

Stage set for second phase voting



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Preparations are complete to hold the second phase of Lok Sabha polls on Saturday.

The second phase covers Silchar, Karimganj and Diphu (Autonomous District) where 29,26,762 voters are expected to exercise their franchise at 3,698 polling stations to decide on the fate of 37 candidates.

Polling officials have already reached the booths to begin the voting at 7 in the morning.

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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