

Evening News Script

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THE HEADLINES:-

- Elections to lone Lok Sabha seat in Nagaland ends peacefully with over 56 percent polling.
- Eastern Nagaland witnesses zero voters turn-out.
- Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio says government to discuss issue of Eastern Nagaland abstention from participating in ongoing Lok Sabha election.
- Kohima to have total shutdown of power from 08:00 A.M to 03:00 P.M daily from 22nd April to 20th May.

POLLS:

Polling for the General Election to the Lok Sabha 2024 was held today in 102 parliamentary constituencies spread over 17 states including Nagaland and four Union Territories. In Nagaland, voting took place from 7:00 AM to 4:00 PM. The state tentatively recorded a polling percentage of over 56. Over 13 lakh voters will sealed the fate of the three candidates namely Dr. Chumben Murry of NDPP, S Supongmeren Jamir of Congress and Independent Candidate Hayithung Tungoe Lotha vying for state's lone Lok Sabha seat.

Addressing a press conference in Kohima in the evening, Chief Electoral Officer, Vyasani R said, the state witnessed by and large peaceful polling with no report of any major untoward incident. Nationalist Democratic Progressive Party candidate Dr. Chumben Murry who is also the People's Democratic Alliance consensus candidate cast his vote this morning at SMB High School, under Wokha Assembly Constituency. Indian National Congress candidate, S Supongmeren Jamir exercised his vote at Longsa polling station, under Mongoya Assembly Constituency in Mokokchung district. Nagaland Governor La Ganesan cast his vote at Model Polling Station, T T Indoor Stadium, Officers Hill, Kohima, while Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio cast his vote from Touphema village under Northern Angami-2 Assembly Constituency. No voter turnout was reported in areas falling under the jurisdiction of Eastern Nagaland People's Organization.

ENPO:

The Eastern Nagaland today witnessed an unprecedented scenario with zero voters turning up across all 738 polling stations. The decision to abstain from participating in the electoral process stemmed from the Chen Moho Resolution, enacted on 23rd February with the decision not to participate in any central and state

election. The six districts in Eastern Nagaland reported complete absence of voter turnout, reflecting the firm stance of the federating units of the Eastern Nagaland People's Organization (ENPO). Prior to the electoral standstill, the ENPO had declared an indefinite bandh, invoking the Eastern Nagaland Public Emergency, which came into effect from 6:00 pm on 18th April. Despite the dispatch of polling officials and security forces to their designated stations, no voters appeared to cast their ballots. The Eastern Nagaland Legislature's Union, comprising 20 representatives from the region, also abstained from exercising their electoral rights.

RIO:

Nationalist Democratic Progressive Party (NDPP) Leader and Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio today expressed optimism that the People's Democratic Alliance (PDA) will win by confident majority. He said this while speaking to the media persons after casting his vote at Toupheema under Northern Angami-II Assembly Constituency in Kohima district. On the issue of Eastern Nagaland People's Organization (ENPO) imposing indefinite bandh over its jurisdiction and abstaining from voting in the on-going Lok Sabha election, Rio stated that the state government should not be blame and added that threadbare discussions will be held. Replying to

queries if the government will take any action against the Legislators from the Eastern Nagaland for not taking part in the election, he said, the state government as well as Government of India would also take certain action. Rio pointed out that the Election Commission had already served the ENPO show cause notice and to others who are trying to prevent voting, as it is the right of every citizen to cast their vote in a democracy. The Chief Minister further stressed on the need for dialogue between the Eastern Nagaland Legislators Union and ENPO on the draft of the demand for the Frontier Nagaland Territory. Rio added that the state government on its part had recommended for an autonomous body so that Eastern Nagaland get sufficient economic packages to come at par with the rest of the state.

PERCENT:

Elections to the lone Lok Sabha seat in Nagaland ended today with voting conducted by and large peacefully across the state. As per latest updates, nearly 57 percent of the state's electors totaling more than 13 lakhs cast their votes today. The highest voter turnout of 96.44 percent was recorded in Tyui assembly constituency, just ahead of Wokha with 96.38 percent, and Sanis with 95.63 percent. Assembly constituencies of Atoizu, Bhandari, Mongoya, Satakha, Tseminyu, and Tuli also breached the 90 percent mark. Meanwhile,

Kohima Town assembly constituency recorded the lowest polling percentage with 53.73 percent, followed closely by Northern Angami-I at 54.34 percent, and Western Angami at 59.26 percent. Zero votes were cast in the 20 assembly constituencies across the six eastern Nagaland districts of Mon, Longleng, Kiphire, Noklak, Shamator and Tuensang, heeding to the Eastern Nagaland People's Organization's call for abstention from participating in the ongoing Lok Sabha polls. The six districts constitute 30 percent of the state's total electorate.

POWER:

Office of the Executive Engineer, Department of Power, Transmission Division Kohima has informed that there will be total shutdown of power from 08:00 A.M to 03:00 P.M daily in Kohima from 22nd April to 20th May. The Department stated that the shutdown is being enforced to facilitate smooth execution of the vegetation clearance and maintenance programme of Transmission lines under Kohima Transmission Division in an effort to avoid unwanted disruption and facilitate stable power supply. In this regard, all consumers and public in the affected areas have been requested to extend cooperation and bear the inconvenience during the shutdown period.

NAVY:

Vice Chief of Naval Staff Vice Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi has been appointed as the next Chief of the Indian Navy. He will succeed Admiral R Hari Kumar who is retiring on 30th of this month. Prior to taking over as Vice Chief of the Naval Staff, Tripathi has served as the Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Western Naval Command. A Communication and Electronic Warfare specialist, he has served on frontline warships of the Navy as Signal Communication Officer and Electronic Warfare Officer, and later as the Executive Officer and Principal Warfare Officer of Guided Missile Destroyer INS Mumbai. He commanded the Indian naval ships Vinash, Kirch and Trishul. Vice Admiral Tripathi is a recipient of the Ati Vishisht Seva Medal and the Nausena Medal for devotion to duty.

RAILWAYS:

The Indian Railways is operating a record number of additional trains to meet the summer rush. The Railways is operating a record-breaking nine thousand one hundred 11 trips during the summer season to ensure the convenience of passengers and manage the anticipated surge in travel demand during summers. This marks a substantial rise compared to last year's summer, where a total of six thousand 369 trips were offered. Ministry of Railways said the additional trains have been

meticulously planned to connect key destinations across the country, ensuring seamless travel on major railway routes. During the summer season, Zonal Railways have been instructed to ensure the availability of drinking water at Railway stations. Elaborate crowd control arrangements are made at all major and important railway stations.