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STATE TIMES

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Website : www.statetimes.in, Email: statetimes1@gmail.com

Clear fight between Gandhi-Abdullah families and BJP: Amit Shah

'Jobs ready for youths in J&K holding laptops and tricolour, jail for stone pelters'

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
KISHTWAR: Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Monday said there is a clear fight between the Congress-National Conference alliance and the BJP - one wanting to bring back Article 370, and the other committed to stopping it.

He said voting in favour of BJP candidate Shugan Parihar is not only for development and progress but also to pay tribute to martyrs, including her father.

"This election in Jammu and Kashmir is clearly between two forces. On one side are the National Conference (NC) and the Congress, and on the other side is the BJP. It is a contest between the BJP and the Gandhi-Abdullah families. Both have clear agendas," Shah told a public rally here.

He said the BJP follows the ideology of Prem Nath Dogra - "One Constitution, one flag, and one Prime



Union Home Minister Amit Shah along with senior BJP leaders during public rally at Chanderkote on Monday.

Minister," affirming that Jammu and Kashmir is an inseparable part of India, and "no one can reverse that".

Shah, who was campaigning in support of party candidates Shugan Parihar, Sunil Sharma, and Taraq Keen, said the NC and the Congress have said they will restore Article 370 if their government comes to power. "The reservations now available to hill people and

Gujjars will be taken away under Article 370," he said.

"It is a contest between those who want to bring back Article 370 and those who have made it history," he added.

"What (Prime Minister) Modi ji did by removing Article 370 has become a page in history. There is no place left for Article 370 in the Constitution of India. In Jammu and Kashmir, there can never again be two

Constitutions, two prime ministers, and two flags. The flag will always be our beloved Tricolour," he said.

Hitting out at the NC and the Congress, he said efforts are still being made, similar to those in 1990, to strengthen terrorism again. "The NC and the Congress have made some promises that if their government comes to power, they will release terrorists," he said.

"Today, I tell you all that

this is the Narendra Modi government; no one has the courage to spread terrorism on Indian soil," he added.

He accused the NC-Congress alliance of "nurturing" terrorism. "Whenever the National Conference and the Congress formed the government in the valley, terrorism thrived," he alleged.

"Remember the 1990s... I want to ask (former chief minister) Farooq

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KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ Once three families--Abdullah, Mufti, and Congress-- are defeated, BJP government will bury terrorism so deep that it won't return for seven generations
- ▶ To win elections, JKNC, Congress even willing to seek refuge with terrorists
- ▶ Cong, which once labeled Abdullah family as traitors and held them responsible for terrorism, now aligning with them out of sheer hunger for power
- ▶ Cong, NC want to reinstate Art 370, but it is now a part of history, no one can bring it back
- ▶ Cong, NC want to end reservation, but BJP will not let that happen
- ▶ During Cong government, even Home Minister was afraid to visit Lal Chowk, but today Tricolour flying proudly at Lal Chowk; Shinde should visit Kashmir now
- ▶ Cong, NC want to talk with Pakistan and restart LOC trade, but no talks will be held with Pakistan until terrorism in J&K ends
- ▶ In 35 years of Cong, NC government, over 40,000 people martyred. Will Rahul Gandhi, Farooq Abdullah take responsibility for these deaths?
- ▶ If government is formed by Omar Abdullah, who opposed Afzal Guru's hanging, and Congress, there will once again be stone-pelting, shootings, terrorist funerals, and attacks on Amarnath Yatra
- ▶ If BJP government is formed, every household's oldest woman will receive Rs 18,000 per year, two free gas cylinders
- ▶ Rs 10,000 will be provided to farmers annually, electricity bills will be reduced by 50 pc, metro services will be introduced in Jammu, Kashmir
- ▶ Targets Farooq Abdullah for remarks against Army, calls for strong anti-terror stance

Cong releases manifesto for J&K polls, promises welfare measures for farmers, women

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: The Congress on Monday released its manifesto for the Assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir, promising a slew of welfare measures for farmers, women and the youth.

The highlight of the manifesto -- Haath Badlega Halaat -- is insurance for all crops against natural calamities and a minimum support price (MSP) of Rs 72 per kilogram for apple.

The manifesto was released by AICC chief spokesperson Pawan Khara and PCC president Tariq Hameed Karra at the party office here.

