

India

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India is coded as a parliamentary democracy from independence in 1947 until 2008. Jawaharlal Nehru of the Indian National Congress party (INC) ruled as PM from 1947 in coalition with the Sikh, Indian Christians, Parsee (also: Parsi), and Hindu Mhas (religious groups). In 1952 the coalition parties left the INC to govern alone. This is a minor SOLS change (May 14 1952). In 1964 Nehru died and Gulzarilal Nanda, INC, became interim PM (Cahoon 2010). This is not a SOLS change. Later that year Lal Bahadur Shastri, INC, became PM. This is not a SOLS change. In 1966 Nanda, INC, once again became interim PM (Cahoon 2010, Encyclopedia Britannica) when Shastri died suddenly of a heart attack. This is not a SOLS change. Later that year Indira Gandhi, INC, became PM. This is not a SOLS change. In 1977 Morarji Ranchhodji Desai of the Janata Party (People's Party, JP) became PM. This is a SOLS change. In 1979 Choudhary Charan Singh, JP-S (Janata Party - Secular) became PM in coalition with the INC-O.¹ The JP-S is a faction that broke of the JP. "The Janata's three most senior leaders--Morarji Desai, Charan Singh, and Jagjivan Ram--each aspired to be prime minister. The rivalry continued during Desai's tenure (March 1977-July 1979). Desai, Charan Singh, and Ram continually conspired to discredit each other. Their connivances ultimately discredited the Janata Party and allowed the Congress (I) to return to power in 1980." Singh's leader transition is coded as a minor SOLS change.

In 1980 Indira Gandhi, INC-I, once again became PM. This is a SOLS change. In 1984 Rajiv Gandhi, INC-I, became PM. This is not a SOLS change. In 1989 Vishwanath Pratap Singh of the NF-JD (National Front-Janata Dal) became PM in coalition with BJP (Bharatiya Janata Party) and LF (Left Front). This is a SOLS change. V.P. Singh's government lasted until 1990, when the BJP pulled out from the governing coalition. At that point, a breakaway faction of the Janata Dal party, known as the Janata Dal-Shekar (JD-S) party formed a new government under Prime Minister Chandra Shekar. We code a minor SOLS change here. In 1991 Pamulaparthy Venkata Narasimha Rao, INC-I, became PM. This is a SOLS change. In 1996 Atal Bihari Vajpayee, BJP, became PM. Since he was in office less than 30 days we code this a SOLSChange30. Later that year Haradanahalli Dodde Gowda Deve Gowda, UF-JD (United Front²) became PM after forming a coalition of 13 parties, called United Front, and led by Janata Dal (Department of State). The coalition consisted of JD/TDP/DMK/TMC/AGP/SP/KCP/MPVC/Cong-T/CPI-M/CPI/FB/RSP (Chander 2004, 42; Hardgrave and Kochanek 2008, 329-330). This is a SOLS change. Later that year a 14th party, the Communists, was added (WKB, 280; "Gowda brings" 1996). This is a minor SOLS change. When the Congress party left the coalition in 1997, Singh's government fell apart and Inder Kumar Gujral, UF-DMK, became PM ahead of the 16 party coalition. "In April [1997] the Congress (I) had forced the resignation of the Prime Minister H. D. Deve Gowda, and renewed its support for the UF regime only when a compromise candidate, Inder Kumar Gujral, assumed the prime ministership" (Ganguly 1998, 126). Because membership in the UF coalition changes, we code this as a minor SOLS change. It seems to be the same parties, but just with a different leader. In 1998 Vajpayee, BJP, once again became PM

¹ The INC split into factions when Indira Gandhi quarreled with party leadership. The original party became known by INC-O (Organization), Gandhi's party was first known by INC-R (Requisition) but later became INC-I (for Indira) (US Library of Congress 1995).

² The United Front was a thirteen-party coalition of regional parties (Ahuja 1998, 9).

as part of the National Democratic Alliance (NDA), a 41-party coalition including the BJP (Inter-Parline Database on National Parliaments 2010). This is a SOLS change. In 1999 Vajpayee and the NDA resigned (17 April 1999). The BJP ruled as an interim administration with Vajpayee at its head. This is not a SOLS change. In October, after elections, Vajpayee was reinstated as part of the same coalition before the dissolution (13 Oct 1999) (Inter-Parline Database on National Parliaments 2010). This is not a minor SOLS change. According to the US Department of State (2010), in 2004, Sonia Gandhi, the leader of the Congress party, formed a coalition government called United Progressive Alliance (UPA) in which Manmohan Singh was PM. This is a SOLS change. In 2006, MPs of Telangana Rashtra Samithi (TRS) withdrew from the coalition. This is a minor SOLS change. In 2007 there was another SOLS change when the MDMK withdrew from the UPA ("MDMK withdraws" 2007).

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