

Absence of electoral jurors delays elections in Bolivia



For a polling station to start receiving voters it requires at least three jurors. | Photo: Erbol

La Paz, March 7 (RHC)-- The absence of electoral jurors in several of the polling stations was a trend that was registered at the beginning of the opening of the subnational elections in several cities of Bolivia, but it has been a problem that was solved during the course of the day.

In an unusual event at the table that corresponded to President Luis Arce, it took three hours to enable the polls, but the president was able to cast his vote. At the time, Arce regretted this incident but assured that the polling stations will be open.

"It is very regrettable what was evidenced in several tables, it should generate a deep reflection in the Electoral Body (OEP), this did not happen in the national elections, when very early the tables were already working. There is something wrong and the Electoral Body must evaluate", declared the Chief of State.

Arce pointed out that despite the delays, voters must go to the polls to cast their vote. "We urge all the people to go to the polls, and to those who have been in charge of the polling stations, to go and fulfill their duty to the Bolivian society," he said.

According to the Bolivian electoral authorities, the day has developed normally except for the incidents in the opening of the polling stations, an event that was not registered in the last presidential elections in October 2007.

Reports of the absence of electoral jurors abound in different cities, where in several precincts notaries had to wait for citizens to line up and proceed to elect the polling station authorities on the spot.

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