

Campaign for final phase of Jharkhand polls draws to close

Amit Bhelari

RANCHI

Campaigning for the second and final phase of the Jharkhand Assembly election concluded on Monday, with voting in 38 constituencies set to take place on Wednesday. Both the INDIA bloc and the Bharatiya Janata Party-led National Democratic Alliance leaders ended the campaign with big promises.

The prominent candidates in the second phase are Chief Minister Hemant Soren, who is contesting from the Barhait constituency, his wife Kalpana Soren from Gandey, and his brother Basant Soren from Dumka; BJP State president Babulal Marandi from Dhanwar; the Leader of the Opposition in the Jharkhand Assembly, Amar Kumar Bauri, from Chandankiyari; Shibu Soren's daughter-in-law Sita Soren from Jamtara; and All Jharkhand Students Union (AJSU) president Sudhesh Mahato from Silli.

In the second phase, the BJP is contesting 32 seats and its ally AJSU six seats. For the INDIA bloc, the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha is contesting 20 seats, the Congress 13, Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist) four, and the RJD

Both the INDIA bloc and NDA leaders ended the campaign for 38 constituencies with big promises

two. The JMM and CPI(M) will have a friendly contest in Dhanwar, while the Congress and the Rashtriya Janata Dal will engage in a friendly fight in Chattarpur and Bishrampur.

Out of 38 seats going to the polls, 27 are general and three are reserved for the Scheduled Castes, and eight for the Scheduled Tribes. Holding a series of rallies, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath promised a ban on cow slaughter in the tribal-dominated State.

He said as soon as the BJP-led NDA government is formed, it will oust the infiltrators and issue an advertisement for 1.5 lakh government jobs.

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Monday here slammed the BJP, alleging that the saffron party's thinking is against tribals.

He promised that if the INDIA bloc was to be voted back to power, the caste census would be conducted in Jharkhand and the 50% reservation cap would also be removed.

CAMPAIGN ENDS IN MAHA, J'KHAND; VOTING TOMORROW

DC CORRESPONDENT
WITH AGENCY INPUTS
NEW DELHI/ RANCHI/MUMBAI
NOV 18

The high decibel campaigns for Jharkhand and Maharashtra Assembly elections drew to a close on Monday for the second and final phase of polls to be held on November 20. In Jharkhand, the remaining 38 of the total 81 seats go to polls while all the 288 assembly seats of Maharashtra will go for voting on November 20. Votes will be counted on November 23 for the both states.

Eighteen of the 38 constituencies going to polls in Jharkhand on Wednesday fall in the Santhal Paragana region comprising six districts. The NDA has been alleging during electioneering that large-scale infiltration took place in Santhal Paragana during the past five years of the JMM-led regime.

A total of 1.23 crore voters including 60.79 lakh women and 147 third gender voters are eligible to participate in the voting on Wednesday.

Prominent among the candidates include Chief Minister Hemant Soren, his wife Kalpana Soren (both JMM), his sister-in-law Sita Soren (BJP), state BJP president and ex-CM Babulal Marandi, Assembly Speaker Ravindra Nath Mahto (JMM). Full report ■ P7

Poll code violation: BJP & Cong seek 7 more days to reply

DC CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI, NOV. 18

The Congress and the BJP have sought seven more days from the Election Commission to respond to poll code violation complaints they filed against each other in Jharkhand and Maharashtra.

In the wake of the BJP and the Congress lodging complaints against each other with the EC for code violations, the poll panel on Saturday had asked the presidents of the two parties to comment on the charges levelled against their leaders.

The EC wrote separate letters to BJP president J.P. Nadda and Congress chief Mallikarjun Kharge, asking them to comment on the complaint of the other.

The commission exchanged the complaints between the two parties while seeking their responses. The EC had sought formal responses from both party presidents by Monday.

Now, the sources said that both the Congress and the BJP have sought

IN THE wake of the BJP & the Cong lodging complaints against each other with the EC for code violations, the poll panel on Nov. 16 had asked the chiefs of the 2 parties to comment on the charges levelled

from the EC seven more days to send their respective responses.

While the Congress had accused Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union home minister Amit Shah of violating the poll code, the BJP had lodged a complaint against former Congress president Rahul Gandhi.

While seeking their comments, the poll panel had reminded them of the commission's earlier advisory to them during the Lok Sabha election to keep star campaigners and leaders under check so that public decorum is not flouted and the model code is followed in its letter and spirit during campaigning.

Campaigning for the Jharkhand and Maharashtra polls ended on Monday.

