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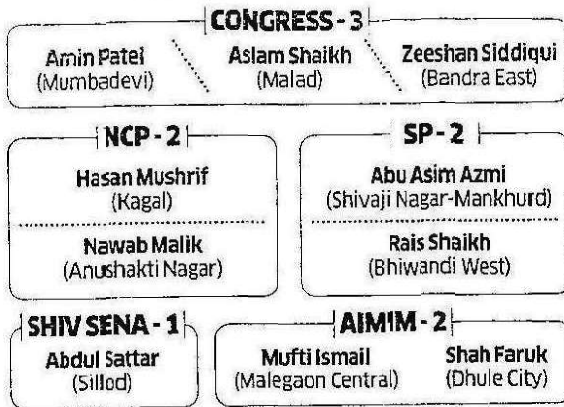
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ಪತ್ರಿಕೆಯ ಹೆಸರು : NAME OF THE NEWS PAPER: Deccan Herald ಠಾಣೆ : DATE: 30/10/2019

Muslim representation in Maharashtra Assembly up

14th Maharashtra Legislative Assembly (2019)

MUSLIM MLAs



Muslim MLAs in Maharashtra Assembly (2014) **9**

MUMBAI, DHNS: The representation of Muslims in the 14th Maharashtra Legislative Assembly has gone up but the final number could have been greater, if the split of votes had not taken place.

The 2019 Maharashtra Vidhan Sabha has 10 Muslim MLAs, as against nine in 2014.

Some Muslim candidates lost the elections by a narrow margin of votes.

In Chandivali, Naseem Khan, a four-time MLA from the Congress, lost to Shiv Sena's Dilip Lande by a margin of 409 votes. In Chandivali, the candidates of the Vanchit Bahujan Aghadi and AIMIM, together polled more votes than the winning margin.

Some Muslim candidates also benefitted from the splitting of the votes.

Zeeshan Siddiqui, who is just 27, is the youngest MLA in the 14th Assembly. He emerged as a giant killer by defeating Shiv Sena candidate, Mumbai Mayor Prof Vishwanath Mahadeshwar from Bandra East.

Bandra East is a prestigious seat for the Sena as the Thackeray residence, Matoshree, is located here. The votes here were split after Trupti Sawant, the sitting MLA, filed her papers as an Independent.

With a population of 1.3 crores, Muslims constitute 11.56 % of Maharashtra's 11.24-crore population.

In 1999, Maharashtra had seen the highest number of Muslim MLAs in the Vidhan Sabha with 13 members of the Muslim community getting elected.