirunelveli*

Prabakaran KRP, aged 34, hails from Keezhapavoor in Alangulam taluk of Tirunelveli district. Earlier the constituency secretary of Alangulam, Mr. Prabakaran has a B.A., L.L.B., and works as a lawyer in Chennai. A long time AIADMK party worker, he defeated his nearest rival, DMK's Devdasa Sundaram, by a margin of 1,26,099 votes.

Mr. Prabakaran is an avid follower of his party leader Ms. Jayalalitha. He intends to follow party leader Ms. Jayalalitha's wishes to the word, and serve his constituency faithfully, every day of his term. His agenda is working towards improving the unemployment crises in his constituency and initiate a clean-up of the Tamara Bharani River, the lifeline of the district.

Tirunelveli district with a population of 3,077,233 in Tamil Nadu state, accounts for 4.27 per cent of the state's population. The overall male literacy rate was 89.24 per cent in 2011 while the female literacy rate was 75.98 per cent. An indicator of the extent of economic development in a region is the workforce participation rate and the distribution of workers across sectors of work. The male WPR and female WPR in Tirunelveli district are 57.61 per cent and 36 per cent respectively. In terms of education, there are a total of 2639 schools in this district with

31.30 per cent private schools. Similarly, there are 70.92 primary health centres and 65.56 community health centres for 10,000,000 people in the district. (Data compiled from Census 2011).

Sakuntala Laguri

Member of Parliament, Keonjhar

Sakuntala Laguri, wife of Yashobanta Singh Narayan Laguri, is one of the first party workers of the Biju Janta Dal in Odisha. Although she doesn't have a formal background of politics or governance, she believes that she knows the pulse of her constituency, and can serve them to the best of her abilities. She defeated her closest rival for the Keonjhar seat, BJP candidate Anant Nayak by over 2, 00,000 votes.

A high school graduate, Ms. Laguri believes in promoting the rights of the tribal adivasis in her district. Her overriding ambition is to promote the development of the state in every arena.

Keonjhar (ST) has two districts – Mayurbhanj and Kendujhar. Mayurbhanj district with a population of 2,519,738 in Odisha state, accounts for 6 per cent of the state's population. The overall male literacy rate of Mayurbhanj was 73.76 per cent and the female literacy rate was 52.71 per cent. An indicator of the extent of economic development in a region is the workforce participation rate and the distribution of workers across sectors of work. The male WPR and female WPR in Mayurbhanj district are 55.55 per cent and 41.61 per cent respectively. There are a total of 4404 schools in Mayurbhanj district with 7.74 per cent private schools. There are 99.22 primary health centres and 55.56 community health centres for 10,000,000 people in the Mayurbhanj district (Data compiled from Census 2011).

Kendujhar district with a population of 1,801,733 in Odisha state, accounts for 4.29 per cent of the state's population. The overall male literacy rate of Kendujhar was 78.12 per cent and the female literacy rate was 58.28 per cent. An indicator of the extent of economic development in a region is the workforce participation rate and the distribution of workers across sectors of work. The male WPR and female WPR in Kendujhar district are 54.95 per cent and 29.98 per cent respectively. In terms of education, there are a total of 3053 schools in Kendujhar district with 15.07 per cent private schools. Similarly, there are 88.80 primary health centres and 72.15 community health centres for 10,000,000 people in the Kendujhar district.

Maragatham Kumaravel

Member of Parliament, Kancheepuram

Maragatham Kumaravel, aged 32, was handpicked by AIADMK leader Ms. Jayalalitha to contest from Kancheepuram, Tamil Nadu. A full time party worker, Ms. Maragatham Kumaravel has also served as a panchayat committee member, and was well versed with the constituency. She defeated her closest rival, DMK's Selvam G by a margin of 1,46,866 votes.

A graduate of commerce, Ms. Kumaravel and her husband run a construction business. Her priorities include building a bridge across River Palar, as well as improve the handloom industry which Kancheepuram is famous for. Like her fellow member of parliament AIADMK's Prabakaran KRP, she has never visited Delhi.

Kancheepuram district with a population of 3,998,252 in Tamil Nadu state, accounts for 5.54 per cent of the state's population. The overall male literacy rate was 89.89 per cent in 2011 while the female literacy rate was 79.02 per cent. An indicator of the extent of economic development in a region is the workforce participation rate and the distribution of workers across sectors of work. The male WPR and female WPR in Kancheepuram district are 58.69 per cent and 24.81 per cent respectively. In terms of education, there are a total of 2392 schools in this district with 41.56 per cent private schools. Similarly, there are 25.01 primary health centres and 32.51 community health centres for 10,000,000 people in the district. (Data compiled from Census 2011).

Balka Suman

Member of Parliament, Peddapalle

Ph.D. scholar Balka Suman was well known in party circles as being a charismatic speaker and popular worker. Mr. Suman has been at the forefront of the agitations demanding the creation of a new Telangana state. It was obvious that he would make the transition to active politics eventually. In recognition of his work, the Telangana Rashtriya Samiti awarded him the ticket for Peddapalle, Andhra Pradesh. Mr. Suman defeated his closest rival, popular Dalit leader G Vivekanand by a margin of over 3, 00, 000 votes.

Mr. Suman, aged 31, has been a party worker for a long time and according to his affidavit has one criminal case pending against him, on charges of rioting. A scholar of English literature, his priorities as an employee include fighting for the rights of Singareni workers, and improving the drainage system of the districts included in his constituencies. He has also promised to fight for tax exemptions in Singareni.

