



Voting ends; turn out percentage reached over 69 % Fate of 11 candidates for Inner Manipur Parliamentary Poll sealed in EVMs

**IT News
Imphal, April 19,**

Voting for the Inner Manipur Parliamentary constituency ended at 4 pm today amidst report of booth rigging and poll related violence at many places particularly at Heingang, Kiyamgei and Andro Assembly constituency. As per report, the poll percentage reached over 69 much lesser than last Lok Sabha Election. Polling was held across 1300 polling stations under 32 Assembly constituencies in Manipur's four valley districts after people, mostly men started to vote at their respective polling stations from 7 am onwards. Interestingly a total of 138 polling stations including all polling stations under Yaiskul (38) and Bishnupur (40) Assembly constituencies

besides two polling stations each in every 30 polling stations are being manned by women polling personnel. One polling station in Imphal east district is also manned by persons with disabilities. Manipur is represented by two parliamentary constituencies - Inner Manipur and Outer

Manipur (ST reserved). The first phase for Outer Manipur was held on April 11. This time a total of 11 candidates: Dr R K Ranjan of BJP, O Nabakishore of Congress, Dr M Nara of CPI, G Tonsana of Manipur Democratic People's Front, S Nandeshore of Rashtriya

Janhit Sangarsh Party, RK Anand of North East India Development Party, O Jugindro of Manipur People's Party, RK Somorendro, M Tomtomana, W Pobitro Singh, Md Ilyash Khan, all Independent are contesting for the coveted Inner Manipur seat.

The fate of these candidates will be decided by the 9,28,626 electors including 4,47,843 males, 4,80,751 females and 32 third genders besides 4523 persons with disabilities. More than 40 companies of para military forces and state police were deployed for smooth conduct of the polling.

2 polling official injured; EVM, VVPAT destroyed in an IE polling station



**IT News
Imphal, April 18,**

Voting in the 6/10 - Kiyamgei High Madrassa polling station located at Kiyamgei Muslim Makhha Leikai, in Imphal east district of Manipur has been sabotaged after voters turn violent over alleged misconduct of the Presiding officer of the polling station. Large number of voters ransacked the polling booth alleging foul play by the presiding officers, EVM, VVPAT and the CCTV camera installed in the polling station were destroyed. In the uproar Presiding Officer L. Lovely Singh and Micro Observer P. Gunachandra sustained injury after they were assaulted and hit by stones pelted by the protestors. Security personnel deployed in the polling station fire several round of gunshot and resorted lathi charge to put the situation under control. The incident happened at around 11:30 am. Tear gas were also fired to disperse the crowd. At least four civilians were reported injured in the police action.

According to report, the crisis erupted after some of the political workers started rigging the booth by allowing proxy voters. However, the Polling official said that the incident happened after they tried to stop proxy voters. Workers of a political party also reportedly mishandled reports who were covering the events. Returning officer of Imphal East district rushed the spot and took stock of the situation. Later the RO signaled re-poll on the said polling station. At polling station 6/6 - Kiyamgei Mamang Leikai there were report of some incidents. One agent of the BJP while talking to media persons said that tension erupted among the voters after the Congress Candidate of the Inner Manipur O. Nabakishore stayed at the polling station for over 15 minutes. The Agent alleged that Nabakishore presence had disturb the free and fair polling at the station. Another source said that the BJP workers had forced the local journalist from covering the events.

CPI Candidate Dr. Nara alleges foul play at 6 polling stations; demands re-poll

**IT News
Imphal, April 19,**

Dr. M. Nara, candidate of the Communist Party of India in the Inner Manipur Parliamentary constituency today alleges foul play at 6 polling station of Andro Assembly constituency.

Talking to reporters Dr. Nara said that Minister Shyamkumar, using unfair means by not allowing any other supporters of other political parties inside the polling station. He urges immediate intervention of the Election Commission of India and demanded re-poll of the 6 polling station.

Congress candidate says- he was nearly assaulted by BJP workers

**IT News
Imphal, April 18,**

Congress Candidate of the Inner Manipur Parliamentary Constituency O Nabakishore today said that he was nearly assaulted by workers of the BJP at polling station No. 6/6 at Kiyamgei Mamng Leikai. Nabakishore said that BJP workers at the polling station No. 6/6 - Kiyamgei Mamng Leikai tried to prevent him from entering the polling station. He also alleges that he didn't see any of the election agent of other candidate including that of the Congress party. While he was inquiring on why the agent of the Congress is not allow a person came posing as congress agent. However he was later found out to be sent by BJP workers Nabakishore said. Congress supporter said they were not allowed to cast their

vote but sent out after marking inked at their finger. On the other a agent of the BJP while talking to media persons said that tension erupted among the voters after the Congress Candidate of the Inner Manipur O. Nabakishore stayed at the polling station for over 15 minutes. The Agent alleged that Nabakishore presence had disturb the free and fair polling at the station. Another source said that the BJP workers had forced the local journalist from covering the events. Meanwhile, O Nabakishore also said that in Andro Assembly Constituency polling station No. 7/10, 7/39 and 7/40 has been rigged by BJP workers. O Nabakishore demanded re-poll of the said polling station at Andro and also polling No 6/6 of Kiyamgei Mamng Leikai.