Deccan Chronicle

Date: 19-11-2014

NO ILLEGALITY IN PHONES' BAN AT POLL BOOTHS: HC

Mumbai, Nov. 18: The Bombay high court on Monday said there was no illegality in the Election Commission's decision prohibiting the use of mobile phones at polling booths in the upcoming state Assembly elections. A division bench of Chief Justice D.K. Upadhyaya and Justice Amit Borkar dismissed a public interest litigation filed by city-based lawyer Ujala Yadav against the ban on mobile phones at polling booths in the Maharashtra Assembly elections scheduled on November 20. The PIL had urged the HC to direct the Election Commission (EC) and the State Election Commission to allow voters to carry phones and to show their identity proof through the DigiLocker app introduced by the ministry of electronics and information technology. The bench said the EC has powers to introduce any measures for smooth functioning of the election process. "As it is the process of holding elections is a cumbersome process. And in this you (petitioner) are saying show documents in digilocker," the court said. The bench said no right is vested in any person to only show their document for verification on their phones via digital lockers. — PTI

Value of seizures in Maha, J'khand polls, bypolls breach ₹1,000cr mark

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: The value of poll-related seizures in Maharashtra and Jharkhand as well in the ongoing bypolls have breached the ₹1,000 crore mark this time.



Election Commission (EC) on Monday shared that the combined seizures in Maharashtra and Jharkhand — at ₹858 crore — were valued at almost seven times the seizures made during the 2019 assembly polls.

With the campaign having concluded on Monday, chief election commissioner **Rajiv Kumar** directed all enforcement agencies working under EC's supervision to be extra vigilant over the next couple of days.

EC grants BJP, Congress 7 more days to submit responses on violation of poll code

New Delhi: Election Commission (EC) has granted BJP and Congress an additional week to submit their respective comments on complaints filed against one another relating to statements made by their leaders allegedly in violation of the poll code and other laws.

The extension of the original Nov 18, 1pm, deadline comes as per requests received by the poll panel from both the parties, possibly in view of their preoccupation with assembly polls in Jharkhand and Maharashtra as well as bypolls. While the campaigning for current round of polls ended on Monday, polling is set to be held on Wednesday, followed by counting of Saturday. TNN

Of the total ₹1,082 crore seizures made between the announcement of polls on Oct 16 and Nov 18, ₹354.8 crore were in freebies, ₹302 crore in precious metals, ₹182 crore in cash, ₹123.6 crore in drugs, and ₹119.9 crore in liquor.

While Maharashtra recorded seizures worth over ₹660 crore this time as com-

pared to ₹103.6 crore in the latest round of polls, the figure for Jharkhand was ₹198 crore, up from ₹18.8 crore in 2019.

During review meetings with enforcement agencies and central observers, EC had consistently listed curbing the role of money power in the elections as a priority.

The Times of India

Dated: 19.11.2024

Take down objectionable social media post: EC to BJP

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Taking serious note of complaints from JMM and Congress against a 'misleading and malicious' video posted by the Jharkhand BJP on its social media platforms, Election Commission (EC) has asked the state's poll chief to immediately direct the Jharkhand BJP to take down the post.

The commission also directed the Jharkhand chief electoral officer (CEO) to seek an explanation from BJP on the alleged violation of the Model Code of Conduct because of the post, EC sources said.

The CEO has been directed to immediately take action in coordination with the designated authority under the IT Act's section 79(3)(b) to get the "objectionable" post removed, the sources said.

Di-Next

Dated: 19.11.2024

Cong, BJP seek extension to file replies to EC

NEW DELHI: The Congress and the BJP have sought seven more days from the Election Commission to respond to poll code violation complaints filed by them against each other in Jharkhand and Maharashtra, sources said Monday. In the wake of the BJP and the Congress lodging complaints against each other with the EC for poll code violations, the Commission exchanged the complaints between the two parties while seeking their responses. The EC has sought formal responses from both the party presidents by 1 pm on Monday (November 18). Now the two parties have sought from the EC seven more days to send their respective responses.

Di-Next

Dated: 19.11.2024

Electoral roll revision: 6.85 lakh forms received at special camps

CHENNAI: Over 6.85 lakh applications, including 4.42 lakh from young and first-time voters, have been received during special camps held on Saturday and Sunday for inclusion, deletion, and address change in electoral roll.

The camps were held at designated polling stations in 234 constituencies across the State as part of the special summary roll revision exercise. A total of 4,42,035 persons have submitted Form 6 for inclusion of their names in the electoral roll, while 1,98,931

have submitted Form 8 for shifting of residence, correction of entries in the existing electoral roll, replacement of EPIC, or marking of Persons with Disability, according to the Tamil Nadu Chief Electoral Officer.

Form 7, for objections to the proposed inclusion or deletion of names in the existing electoral roll, has been received from 44,128 persons, and 419 have submitted Form 6B for linking their Aadhaar with EPIC.

Similar camps will be held on November 23 and 24 across the State, according to TNCEO.

D2-Next

Dated: 19.11.2024

Ban on mobile phones at poll booths not illegal, says Bombay HC

MUMBAI: The Bombay High Court on Monday said there was no illegality in the Election Commission of India's decision prohibiting the use of mobile phones at polling booths in the upcoming state assembly elections.

A division bench of Chief Justice DK Upadhyaya and Justice Amit Borkar dismissed a public interest litigation filed by city-based lawyer Ujala Yadav against the ban on mobile phones at polling booths in the Maharashtra assembly elections scheduled on November 20.

