STATE TIMES NEWS

K Pole said.

Tregham,

Handwara,

Constituencies

Samba, Vijaypur,

South.

JAMMU: More than 39.18 lakh vot-

ers are eligible to exercise their elec-

toral franchise during the last Phase-

III of the Jammu and Kashmir

Assembly Election to be held October

1 across the 40 Assembly Constituencies (ACs) in 7 districts of

the Union Territory, the Chief

Electoral Officer (CEO), Pandurang

In Kashmir Division, 16 Assembly

Constituencies including Karnah, Kupwara,

Rafiabad, Uri, Baramulla, Gulmarg,

Wagoora-Kreeri, Pattan, Sonawari,

Bandipora, Gurez (ST) and in

Jammu Division 24 Assembly

Udhampur west, Udhampur east,

Chenni, Ramnagar (SC), Bani,

Billawar, Basohli, Jasrota, Kathua(

SC), Hiranagar, Ramgarh(SC),

Suchetgarh(SC), R.S Pura, Jammu

North, Akhnoor(SC), Chhamb will

In this phase, there are 5060

Polling stations across 7 districts of

also go to the polls in this phase.

Langate,

Air surcharge 50 paisa for Leh

Katra to miss Mission Dosti Dangal this year

Regd. No. L-29/JK-346/22-24

Kashmir celebrating festival of democracy, resurgence of democratic aspiration: Dr Jitendra

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

tions 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

Every polling station will be provid-

ed with Assured Minimum Facilities

(AMF's) like drinking water, electric-

ity, toilet, ramp, furniture,

veranda/shed besides wheel chairs

will also be provided to the needy. The

ballot unit will also have a list of con-

testing candidates in brail script.

Where ever required, there will be

separate queues for senior citizens

and specially-abled persons facilitat-

ing them with early polling. Additionally, there will be a voter help

desk, manned by the concerned

Booth Level Officer (BLO), to extend

There will be 50 polling booths

managed by women, known as Pink

Polling Stations, 43 polling stations

manned by specially abled persons

and 40 polling stations manned by

necessary help whenever required.

India would have given larger bailout package to Pak had it maintained friendly ties: Rajnath

Dogra honor, its rich legacy

SRINAGAR: Minister Rajnath Singh on Sunday said India would have given a larger bailout package to Pakistan than sought by Islamabad from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) had the neighbouring nation maintained friendly relations with New Delhi.

Addressing an election rally in Gurez assembly segment of Bandipora district, Singh referred to the Prime Minister's development package for Jammu and Kashmir announced in 2014-15 by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

"Modi ji in 2014-15 announced a special package for development of Jammu and Kashmir which has now reached Rs 90,000 crore. The amount is much bigger than what Pakistan was seeking from the IMF (as bailout package)," the senior

Singh referred to former Prime Minister Atal Bihari

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Sham Sharma pledges to safeguard

'Sea of people in BJP rally in Gurez speaks louder than words'

GUREZ: J&K Waqf Board Chairperson & BJP National Executive Member Dr Syed Darakhshan Andrabi, who is camping in Gurez since many days, on Sunday welcomed Union Defense Minister Rajnath Singh on his arrival to the order valley on the last day of election campaign.

BJP Gurez candidate Fakir Mohammad Khan accompanied Andrabi.

The Defense Minister was accorded a very welcome by the huge gathering who led him in a procession to the rally sight amid loud sloganeering.

Rajnath Singh congratulated and thanked the people of Shina valley for this unforgettable love and affection.

"I am witnessing a historical change at the ground level in here since 2019. This concrete response is the democratic endorsement of the positive changes CONTD ON PAGE 9

Terrorist killed in Kathua,

fresh encounter in Rajouri

Cong always stands with enemies for sake of power: Anurag Thakur

Lolab,

Sopore,

comprising

Bishnah(SC),

Bahu, Jammu East,

Jammu West, Jammu

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: BJP senior leader Chinese officials behind and former Union Minister, closed doors during Galwan

Sunday assailed $_{
m the}$ Congress for always standing with enemies of the nation instead of the country,

questioning the sacrifices of jawans and demanding proof on their achievements.

