



Uttarakhand Records 55% Voter Turnout

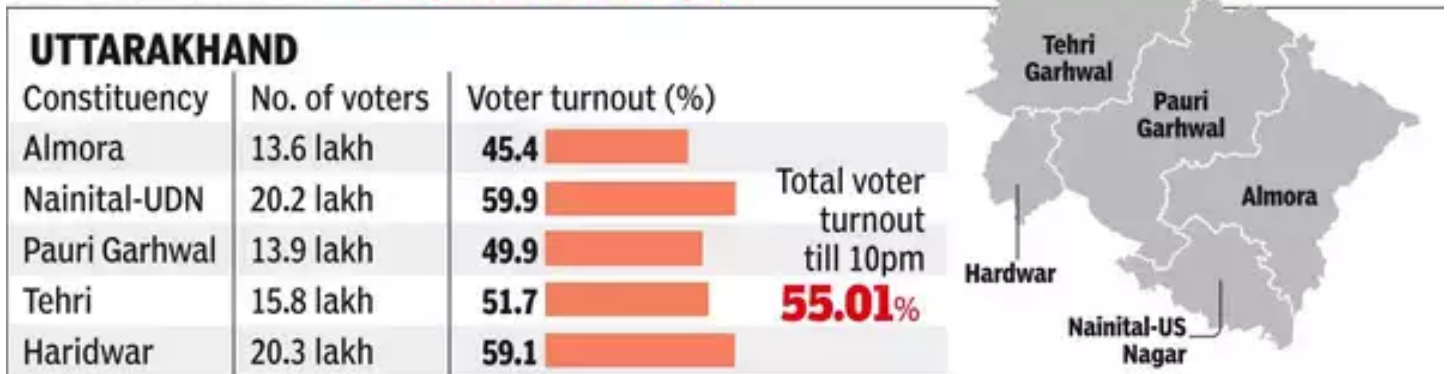
Why in News?

Uttarakhand recorded a **voter turnout of around 55.01 % across the five Lok Sabha seats** with a major dip of 6.3% votes (estimated) as compared to 61.4% in 2019 polls.

Key Points

- All **five constituencies** experienced a drop in voter participation in 2024 elections.
- The voter turnout was lowest in Almora at 45.4%, with the highest turnout seen in Nainital-Udham Singh Nagar constituency at 59.9%, followed by Haridwar at 59.7%, Tehri at 51.7%, Pauri Garhwal at 49.9%, and the SC reserve seat of Almora at 45.4%, as reported by the **official Election Commission of India app**.
- Uttarakhand has a collective of **83.2 lakh general electors** and additionally **93,357 service voters**.

SEAT-WISE SEGREGATION



Voter Turnout App

- This application was launched on **18th April 2019** by the **Election Commission of India to increase citizen participation in elections** and to provide instant information about voter turnout on the voting day.
- It is used to **display real time voter turnout details** including Male, Female and Third Gender in **each Assembly Constituency/Parliamentary Constituency**. This app can be used by citizens to capture live voter turnout data.
- The Voter Turnout app allows citizens to get information about the estimated voter turnout for each state separately. The **app also allows users to share voting percentage** with their contacts via Facebook, Twitter, Gmail and WhatsApp. That means any person can share the percentage of real-time voting in his social media account.
- **No data can be pre-fed in the Voter Turnout App**. The Voter Turnout App is designed to show estimated voter turnout for each state and can be used up to the district and assembly constituency level. On the day of voting, state wise, district wise and assembly constituency wise voter turnout updates can be seen.

Election Commission of India (ECI)

About

- **Autonomous Constitutional Authority** - Administers Union/state election
 - LS, RS, State LA, the offices of the President and VP
- Estd - **25th Jan 1950** (National Voters' Day)



Constitutional Provisions

Part XV - Article 324 to 329

Structure

- 1 Chief Election Commissioner and 2 Election Commissioners **appointed by President**
- **Tenure- 6 years, or up to the age of 65 years**, whichever is earlier
- Retiring ECs – **eligible for further appointment by the govt.**
- **Removal of CEC-** Resolution on the **ground of proven misbehaviour or incapacity**, with majority of 2/3rd members present and voting, supported by more than 50% of the total strength of the house



Major Roles and Responsibilities

- Determining Electoral Constituencies
- Preparing/Revising electoral rolls
- Notifying the schedules and dates of elections
- **Registering political parties and granting them the status of national or state parties**
- Issuing the Model Code of Conduct (MCC) for political parties
- Advising the President on **matters concerning the disqualification of MPs**



Challenges

- Truncated Tenure of CEC
- Executive Influence in Appointments
- Dependence on Centre for Finance
- Lack of Independent Staff



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