

## **REGIONAL NEWS UNIT, ITANAGAR**

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In Arunachal Pradesh, the counting of votes for the State Legislative Assembly elections held simultaneously with the Lok Sabha elections on April 19 will be held tomorrow. The term of the present legislative assembly ends on June 2. The counting of vote for the two parliamentary seats of the state will be held on June 4, along with the rest in the country. Office of the State Chief Electoral Officer informed that all the preparations for both the counting days are done. The counting for the state's Assembly elections will start at 6 am tomorrow. It will commence with the counting of the postal ballots and electronically transmitted postal ballot system. The counting of EVMs will start at 6.30 am.

There will be 24 counting centres across that state and over 2000 officials will take part in the counting process excluding security forces. The election authorities have informed that both the counting days have been declared 'dry day' in the state.

Arunachal Pradesh has 60 Assembly seats, out of which BJP has already won 10 seats uncontested. Polling was held for 50 seats and 133 candidates were in fray. The voter's turnout for the election was 83 percent. Meanwhile, the counting of votes for the Sikkim's State Legislative Assembly elections will also be held tomorrow.

World's largest polling marathon which started on the 19th of April culminated with the conclusion of seventh and final phase of Lok Sabha elections this evening. In the past 43 days, people across 543 constituencies voted to elect their representatives to the 18th Lok Sabha.

In the seventh and final phase, polling was held for 57 Parliamentary Constituencies spread over seven States and one Union Territory. A total of 904 candidates were in the fray in this phase. Over 58 percent voter turnout was recorded till 5 PM. Now, preparations are in full swing for the counting of votes for the Lok Sabha elections on Tuesday.

India Meteorological Department (IMD) has forecast that there will be likely light to moderate rainfall over North-East India and West Bengal during next 6 days. Further, the weather agency has also forecast that the on-going heat wave conditions will reduce

gradually over Northwest, Central and East India during the next 2 days.

In Assam, the flood situation has worsened today as 6 people were killed and about 3,50,000 people have been affected across 11 districts with the rising of water levels of major rivers following incessant rainfall in the aftermath of cyclone Remal. Regarding it, the Assam Government has opened 148 Relief camps and 39 relief distribution centres in flood affected districts and both NDRF and SDRF teams have also been deployed for rescue and relief. Meanwhile, President Droupadi Murmu and Vice President Jagdeep Dhankar today extended condolences over the loss of lives and destruction caused by Cyclone Remal in Northeastern parts of the country including West Bengal and Telangana.

Deputy Chief Minister Chowna Mein today shared that Arunachal Pradesh has made a remarkable achievement, producing 7,430 metric tonnes of kiwi annually, through his social media handle. He said this impressive output accounts for approximately 44.71 percent of the country's total kiwi production. Further, he said that the hardworking farmers' perseverance have significantly contributed to positioning the State as a leading kiwi producer in India and the success is a testament to the potential of State's agricultural sector and underscores the importance of supporting and promoting local farming initiatives.

The 84<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of renowned author Luminous Lummer Dai was celebrated at his birth village Silluk today in East Siang district. Late Lummer Dai wrote many famous books in Assamese language like 'Pahoror Hile Hile' (1961), 'Prithivir Hahi' (1963), 'Mon Aru Mon' (1968), 'Konyar Mulya' (1978), 'Upar Mahal' (2002), Adi folktales 'Udayachalar Sadhu' (1959) etc. He was also the founder of the first newspaper of Arunachal Pradesh 'Echo of Arunachal'. The birth anniversary of Luminous Lummer Dai is celebrated every year at Silluk village of East Siang District. Meanwhile, a book with collection of Assamese poems titled 'APUN HUR' written by Maliyang Perme was launched on the occasion.