

The Tribune

PUNJAB POLLS 2012

SPECIAL

THE TRIBUNE, BATHINDA, MONDAY, JANUARY 30, 2012

ATTARI (SC)

Voters: 1.4 lakh, Present MLA: Gulzar Singh Ranike (SAD)

MAIN CONTESTANTS

Gulzar Singh Ranike (54) "Literate" SAD Assets: ₹5.93 crore Animal Husbandry Minister at present; close to CM.	Tarsem Singh Congress Assets: ₹1.74 crore Ex-DC, Customs. Contested unsuccessfully from Khadoor Sahib.	Guljar Singh Khosa Sanjha Morcha Assets: ₹16.27 lakh Was earlier associated with the Congress.
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KEY ISSUES: Development of border areas; better transport; drugs.

BANGA

Voters: 1.4 lakh, Present MLA: Ch Mohan Lal (SAD)

MAIN CONTESTANTS

Ch Mohan Lal (44) MA SAD Assets: ₹93 lakh Son of ex-minister Ch Swarna Ram. Elected from Banga in 1997 and 2007.	Tarlochan Singh Soondh (57) MA Congress Assets: ₹3.42 crore Son of ex-Cong minister Ch Jagat Ram Soondh. Won in 2002.	Rajinder Singh (44) 10 + 2 BSP Assets: ₹44 lakh
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KEY ISSUES: Upgrade of town as sub-division announced, but awaited.

BATHINDA RURAL (RESERVED)

Voters: 1.37 lakh, Present MLA: None (new constituency)

MAIN CONTESTANTS

Darshan S Kohatta (60) MA SAD Assets: ₹55 lakh Lost to Congress candidate Makhan Singh in 2007.	Makhan Singh (60) LLB Congress Assets: ₹71 lakh Large portion of his Pacca Kalan constituency now in Bathinda Rural.	Surjeet Singh Sahi (56) LLB CPI Assets: ₹31 lakh Sincere CPI worker, who has lost assembly polls twice.
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KEY ISSUES: Cancer-afflicted belt in need of government health care.

BHOA (RESERVED)

Voters: 1.41 lakh, Present MLA: Bishambar Dass (BJP)

MAIN CONTESTANTS

Balbir Fatehpuri (52) Graduate Congress Assets: ₹2.11 crore Hails from Kathua (J&K); facing dissent within Cong.	Seema Devi (33) Under-matriculate BJP Assets: ₹2.81 lakh Political greenhorn; also facing rebellion from sitting MLA.
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KEY ISSUES: Roads; encroachments; lack of hospitals.

CHABBEWAL (SC)

Voters: 1.35 lakh, Present MLA: None (new constituency)

MAIN CONTESTANTS

Dr Raj Kumar (43) MBBS, MD Congress Assets: ₹8.5 crore Social worker; contesting for the first time.	Sohan Singh Thandal (58) BA SAD Assets: ₹1.3 crore Won in Mahilpur constituency twice.
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KEY ISSUES: Development; jobs.

DERA BABA NANAK

Voters: 1.58 lakh, Present MLA: None (New constituency)

MAIN CONTESTANTS

S.S. Randhawa (53) Graduate Congress Assets: ₹21 lakh Has remained minister in Amarinder government.	Sucha Singh Langah (59) Matriculate SAD Assets: ₹11.44 lakh Present Agriculture Minister. Nurturing son Sonu Langah for future.
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KEY ISSUES: Drugs; lack of jobs.

DINANAGAR

Present MLA: Sita Ram Kashyap, Main contestants

MAIN CONTESTANTS

Aruna Chowdhury (54) Post-graduate Congress Assets: ₹25.35 lakh Was elected in 2002; daughter-in-law of former MLA Jai Muni.	B.D. Dhuppar (64) Post-graduate BJP Assets: ₹31 lakh A fresh face; backed by influential realtor Manjit Dala.
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KEY ISSUES: Lack of industry and job opportunities.