PwD woman struggled hard to cast vote; no special facilities provided

**IT News
Imphal, April 18,**

Despite promises for special facilities for People with Disabilities (PWDs) at all polling stations, here in the Inner Manipur Parliamentary Constituency, no such facilities were made avail at Polling station No. 20/6 - Young Men's Development Association at Heirangoithong Maibam Leikai of Langthabal Assembly constituency. A aged disabled lady who had come to cast her vote had to struggle hard all alone in walking to the Polling booth. She came alone on her own expenses from her home which is about 3, 4 Km from the polling station. During a press conference, CEO Manipur had stated that as per directives of the ECI, Election Machineries in the state has to provide special facilitation of all PWDs who come to cast his or her vote. They have to be assisted by volunteers who are below



voting age. Besides transportation the PwDs are to be awarded some gift and for the state of Manipur the CEO gifted wrist watch and key chain. At some of the polling stations there are report of PwDs receiving such facilities. However, Polling station No. 20/6 - Young Men's Development Association at Heirangoithong Maibam Leikai of Langthabal Assembly constituency no such facilities were availed.

Dr. Heptulla is the first Governor of Manipur to cast vote in the state



**IT News
Imphal, April 18,**

Governor of Manipur, Dr. Najma Heptulla, who is the first governor to have her name included in the voters' list of the state, today exercised her franchise in Inner Manipur Parliamentary Constituency for the 17th Lok Sabha Election. Governor Dr Heptulla was earlier enrolled in New Delhi. She enrolled in the electoral roll of the state and cast the vote at all women polling personnel manned 11/34 Old Lambulane (B) polling station which have 436 voters including 231 males and 205 females, located in the heart of Imphal town at 7:15 am. Dr Heptulla became the first voter to cast at the well decorated western wing of old lambulane Polling station.

Speaking to reporters after casting the vote, Dr Heptulla said one should cast their vote and that no one should waste their votes. On less participation of women in electoral politics, she said she had been fighting for this since she started to vote. After Beijing declaration, she said she had made a statement in Parliament for more representation of women in Parliament. Chief electoral officer (CEO), of Manipur P K Singh who accompanied the Governor to the polling booth said that the Governor's move can be considered a good sign of being a responsible citizen. The Election Commission of India (ECI) has even launched a national campaign recently titled 'It's so easy' to encourage people to move their vote to their present place of residence.

Repoll concludes in 19 Polling station of Outer PC

**From a correspondent
Imphal, April 18,**

Re-polling in 19 polling stations of Outer Manipur Parliamentary constituency in Manipur was held peacefully today. Reports received from hill areas said that polling started few minutes after 7 am. At 49/10-Tadubi (A-1) polling station located at Mao Maram higher secondary school under Tadubi Assembly constituency in Manipur's Senapati district, the repolling was started around 7.50 am due to malfunctioning of the voting machines, sources claimed. Similarly re-poll was also held at 10 other polling stations in Senapati district, namely 47/37-Kdom Khavii, 47/1-Koide polling stations under Karong assembly constituency, eight stations namely 48/11-Chawainu, 48/20-Songsong (B), 48/32-Makhel Keibi (A), 48/33-Makhel Keibi (B), 48/40-Tungam Khullen (D), 48/53-Tungyio (D), 48/65-Lai (A) and 48/68-Lai (C) under Mao assembly constituency, four polling stations in Ukhrul district namely 44/21-Shangshak, under Ukhrul

assembly constituency 45/43-Kachai, 45/17 Poi-A and 45/18 Poi-B under Chingai assembly constituency while three polling stations namely 57/01-Sanglei, 57/03-Songsong and 57/18-Songphu under Henglep assembly constituency in Churachandpur district. The re-poll is also held at 41/30 Mahouteria polling station in Chandel district. Thus re-polling was concluded at 11 polling stations in Manipur's Senapati district, four in Ukhrul district, three in Churachandpur district and one in Chandel district. The re-poll was necessitated after the returning officer for the Outer Manipur parliamentary constituency recommended for the same following day-long scrutiny of the polling stations in the constituency. Manipur which is represented by two parliamentary constituencies- Inner Manipur and Outer Manipur (ST reserved). The first phase for Outer Manipur was held on April 11 at 1562 polling stations under 28 Assembly constituencies in Manipur 12 districts.

Non locals spoil the sanctity of Khwairemband Ima Market

**IT News
Imphal, April 18,**

Around two to three non locals who were taking shelter as watchmen inside Ima Market were caught cooking meat near Keithel Ima Lairembi temple inside the Ima Keithel by some locals of Sagolband area yesterday evening. Some locals of Sagolband while enjoying evening walk around the Khwairemband Keithel went to look after they sense smell of cooking meat from the site where Ima Lairembi temple stand inside the Ima Market. They were surprised to see those non local cooking meat without respecting the indigenous goddess of the women's market. When asked whether they were permitted to cook meat inside the Ima market, the non locals said they didn't asked about it. It may be mentioned that vendor ladies of the Khwairemband Keithel had conducted drive against the presence of male in the market complex to safeguard the sanctity of the Ima Keithel. lately there were report of none local male selling goods among the women vendors and authority concerned turn blind to the matter most of the time.