

# NORTH EAST NEWS BULLETIN

DATED:- 18.04.2024

## HEADLINES

- ✚ Campaigning for first phase of Lok Sabha polls comes to an end in 102 Lok Sabha seats spread over 17 states and four Union Territories.
- ✚ Campaigning for simultaneous Lok Sabha and Assembly elections in Arunachal Pradesh ends; polling will be held in 50 Assembly seats and two Lok Sabha seats.
- ✚ Movement of polling officers to their respective assigned polling booths starts in Meghalaya to conduct polls in two parliamentary seats.
- ✚ Polling parties in Assam will be dispatched today to their respective polling booths along with EVMs and other materials for first phase of Lok Sabha polls.
- ✚ Batch of 40 election officials, including police personnel airlifted to four remote polling stations in Arunachal Pradesh's Kra Daadi district to facilitate polling for simultaneous Lok Sabha and Assembly elections.
- ✚ Government Railway Police apprehends one person with gold biscuits worth 17 lakh rupees in Assam's Bongaigaon district.

## **CAMPAIGN:**

Campaigning for the first phase of Lok Sabha polls has come to an end yesterday in 102 Lok Sabha seats spread over 17 states and four Union Territories. The voting in the first phase will be held in these Lok Sabha seats tomorrow. All political parties and their leaders were leaving no stone unturned to woo the voters in their favour. Altogether 39 seats in Tamil Nadu, 12 seats in Rajasthan, eight seats in Uttar Pradesh, six seats in Madhya Pradesh, five seats each in Uttarakhand, Assam and Maharashtra, four seats in Bihar, three seats in West Bengal, two seats each in Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya and one seat each in Chhattisgarh, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, Tripura, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Jammu and Kashmir, Lakshadweep and Puducherry will go to polls in this phase. Besides, polling will also be held to elect new members of the State Legislative Assembly in Arunachal Pradesh and Sikkim in a single phase.

## **ARUNACHAL:**

In Arunachal Pradesh, campaigning for the simultaneous Lok Sabha and Assembly elections ended yesterday at 5 pm. In the assembly elections, the BJP has already won 10 seats uncontested, including Chief Minister Pema Khandu and Deputy Chief Minister Chowna Mein. Now the voting will be held for 50 assembly constituencies. In the contest for the two parliamentary constituencies in the state, Congress candidate and Former Chief Minister Nabam Tuki will have a rematch against Union Minister and BJP leader Kiren Rijiju for the Arunachal West Parliamentary seat. In the last Lok Sabha elections, Rijiju defeated Tuki with a huge margin of over 1.7 lakh votes. For East Parliamentary Constituency, the main contest will be between the sitting MP and BJP leader Tapir Gao and Congress candidate and former Education Minister Bosiram Siram.

## **POLLING PARTIES:**

In Meghalaya, the movement of polling officers to their respective assigned polling booths has started yesterday. Altogether 762 polling parties have moved yesterday which include 244 parties under Shillong Parliamentary constituency and 518 polling parties under Tura Lok Sabha constituency. The remaining polling parties will leave today for their respective booths to conduct the voting tomorrow. Shillong and Tura Lok Sabha seats are going to polls in the first phase tomorrow.

## **ASSAM:**

In Assam, polling parties will be dispatched today to their respective polling booths along with EVMs and other materials for the first phase of polls. Five seats will be covered in the first phase. A total of 35 candidates are in the fray in this phase. State Police Nodal Officer, Prasanta Kumar Bhuyan said that 106 companies of central para military forces have been deployed in 14 districts where elections will be held in the first phase. He said that inter-state borders have

already been sealed to prevent any untoward incident. Bhuyan mentioned that central armed police forces are being deployed at critical polling booths. Over 86 lakh voters can exercise their voting rights in this phase. There are dedicated polling stations being managed by women and persons with disabilities officials.

**VVPAT:**

A batch of 40 election officials, including police personnel, was airlifted to four remote polling stations in Arunachal Pradesh's Kra Daadi district to facilitate polling for the simultaneous Lok Sabha and Assembly elections scheduled for tomorrow. The officials, accompanied by Electronic Voting Machines and Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trails (VVPATs), were transported on Monday to the polling stations situated at Pip-Sorang circle in the isolated district bordering China.

**APPREHENDED:**

In a major crackdown, the Government Railway Police has apprehended one person with gold biscuits worth 17 lakh rupees in Assam's Bongaigaon district. As per sources, the railway police conducted an operation at New Bongaigaon Railway Station, and they were able to seize gold weighing around 232 grams. Meanwhile, the apprehended individual has been kept under police surveillance. Further investigation in connection with the matter is underway.

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