FATEHGARH SAHIB

Voters: 1.31 lakh, Present MLA: Didar Singh Bhatti (SAD, now in PPP)

MAIN CONTESTANTS

Prem S Chandmujra (62) Post-graduate SAD Assets: ₹8.86 crore Former MP and present general secretary of SAD.	Kuljit Singh Nagra (46) Professional graduate Congress Assets: ₹4 crore Former PU student leader and gen secy, National Youth Congress.	Didar Singh Bhatti (59) Law graduate, PPP Assets: ₹7.28 crore One-time MLA.
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KEY ISSUES: Poor infrastructure; industrial pollution; drinking water and traffic chaos.

GARHSHANKAR

Voters: 1.5 lakh, Present MLA: Lav Kumar Goldy (Cong)

MAIN CONTESTANTS

Lav Kumar Goldy (40) LLB Congress Assets: ₹10 crore Has won the seat twice.	Surinder Singh Bhulewal Rathana (57) Matriculate SAD Assets: ₹4.5 crore District SAD president; lost as Independent in 2002.
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KEY ISSUES: SAD-BJP candidates pushing development; Congress highlighting "corruption".

BABA BAKALA (SC)

Voters: 1.53 lakh, Present MLA: None (new constituency)

MAIN CONTESTANTS

Ranjit Singh Chhajalwadi (65) Congress Assets: ₹3.35 crore A former MLA, he was earlier associated with the SAD.	Manjeet Singh Manna (38) SAD Assets: ₹29 lakh Sitting Akali MLA from Khadoor Sahib, now shifted to Baba Bakala.
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KEY ISSUES: Civic amenities, sewerage, poor roads and infrastructure.

BARNALA

Voters: 1.46 lakh, Present MLA: Kewal Singh Dhillon (Cong)

MAIN CONTESTANTS

Kewal Singh Dhillon (62) BA-1 Congress Assets: ₹76.50 crore In politics since 20 years; vice-president of PPCC	Malkiat S Keeta (62) No education SAD Assets: ₹3.40 crore Won from Barnala in 1997 as Ind; in 2002 on SAD ticket.	Kulwant S Lohgarh (47) Under-matric PPP Assets: ₹3.48 crore Sarpanch of Lohgarh 2003-08; now Zila Parishad member.
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KEY ISSUES: Under-bridge on Dhanaula road; upgrade of civil hospital

BATHINDA URBAN

Voters: 1.85 lakh, Present MLA: Harminder Singh Jassi (Cong)

MAIN CONTESTANTS

Sarup Chand Singla (51) 10th fail SAD Assets: ₹6.2 crore In past five years, has become face of SAD in Bathinda.	Harminder S Jassi (57) BA Congress Assets: ₹5.2 crore Daughter married to Sirsa Dera chief Gurmeet Ram Rahim's son.	Sukhdoo S Bhinder (56) LLB, MA PPP Assets: ₹3.2 crore Manpreet Badal loyalist, resigned as AAG to contest poll.
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KEY ISSUES: Sewerage; demand for government cancer hospital

BHOLATH

Voters: 1.12 lakh, Present MLA: Sukhpal Khaira (Cong)

MAIN CONTESTANTS

Bibi Jagir Kaur (57) BA Bed SAD Assets: ₹13.5 crore Former SGPC chief; won in 1997 and 2002, lost in 2007.	Sukhpal Khaira (47) Graduate Congress Assets: ₹57 crore Lost in 1997 and 2002, won in 2007.	Gurpreet Singh Nadala (52) BA LLB PPP Assets: ₹9.3 crore
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KEY ISSUES: Slow speed of laying sewer lines.

CHAMKAUR SAHIB (SC)

Voters: 1.65 lakh, Present MLA: Charanjit Singh Channi (Ind)

MAIN CONTESTANTS

Charanjit Singh Channi (48) Graduate Congress Assets: ₹10.45 crore Supported SAD after last polls; later came close to Capt Amarinder Singh.	Jagmeet Kaur (42) Post graduate SAD Assets: ₹12.50 lakh Daughter-in-law of former Akali MLA Satwant Kaur.	Gurpreet Singh (43) LJP Assets: ₹21.55 lakh Was interested in the Congress ticket.
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KEY ISSUES: Constituency was considered a stronghold of the Akalis till last time.

