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Westminster Parliamentary Legislative Session-type phenomenon on asset prices and its contours

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Abstract

Connecting the dots in developing nations between the 'political' powers and formal 'economic' performance parameters gains wider importance in periods of 'coalition' era political systems' based democratic parliamentary governance. We explore the inter-linkages between economic performance in terms of 'asset prices' and 'political powers' using their vital country-level metrics: stock market index, parliament session, ruling party strength and composition of the ruling coalition. By performing modified EGARCH based analysis on a 39-year data (1979-2018) across 15-different governments from India, we find interesting conclusions that highlight the 'coalition effect' on asset prices. Our results show that these effects tend to lower economic returns, induce a spike in terms of the volatility of asset prices, predicting thereby fallouts in governance coupled with allied political risk ramifications thereof. We explore a few key reasons behind the same to make Westminster-parliamentary governed nations more meaningful for the financial world.

Key Words: Asset Price Dynamics; Coalition Politics; EGARCH Analysis; India; Westminster Parliament

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