Peddapalle constituency has two districts – Karimnagar and Adilabad. Karimnagar district with a population of 3,776,269 in Andhra Pradesh state, accounts for 4.46 per cent of the state's population. The overall male literacy rate was 73.65 per cent in 2011 while the female literacy rate was 43.00 per cent. An indicator of the extent of economic development in a region is the workforce participation rate and the distribution of workers across sectors of work. The male WPR and female WPR in Karimnagar district are 55.8 per cent and 43.65 per cent respectively. In terms of education, there are a total of 4924 schools in this district with 33.12 per cent private schools. Similarly, there are 76.80 primary health centres and 15.89 community health centres for 10,000,000 people in the district. (Data compiled from Census 2011).

Adilabad district with a population of 2,741,239 in Andhra Pradesh state, accounts for 3.24 per cent of the state's population. The overall male literacy rate was 70.81 per cent in 2011 while the female literacy rate was 51.31 per cent. An indicator of the extent of economic development in a region is the workforce participation rate and the distribution of workers across sectors of work. The male WPR and female WPR in Adilabad district are 54.68 per cent and 41.9 per cent respectively. In terms of education, there are a total of 4977 schools in this district with 16.40 per cent private schools. Similarly, there are 102.14 primary health centres and 29.18 community health centres for 10,000,000 people in the district. (Data compiled from Census 2011).

Dr. Anupam Hazra*Member of Parliament, Bolpur*

Dr. Anupam Hazra already had a flourishing academic career before deciding to contest the elections in 2014. An assistant professor at Viswa Bharati University at the department of Sociology, and a regular contributor to several journals and newspapers, Dr. Hazra graduated with masters in social work from Assam University. Dr. Hazra's areas of interest include rural development, social work, development policies, and his doctoral research was on rural sanitation.

In his election campaign, Dr. Hazra has stressed that he is only a representative of West Bengal's most prominent politician – Mamata Banerjee, more popularly known as Didi. Rural development is top-most on Dr. Hazra's agenda, and he has been quoted several times saying that it is the elected representative's duty to spend a majority of his/her time at their own constituency, understanding the needs and requirements of the people. Dr. Hazra soundly trounced his main opponent, CPI(M) candidate Dr. Ram Chandra Dome, by winning 630693 votes, almost twice the number won by the latter. The first in his family to dabble in politics, Dr. Hazra accounts his win to the Trinamool Congress' popularity among the people.

Bolpur constituency has two districts – Bardhaman and Birbhum. Bardhaman district with a population of 7,717,563 in West Bengal state, accounts for 8.46 per cent of the state's population. The overall male literacy rate was 82.42 per cent in 2011 while the female literacy rate was 69.63 per cent. An indicator of the extent of economic development in a region is the workforce participation rate and the distribution of workers across sectors of work. The male WPR and female WPR in Bardhaman district are 57.81 per cent and 16.48 per cent respectively. In terms of education, there are a total of 6456 schools in this district with 6.37 per cent private schools. Similarly, there are 24.62 primary health centres and 37.58 community health centres for 10,000,000 people in the district. (Data compiled from Census 2011).

Birbhum district with a population of 3,502,404 in West Bengal state, accounts for 3.84 per cent of the state's population. The overall male literacy rate was 76.92 per cent in 2011 while the female literacy rate was 64.14 per cent. An indicator of the extent of economic development in a region is the workforce participation rate and the distribution of workers across sectors of work. The male WPR and female WPR in Bardhaman district are 57.5 per cent and 17.64 per cent respectively. In terms of education, there are a total of 3665 schools in this district with 2.76 per cent private schools. Similarly, there are 51.39 primary health centres and 54.25 community health centres for 10,000,000 people in the district. (Data compiled from Census 2011).

Vinod Lakhmashi Chavda*Member of Parliament, Kachcha*

Vinod Lakhmashi Chavda, 35, is a long time BJP youth wing worker who finally scored his big chance to make a difference. His work at the grass root levels of the party endeared him to the party workers and also gave him a sound grounding of the issues of his constituency. Mr. Chavda won 5,62,855 votes, almost two lakh votes more than his closest competitor, Indian National Congress candidate Dr. Dinesh Parmar.

Mr. Chavda holds an M.A., L.L.B., and has no family connections to any political party.

Interestingly, Mr. Chavda was associated with the INC until 2010, when the BJP offered him a ticket for a zilla parishad and he accepted. Previously, he had backed the NSUI and worked at the young wing of the Congress Party. Mr. Chavda intends to improve the transport infrastructure in Kachcha, by focusing on the roads, rail routes and air routes. His ambitious plans also include building small ports along the coast of Kachcha to improve trade, and provide employment to locals.

Kachchha constituency has two districts – Kachchha and Rajkot. Kachchha district with a population of 2,092,371 in Gujarat state, accounts for 3.46 per cent of the state's population. The overall male literacy rate was 79.40 per cent in 2011 while the female literacy rate was 60.87 per cent. An indicator of the extent of economic development in a region is the workforce participation rate and the distribution of workers across sectors of work. The male WPR and female WPR in Kachchha district are 56.96 per cent and 15.22 per cent respectively. In terms of education, there are a total of 1924 schools in this district with 11.54 per cent private schools. Similarly, there are 109.92 primary health centres and 43.01 community health centres for 10,000,000 people in the district. (Data compiled from Census 2011).

