Bolivia Prepares For Local Elections

La Paz, March 27 (teleSUR-RHC) Bolivian President Evo Morales assured voters that candidates from his ruling Movement Toward Socialism (MAS) would secure electoral victory leading up the gubernatorial and local elections on Sunday.

In an interview on Thursday, the final day of electoral campaigning, Morales told the Bolivian media outlet Gigavision, that he was confident in his party's ability to fulfill campaign pledges such as increasing investment in local infrastructure projects as well as in health and education.

"Sunday we will once again reaffirm that MAS is the most powerful political party in Bolivian history and represents the consciousness of the Bolivian people," Morales stated.

The latest Ipsos poll published shows the MAS winning the governorships of Bolivia's states of Cochabamba, Potosi, Oruro, Chuquisaca and Pando. The survey also projected MAS as winning mayoral election races in seven of the country's ten major municipalities.

Disturbingly for MAS party, in La Paz state, its traditional stronghold, Felix Patzi of the left-wing Sovereignty and Liberty Party (Sol.bol) holds a 34 percent to 26 percent lead over MAS's candidate, Felipa Huanca. "We cannot loose, I am very confident. I don't put too much stock in the voter opinion polls, rather I put faith in what we stand for, in the social movement and in the people," he stated.

On Wednesday, Bolivian vice president Alvaro Garcia Linera also encouraged Bolivians to cast their vote on Sunday to "construct a new Bolivia." "In the coming days I call on Bolivians to take time to reflect and participate in a peaceful way by casting your vote on Sunday," Linera told Bolivian state television.

On Sunday, more than six million registered electors will vote for nine governors, 339 mayors, assembly members, town councilors and judges, who will assume their posts for the next five years.

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