

# Online Appendix

## A Summary Statistics and Additional Results

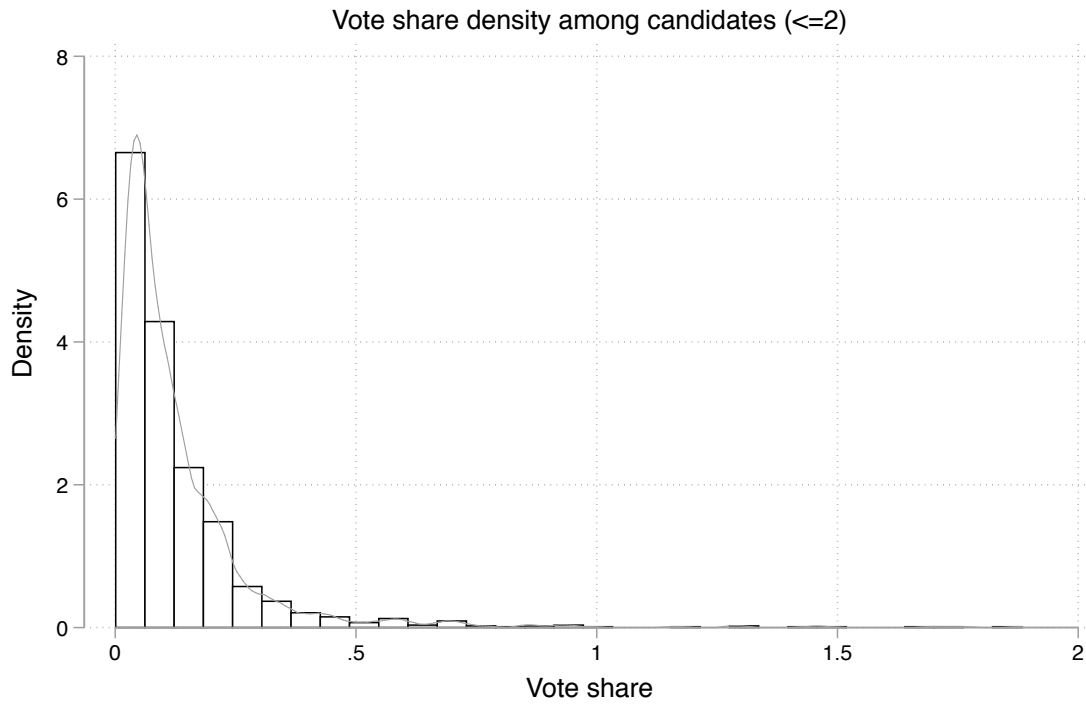
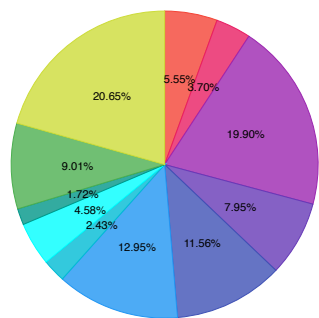


Figure A.1: Vote Share of Candidates before Logarithm ( $\leq 2$ )

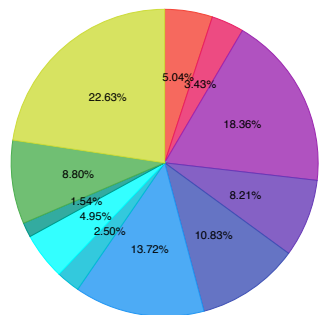
Note: The figure only shows the vote share of candidates below 2% which is enough to show the strong right-skewed distribution. There are only 68 candidates won more than 2% of vote share.

Figure A.2: Top 10 First Choice Category Distribution and Overall Category Distribution