Rajkot district with a population of 3,804,558 in Gujarat state, accounts for 6.29 per cent of the state's population. The overall male literacy rate was 87.07 per cent in 2011 while the female literacy rate was 65.00 per cent. An indicator of the extent of economic development in a region is the workforce participation rate and the distribution of workers across sectors of work. The male WPR and female WPR in Rajkot district are 58.72 per cent and 17.46 per cent respectively. In terms of education, there are a total of 2186 schools in this district with 33.35 per cent private schools. Similarly, there are 55.20 primary health centres and 21.03 community health centres for 10,000,000 people in the district. (Data compiled from Census 2011).

Rajeshbhai Naranbhai Chudasama

Member of Parliament, Junagadh

The youngest BJP MP elected in Gujarat, 31 year old Rajeshbhai Naranbhai Chudasama won the electoral seat from Junagadh. He defeated Congress candidate Punja Vansh by a margin of 1,35,832 votes. Previously an MLA from Mongrol, Mr. Chudasama resigned from his position in order to contest the elections. He was one of the three Koli leaders projected by the BJP to contest the Lok Sabha elections, the others being Dr. Bharti Shiyal (Jamnagar) and Devshi Fatepara (Surendranagar).

Mr. Chudasama, who has a graduate degree in commerce, is the nephew of BJP veteran Hira Chudasama, three time President of Chorwad Municipality. His family runs a sea-food export business, while Mr. Chudasama himself runs the Monghibhai Rambhai Charitable Trust. The entire family is reputedly close to the Ambani family. Mr. Chudasama has made boosting tourism in Junagadh his main priority.

Junagadh district with a population of 2,743,082 in Gujarat state, accounts for 4.54 per cent of the state's population. The overall male literacy rate was 84.38 per cent in 2011 while the female literacy rate was 66.86 per cent. An indicator of the extent of economic development in a region is the workforce participation rate and the distribution of workers across sectors of work. The male WPR and female WPR in Junagadh district are 57.1 per cent and 24.04 per cent respectively. In terms of education, there are a total of 2075 schools in this district with

34.55 per cent private schools. Similarly, there are 87.49 primary health centres and 47.39 community health centres for 10,000,000 people in the district. (Data compiled from Census 2011).

Dr. J Jayavardhan

Member of Parliament, Chennai (South)

A resident of Mylapore, Dr. J Jayavardhan, aged 26 is one of India's youngest MP. Dr. Jayavardhan won from Chennai (South), backed by the AIADMK. Son of former assembly speaker, D Jayakumar, Dr. Jayavardhan defeated his closest rival, DMK candidate T. K. S. Elangovan by a margin of 1,36,625 votes.

Dr. Jayavardhan is completing his post-graduate degree in medical science, and will appear for his final exams shortly. Although never formally associated with the AIADMK's work, he has contributed handsomely to the party's presence by running blood donation camps and organising student activities. Dr. Jayavardhan is mainly interested in youth engagement in the civic processes, and youth empowerment in his constituency. A common story among the first time MPs in Tamil Nadu, he can neither speak Hindi, nor has he visited the nation's capital before.

Chennai (South) constituency has two districts – Chennai and Kancheepuram. Chennai district with a population of 4,646,732 in Tamil Nadu state, accounts for 6.44 per cent of the state's population. The overall male literacy rate was 93.70 per cent in 2011 while the female literacy rate was 86.64 per cent. An indicator of the extent of economic development in a region is the workforce participation rate and the distribution of workers across sectors of work. The male WPR and female WPR in Chennai (South) district are 58.62 per cent and 19.39 per cent respectively. In terms of education, there are a total of 1561 schools in this district with 76.23 per cent private schools. Because it is an urban area, all the health services are offered by private service providers. (Data compiled from Census 2011).

Kancheepuram district with a population of 3,998,252 in Tamil Nadu state, accounts for 5.54 per cent of the state's population. The overall male literacy rate was 89.89 per cent in 2011 while the female literacy rate was 79.02 per cent. An indicator of the extent of economic development in a region is the workforce participation rate and the distribution of workers across sectors of work. The male WPR and female WPR in Kancheepuram district are 58.69 per cent and 24.81 per cent respectively. In terms of education, there are a total of 2392 schools in this district with 41.56 per cent private schools. Similarly, there are 25.01 primary health centres and 32.51 community health centres for 10,000,000 people in the district. (Data compiled from Census 2011).

Uma Saren

Member of Parliament, Jhargram

Uma Saren is one of Trinamool Congress Chief Mamata Banerjee's several protégés. A doctor by profession, she completed her MBBS from Nilratan Sarkar Medical College & Hospital in Kolkata. Ms. Saren won the Jhargram Constituency with 6,74,504 votes in the General Elections. Ms. Saren won by a margin of 3,47,883 compared to her immediate rival Dr. Pulin Bihari Baske of CPI(M).

A devout disciple of Didi, Ms. Saren commends all the work that the West Bengal government has already done for her constituency. It has left her with a dilemma as to what initiatives to spearhead next. Ms. Saren's self-avowed priority is to follow Mamata Banerjee's instructions regarding the development of the constituency.

District level estimates of population rate for Paschim Medinipur district in West Bengal state are not available. In terms of education, there are a total of 8833 schools in this district with 5.66 per cent private schools.

Priyanka Singh Rawat

Member of Parliament, Barabanki

Priyanka Singh Rawat a member of the Bharatiya Janata Party won the election from Barabanki in Uttar Pradesh. Ms. Rawat won the seat with an immense mandate of 454,214 votes. She soundly defeated her nearest rival PL Punia, Congress' Dalit face in UP , by a margin of 211,878 votes.