DERA BASSI

Voters: 1.61 lakh, Present MLA: Jasjit Singh (SAD)

MAIN CONTESTANTS

NK Sharma (42) Graduate SAD Assets: ₹5.8 crore Said to be close to Deputy CM Sukhbir Singh Badal.	Jasjit Singh (64) Graduate Congress Assets: ₹7.28 crore Sitting MLA from Ghanaur; has been minister.	Bhagwant S Baltana (65) Graduate, PPP Assets: ₹3.37 crore Was in Congress before joining the PPP.
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KEY ISSUES: Poor infrastructure; industrial pollution; drinking water and traffic chaos.

DIRBA (SC)

Voters: 1.55 lakh, Present MLA: Surjit Singh Dhiman (Cong)

MAIN CONTESTANTS

Balbir Singh Ghunna (54) Under-matriculate SAD Assets: ₹1.14 crore Recently elected to the SGPC.	Ajaib Singh Ratoul (57) Matriculate Congress Assets: ₹37 lakh Close to Capt Amarinder Singh.	Rann Singh (46) Matriculate Sanjha Morcha Assets: ₹52 lakh Not a prominent public figure.
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KEY ISSUES: Poor infrastructure; industrial pollution; drinking water and traffic chaos.

FAZILKA

Voters: 1.46 lakh, Present MLA: Surjit Kumar Jyani (BJP)

MAIN CONTESTANTS

Surjit Kumar Jyani (56) Class IX BJP Assets: ₹1.7 crore Present Transport and Technical Education Minister.	Dr Mohinder Kumar (58) MBBS Congress Assets: ₹6 crore Has been MLA twice from Fazilka; ex-Parliamentary Secretary.	Mohan S Phallanwala (51) Giani BSP Assets: ₹2.6 crore Has been MP twice from Ferozepur-1992 and 1996.
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KEY ISSUES: Demand for industry incentives; relief for fields across border fence.

GHANAUR

Voters: 1.37 lakh, Present MLA: Madal Lal Jalalpur (Cong)

MAIN CONTESTANTS

Madan Lal Jalalpur (52) Under-matriculate SAD Assets: ₹4.5 crore Won last election as Independent, then joined the Congress.	Harpreet Kaur Mukhmailpur (53) Undergraduate SAD Assets: ₹2 crore Wife of former Punjab minister Ajaib Singh Mukhmailpur.	Balwinder Singh Saitidpur (52) Graduate Independent (Akali rebel) Assets: ₹20 lakh Has been vice-president of SAD. Denied ticket, he turned rebel.
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KEY ISSUES: Floods caused by the Ghaggar.

BALACHAUR

Voters: 1.29 lakh, Present MLA: Ch Nand Lal (SAD)

MAIN CONTESTANTS

Ch Nand Lal (65) Under-matric SAD Assets: ₹1.53 crore Is Chief Parliamentary Secretary; won consecutively in 1997, 2002 and 2007	Rajwinder Singh Lucky (32) LLB Congress Assets: ₹13.11 lakh Former DYC president, contesting the first time.	Ram Krishan Kataria (70) BA, LLB Independent Assets: ₹91.70 lakh Got elected as Congress MLA in 1985, lost in 2002.
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KEY ISSUES: Completion of Kandi Canal; bad shape of roads.

BASSI PATHANA (RESERVED)

Voters: 1.29 lakh, Present MLA: None (new constituency)

MAIN CONTESTANTS

Harbans Kaur Dulla (58) Postgraduate Congress Assets: ₹2.40 crore Was Chief Parliamentary Secretary in Congress government.	Justice Nirmal Singh (64) Graduate SAD Assets: ₹2.47 crore A retired judge from the J&K High Court	Mohinder Pal (56) Under-matric PPP Assets: ₹66.7 lakh Municipal councillor in Khanna
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KEY ISSUES: A neglected town, thus basic amenities primary concern.