"We will provide an addi-

tional financial support of Rs 4,000 for landless, tenant, and land-owning farming households per year. We will also arrange 99-year leases to landless farmers cultivating state land," Khara said.

He said a Rs 2,500-crore fund will be set up for all district-level irrigation projects to ensure 100 per cent irrigation for farmers in Jammu and Kashmir.

For the youth of Jammu and Kashmir, the party promised an unemployment allowance of up to Rs 3,500 per month for one year to qualified youths. The party promised to fill one

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CEO launches Voters' Pledge Campaign under SVEEP

Releases 'Vote Ka Tyohar' to motivate voters

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: In a significant stride towards fostering a culture of responsibility among the electorate, Office of Chief Electoral Officer (CEO), J&K has launched a Voters' Pledge campaign ahead of the J&K Assembly Election 2024, with an aim to increase the voter turnout across the UT.

The campaign was launched under SVEEP (Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation), a flagship programme of the Election Commission of India (ECI) to promote voter education



CEO J&K P K Pole launching Voters' Pledge campaign in Jammu on Monday.

and participation in elections commencing on 18 September, 2024 across Jammu and Kashmir.

The Voters' Pledge cam-

paign aims to inspire all the citizens of J&K UT to endorse the initiative and pledge their unwavering support to actively participate in

the upcoming Assembly Elections.

The voters who wish to create their Voters' Pledge certificate can click on the link SVEEPjk.in and follow some simple steps to download a 'Certificate of Commitment', duly signed by CEO, Pandurang K Pole, which includes the name of the voter, name of his/her Assembly Constituency including the certificate number.

The particular voter has to enter his/her name and select the Assembly Constituency to which they

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Those filled with hate not leaving any chance to defame India: Modi

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
AHMEDABAD: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday alleged certain individuals filled with hate and negativity are defaming the country, a remark coming amid a political row over certain statements made by Congress leader Rahul Gandhi abroad.

Modi laid the foundation stone and inaugurated various projects of Rs 8,000 crore, including the flagging off of Bhuj-Ahmedabad Namu Bharat Rapid Rail,

the first Vande Bharat metro service, and five Vande Bharat express trains, in Ahmedabad.

Addressing a gathering, Modi, without taking names, said they (Opposition) can cross any limits for appeasement politics. "Some people filled with negativity

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Multi-tier security arrangements put up in J&K ahead of assembly polls

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: Multi-tier security arrangements have been put in place to ensure free and fair assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir; a senior police official said.

"As the first phase of voting will take place on September 18, Jammu and Kashmir police have made elaborate security arrangements for the assembly polls so that maximum number of people can exercise their right to vote," Inspector General of Police Kashmir Zone V K Birdi told PTI.

Birdi said Central Armed Paramilitary Forces (CAPF), Jammu and Kashmir Armed Police and JK Police will be deployed as part of the multi-tier security plan for the elections in the union territory, which will be first since abrogation of Article 370 in 2019.

"The CAPF units, JKAP and JKP are part of the security plan. A multi-tiered security plan is there, be it for strong rooms,

J&K deserve real progress, not hollow rhetoric: Azad



DPAP Chairman Ghulam Nabi Azad addressing a road show at Doda on Monday.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
DODA: Former Chief Minister and Democratic Progressive Azad Party (DPAP) Chairman Ghulam Nabi Azad on Monday made a fervent appeal for unity and called for an end to the

loss of countless lives and stalling the region's development.

He emphasised that these misleading promises have only widened the gap between the people and progress.

Reflecting on his tenure as the Chief Minister, he highlighted the significant strides made in infrastructure and development under his leadership.

He said the people of J&K deserve real progress and not hollow rhetoric.

"Today, the people of Jammu & Kashmir are not asking for slogans; they are asking for free ration,

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Police flags fake Facebook account of ADGP, Jammu

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Police on Monday flagged a fake Facebook account of ADGP, Jammu zone Anand Jain, advising people to be cautious and report any suspicious online activity to them.

They urged people to not engage with any such account and refer to verified social media handles of Jammu and Kashmir Police for information.