She completed her M.A. in Political Science from Rohilkhand University. Though she dabbled with student politics during her Rohilkhand University days, (she was elected the library in-charge), party politics was not even a gleam in Ms. Rawat's eye in those days. Her major priority is to utilize all the possible opportunities and to work for the upliftment of the poor and backwards classes.

Barabanki district with a population of 3,260,699 in Uttar Pradesh state, accounts for 1.63 per cent of the state's population. The overall male literacy rate was 70.27 per cent in 2011 while the female literacy rate was 52.34 per cent. An indicator of the extent of economic development in a region is the workforce participation rate and the distribution of workers across sectors of work. The male WPR and female WPR in Barabanki district are 51.04 per cent and 20.7 per cent respectively. In terms of education, there are a total of 3280 schools in this district with 16.89 per cent private schools. Similarly, there are 52.14 primary health centres and 55.20 community health centres for 10,000,000 people in the district. (Data compiled from Census 2011).

Savitri Thakur

Member of Parliament, Dhar

Savitri Thakur, a Bharatiya Janata Party member, won a parliamentary constituency seat from Dhar, Madhya Pradesh. Ms. Thakur won the Dhar constituency with a margin of 104,328 votes compared to her immediate rival Umang Sengar of the Indian National Congress.

In 2000, Ms. Thakur used to manage an STD booth; and helped the Dhar's Adivasi women create self-help groups. She had to quit her studies after Class 10 due to certain family problems. She was a hard-core RSS activist when the BJP spotted and fielded her in district panchayat elections a decade ago. Not only did she win the election at the age of 26, she was also emerged district panchayat president. Rail connectivity, jobs for the youth and upgrading medical facilities in the constituency are on her to-do list.

Dhar district has a population of 2,185,793 in Madhya Pradesh state. The overall male literacy rate was 68.95 per cent in 2011 while the female literacy rate was 48.77 per cent. An indicator of the extent of economic

development in a region is the workforce participation rate and the distribution of workers across sectors of work. The male WPR and female WPR in Dhar district are 53.66 per cent and 40.16 per cent respectively. In terms of education, there are a total of 4893 schools in this district with 15.81 per cent private schools. Similarly, there are 68.62 primary health centres and 45.75 community health centres for 10,000,000 people in the district. (Data compiled from Census 2011).

Santosh Kumar Kushwaha

Member of Parliament, Purnia

Santosh Kumar Kushwaha won the seat of Purnia constituency on a Janata Dal(United) ticket. Mr. Kumar won the Purnia constituency with 4,18,826 votes in Lok Sabha Election. He won by a margin of 1 lakh votes compared to his immediate rival Uday Singh of the BJP.

The 35 year old MP, who's family primarily depends on farming for their livelihood, only managed to complete school. His priorities will be towards developing the status of education in the region, bringing down the unemployment rate in the region and giving farmers a good price for their produce.

Purnia district with a population of 3,264,619 in Bihar state, accounts for 3.14 per cent of the state's population. The overall male literacy rate was 59.06 per cent in 2011 while the female literacy rate was 42.34 per cent. An indicator of the extent of economic development in a region is the workforce participation rate and the distribution of workers across sectors of work. The male WPR and female WPR in Purnia district 47.27 per cent and 21.72 per cent respectively. In terms of education, there are a total of 1913 schools in this district. Similarly, there are 36.76 primary health centres and 6.13 community health centres for 10,000,000 people in the district. (Data compiled from Census 2011).

Kinjarapu Rammohan Naidu

Member of Parliament, Srikakulam

Kinjarapu Rammohan Naidu is the new Member of Parliament to the 16th Lok Sabha from Srikakulam, Andhra Pradesh. He won the constituency election as a Telugu Desam Party (TDP) candidate. Santosh Kumar Kushwaha won the Srikakulam constituency with 5,56,163 votes in Lok Sabha Election. He won by a margin of 1,27,572 votes compared to his immediate rival - Shanthi Reddy of Yuva Jana Sramika Rythu Congress Party.

Kinjarapu Rammohan Naidu is the son of Kinjarapu Yerran Naidu. He completed his electrical engineer from Purdue University and MBA from Long Island University. This young politician vows to strive to attract large industrial investments and address the backwardness of the region.

Srikakulam district with a population of 2,703,114 in Andhra Pradesh state, accounts for 3.2 per cent of the state's population. The overall male literacy rate was 71.61 per cent in 2011 while the female literacy rate was 52.08 per cent. An indicator of the extent of economic development in a region is the workforce participation rate and the distribution of workers across sectors of work. The male WPR and female WPR in Srikakulam district 57.13 per cent and 38.48 per cent respectively. In terms of education, there are a total of 4421 schools in this district with

11.81 per cent private schools. Similarly, there are 107.28 primary health centres and 33.29 community health centres for 10,000,000 people in the district. (Data compiled from Census 2011).

Saumitra Khan

Member of Parliament, Bishnupur

34 year old Saumitra Khan is a Trinamool Congress member, who is the new MP from Bishnupur, West Bengal. Saumitra Khan won the Bishnupur constituency with 5,78,870 votes in Lok Sabha Election. He won with a margin of 1,49,685 votes compared to his immediate rival Susmita Bauri of CPM.