BHADAUR (SC)

Voters: 1.34 lakh, Present MLA: Balbir Singh Ghunas (SAD)

MAIN CONTESTANTS

Darbara Singh Guru (59) MSc SAD Assets: ₹1.40 crore Joined politics recently; was Principal Secretary to CM	Mohammad Sadique (72) "Primary" Congress Assets: ₹39 lakh Active in the Congress for more than 20 years.	Khushia Singh (66) Uneducated CPI Assets: ₹8 lakh Lost in 1997 as Ind, and in 2007 as CPI candidate.
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KEY ISSUES: Non-completion of sewerage laying; no govt college

BHUCHO MANDI (RESERVED)

Voters: 1.59 lakh, Sitting MLA: None (New constituency)

MAIN CONTESTANTS

Ajaib Singh Bhatti (60) B Ed, MA Congress Assets: ₹21.15 crore Sitting MLA from Nathana, Bhatti was a PCS officer.	Pritam Singh (45) Under-matric Assets: ₹21 lakh SAD A progressive dairy farmer since 2003.	Harvinder Singh Laddi (46) MA PPP Assets: ₹25.7 lakh A former bank employee.
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KEY ISSUES: Lack of drinking water; inadequate sewerage

DAKHA

Voters: 1.56 lakh, Present MLA: Darshan Singh Shivalik

MAIN CONTESTANTS

Manpreet Singh Ayali (37) Undergraduate SAD Assets: ₹16 crore Ex-sarpanch; in 2008, elected chairman, Zila Parishad.	Jasbir Singh Khangura (48) BA Congress Assets: ₹32.4 crore Former NRI; won Kila Raipur seat in 2007. Owner of five-star hotel.	Daljit S Sadarpura (38) Undergraduate PPP Assets: ₹21.4 crore Organising International Dairy Expo since six years; popular among dairy farmers.
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KEY ISSUES: Development of villages in the constituency.

DHARAMKOT

Voters: 1.58 lakh, Present MLA: Sheetal Singh (SAD)

MAIN CONTESTANTS

Jathedar Tata Singh (70) FA SAD Assets: ₹9.35 crore Elected in 1997 and 2002 from Mogra; Case of corruption in 'recruitment scam' pending.	Sukhjitt Singh Kaka (56) Matriculate Congress Assets: ₹3.18 crore Denied SGPC ticket by SAD, yet won.	Kuldip Singh Dhoose (64) Higher sec. PPP Assets: ₹1.75 crore Was powerful Akali leader, but left for PPP, as Tata Singh was SAD candidate.
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KEY ISSUES: Flood management; better health care; govt college, RO-purified water.

FARIDKOT

Voters: 1.29 lakh, Present MLA: Avtar Singh Brar (Cong)

MAIN CONTESTANTS

Avtar Singh Brar, (74) JBT Congress Assets: ₹3.35 crore Three-time MLA, former education minister.	Deep Malhotra (56) BA-I SAD Assets: ₹36 crore Political greenhorn, known for liquor business and hotels.	Bhupinder Singh (42) 10 + 2 Sanjha Morcha Assets: ₹48 lakh Was telephone operator with former Akali MLA Kushaldeep Singh Dhillon.
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KEY ISSUES: Poor quality of drinking water.

FEROZEPUR CITY

Voters: 1.61, Present MLA: Sukhpal Singh Nannu (BJP)

MAIN CONTESTANTS

Sukhpal Singh Nannu (47) BA BJP Assets: ₹31.17 crore Two-time MLA; inherited political legacy of father Girdhara Singh	Parminder Singh Pinki (52) Graduate Congress Assets: ₹7.37 crore Contesting the first time, facing strife within party.	Ravinder Singh Sandhu (55) Matriculate Independent Assets: ₹3.38 crore The ex-MLA is a Congress rebel with considerable clout.
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KEY ISSUES: Re-opening of Hussainiwalla border for trade; new government college.