In a statement, Jammu and Kashmir Police said a thorough investigation is underway in the case and strict action will be taken in accordance with the

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Abdullah frustrated with new-found peace, progress in J&K: Chugh

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: Reacting to Farooq Abdullah's statement that BJP's claims of normalcy post-Article 370 abrogation fall flat, BJP leader Tarun Chugh strongly rebutted the National Conference (NC) leader, saying that Abdullah was frustrated in the face of new-found peace and development in the Valley.

Chugh said that the region, once plagued by instability under the rule of the Abdullaha and Muftis, has now transformed from a "ter-

rorism capital" to a "tourism capital" ever since Article 370 was done away with.

Chugh also said that NC,

benefit. He said that it was the Modi-led BJP government that ended this "eclipse" in J & K and ushered in an era of peace and prosperity in the region.

Chugh emphasized the BJP's success in replacing "terrorism with tourism" and bringing unprecedented growth, citing the high voter turnout in elections as evidence of the public support for the current government's policies. He criticized the NC, accusing the party of

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24 constituencies in Phase 1 set to go for polls on Sep 18

23.27 lakh electors eligible to vote for 219 candidates; poll parties dispatched for 3276 Polling Stations across 7 districts

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The Polling for the first phase of General Elections to Legislative Assembly for the Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir is scheduled for September 18 in 24 Assembly Constituencies.

As many as 3276 polling stations have been set up for polling to be held in Pampore, Tral, Pulwama, Rajpora, Zainapora, Shopian, DH Pora, Kulgam, Devsar, Doornu, Kokernag (ST), Anantnag West, Anantnag, Srigufwara-Bijbehara, Shangus-Anantnag East, Pahalgam, Inderwal, Kishtwar, Padder-Nagseni, Bhadarwah, Doda, Doda West, Ramban and Banihal Assembly Constituencies.

In the first phase, there are 3276 polling stations across 7 districts of Anantnag, Pulwama, Shopian, Kulgam, Doda, Ramban and Kishtwar. These include 302 Urban Polling Stations and 2974 Rural

J&K polls: 40 pc Independents in fray

SRINAGAR: More than 40 per cent of the 908 candidates contesting the assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir are Independents.

These are the first assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir since the 2019 abrogation of Article 370 and its reorganisation into two Union territories.

The number of assembly seats has also risen from the earlier 87 to 90 -- 47 in the Kashmir Valley and 43 in Jammu -- following a delimitation exercise in 2022.

A total 365 candidates have filed their nominations as Independent candidates to contest the three-phase polls.

This is the second highest number of Independents to contest the polls in Jammu and Kashmir. In the 2008 assembly elections, held in the immediate aftermath of the Amarnath land row agitation that left dozens dead and hundreds injured, 468 candidates had contested as Independents.

The total number of candidates this time is also the second highest ever. In 2008, a whopping 1,353 candidates had contested

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between the age 18-19 years, along with 28,309 Person with Disabilities (PwDs) and 15,774 elderly voters above the age of 85 are also eligible to exercise their franchise in phase one.

The voting will take place from 7.00 am to 6.00 pm and before that there will be mock poll in the polling stations in presence of the polling agents. Also, the voting will continue even after 6.00 pm, if voter's queue is still there in the Polling Station premises to exercise their right to vote.

Every polling station will be provided with Assured Minimum Facilities (AMF's) like drinking water, electricity, toilet, ramp, furniture, verandah/shed besides wheel chairs will also be provided to the needy. The ballot unit will also have a list of contesting candidates in brail script. Where ever required, there will be separate queues for senior citizens and specially-

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3 families kept J&K people away from national mainstream for 70 years: Anurag Thakur



Former Union Minister Anurag Thakur addressing election rally at Kishtwar on Monday.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Former Union Minister Anurag Thakur on Monday said that due to the dynastic politics of three families, the people of J&K remained away from the national mainstream from the rest of the country for 75 years.

"The people here were

deprived of the constitutional rights that were available to citizens in other parts of India," Thakur said, while addressing election rallies at Kishtwar, Nanak Nagar, Bishnah and Nai Basti.

"On August 5, 2019, Prime Minister Narendra Modi abrogated Article

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WEATHER

Temperature (Jammu)
Max: 34.0°C Min: 22.7°C

Humidity
Max: 70 Min: 54

Temperature (Srinagar)
Max: 29.5°C Min: 12.0°C

Humidity
Max: 72 Min: 37

Sunset: 18:35 Hours
Sunrise: 06:14 Hours

