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ELECTION COMMISSION OF BHUTAN

(Ensuring Free, Fair & Democratic Elections & Referendums)



ECB/CEC-NOTIF(01)/2023-2024/4952

Date: December 1, 2023

## Press Release

### Declaration of Results of the 4<sup>th</sup> National Assembly Elections, 2023-2024 (Primary Round)

The Election Commission of Bhutan (ECB), as per the provisions enshrined under Section 442 of the Election Act of the Kingdom of Bhutan, 2008, has the honour to declare the names of the two registered political parties which have secured the highest and the next highest number of valid votes cast in the Primary Round (PR) of the 4<sup>th</sup> National Assembly Elections, 2023-2024. The Primary Round of elections was successfully conducted in all the 47 National Assembly *Demkhongs* in the twenty Dzongkhags with the poll day on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2023.

The votes secured by the five registered Political Parties that contested the Primary Round of the 4<sup>th</sup> National Assembly Elections, 2023-2024 are as follows:

Sl. No.	Name of Political Party	Total Votes Secured	% of Total Votes Secured
1	Bhutan Tendrel Party (BTP)	61331	19.58%
2	Druk Nyamrup Tshogpa (DNT)	41106	13.12%
3	Druk Phuensum Tshogpa (DPT)	46694	14.91%
4	Druk Thuendrel Tshogpa (DTT)	30814	9.83%
5	People's Democratic Party (PDP)	133217	42.53%

The **People's Democratic Party (PDP)**, having secured the highest number of valid votes, and the **Bhutan Tendrel Party (BTP)**, receiving the next highest

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number of valid votes in the Primary Round shall contest the General Elections, 2023-2024.

The overall voter turnout is **63%**. Of the total **4,97,058** eligible registered voters, **3,13,162** voters cast their votes. From the total votes cast, **1,95,719** votes were cast in person on the Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) at the 809 polling stations and **1,17,443** votes were cast through Postal Ballots (PB-In-country & Overseas) and Special Early Voting (SEV).

The detailed results are available at the Election Commission's web page <http://www.ecb.bt/NAPR2023>.

With the formal declaration of the Results of the PR, the Election Commission of Bhutan invites the two Political Parties that secured the highest and next highest total number of votes to formally nominate one candidate each in all the 47 National Assembly *Demkhongs*, to contest in the General Elections as required by the electoral laws, from the accepted tentative list submitted along with the Letter of Intent (LoI).

The nominated candidates shall start filing their Nomination Papers to the respective Returning Officer starting from 4<sup>th</sup> December 2023. The last date for filing of nominations is on **9<sup>th</sup> December 2023**, as notified, vide Notification No: ECB/NOTIF-01/2023/4403 dated 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2023, calling the 4<sup>th</sup> National Assembly Elections, 2023-2024.

The other three political parties, namely, Druk Nyamrup Tshogpa (DNT), Druk Phuensum Tshogpa (DPT), and Druk Thuendrel Tshogpa (DTT) that contested

the Primary Round are reminded to file the Returns of Election Expenses to the concerned Dzongkhag Election Office or directly to the Public Election Fund Division of the ECB within thirty days of the official declaration of the Primary Round results. The Returns of Election Expenses must be filed not later than 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023 in the prescribed form (**Public Election Fund Form No. 9A (PR)**)

**Issued on the 19<sup>th</sup> day of the 10<sup>th</sup> Month of Water Female Rabbit Year, corresponding to the 1<sup>st</sup> December 2023**

**Chief Election Commissioner of Bhutan**