



A Peer-Reviewed International Multidisciplinary Research
ISSN : 2584-1963 (Approved)

Financial Forensics in Action: Unveiling Market Manipulation Through Exit Polls in the 2024 Indian General Elections : Applying the Theory of Trans-deconstruction, Trans-interpretation, and Monism (T3M)

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Abstract

The Indian stock market is known for its volatility, influenced by political events, economic policies, and global trends. The Lok Sabha elections, held every five years, are pivotal political events that can dramatically sway market sentiments, as the election outcomes dictate the central government's policies, which subsequently influence investor confidence.

Influence of Political Events on Stock Markets

Political events, especially elections, play a crucial role in shaping market behavior. Investors often react to the uncertainty surrounding elections, leading to heightened volatility. Anticipation of new policies, reforms, or shifts in governance can drive speculative trading, significantly impacting stock prices. Historical data reveals that stock markets globally, including India's, exhibit fluctuations during election periods due to uncertainty and perceived future directions in economic policy.

Role of Exit Polls

Exit polls are surveys conducted immediately after voters leave polling stations, aiming to predict election outcomes before official results are declared. In India, exit polls for Lok Sabha elections garner considerable attention from media, political analysts, and investors. Although not always accurate, these polls provide early

indicators of potential election results, influencing market expectations and investment decisions.

Context of the 2024 Lok Sabha Elections

The 2024 Lok Sabha elections were highly anticipated due to the socio-political context and significant economic challenges facing India. The varied outcomes suggested by exit polls led to considerable speculation in the stock market. This period witnessed unusual market activities, prompting allegations of manipulation.

Allegations of Stock Market Manipulation

Market manipulation refers to actions taken to deceive or artificially influence market prices, creating unfair advantages. Allegations surrounding the 2024 Lok Sabha elections suggest that certain entities might have exploited exit poll data to manipulate stock prices for financial gain. Such activities, if proven true, undermine market integrity and can lead to significant financial losses for ordinary investors.

