Evening News Script

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:::THE HEADLINES:::

1. Centre says all arrangements put in place for counting of votes for Lok Sabha polls

2. Nagaland CEO Vyasan R says security measures, machineries, and manpower put in place for vote counting beginning from 8 AM tomorrow

3. NPCC says Congress will contest in upcoming ULB elections across all seats without forming alliances

4. And Lepzungchiba Jamir first in Nagaland to become Life Member of National Bee Board

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All arrangements have been put in place for counting of votes for Lok Sabha polls tomorrow. The counting for Assembly polls will also be held on the same day. The Counting will begin from 8 AM. General elections were held from 19th of April to 1st of June 2024 in seven phases. Election Commission has said that the counting trends and results will be available on ECI Website at <u>results.eci.gov.in</u> as well as on Voter Helpline App. The Voter Helpline App can be downloaded from Google Play Store or Apple Play Store. The Commission added that the comprehensive instructions for counting arrangements, procedure of counting of votes and storage of EVMs and VVPATs are already available on its website.

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All preparations have been made to ensure smooth counting of votes in Nagaland tomorrow. Chief Electoral Officer, CEO Nagaland Vyasan R told Akashvani News Kohima today that the counting will begin from 8 AM in all 15 district Headquarters and ADC Headquarter Pughoboto, as well as in Returning officer offices at Commissioner Nagaland Kohima. He informed that the postal ballots will be counted first and added that there are around 6000 odd postal ballots. Vyasan informed that there will be 61 counting halls and one counting hall per Assembly Segment. In

all, there will be 397 counting tables for counting EVMs and 12 tables for counting Postal Ballots. Stating that number of tables and rounds will vary from one Assembly Segment to the other, the CEO said maximum number of tables will be for 40 Bhandari Assembly Constituency and 4-Ghaspani-I with 11 counting tables each. While, the maximum number of rounds will be 13 in Kiphire for 60-Pungro Kiphire Assembly Constituency and the least number of rounds will be two in 27 Mokokchung Town Assembly constituency. On security measures, he said respective SPs have come out with detailed security plan in consultation with Deputy Commissioners to ensure peaceful counting. He said, a three tier security system have been put in place to secure EVMs which are kept in the strong rooms at 16 different locations across the state. Vyasan said the outer most cordon of the security will be guarding the counting centres, which will be manned by the state police, the second will be guarded by the state armed police and the third tier will be manned by central armed police forces. The CEO said, the strong rooms will be opened in the presence of the candidates and their agents where the candidates are not available. Vyasan further said, strict instructions have been issued where in security will check the identity of a person going inside the counting centres. While, second tier frisking will also be mandatory, only media personnel having media passes issued from the ECI will be allowed to enter the counting centres.

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Nagaland Pradesh Congress Committee Chairman Yanger Longkumer today said that the Congress Party will contest in the upcoming Urban Local Body elections across all seats without forming any alliances. Addressing a press conference in Dimapur today, he said that the party plans to prioritize women and youth candidates in these elections. Longumer also asserted that exit polls of the BJP for Lok Sabha electiuons 2024 are fabricated and intended to undermine actual verdict. Longkumer expressed confidence that the India-Bloc will secure a majority with a minimum of 295 seats. He clarified that any partnership with regional parties, including NDPP, will be determined by central government if India-Bloc comes to power. The NPCC Chiarman also said that Supong Meren has been promised a ministerial position if India-Bloc wins at the center.

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Lepzungchiba Jamir has been inducted as a Life Member of National Bee Board under Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India. During a thanksgiving programme held to honour Jamir today, he exuded happiness to represent the community and said that the accomplishment is a testament of the collective efforts and support of many who remain behind the scene. Jamir is the first in Nagaland to become a life member in the board.

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In view of counting process of votes for General Election to Lok Sabha 2024 to be held tomorrow, meetings and training for conducted in different districts today. Counting observers from Election Commission of India, Manoj Chakraborty from West Bengal and T. Padmavathi, from Telengana held meeting with Assistant Returning officials under Kohima District. Deputy Commissioner, Kohima, Kumar Ramnikant briefed the preparation done for counting process. Randomisation of counting supervisors, counting assistants, micro observers, tabulators and computer assistants were reviewed by the Observers. Strong rooms and counting halls were surveyed. In Mon, Counting observers Madhavi Sardeshmukh, Babu and Sowmya N. Gowda. briefed on roles and responsibilities of micro observers and described them as the eyes and hands of observers. Meanwhile, Additional Deputy Commissioner & ARO Phek, Ruopfukuotuo Noudi informed that Nandu Chaitram Bedse and M. Gopperundevi have been deployed as Counting Observers for Phek District. Deputy Commissioner & DEO Kiphire also informed all Presiding Officers to be stationed in District Head Quarter on counting day, in case of seeking clearance or any discrepancies arises during the process in their respective assigned Polling station. Further, Counting Observer for Pughoboto, Siddharth Yadav, and ECI officials along with ADC and DEO, Tiameren Chang convened second and final phase training for Counting Supervisors, Counting Assistants and Main Tabulator.

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Regional News Unit Akashvani Kohima will bring a special programme on trends and analysis of Lok Sabha Election 2024 Results tomorrow. A two hour live discussion on the trends and analysis of the election Results will be broadcast from 12 PM onwards with experts from various field joining in the programme. While, an Hourly Election Results update will also be broadcast in Nagamese & English at 9AM, 11 AM , 11:55 AM, 3 PM, 4 PM and 5PM. This special election results programme can be listened from Akashvani Kohima FM channel 103 MHz and NewsOnAir.

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The Nagaland Police have issued clarification regarding social media posts creating confusion on amount of TA or DA for Nagaland Police jawans on Election duty. In a clarification, the Nagaland DGP said that as per ROP 2017, Group C deployed outside the state was 1500 rupees. However, with revision the rate of Duty Allowance outside the state have been reduced to 550 rupees. The Police clarified that this has been done in view of ration, transportation and accommodation provided free of charge to the uniformed personnel on duty.

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Additional Deputy Commissioner, Peren, Japheth Woch has informed public that National Highway-129A which is under construction connecting Peren Town and Jalukie Town has been blocked due to heavy landslide near Old Jalukie Village. In this regard, the ADC has advised commuters to take road diversion through Old Peren Jalukie road from Peren town to Upper Jalukie and vice versa.

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