Top 10 categories in first choice

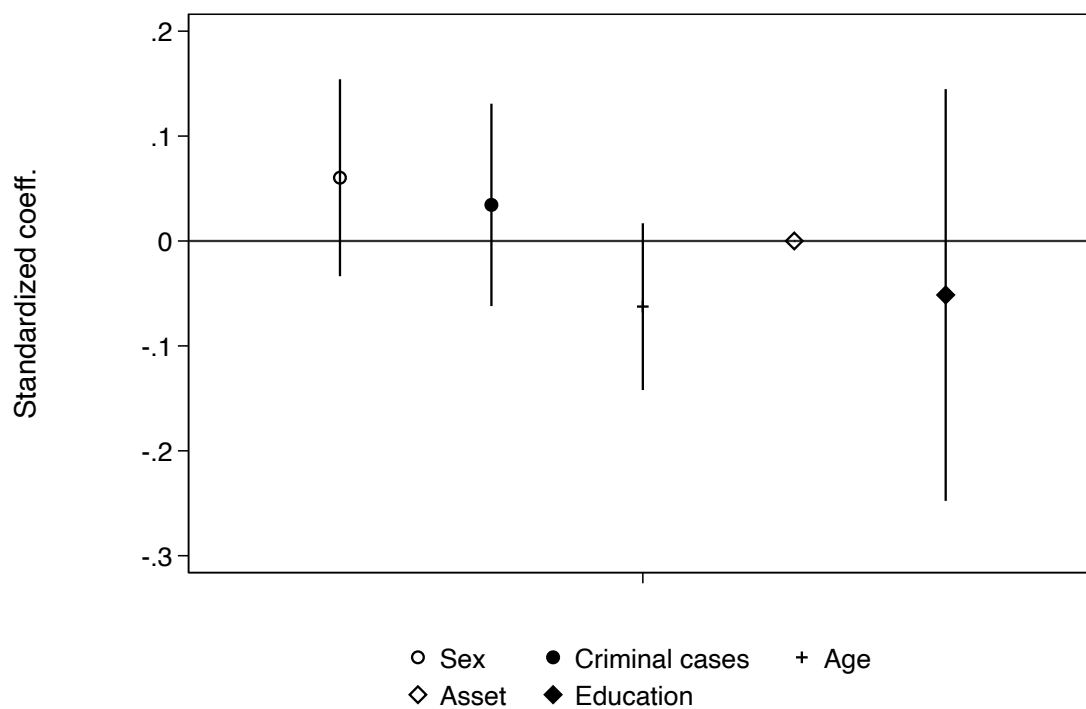


Top 10 categories in all choices



Note: This figure shows top 10 category distribution of first choices made by the candidates and the overall distribution.

Figure A.3: Balance Tests for the Symbol Lottery



Note: This figure illustrates the balance test conducted on the pre-treatment variables in relation to the lottery process. None of the pre-determinants exhibit an association with entering the lottery process.

Table A.1: Balance tests for Symbol Lottery

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
	Female	Criminal Cases	Log(age)	Log(assets)	Poor education
LotteryWinner	0.060 (0.047)	0.034 (0.048)	-0.063 (0.039)	-0.000 (0.000)	-0.051 (0.098)
Criminal Cases	-0.022 (0.023)		-0.033 (0.070)	0.000 (0.000)	0.162 (0.123)
Age	-0.001 (0.008)	0.038 (0.039)		-0.000 (0.000)	0.013 (0.033)
Log(age)	0.026 (0.333)	-1.620 (1.533)		0.000 (0.000)	-0.272 (1.414)
Log(assets)	0.005 (0.009)	0.009 (0.015)	0.021 (0.012)	1.000 (0.000)	-0.027 (0.023)
Poor education	0.032 (0.051)	0.073 (0.056)	0.080 (0.045)	-0.000 (0.000)	
Female		-0.068 (0.049)	-0.045 (0.044)	-0.000 (0.000)	0.216 (0.327)
Constant	-0.150 (0.834)	4.280 (3.995)	3.486 (0.159)	-0.000 (0.000)	1.288 (3.747)
N	170	170	170	170	170

**Note:** The table shows the balance tests for the lottery winning dummy. Standard errors in parentheses are clustered at the constituency.

Table A.2: The Effects of District Features on Symbol Choices

	(1) Computer	(2) Pressure cooker	(3) Air conditioner	(4) Gas Cylinder
Computer	0.176 (0.111)			
Pressure cooker		0.152 (0.129)		
Air conditioner			0.383 (0.187)	
LPG (natural gas)				0.025 (0.082)
SC Population	0.001 (0.001)	-0.001 (0.002)	-0.001 (0.001)	-0.000 (0.001)
Literacy	-0.344 (0.090)	0.354 (0.383)	-0.145 (0.063)	-0.498 (0.176)
Rural Population	-0.001 (0.000)	0.001 (0.001)	0.000 (0.000)	-0.000 (0.000)
General Election	-0.018 (0.005)	0.126 (0.051)	0.001 (0.012)	0.025 (0.022)
Byelection	0.013 (0.022)	0.197 (0.063)	-0.004 (0.009)	-0.037 (0.013)
Female	-0.003 (0.014)	0.014 (0.035)	-0.011 (0.004)	0.028 (0.033)
GDP	0.065 (0.256)	-1.378 (1.468)	0.170 (0.221)	0.797 (0.604)
N	1357	1357	1357	1357

**Note:** The table reports the results of local features on symbol choices with full control variables. Standard errors in parentheses are clustered at the district.

Table A.3: Comparison of means across symbol assignment groups

	(1)	(2)	(3)
	Lottery entrants	Non-lottery candidates	Mean Difference
Vote share	0.133 (0.307)	0.297 (1.173)	-0.164**
Criminal	0.065 (0.246)	0.052 (0.222)	0.013
Age	40.631 (10.140)	42.574 (10.682)	-1.943**
Log(age)	3.674 (0.245)	3.720 (0.248)	-0.046**
Log(assets)	13.014 (1.836)	13.139 (2.033)	-0.125
Poor education	0.384 (0.487)	0.463 (0.499)	-0.079**
Female	0.039 (0.194)	0.048 (0.214)	-0.009
N	332	3095	

**Note:** This table presents the means and standard errors for different symbol assignment groups, further providing t-test results for difference comparisons between lottery entrants and non-lottery candidates. Column (1) and (2) display the means and standard errors of the two groups. Column (3) presents the mean difference between the two groups. \*  $p < 0.1$ , \*\*  $p < 0.05$ , \*\*\*  $p < 0.01$ .