Before joining the Trinamool Congress, Mr. Khan was a member of the Indian National Congress. Mr. Khan has only completed his high secondary education, but is determined to not let that stop him from accomplishing his political goals. His top priority is to develop the tourism potential of Bishnupur, a region famous for terracotta temples and Baluchari sarees. Bishnupur is also famous for artists who manufacture the distinctive Baluchuri saris, whose rights must be protected and upheld. The improvements of rural roads, speedy implementation of the rural electrification scheme are two other key issues which he will raise in the Lok Sabha.

Bankura district with a population of 3,596,674 in West Bengal state, accounts for 3.94 per cent of the state's population. The overall male literacy rate was 80.05 per cent in 2011 while the female literacy rate was 60.05 per cent. An indicator of the extent of economic development in a region is the workforce participation rate and the distribution of workers across sectors of work. The male WPR and female WPR in Srikakulam district 57.17 per cent and 23.62 per cent respectively. In terms of education, there are a total of 4966 schools in this district with 3.85 per cent private schools. Similarly, there are 63.95 primary health centres and 61.17 community health centres for 10,000,000 people in the district. (Data compiled from Census 2011).

Aparupa Poddar

Member of Parliament, Arambagh

Aparupa Poddar, an All India Trinamool Congress member, won the parliamentary seat from Arambagh, West Bengal. Aparupa Poddar has won the Arambagh constituency with a margin of 3,46,845 votes and this is the largest winning margin in West Bengal this time. She got 7,48,764 votes and her nearest rival candidate of CPIM Shaktimohan Mallick got 4,01,919 votes.

Aparupa Poddar of TMC has recently embraced Islam and changed her name to Afrin Ali. She was Vice-Chairman of Rishra Municipality and is a practising lawyer. Afrin Ali is not new to politics; she was introduced to student politics when she was studying at the Bidhanchandra College in Rishra. Bringing electricity to the villages of Arambagh and to develop road conditions there, are on the top of her priority.

Hugli district with a population of 5,519,145 in West Bengal state, accounts for 6.05 per cent of the state's population. The overall male literacy rate was 87.03 per cent in 2011 while the female literacy rate was 76.36 per cent. An indicator of the extent of economic development in a region is the workforce participation rate and the distribution of workers across sectors of work. The male WPR and female WPR in Srikakulam district 60.88 per

cent and 16.24 per cent respectively. In terms of education, there are a total of 4425 schools in this district with 8.27 per cent private schools. Similarly, there are 39.86 primary health centres and 30.80 community health centres for 10,000,000 people in the district. (Data compiled from Census 2011).

Anju Bala

Member of Parliament, Misrikh

Political activist Anju Bala was elected to the Indian Parliament from Misrikh, Uttar Pradesh. A Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) candidate, Ms. Bala won the Misrikh constituency with a margin of 87363 vote, in a constituency reserved for SC category candidates, compared to her immediate rival Ashok Kumar Rawat of Bahujan Samaj Party.

The 34-year-old comes across as an unlikely politician. Anju Bala graduated from Jammu University with an MA in Sanskrit and Hindi. She was a political activist during her student years. She used to participate in social causes like women empowerment in Jammu. She was elected as the Block Pramukh in the panchayat elections two and a half years back. Her priorities will be to work for women's issues and endeavour to bring young people into politics.

Sitapur district with a population of 4,483,992 in Uttar Pradesh state, accounts for 2.24 per cent of the state's population. The overall male literacy rate was 70.31 per cent in 2011 while the female literacy rate was 50.67 per cent. An indicator of the extent of economic development in a region is the workforce participation rate and the distribution of workers across sectors of work. The male WPR and female WPR in Sitapur district are 49.31 per cent and 11.92 per cent respectively. In terms of education, there are a total of 4715 schools in this district with 19.66 per cent private schools. Similarly, there are 40.14 primary health centres and 42.37 community health centres for 10,000,000 people in the district. (Data compiled from Census 2011).

Anupriya Patel

Member of Parliament, Mirzapur

Anupriya Patel is an Indian parliamentarian - politician, based in Uttar Pradesh. She was elected in Indian Parliament from Mirzapur Parliamentary constituency. She contested and won the Mirzapur seat as an Apna Dal candidate, defeating Samudra Bind of BSP by a whopping margin of 2.19 lakh votes.

Anupriya Patel is the daughter of Dr. Sone Lal Patel, who founded the Apna Dal, a regional political party based in Uttar Pradesh. She studied at the prestigious Lady Shri Ram College, Delhi University, and later at Amity University as well as Kanpur University. She has a Master's degree in Psychology; a Master's in Business Administration (MBA), and briefly taught at Amity University as well. She has been general secretary of Apna Dal since her father's death in 2009.

In the Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly Election, 2012, she was elected a Member of the Legislative Assembly for the Rohaniya constituency in Varanasi. Irrigation, tribal welfare and higher education in the rural areas are the three key issues which she will raise in the Lok Sabha.

Mirzapur district with a population of 2,496,970 in Uttar Pradesh state, accounts for 1.25 per cent of the state's population. The overall male literacy rate was 78.97 per cent in 2011 while the female literacy rate was 56.86 per cent. An indicator of the extent of economic development in a region is the workforce participation rate and the distribution of workers across sectors of work. The male WPR and female WPR in Mirzapur district are 46.72 per cent and 22.7 per cent respectively. In terms of education, there are a total of 2734 schools in this district with 24.65 per cent private schools. Similarly, there are 40.05 primary health centres and 64.08 community health centres for 10,000,000 people in the district. (Data compiled from Census 2011).