GIDDERBAHA

Voters: 1.38 lakh, Present MLA: Manpreet Singh Badal (Quit SAD)

MAIN CONTESTANTS

Manpreet S Badal (49) LLB; Bar at Law PPP Assets: ₹23.07 crore Four-time MLA, ex-Finance Minister; PPP chief.	Amarinder S Warring "Raja" (33) Graduate Congress Assets: ₹4 crore General secretary, All-India Youth Congress. Hand-picked by Rahul Gandhi.	Sant Singh Brar (70) LLB SAD Assets: ₹4.27 crore Joined SAD after the Congress refused the ticket.
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KEY ISSUES: Railway under-bridge; water-logging.

BALLUANA (SC)

Voters: 1.56 lakh, Present MLA: Gurtej Singh Ghuriana (SAD)

MAIN CONTESTANTS

Giri Raj Rajora (55) B.Com, LLB Congress Assets: Rs 32.62 lakh Quit as GM, PSIEC, in 2008 to join Congress. Father was Malout MLA.	Gurtej Singh Ghuriana (60) BA, LLB SAD Assets: ₹11.91 lakh Won in 1997, 2007; inducted as CPS last year.	Parkash Singh Bhatti (51) BA, B.Ed; Congress rebel Assets: ₹14.5 lakh Won for Cong in 2002.
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KEY ISSUES: No relief for crops hit by hailstorm, drain water.

BATALA

Voters: 1.4 lakh, Present MLA: Jagdeesh Raj Sahni (BJP)

MAIN CONTESTANTS

L.S. Lodhinangal (61) Graduate SAD Assets: ₹12.39 lakh Batala Improvement Trust ex-chief. Post-delimitation, shifted from Qadian.	Ashwani Sekhri: (53) Low postgraduate Congress Assets: ₹47.42 lakh The ex-minister is a son of former MLA Vishwa Mittar Sekhri.
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KEY ISSUES: Incentives for sagging industry.

BAGHAPURANA

Voters: 1.52 lakh, Present MLA: Darshan Singh Brar (Congress)

MAIN CONTESTANTS

Darshan Singh Brar (63) Class IX Congress Assets: ₹1.9 crore Dynamic leader, but uses rough language; ex-minister of state.	Maheshinder Singh (55) BA SAD Assets: ₹9.5 crore Started with Cong; joined SAD a few years back; lost twice.
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KEY ISSUES: Sewerage; government college; drinking water; health care.

BUDHLADA (SC)

Voters: 1.63 lakh, Present MLA: Mangat Rai Bansal (Cong)

MAIN CONTESTANTS

Satpal Singh (29) BA Congress Assets: ₹17 lakh Contesting first time, youngest candidate in fray.	Chatin Singh (70) Under-matric SAD Assets: ₹4.7 lakh Has been sarpanch four times, and MP once.	Ranjit Kaur (47) Primary PPP Assets: ₹4 lakh Sarpanch of Joian village in Mansa; wife of a police officer.
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KEY ISSUES: Incomplete sewerage and road projects; demand for medical facilities

DASUYA

Voters: 1.6 lakh Present MLA: Amarjit Singh Sahi

MAIN CONTESTANTS

Romesh Chander Dogra (73) B Sc Congress Assets: ₹6.4 crore Has won in this constituency thrice.	Amarjit Singh Sahi (55) BA BJP Assets: ₹7.8 crore Won last assembly poll on BJP ticket; was made CPS.
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KEY ISSUES: Sanitation; development.

DHURI

Voters: ₹1.38 lakh, Present MLA: Iqbal Singh Jhoonda (SAD)

MAIN CONTESTANTS

Arvind Khanna (44) Graduate Congress Assets: ₹46 crore Close to Capt Amarinder Singh; runs an NGO for women.	Gobind Singh Longawal (54) Graduate SAD Assets: ₹3.13 crore Has clean image; known for simplicity.	Gaganjit Singh Barnala (50) Graduate PPP Assets: ₹12 crore Using Barnala legacy; in contest for survival
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KEY ISSUES: Drainage and village ponds.