

Election for 19 Rajya Sabha seats held: Manipur Legislative Assembly witnesses the toughest Rajya Sabha election today; counting begins at 8.50 Titular King Sanajoaba is the new Rajya Sabha MP from Manipur

IT News
Imphal, June 19:

Manipur Legislative Assembly witnessed the toughest Rajya Sabha election today as both ruling BJP and the opposition Congress play the hardest game ever witness in the state. The general perception of the ruling party always get an advantage in the Rajya Sabha Election nearly changed until the ruling BJP used its ultimate technique with all means to make sure that they get the number, no matter what the law of the country says.

Counting of the vote has been delayed by around 4 hours s the counting starts at around 8.50 pm today. Counting has been delayed after Congress party complaint to the ECI against Speaker Y. Khemchand and MLA Ngamthang Haokip for violation of pollregulation and also another complaint by MLA Robindro who has been disqualified by the Speaker within few hours without

giving him chance for explanation. The ECI finally give permission for counting of vote only at 840 pm today. Finally, BJP's candidate RK Sanajoaba (Leishemba Sanajoaba) won the lone Rajya Sabha seat defeating Congress candidate Tongbram Mangibabu. Sanajoaba gets 28 votes while Mangibabu gets 24 votes.

In the 60 member 11th Manipur Legislative Assembly, only 52 members voted to elect the lone Rajya Sabha seat after the disqualification of MLA Th. Shyamkumar, MLA Y. Surchandra, MLA S. Bira, MLA Ksh Biren of the Congress party, MLA Robindro of Trinamool Congress, and the 3 BJP MLAs - S. Subashchandra, TT Haokip, and Samuel Jendai. According to the report, there has been cross-voting from congress to BJP. A Facebook post from the Chief Minister's newly open page name CM N BIREN SINGH ONCE MORE, said that 7 Congress MLAs

voted for the BJP candidate and 2 votes were invalid. After the resignation of 3 BJP MLA yesterday the total number of BJP MLAs that can vote is 18. Naga People Front (NPF) which have openly declared to support the BJP candidate has 4 MLAs. The lone LJP MLA naturally voted for the BJP. What is interesting is that 3 among the 7 defected Congress MLAs, who were allowed to vote by the Speaker's tribunal early today morning voted for the BJP making the number to 31 as per the Facebook post from the Chief Minister N. Biren Singh's page.

As per the number and if in case there are no cross-voting the Congress Party calculated its number to 26 with its original 20 MLAs plus 4 from NPP, one from among the defected Congress MLA but later joined to the party after the speaker barred him from casting vote. He however was allowed after High court intervention and voted to make the number of Congress

Supporter to 25. In addition to this, the Congress counts its number to 26 with the support of the lone Independent candidate.

Interestingly, MLA Robindro who had been disqualified by the Speaker's tribunal today came to the state Assembly at late hour minutes before the end of the voting but could not vote due to reason not known. The source said that the voting was close as he reached the State Assembly with the court order.

However, not everything that has been calculated base on arithmetic proves wrong. The toughest Rajya Sabha Election concluded once more proving that the Ruling party always is in the upper hand.

RK Sanajoaba popularly known to the people as Leishemba Sanajoaba, the titular king of Manipur is today the new member of Parliament of the Rajya Sabha representing the state of Manipur.

Along with Manipur, 18 more Rajya Sabha seat election was

held at other states of India. According to all India Raio election for three Rajya Seat was held ay Rajasthan. Four candidates, two from Congress and two from BJP contested for three seats.

Voting was held till 4 p.m. and counting of votes begins at 5 p.m. The Congress has fielded K.C. Venugopal and Neeraj Dangi, while BJP's Rajendra Gehlot and Onkar Singh Lakhawat are in the fray. Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot, former Chief Minister Vasundhara Raje and BJP President Satish Poonia along with 120 legislators in the 200-member Legislative Assembly had cast their votes when the reports last came.

In Gujarat, election for four Rajya Sabha seats was held at the State Assembly Secretariat in Gandhinagar today. BJP has fielded three candidates, while the Congress has given tickets to two candidates.

The Election Commission has made elaborate preparation for elections in view of COVID-

19 pandemic. Sources said that every MLA is being screened for temperature, has to use a mask and maintain social distance.

Separate arrangements have been made for MLAs with fever or other symptoms.

In Mizoram, 39 out of total 40 legislators of State Assembly cast their votes by 2 p.m. during the election held for the lone Rajya Sabha seat. The polling process which began this morning will end at 4 p.m.

In the morning, the legislators started reaching the Assembly House wearing face masks and maintaining social distancing norms for casting votes amid the COVID-19 pandemic situation. The legislators had to pass through thermal screening as per the election commission guidelines.

