

Polling ends, eyes fixed on May 16



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Voting in Diphu, Silchar and Karimganj ended peacefully. Now the eyes are fixed on May 16 when the counting of votes would take place from 8 in the morning.

Barring a few complaints of EVM malfunction, the second phase of polling in the three constituencies were by and large peaceful.

The turn out is expected to touch 80 per cent. The real figure would be available on Sunday morning.

Polling began on a brisk note at 3,698 polling stations from 7 in the morning to decide on the fate of 37 candidates on Saturday. Polling in some booths continued even till 6 in the afternoon.

As soon as the voting began at 7 in the morning, voters in large number made long queues in front of the polling booths to exercise their franchise.

Karimganj seat is reserved for the Schedule Castes while Diphu (Autonomous District) is reserved for the Scheduled Tribes.

Silchar alone has 17 candidates, including seven Independents. BJP candidate Kabindra Purkayastha is facing keen contest with his Congress counterpart Sushmita Deb who is MLA from Silchar assembly constituency. AIUDF Kutub Ahmed Mazumder is also a prominent figure who enjoys support in some selected pockets.

Karimganj 15 candidates in the fray. They include eight independents. BJP has nominated Krishna Das while Congress has fielded Lok Sabha member Lalit Mohan Suklabaidya. AIUDF has pitted Radheshyam Biswas in this crucial seat.

There are five candidates for the Diphu constituency, including the Congress's sitting member Biren Singh Engti and the BJP's Joyram Engleng.

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