

RS POLL: Ruling, Opposition making last ditch attempts to ensure victory



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Hectic political activities have reached all time high a day before the Rajya Sabha polls for 2 seats from Assam on Thursday. The ruling Congress is all set to win the first one seat where the party fields Najneen Farooq. The party's second preference and sitting Rajya Sabha MP Silvous Condpan is facing a keen contest as the Opposition camp has fielded media baron Jayanta Baruah.

Both the ruling and the Opposition camps are in a last ditch effort to woo the MLAs barring party lines. The ruling Congress will fall short of some votes to ensure the victory of its second preference candidate. But efforts are on to ensure votes from the Opposition camps taking the advantage of the simmering discontent. In a significant development, the three independent MLAs namely Jiten Gogoi, Kushal Duwari and Panab Kalita are understood to have gone with the Congress. The ruling party further pins hope on three AIUDF MLAs along with 2 MLAs each from BJP and AGP. AIUDF MLA Rasul Haque Bahadur has made it plain that they would not toe the party line and would vote for Congress.

Dissidence is also reurfacing in the ruling Congress where a powerful circle of the party is not ready to ensure Condpan's victory. According to the sources, even Chief Minister Tarun Gogoi and state Congress president Bhubneswar Kalita is opposed to the victory of the second preference candidate. The voting will start from 9 on Friday morning to end at 5 in the evening and the results would be announced by 6 in the evening.

editor

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