

## Speech

of

Gen (Dr) Vijay Kumar Singh PVSM, AVSM, YSM (Retd) Hon'ble Governor of Mizoram

On The Occasion of

National Voter's Day 2025

At

Assembly Conference Hall, Aizawl

On

25<sup>th</sup> January, 2025

Officials, invitees, participants, dear friends.

It is my pleasure to be with you today, as we join the whole Nation in observing the National Voters' Day.

The Election Commission of India, a body which has upheld the spirit of democracy over the years, was established on this day seventy five years ago on the 25th January, 1950.

Today, India's credibility as the largest and most successful democratic Nation is recognized worldwide.

We are proud to say that ever since Independence, free and fair elections had been held at regular intervals, as per the principles enshrined in the Constitution.

The Election Commission, as one of the pillars of democracy, has demonstrated exemplary commitment to strengthening democratic values, and has evolved with the changing times.

It has achieved a stellar reputation for conducting free and fair elections in the country.

The Election Commission has withstood the test of time, and has successfully provided a level playing field for all.

The use of Electronic Voting Machines, even in remote rural areas, was a bold experiment which has been applauded across the world.

Today, we are a thriving democracy, and the envy of our neighbouring countries which are in political turmoil.

The spirit of our vibrant democracy was demonstrated in the latest General Elections to the Lok Sabha in 2024, where electors from all walks of life made their voices heard in the largest democratic election in the world.

I applaud the Chief Electoral Officer, the District Election Officers, and all the officials involved for ensuring the successful conduct of the 2024 Lok Sabha elections.

However, I am pained to learn that five (5) police personnel tragically lost their lives while performing their duties during the election process.

The State Government had given ex-gratia payment of Rs. 15 lakhs each to their next of kin.

I commemorate the sacrifices made by these individuals in the line of duty for the success of democracy.

Citizen's participation in democratic elections begins with registration for voting.

Through the consistent efforts of all election officials involved, Special Summary Revision of Electoral Roll, 2025 has been completed, and the Final Electoral Roll was published on 6th January, 2025.

There are a total of 8,69,813 voters in Mizoram as per the Final Electoral Roll, out of which 4,20,888 are male voters, and 4,48,925 are female voters.

The main purpose of the National Voters' Day celebration is to spread awareness among voters regarding informed participation in the electoral process.

The theme for this year's National Voters Day is - "Nothing like voting, I vote for sure".

We must remember that voting is a powerful tool by which we shape the governance of our country.

Through our valuable votes, we ensure the accountability of our elected leaders.

In conclusion, I appeal to all the people of Mizoram to strive hard towards strengthening our democratic traditions, by being actively involved in the electoral process.

As responsible citizens, we can influence government decision-making through voting.

I congratulate the State Election Department for successfully organizing today's function.

Thank you.

Jai Hind!