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STATE TIMES

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03 Additional 200 MW Power to bring major respite for people of Jammu in scorching Summer: MD JPDCCL

03 Modi Govt created enabling milieu for Kashmir's huge voter turnout: Dr Jitendra

05 SSP Jammu recommends strong action against vehicles continuously indulging in bovine smuggling

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Democracy triumphs again in J&K; Anantnag PC registers around 53 pc polling

J&K records 58.11 pc polling in 5 PCs, highest in 35 years



Voters exercising their franchise for Anantnag PC at various polling stations.

Chief Electoral Officer, J&K, Pandurang K Pole briefing media on Saturday.

STATE TIMES NEWS

ANANTNAG: In a historic display of democratic fervor, electors in Anantnag Parliamentary Constituency turned out in a remarkable numbers to vote peacefully in the sixth phase of country-wide General Elections to 18th Lok Sabha registering a significant voter turnout of around 53%.

"The significant participation of voters, including first timers, women and senior citizens stands testament to strength and resilience of democracy in the Union Territory", stated Chief Electoral Officer, Pandurang K Pole while elaborating on details in this regard.

With conclusion of the Lok Sabha Polls in the UT, Jammu and Kashmir has registered an unprecedented 58.11 per cent polling in its five Parliamentary Constituencies which is highest in the past 35 years, added the CEO.

"It is the highest turnout for these five seats in the last 40 years. The previous high was 49 per cent recorded in 2014, while the turnout in 1996 was 47.99 per cent," Pole added, reports PTI.

He said the Surankote, Rajouri and Budhal Assembly segments recorded the highest turnout of 68 per cent.

The Kulgam Assembly seg-

Six injured in clash outside polling station

MENDHAR: Six persons including four women suffered minor injuries in a clash between supporters of two candidates outside a polling station in Mendhar sub-division in Poonch district on Saturday, officials said. However, the voting at the polling station in the Shahpur sector

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Reasi Admn to celebrate birth of every girl child in 2024

REASI: Stressing special emphasis on Beti Bachao Beti Padhao Scheme, District Development Commissioner Reasi, Vishesh Mahajan on Saturday issued special instructions to celebrate the birth of every girl child born in year 2024 in the

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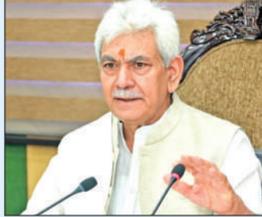
WEATHER
Temperature (Jammu)
Max: 41.0°C Min: 22.4°C
Humidity
Max: 53 Min: 18
Temperature (Srinagar)
Max: 30.7°C Min: 13.8°C
Humidity
Max: 60 Min: 37
Sunset : 19:29 Hours
Sunrise : 05:25 Hours

LG congratulates people, stakeholders on historic turnout

SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Saturday congratulated the people and all the stakeholders on historic turnout in Anantnag-Rajouri Parliamentary Constituency polls.

He also commended Jammu Kashmir Police and Security forces for elaborate security management during polls in all five Parliamentary Constituencies of the Union Territory.

In a tweet, the Lt Governor said:



"I congratulate the people for historic turnout in today's polls for Anantnag-Rajouri Parliamentary Constituency. I compliment all stakeholders for successful conduct of this huge exercise, especially voters for their unique contribution in strengthening democratic values. Overall, there has been 58 per cent polling in J&K UT for 5 Parliamentary Constituencies in 5 phases, which is a record turnout and the entire process was conducted in a free, fair and transparent manner. Congratulations to the JKP & Security forces for elaborate security management".

ment recorded the lowest poll percentage of 32.

Pole said the polling was by and large peaceful, with no violence reported from anywhere.

The peaceful conduct of polling in the last phase in Jammu and Kashmir witnessed around 53% voting in the districts of Anantnag, Kulgam, Poonch besides Shopian and Rajouri districts partly. Fractional correction is expected in the per-

centage figure, as at some of the Polling Stations voting continued even after 6.00 pm and many polling parties are yet to reach the Reception Center.

This remarkable participation marks a new era of peace and civic engagement in these districts. This year's elections were conducted without any boycott calls or intimidation, exhibiting voters' unwavering belief in the power of ballot. Not a single

PoK is ours and we will take it: Amit Shah

ANURAG THAKUR AND RAJIV SHIMLA/UNA/DHARAMS HALA: Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) is a part of India and "we will take it", Home Minister Amit Shah asserted on Saturday as he castigated the Congress for trying to "frighten" the BJP by saying the neighbouring country possesses atom bombs.



Addressing rallies in support for BJP candidates

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INDIA bloc performing 'Mujra' for its vote bank: Modi

BUXAR/DEHRI/BIKRAM (BIHAR): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday vowed to thwart alleged attempts to rob Dalits and backward classes of reservations by the INDIA bloc which he accused of "enslavement" and performing "Mujra" for Muslim vote bank.

Addressing back-to-back rallies in Buxar, Karakat and Patliputra Lok Sabha constituencies in Bihar, the prime minister also charged the opposition coalition with indulging in "scaremongering", and claimed that he had been working "without fear" to wipe out terrorism and root out corruption.

