

# FATES OF CANDIDATES OF 8 CONSTITUENCIES IN DK TO BE DECIDED TODAY, SECTION 144 IMPOSED

Victory celebrations and rallies banned from 5am to 12pm; Counting to begin sharp at 8am at NITK in 8 halls

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
@ Mangaluru

THE fate of 8 assembly constituencies in Dakshina Kannada district will be decided today and the district administration has made elaborate arrangements for counting at NITK college premises in Surathkal on the outskirts of Mangaluru.

Dakshina Kannada deputy commissioner Ravi Kumar MR on Friday said that to maintain law and order section 144 has been imposed throughout the district and victory celebrations and rallies are banned from 5am to 12pm on Saturday. "Counting of votes will begin at 8am sharp in 8 separate

counting halls at NITK premises amid tight security. Postal ballot counting will begin at 8am while EVM votes will be counted from 8.30am onwards. Each hall has 14 tables for counting of EVM votes and 5 tables for counting of postal ballots. Each counting table will have a Returning Officer, Supervisor, a Micro Observer and the contesting candidate or an agent of the party is allowed to sit next to the RO's table. Every postal ballot counting table will have 4 personnel. Counting of EVM votes will be carried out by 336 personnel, and for postal ballots, 200 personnel have been deployed. There will be 18 rounds of counting and

web-casting. CCTVs has been installed at the counting centres, and the results are expected to be out by 2pm," said the DC in a press conference.

He further said that mobile phones and electronic gadgets are not allowed inside the counting centre and agents and candidates must be inside the counting hall by 7am. "There will be no power cuts at the counting centre from 12am on Friday to 12am on Saturday. If there is any issue in the EVM machine, votes will be counted from the VVPAT machine. There are 20,150 postal ballots in the district, which is the highest in the state," he added.

As many as 400 police personnel have been deployed including 2 paramilitary, 3 KSRP, 5 CAR battalions, including CISF and CRPF.

## Parking arrangements made near counting centre at NITK

Mangaluru: Mangaluru city police has made parking arrangements for the public arriving at the counting centre at Surathkal NITK and the personnel deployed on Saturday. Public arriving to the counting centre from Mangaluru must take left and proceed towards NITK Campus underpass and park their four-wheelers near the parking reserved near NITK Guest House. The two-wheelers must be parked at NITK

English Medium school ground or at a parking space reserved on Tadambail Sadashiva Mahaganapathi temple road via Surathkal Supreme Mahal Community Hall on the left side of the national highway. Those arriving from Mulki are directed to park their four-wheelers near NITK Guest House parking area and the two-wheelers must be marked on NITK English Medium school ground or at a parking space reserved on Tadambail Sadashiva Mahaganapathi temple road by taking a u-turn near Surathkal Supreme Mahal Community Hall. The officials and staff arriving at the counting centre must gain entry through NITK Main gate and park their vehicles at NITK Football ground. Vehicle parking has been banned near Supreme Mahal Community Hall, on National Highway road and also on the service road till the tollgate on NH-66 near NITK. The police have urged the public heading to Udupi and Mangaluru via National Highway 66 near NITK counting centre to take alternate routes as there are chances of traffic congestion.



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