

**OFFICE OF THE RETURNING OFFICER FOR THE
VICE-PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION, 2017 AND
SECRETARY-GENERAL, RAJYA SABHA**

PRESS NOTE

The polling for the 15th Vice-Presidential Election, 2017, which commenced at 10.00 A.M. today, the 5th of August, 2017 in Room No. 62, First Floor, Parliament House, New Delhi closed at 5.00 P.M.

2. Out of the 785 electors comprising the Elected and Nominated Members of Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha, **771** electors cast their votes before closure of the poll, *i.e.*, 5.00 p.m. The total elector turnout was accordingly **98.2%**.

3. Only one Ballot Box was used for the poll, which was sealed up immediately after the close of poll at 5.00 P.M. in the presence of the authorized representatives of the contesting candidates and Election Observers.

4. The counting of votes commenced at 6.00 P.M. The Ballot Box was opened in the presence of the candidate Shri Gopalakrishna, the authorized representatives of the contesting candidates, Election Observers and Counting Officers, whom I had appointed to assist me in counting of votes. The Ballot papers taken out were first scrutinized, the valid and invalid ballot papers were segregated and the valid ballot papers were distributed according to the first preference vote secured by each candidate.

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5. **771** Votes were polled, out of which **760** were valid and **11** were invalid. The quota sufficient to get a candidate elected was determined by dividing the total number of first preference votes secured by both candidates by two and then adding one to the quotient. The said quota was **381**. As all of you are aware, the value of votes for the Vice-Presidential Election is **One (1)**. Shri Venkaiah Naidu M. has secured **516** first preference votes and Shri Gopalakrishna **244** votes. As the first preference votes secured by Shri Venkaiah Naidu M. was greater than the requisite quota, I, in my capacity as Returning Officer, declare **Shri Venkaiah Naidu M.** duly elected to the Office of the Vice-President of India.

6. Overall, the 15th Vice-Presidential Election was conducted in a free, fair and orderly manner. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the candidates and their authorised representatives for their co-operation which facilitated early completion of the proceedings.

NEW DELHI,
August 5, 2017.