"Bihar is the land which has given a new direction to the fight for social justice. I wish to declare on its soil that I will foil the plans of the INDIA bloc to

At the time of culmination of Polling, Assembly Segment Wise tentative voter turnout in the Anantnag PC was as under:

Sr. No.	Assembly Segment	Poll % at 5:00 PM (tentative)	Close of Poll (tentative)
1	Zainpora	39.40%	40.00%
2	D.H. Pora	55.00%	55.00%
3	Kulgam	31.99%	32.00%
4	Devsar	41.50%	44.00%
5	Dooru	45.21%	46.00%
6	Kokarnag	50.00%	52.00%
7	Anantnag West	34.65%	36.09%
8	Anantnag	31.21%	33.48%
9	Srigufwara Anantnag East	42.40%	43.00%
10	Shangus Anantnag East	41.94%	43.00%
11	Pahalgam	55.63%	56.00%
12	Nawshera	65.47%	65.47%
13	Rajouri	67.09%	67.18%
14	Budhal	64.91%	67.00%
15	Thanamandi	65.34%	66.20%
16	Surankote	62.95%	68.36%
17	Poonch Havelli	64.19%	67.35%
18	Mendhar	64.69%	66.08%
Total Poll on Polling Station		51.35%	53.00% (Approx) 40%
Total Migrant Special PS Polling		Approx. 39% overall (at Udhampur 50 % and Delhi 53%)	40%
Total Postal Votes received (Absentee, VFC and receive ETPBMS till date) Votes			9761 (till date received)

These figures against each Assembly Segment are tentative as postal votes polled during home voting, through EDC, Postal ballot, ETPBs and Migrant votes polled at special polling stations have not been added.

Sr. No.	Year	Anantnag PC
1	2019	9.70
2	2014	28.20
3	2009	27.10
4	2004	15.04
5	1999	14.32
6	1998	28.15
7	1996	50.02
8	1991	No election held, due to turmoil
9	1989	5.07

Will initiate process of holding assembly polls in J&K very soon: CEC

NEW DELHI: Encouraged by the voter turnout in Jammu and Kashmir in the Lok Sabha polls, the Election Commission will "very soon" initiate the process of holding assembly polls in the Union Territory, Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar said on Saturday.



He also told PTI Videos that the people of Jammu and Kashmir deserve their government.

Responding to a question

people's participation in the parliamentary polls.

"It's music to (my) ears. People -- youth, women -- are happily turning out in large numbers (to vote). The roots of democracy are being further strengthened, people are participating," he said.

"They deserve their government. We will initiate that process very soon... very encouraged to do this," the CEC added.

While announcing

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Serpentine queues in South Kashmir, kin of terrorists cast ballot

SHOPIAN/NOWSHERA: In a remarkable display of resilience and commitment to democracy, the residents of villages that had long been deprived of polling due to terrorist threats and separatist-sponsored boycott calls turned out in large numbers to cast ballots in the sixth phase of Lok Sabha polls on Saturday.

Braving scorching sun, people stood in serpentine queues and patiently waited to participate in the electoral process -- first major battle since the abrogation of Article 370 and the division of Jammu and Kashmir into

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Displaced KPs vote for homeland, peace in Kashmir

JAMMU: Displaced Kashmiri Pandits turned out enthusiastically in large numbers to vote for the Anantnag Lok Sabha constituency at various polling stations in Jammu, seeking peace and the establishment of their 'homeland' in the Kashmir Valley.

In the sixth phase of the Lok Sabha elections for Kashmir's Anantnag-Rajouri constituency, nearly 52 per cent of the 18.36 lakh eligible voters cast their votes. This includes nearly 40 per cent of the over 27,000 Kashmiri Pandits, who voted at 34 special polling stations set up for the community in Jammu, Udhampur and Delhi.

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Livelihood can wait, voting can't: Ponywallahs

PAHALGAM: They are often seen jostling with each other to pick up tourists for pony rides in this south Kashmir resort but on Saturday the ponywallahs decided to make visitors wait.

They had to cast their vote for the polls to the Anantnag-Rajouri Lok Sabha constituency in Jammu and Kashmir in the sixth round of the seven-phase general elections.

"I left my horses to graze and went to cast my vote as it is my right," Muzaffar Ahmed, a ponywallah, said and added that others also took time out to exercise their franchise as it was "very essential in a democracy".

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Four tourists from Punjab killed in car accident in Kulgam Distt

LG Sinha expresses grief

SRINAGAR: Four tourists from Punjab were killed and three injured when their car skidded off the road in Kulgam district, officials said on Saturday.

The incident took place at Nipora area of the south Kashmir district, the officials said, adding that all seven tourists were in an SUV and were returning from Qazigund.

Four tourists died on the spot, while the three injured were rushed to GMC hospital in Anantnag for treatment, the officials said.

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Four children among 27 killed in Rajkot game zone fire; owner detained, SIT probe ordered

RAJKOT: At least 27 persons, including four children under the age of 12, were killed in a massive fire that swept through a game zone teeming with people enjoying a summer vacation outing in Gujarat's Rajkot city on Saturday evening, officials said.

The death toll is likely to go up, they said.

Police have detained the owner of the TRP Game Zone and the manager while the state government assigned the probe to a Special Investigation Team.

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Relief and Rescue operations have been underway at the affected game zone for more than six hours after the blaze erupted at a structure built using metal and fibre sheets for gaming activities