Vijay Kumar Hansda

Member of Parliament, Rajmahal

Vijay Kumar Hansda is the son of former Congress State President Thomas Hansda. He joined politics at an early age as politics runs in his family. He was a Youth Congress activist, who fought, and lost the 2009 assembly election.

The high-school pass MP is a Member of Parliament to the 16th Lok Sabha from Rajmahal, Jharkhand. He contested the general elections as a Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM) candidate. Vijay Kumar Hansda has won the Rajmahal constituency with a margin of 41,000 vote compared to his immediate rival Hemlal Murmu of BJP. He got 3,79,507 votes and Hemlal Murmu got 3,38,170 votes.

As the MP from Rajmahal Constituency, he wants to develop the basic amenities for the constituency, ticking power, water and roads as his focus areas. He goes on to add that people in Rajmahal haven't benefited from either rural employment scheme NREGA or the public distribution system, so he would bring central schemes to the constituency. Also on his to-do list is setting up of quality schools and colleges.

Arka Keshari Deo

Member of Parliament, Kalahandi

Arka Keshari Deo, 35, has a distinguished pedigree that very few can boast of. The royal scion of Kalahandi and son of former Kalahandi MP Bikram Keshari Deo, Mr. Deo chose Naveen Patnaik's BJD despite his late father's long successful association with the BJP. Not only was his father a three-time MP from the constituency, his grandfather Pratap Keshari Deo, the late erstwhile king of Kalahandi, was a five-time MP from the western Odisha seat, winning four times a Swatantra Party ticket. Arka Keshari Deo He is a graduate from Osmania University, Hyderabad. Employment creation in the region is one of the priorities in his to-do list.

Mr. Deo won the parliamentary seat from Kalahandi, Odisha by a margin of 56,347 votes compared to his immediate rival Pradipta Kumar Naik of BJP. He got 3,70,871 votes whereas Pradipta Kumar Naik got 3,14,524 votes.

Kalahandi district with a population of 1,576,869 in Odisha state, accounts for 3.76 per cent of the state's population. The overall male literacy rate was 71.90 per cent in 2011 while the female literacy rate was 46.68 per cent. An indicator of the extent of economic development in a region is the workforce participation rate and the

distribution of workers across sectors of work. The male WPR and female WPR in Kalahandi district are 56.83 per cent and 38.57 per cent respectively. In terms of education, there are a total of 2652 schools in this district with 7.62 per cent private schools. Similarly, there are 44.39 primary health centres and 50.73 community health centres for 10,000,000 people in the district. (Data compiled from Census 2011).

Dushyant Singh Chautala

Member of Parliament, Hisar

Dushyant Singh Chautala, comes from a family dynasty rooted in politics. He is the grandson of Om Prakash Chautala, the founder of the Indian National Lok Dal (INLD). Mr. Singh has been associated with the youth wing of INLD since 2013. He defeated Kuldeep Bishnoi of Haryana Janhit Congress (BL) by a margin of 31,847 votes. As the youth leader of INLD, much is expected from him in his role as a Member of Parliament (MP) from Hisar constituency, Haryana.

He completed his Master's in Business Administration (MBA) from Regent's College, London, after graduating from California State University. As the fourth generation politician, Dushyant Chautala hopes to reform the image of his state. With majority of the electorate in the youth age group (40 per cent) under 35 years, there are several issues concerning them which need to be addressed. Unemployment and education system both are major issues on the party's agenda.

Hisar district with a population of 1,743,931 in Haryana state, accounts for 6.88 per cent of the state's population. The overall male literacy rate was 82.20 per cent in 2011 while the female literacy rate was 62.25 per cent. An indicator of the extent of economic development in a region is the workforce participation rate and the distribution of workers across sectors of work. The male WPR and female WPR in Hisar district are 52.42 per cent and 25.03 per cent respectively. In terms of education, there are a total of 1405 schools in this district with 30.68 per cent private schools. Similarly, there are 97.48 primary health centres and 45.87 community health centres for 10,000,000 people in the district. (Data compiled from Census 2011).

Kavitha Kalvakuntla

Member of Parliament, Nizamabad

Kavitha Kalvakuntla is the daughter of K Chandrasekhar Rao, the founder President Telangana Rashtra Samithi (TRS). She is the founder of Telangana Jagruthi which is known for its Telangana cultural activities. She has been associated with the separatist Telangana movement of TRS and is an active social worker. She defeated Madhu Yaskhi Goud of Indian National Congress (INC) by a margin of 167184 votes. The constituency of Nizamabad is expected to undergo transformation under her role as the Member of Parliament (MP).

After graduating in engineering from VNR VJIET, she completed her Masters from the U.S before plunging in politics and social activities. She adopted a few villages from Nalgonda district for social upliftment. The constituency fares poorly on almost all social indicators which is the major agenda for the new MP. In 2006 the Indian government had named Nizāmābād one of the country's 250 most backward districts (out of a total of 640).

It is one of the twenty-three districts of Andhra Pradesh currently receiving funds from the Backward Regions Grant Fund Programme (BRGF).

Nizamabad district with a population of 2,551,335 in Andhra Pradesh state, accounts for 3.02 per cent of the state's population. The overall male literacy rate was 71.47 per cent in 2011 while the female literacy rate was 51.54 per cent. An indicator of the extent of economic development in a region is the workforce participation rate and the distribution of workers across sectors of work. The male WPR and female WPR in Nizamabad district are 54.72 per cent and 44.34 per cent respectively. In terms of education, there are a total of 3211 schools in this district with 26.5 per cent private schools. Similarly, there are 109.75 primary health centres and 19.60 community health centres for 10,000,000 people in the district.

