

HEADLINES

- Several candidates organise rallies to boost their strength and woo voters on the second last day of campaign for Assembly polls in Nagaland and Meghalaya.
- Manipur Legislative Assembly passes Manipur Parliamentary Secretary (Appointment, Salary and Allowances and Miscellaneous Provisions) Repealing Bill, 2018 amid walkout by opposition Congress.
- Mizoram Chief Minister Lal Thanhawla expresses hope that Congress will come to power in next Assembly election to be held later this year.
- Meghalaya election department organises “Rock the Boat with Your Vote” today at Wards Lake in Shillong to remind voters of their responsibility to vote for strong democracy.
- Centre sets up 20 ayurvedic healthcare centres in Assam, Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh.

RALLY

In Meghalaya, several candidates are organising rallies in their respective constituencies today to boost their strength and woo voters on the second last day of the campaign. As the last day of the campaign falls on Sunday tomorrow, most of the candidates chose to end their campaign today by organising big rallies. Union Minister Piyush Goel, K.J. Alphons, and Assam Health minister Himanta Biswa Sarma have addressed rallies in support of BJP candidates. Chief Minister Mukul Sangma, senior leader Sashi Tharoor, Gaurav Gogoi also campaigned for Congress candidates in the state. Other parties including the NPP, UDP, HSPDP, NCP, AAP also organized rallies. Meanwhile the ruling Congress in Meghalaya will release its election manifesto today. Polling in Meghalaya and Nagaland will be held on the 27th of this month. With only two days left for the campaign, political parties in Nagaland also organised rallies and tried to reach out to the people to seek their support. All India Radio, Kohima and other media agencies are also hosting political broadcast in order to let the people in the remotest part of the state know about their leaders and policies of political parties.

BILL

The Manipur Legislative Assembly yesterday passed the Manipur Parliamentary Secretary (Appointment, Salary and Allowances and Miscellaneous Provisions) Repealing Bill, 2018 amid walkout by the Opposition. When Chief Minister, N. Biren Singh moved the Bill for consideration and passing, opposition Congress legislators raised protest against the consideration of the Bill in view of the recent Supreme Court ruling on such a legislation of Assam as unconstitutional and the assent given by the President to disqualify AAP MLAs of the Delhi Assembly on the issue of office of profit. The Chief Minister tried to pacify the Congress legislators saying that there is no reason to restrict the passage of the Repealing Bill. But the opposition walked out of the House when the Speaker took up the Repealing Bill for consideration and passing.

MIZORAM

In Mizoram, Chief Minister Lal Thanhawla expressed the hope that the ruling Congress will come to power in the next Assembly election to be held later this year. Speaking at a Political Session at Congress Bhavan in Aizawl yesterday, Lal Thanhawla, who is also the President of Mizoram Pradesh Congress Committee said, the state's flagship program - New Land Use Policy has been successfully implemented in the state ensuring food, livelihood for the people as well as forest and environment security. According to Lal Thanhawla, the new Congress government will strive for a GDP growth of 10% in the coming years. The Congress has been in power in Mizoram for two consecutive terms since 2008.

VOTERS

In poll-bound Meghalaya, the state election department is organising an event called “Rock the Boat with Your Vote” today at Wards Lake in Shillong to create awareness among the voters and to remind them of their responsibility to vote for a strong democracy. Meanwhile Assam has assured the Election Commission of India to cooperate with Meghalaya for conducting the election. The assurance was given by Assam during a discussion with the full bench of the Election Commission via video conference yesterday participated by the Chief Secretary of Meghalaya and Assam and other officials. Issues related to coordination, law and order and security measures were discussed. Meghalaya has 19 Assembly seats bordering Assam and 177 polling booths where 103 polling parties have to move through Assam. The Assam government has also agreed to declare dry days in districts bordering Meghalaya on the polling and counting days. Meanwhile, around 69 lakh rupees and 28,000 litres of liquor have been seized so far in Meghalaya.

AYURVEDIC

At least 20 ayurvedic healthcare centres have been set up recently in Assam, Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh. Union Minister of State for AYUSH, Sripad Naik while addressing a national workshop on activities and contribution of the Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences said, these centres are contributing to the healthcare services in the remote districts of the North East region. Mr Naik also stressed on the need to encourage farmers to cultivate more medicinal plants.