The PIL had urged the HC to

direct the ECI and the State Election Commission to allow voters to carry phones and to show their identity proof through the DigiLocker app introduced by the Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology.

The PIL contends that voters need to carry their phones to access documents like voter ID through DigiLocker app

The bench said the ECI has powers to introduce any measures for smooth functioning of

the election process.

"As it is the process of holding elections is a cumbersome process. And in this you (petitioner) are saying show documents in digilocker," the court said. The bench said no right is vested in any person to only show their document for verification on their phones via digital lockers.

"We do not find any illegality (in ECI's decision)," the court said dismissing the petition. The PIL had also claimed voters would be discouraged from exercising their franchise as arrangements are not made for phones to be deposited at the polling booths.

Daily Thanthi

Date: 19.11.2024

சட்டமன்ற தேர்தல் நடைபெறவுள்ள

**மராட்டியம், ஜார்கண்டில்
ரூ.1,000 கோடி பறிமுதல்**

தேர்தல் கமிஷன் தகவல்

புதுடெல்லி, நவ.19-
மராட்டியம், ஜார்கண்ட் மாநில சட்டமன்ற தேர்தல் நாளை
(புதன்கிழமை) நடைபெறுகிறது. இதற்கான பிரசாரம் நேற்று
மாலை ஓய்ந்தது. வாக்காளர்களுக்கு பணம் மற்றும் பொருட்
கள் வழங்குவதை தடுக்க தேர்தல் பறக்கும் படையினர் தீவிர
கண்காணிப்பில் ஈடுபட்டு வந்தனர். இவ்வாறு இரு மாநிலங்க
ளிலும் நடந்த வேட்டையில், இதுவரை ஆயிரத்து 82 கோடி
ரூபாய் சிக்கி உள்ளதாக தலைமை தேர்தல் கமிஷன் நேற்று
தெரிவித்தது. இது கடந்த சட்டமன்ற தேர்தலை விட அதிகம்.

**வாக்காளர் பட்டியல்
திருத்த முகாம்களில்
6.85 லட்சம் பேர்
விண்ணப்பம்**

■ சென்னை

தமிழக தலைமை தேர்தல்
அதிகாரி அர்ச்சனா பட்நாயக்
நேற்று வெளியிட்ட செய்திக்
குறிப்பில் கூறியிருப்பதாவது:
இந்திய தேர்தல் ஆணையத்
தின் அறிவுரையின்படி
1.1.2025-ஐ தகுதி நாளாகக்
கொண்ட வாக்காளர் பட்டியல்
சிறப்பு சுருக்கமுறை திருத்தம்
2025-க்கான சிறப்பு முகாம்கள்
நவம்பர் 16 மற்றும் 17-ம்
தேதிகளில் (சனி, ஞாயிறு)
தமிழகம் முழுவதும் 234
சட்டப்பேரவை தொகுதிகளி
லும் நடைபெற்றன.

இதில் வாக்காளர் பட்டிய
லில் பெயர் சேர்ப்பு, பெயர்
நீக்கம், திருத்தம், இடமாற்
றம், ஆதார் எண் இணைப்பு
தொடர்பாக முதல் நாளில்
2 லட்சத்து 64 ஆயிரத்து 34
பேர், இரண்டாவது நாளில் 4
லட்சத்து 21 ஆயிரத்து 479 பேர்
என மொத்தம் 6 லட்சத்து 85
ஆயிரத்து 513 பேர் விண்ணப்
பம் அளித்துள்ளனர்.

இவ்வாறு அர்ச்சனா
பட்நாயக் கூறியுள்ளார்.

The Hindu (Tamil)

Date: 19-11-2024

தேர்தல் நடத்தை விதி மீறல் புகார் பதிலளிக்க அவகாசம் கோரியது பாஜக, காங்.

■ புதுவடல்லி

ஜார்க்கண்ட் மற்றும் மகாராஷ்டிர சட்டப்பேரவைக் கான தேர்தல் அறிவிக்கப்பட்டதைத் தொடர்ந்து, பாஜக மற்றும் காங்கிரஸ் கட்சிகள் தீவிர பிரச்சாரத்தில் ஈடுபட்டன. அப்போது, இந்த இரு கட்சிகளும் நடத்தை விதிகளை மீறி தேர்தல் பிரச்சாரங்களில் ஈடுபட்டதாக ஒன்றன் மீது ஒன்று குற்றம்சாட்டின.

இதுதொடர்பாக, தேர்தல் ஆணையத்திடமும் புகார் அளிக்கப்பட்டது. அதன்தொடர்ச்சியாக, இரு கட்சிகளின் தலைவர்களும் விதிகளை மீறியது தொடர்பான புகாருக்கு விளக்கம் அளிக்க தேர்தல் ஆணையம் உத்தரவிட்டது.

இந்த நிலையில், புகார் தொடர்பாக பதில் அளிக்க தேர்தல் ஆணையத்திடம் இரு கட்சிகளும் மேலும் 7 நாட்கள் அவகாசம் கோரியுள்ளன.