

## NORTH EAST NEWS BULLETIN

DATED:- 05.04.2024

### HEADLINES:-

- ✓ 65 candidates file their nomination papers for second phase of Lok Sabha polls in five Lok Sabha seats in Assam; scrutiny of nominations will be held today.
- ✓ Altogether 13 female candidates are in fray for simultaneous elections to elect new members of State Legislative Assembly and Lok Sabha seat in first phase election on 19<sup>th</sup> of this month.
- ✓ Home voting for elderly citizens who are 85 years and above will take place in Aizawl District in Mizoram for three days from 8<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> of this month.
- ✓ Meghalaya Chief electoral officer, Dr BDR Tiwari informs that state has over 140 polling stations bordering international border with Bangladesh and 187 polling stations along inter-state Meghalaya-Assam border.
- ✓ Election Commission of India terms as false regarding messages being circulated on social media platform WhatsApp that government employees cannot cast their vote through postal ballot.

### **CANDIDATES:**

In Assam, 65 candidates have filed their nomination papers for the second phase of Lok Sabha polls. Five seats will be covered in this phase. Scrutiny of nominations will be held today. Assam Transport and Excise minister Parimal Suklabaidya, MP Kripanath Mallah and Dilip Saikia are in the fray for the BJP. Congress has re-nominated MP Pradyut Bordoloi from Nagaon seat while the Bodoland People's Front has given the ticket to MLA Durga Das Boro. AIUDF, TMC have also fielded candidates in this phase of polls.

### **SIKKIM:**

In Sikkim, altogether 13 female candidates are in the fray for the simultaneous elections to elect new members of the State Legislative Assembly and Lok Sabha seat. The organic state of the country is going to simultaneous polls in the first phase on the 19th of this month for the lone Lok Sabha seat and 32 Assembly seats. In the current State Assembly, there are three women legislators. In this election, only one female independent candidate, Ms Bina Rai, is trying her electoral luck for the Lok Sabha and 12 female candidates for the State Assembly elections. However, no political party in Sikkim is fielding a female candidate for the lone Lok Sabha seat. Out of 140 candidates for the State Assembly elections, the ruling Sikkim Krantikari Morcha and Congress have fielded four female candidates each and the newly floated Citizen Action Party and BJP have fielded two female candidates each. The number of female voters in Sikkim is 2,31,450 out of the total of 4,63,800 electorates.

**MIZORAM:**

In Mizoram, home voting for 85 years and above will begin from the 8<sup>th</sup> of this month. Addressing media persons in Aizawl yesterday, Returning Officer for the Mizoram Parliamentary Constituency, Nazuk Kumar said that home voting for elderly citizens will take place in Aizawl District for three days from 8<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> of this month. However, home voting for 85 years and above and Persons with Disabilities in respect of Lunglei District has begun yesterday. Meanwhile election campaign is heating up in Mizoram as the poll date draws nearer. Political parties and candidates are reaching out to the voters in all nooks and corners to seek their support for the lone Lok Sabha seat of Mizoram. There are six candidates in the fray for the lone Lok Sabha seat. The voting will be held in the first phase on the 19<sup>th</sup> of this month.

**CEO:**

Meghalaya Chief electoral officer, Dr BDR Tiwari has informed that the state has over 140 polling stations bordering the international border with Bangladesh and 187 polling stations along the inter-state Meghalaya-Assam border. Meghalaya also has 161 polling stations where polling officials have to travel via Assam. He said that all issues related to the inter-state border have been taken up during a meeting held at the level of chief secretaries of both Assam and Meghalaya. The CEO said that all necessary arrangements are being taken to ensure free, fair and smooth elections as per the ECI instructions.

**ECI:**

The Election Commission of India has termed as false the claim of messages being circulated on social media platform WhatsApp that government employees cannot cast their vote through postal ballot. In a social media post, the ECI said, eligible officials on election duty can cast their vote through postal ballot at a designated Voter Facilitation Centre. The Commission has urged the people to beware and not pay attention to such misleading and fake messages. For authentic information, people must visit the commission's official website.

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