In a triangular election, all legislative parties, except BJP fielded their candidates. The ruling Mizo National Front (MNF) has fielded its Core Committee Member K Vanlalvena, while the Zoram People's Movement (ZPM)

fielded B. Lalchhazova and the Congress candidate in fray is Dr. Lallianchunga. In the 40-member State Assembly, the ruling MNF has 27 members, ZPM seven, Congress five and the BJP has one MLA.

In Meghalaya, polling for the lone Rajya Sabha seat which began this morning is going on in full swing at the temporary Assembly building at Ribong, Shillong while the results will be announced this evening. Both the ruling Meghalaya Democratic Alliance (MDA) coalition and Opposition Congress are optimistic for a win.

Majority of the political bigwigs casting votes included Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad K Sangma; Leader of Opposition Dr Mukul Sangma; Assembly Speaker Metbah Lyngdoh; Senior Congress leader Charles Pyngrape; Power Minister James Sangma among others.

The two candidates include MDA common candidate and NPP State President Dr WR Kharlurkhi along with Congress candidate Kennedy Khyriem.

Lifting of PDS Rice and Dal continues for public distribution

IT News
Imphal, June 19:

To ensure that the people of the State are provided PDS items, the State Government continues lifting of rice and Dal allocated for public distribution in certain Assembly constituencies of the State.

A total of 567.60 quintal of rice under NFSA was lifted in Churachandpur district today. The lifted rice includes 395.60 quintal for Thanlon (Mualnuam) AC and 172 quintal for Henglep AC. Another 1414.85 quintal of rice under PMGKAY was also lifted for Henglep AC.

In Imphal East district, 2532.05 quintal of rice under PMGKAY was lifted today consisting of 1440.05 quintal for

Keirao AC and 1092 quintal for Yaikul AC respectively. Both the ACs has completely lifted the allocated quantities for the month of June.

In respect of Dal, 332 quintal for the month of May was also lifted today in Imphal East district. The lifted Dal are 84.92 quintal for Andro AC, 82.77 quintal for Lamlai AC, 75.74 quintal for Khundrakpam AC and 88.57 quintal for Heingang AC. All these four ACs have completely lifted the allocated Dal for May.

It is also reported that Jiribam AC in Jiribam district also lifted 2003.25,000 quintal of rice under NFSA and 297.95,000 quintal under PMGKAY from FCI godown, Jiribam today.

Under PMGKAY scheme, Kumbi AC in Bishnupur East

district lifted 1611.65 quintal of rice on 17.06.2020. The AC has lifted completely the allocated quota for the month of June.

On the same day, Nungba AC of Noney district and Tamenglong AC in Tamenglong district had lifted 589.95 and 1150 quintal of rice under PMGKAY from FCI godown, Sangapirou, while 47.66 and 96.75 quintal of Dal had been lifted for Nungba and Tamenglong ACs respectively from FCI godown, Koirengi.

The State Government has been lifting PDS rice and Dal under PMGKAY to ensure none to suffer on account of non-availability of foodgrains on the backdrop of the outbreak of COVID-19 and the ongoing lockdown in the State.

PM Modi to chair all-party meeting to discuss situation along India-China border

Agency
New Delhi, June 19:

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has convened an All-Party Meeting at 5 this evening to discuss the situation along the India-China border. The virtual meeting will be attended by Presidents of over 15 political parties.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh spoke to all party heads and asked them to attend the meeting.

The meeting assumes significance in the wake of recent violent face-off between Indian and Chinese troops in the Galwan Valley in eastern Ladakh.

Prime Minister Modi took a tough stand on the violent incidents and had on Wednesday

said that the martyrdom of 20 brave Indian soldiers at the Line of Actual Control will not go in vain. He also asserted that whatever may be the situation and circumstances, India will firmly protect every inch of its land and self-respect.

AIR correspondent reports that the Prime Minister's call for the All-Party Meeting is very crucial as it points to the need for a political consensus on the border conflict with China.


The recent departure of China from the broad Indo-China consensus over LAC and its premeditated violent episode of Monday has been dealt upfront by the Indian Authorities, whereas Beijing is yet to answer some really important questions.

As per the agency reports, Chinese side suffered over 40 casualties in the face-off in the Galwan valley. This claim is also corroborated by US Intelligence reports which suggest heavy Chinese casualties.

On the other hand, India has been vocal and affirmed that the unilateral attempt by the Chinese to change the status quo at LAC led to the martyrdom of 20 Army personnel, including a Colonel. External Affairs Ministry has said that the planned Chinese action in the Galwan Valley was directly responsible for the violence and casualties suffered by both sides which could have been avoided if the agreement at the higher level been scrupulously followed by them.

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