Chirag Kumar Paswan

Member of Parliament, Jamui

Chirag Kumar Paswan carries the reputation of his father Ram Vilas Paswan, as he forays into political role. After a brief stint in acting, Chirag Kumar has now dedicated full time to Lok Jan Shakti (LJS) which was founded by his father in 2000. He defeated Sudhansu Shekhar Bhaskar of Rashtria Janata Dal (RJD) by a margin of 85947 votes in the recently concluded General elections. Starting his political career as the Chairman of the LJS parliamentary board, Chirag Paswan has his hopes set high as the future Chief Minister (CM) of Bihar.

Engineer by profession, Chirag Paswan ventured into politics to cover for his father's temporary absence. By the time the General elections concluded, Chirag Paswan has become a household name in Bihar. With 60 per cent of the state under the age of 25 years, there's a lot of groundwork which needs to be done. Internal brain drain from Bihar is a burning issue which the newly elected MP has made a top priority on the agenda. The 30 year old MP from Jamui has his task set out starting with removal of petty communal elements and restoring law and order.

Jamui district with a population of 1,760,405 in Bihar state, accounts for 1.69 per cent of the state's population. The overall male literacy rate was 71.24 per cent in 2011 while the female literacy rate was 47.28 per cent. An indicator of the extent of economic development in a region is the workforce participation rate and the distribution of workers across sectors of work. The male WPR and female WPR in Jamui district are 49.37 per cent and 32.6 per cent respectively. In terms of education, there are total of 1716 schools in this district, all being run by the state. Similarly, there are 56.81 primary health centres and 22.72 community health centres for every 10,000,000 people in the district.

Gaurav Gogoi

Member of Parliament, Kaliabor

As the Congress candidate from Kaliabor, Gaurav Gogoi has to match up with his father, Tarun Gogoi's political abilities. The latter has completed thirteen consecutive years as the chief minister of Assam. After working in the marketing division of Airtel for a short while, Gaurav Gogoi left for US to pursue a course in public

administration before returning to a full time career in politics. He defeated Mrinal Kumar Saikia of Bhartiya Janta Party (BJP) by a margin of 93874 votes to emerge as the new MP from Kaliabor.

The 28 year old engineer-turned development activist entered active politics from the grass root level, learning from his earlier experience of working with a Delhi-based Non-governmental organization. That experience helped him connect with the rural audience in his constituency. Working for the past three years in Kaliabor, Gaurav has put in efforts to reach out to the villages and their needs.

Poonam Mahajan Rao

Member of Parliament, Mumbai (North-Central)

Poonam Mahajan Rao won the MP seat from Mumbai North Central, defeating Priya Sunil Dutt of Indian National Congress (INC) by a staggering margin of 1,86,771 votes. Following her father's death in 2006, Poonam Mahajan joined the BJP as a normal member of the party, with the encouragement of her uncle Gopinath Munde, himself an ex-Deputy Chief Minister of Maharashtra state. On October 2010, she was made the National Vice President of the BJP Yuva Morcha. Now she is the National Secretary of Bharatiya Janata Party. During the run-up to the elections, she made all out efforts to engage the young electorate.

The 33 year old, who is also a trained and authorized pilot and holds a management diploma in business management, has been actively working to mobilize the youth in her role with the BJP Yuva Morcha. She is among the youngest candidate of the BJP cadre in the current election; Poonam Mahajan looks forward to implementing the party's youth policy. Her constituency covers the areas of Kurla, Bandra and Kalina.

The constituency is a part of the Mumbai Suburban district, which accounts for a population of 9.3 million people or 8.33 per cent of the state population. The overall male literacy rate was 92.92 per cent in 2011 while the female literacy rate was 86.37 per cent. An indicator of the extent of economic development in a region is the workforce participation rate and the distribution of workers across sectors of work. The male WPR and female WPR in Mumbai Suburban district are 58.52 per cent and 18.28 per cent respectively. In terms of education, there are total of 2374 schools in this district, with 46 percent private schools. There are no primary health centres or community health centres however, in this district.

Akshay Yadav

Member of Parliament, Firozabad

A post graduate in management, Akshay Yadav is son of SP general secretary Ram Gopal Yadav and looks after family's seed business. He won the MP seat from Firozabad, defeating S.P Singh Baghel of BJP by a hefty margin of 1,14,059 votes. The new MP will have to work towards developing his constituency and restoring the faith of the voters.

Firozabad district with a population of 2,498,156 in Uttar Pradesh state, accounts for 1.25 per cent of the state's population. The overall male literacy rate was 80.82 per cent in 2011 while the female literacy rate was 61.75 per cent. An indicator of the extent of economic development in a region is the workforce participation rate and the distribution of workers across sectors of work. The male WPR and female WPR in Firozabad district are 46.68 per cent and 11.98 per cent respectively. In terms of education, there are total of 2559 schools in this district, with 22 per cent private schools. Similarly, there are 24.02 primary health centres and 12.01 community health centres for every 10,000,000 people.

Abhishek Banarjee

Member of Parliament, Diamond Harbour

Chosen as the heir apparent of Mamata Banerjee, Abhishek Banarjee is the next generation of the party and is the face of the youth wing. Mamata Banerjee's nephew contested from Diamond Harbour constituency, he defeated Abul Hasnat of Communist Party India (Marxist), CPI(M) by a margin of 71,298 votes. For the past few years he has been silently working behind the scenes to organize the youth, engage with them and enhance the party's social media presence. Initiatives like the 'Mamata4India' online campaign launched recently to project Mamata as a national figure is said to be his brainchild.

An MBA graduate and businessman by profession, Abhishek Banerjee has been handling the youth policy of the Trinamool Congress, engaging with the public and encouraging first time voters to enrol and vote. All this while, Abhishek has been guarded by the party veterans, charting his election campaign and making sure that Diamond Harbour remains with TMC.

As of 2001 India census, Diamond Harbour had a population of 37,238. Males constitute 51 per cent of the population and females 49 per cent. It has an average literacy rate of 72 per cent. The area being in the proximity of the Bay of Bengal, there is scope for development of ports and shipping activity. The special economic zone at Falta is one of the eight such zones of the Government of India. It has container-handling jetty. The Government of West Bengal proposes to construct a minor port with facilities for handling containers.

Deepak Adhikari

Member of Parliament, Paschim Medinipur

Contesting from Ghatal constituency in Pashchim Medinipur district, Deepak Adhikari alias Dev won the MP seat from the Trinamool Congress (TMC). His closest rival was Santosh Rana from CPI(M), who lagged behind Mr. Adhikari by 2,60,891 votes. The use of star power by TMC in their current election campaign has produced effective results in those constituencies which have been Communist strongholds.

Deepak Adhikari is the reigning Tollywood actor, having a steep upward film graph with no flops. His persona and public image was used effectively by TMC, fielding him against CPI(M). Dev Adhikari emerged the crowd puller yet again, winning from Ghatal constituency. However, people claim, it his modesty that has won the faith of the voters.

Ghatal is primarily an agrarian region, where villagers earn their livelihood on crop produce. This region has witnessed out migration of young labour to other states in search of better jobs and earning source. Economically, most of the population falls in the middle and lower middle class category. As per 2001 census, Ghatal CD Block had a population of 190,705 out of which 96,605 were males and 94,100 were females. The TMC candidate has vowed to improve the local economy and infrastructure of his constituency, stating that changes will appear in due course of time.

Dr. Heena Gavit

Member of Parliament, Nandurbar

At 26 years of age, she is one of the youngest members of Parliament; Dr. Heena Gavit emerged victorious from Nandurbar defeating Manikrao Haodlya of Nationalist Congress Party (NCP). Her victory margin was over 1 lakh votes (1,06,905) from the constituency which Congress has never lost since Independence.

A medical graduate, she has just appeared for her MD exam and is days away from taking her practical exams. Not too long before the elections, she joined the BJP and got a ticket to fight against eight time Nandurbar Congress MP, Manikrao Gavit. However, her political debut was pitched against none other than her father Manikrao Gavit, a minister in the NCP-Congress combine government. Dr. Gavit's joining BJP led to his ouster from the party and the loss of his cabinet berth.

The people of Nandurbar are mainly tribals, who are economically poor and dependent on the Satpura Mountains for vegetation. Malnutrition is a common problem in this district, which is top priority of reform for the newly elected MP. Absence of local jobs and industrial base compels people to migrate within the district to other places for work. The dependent population is left behind without due access to public health and lack of proper nutrition. Roads and connectivity is also another issue which will need her attention.

Nandurbar district with a population of 1,648,295 in Maharashtra state, accounts for 1.47 per cent of the state's population. Scheduled tribes form 69.28 per cent of the district's population. The overall male literacy rate was 72.17 per cent in 2011 while the female literacy rate was 56.47 per cent. An indicator of the extent of economic development in a region is the workforce participation rate and the distribution of workers across sectors of work. The male WPR and female WPR in Nandurbar district are 53.16 per cent and 42.84 per cent respectively. In terms of education, there are 1873 schools in the district with merely 19 per cent private schools. Similarly, there are 188.07 primary health centres and 48.54 community health centres for every 10,000,000 people.

Avinash Reddy

Member of Parliament, Kadapa

With a victory margin of 190323 votes over Srinivasa Reddy of Telegu Desam (TD), Avinash Reddy of Y.S.R.-Congress has proven his worth as a political worker. His father, YS Bhaskar Reddy worked as foot soldier for decades addressing issues of people of Pulivendula assembly constituency when YSR was busy in Hyderabad. .

He began his political career as the Congress party's impromptu in-charge of Lingala in Pulivendula and went on to hold several party posts in the district during YSR's heydays.

A management graduate from UK, Avinash Reddy is the nephew of late Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Y.S.R Reddy and so his plunge into politics was imminent. Avinash took up the responsibility as the youth wing president of fledgling party for Kadapa district. In his journey towards emerging as man of the masses, the young politician extensively toured the district to get a hang of problems of the region.

Kadapa district with a population of 2,882,469 in Andhra Pradesh state, accounts for 3.41 per cent of the state's population. The overall male literacy rate was 77.78 per cent in 2011 while the female literacy rate was 56.77 per cent. An indicator of the extent of economic development in a region is the workforce participation rate and the distribution of workers across sectors of work. The male WPR and female WPR in Kadapa district are 56.75 per cent and 34.7 per cent respectively. In terms of education, there are 4619 schools in the district, with 21 per cent private schools. Similarly, there are there is 121.42 primary health centres and 17.35 community health centres for every 10,000,000 people.