"While Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the Defence Minister were at the border boosting the morale of the soldiers, Rahul Gandhi

Kharge falls ill, vows not to die till Modi 'removed' from power STATE TIMES NEWS

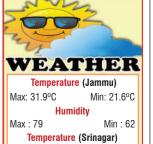
JASROTA: Congress Mallikarjun President Kharge vowed to fight for the restoration of statehood to Jammu and Kashmir, asserting that he would remain active in politics until Prime Minister Narendra Modi is ousted from power.

Kharge's remarks came amid criticism of the BJPled government at the Centre for its handling of the Union particularly Territory, regarding the delay of elec-

"We will fight to restore statehood. We are not going to leave it. I am 83 years old; I am not going to die so early will stay alive until PM Modi is removed from power. I will listen to you. I will fight for you," Kharge told a public rally here after he was provided medical assistance at the rally venue.

The Congress chief earlier complained of dizziness while speaking and had to

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9



Sunset: 18:18 Hours

Sunrise: 06:23 Hours

Min: 54

Max: 28.8°C

Max: 79

of J&K polls: Stakes high for BJP JAMMU/SRINAGAR: The intense campaigning for the third and final phase of polling in the Jammu and Kashmir Assembly election concluded on Sunday evening, with major political parties, particularly the BJP, Congress, NC and

PDP, engaging in fierce exchanges over critical issues, including Pakistan, Article 370, terrorism and reservation. Voting for this crucial phase, covering 40 Assembly segments across seven districts -- Jammu, Udhampur, Samba and Kathua in the Jammu region and

39.18 lakh electors eligible to vote in

40 ACs in Phase-3 J&K polls

415 candidates in fray; 5060 polling stations, 240 special polling stations established across 7 districts

Campaigning concludes for final phase

Baramulla, Bandipora and Kupwara in north Kashmir -- is scheduled for The electoral fate of 415 candidates, including former deputy chief ministers

Tara Chand (Congress) and Muzaffar Beig, are at stake in this phase. The voter turnout was robust in the earlier phases, with 61.38 per cent par-

ticipation recorded in the first phase on September 18 and 57.31 per cent in the second phase on September 26. This is the first Assembly election in Jammu and Kashmir since the abrogation of Article 370 of the Constitution in August 2019, with the results set to

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The BJP National

General Secretary and

Incharge of J&K affairs,

Tarun Chugh, on Sunday

said that Jammu will decide

and lead the next govern-

Kashmir and BJP is com-

mitted to give justice to

"Jammu has been neglect-

ed and discriminated by

three families Abdullahs,

Muftis and Gandhis since

decades," Chugh said, while

adding, "Now, this is the first

time that Jammu will decide

the next government in

Jammu region.

in Jammu and

Kupwara, Baramulla, Bandipora, Udhampur, Samba, Kathua and Jammu will be established. Four election staff, including Presiding Officer will be stationed in every polling station. In total, more than 20,000 Polling staff will be deployed on dutyfor 3rdphase election.

In all 39,18,220 lakh voters are eligible to exercise their franchise. Out of them, there are 20,09,033 male

was holding meetings with

conflict"

Thakur said

while address-

gatherings in

party candi-

ing

date Ram Bhagat

He said that the Gandhi

family has received crores of

rupees from China, which is

why they stand with China

rather than India. Thakur

said that Prime Minister

Suchetgarh.

support

public

Gharu

voters; 19,09,130 female voters and 57 third gender voters. As many as 1.94 lakh youth between the age 18-19 years, along with 35,860 Person with Disabilities (PwDs) and 32,953 elderly voters above the age of 85 are also eligible to exercise their franchise

be announced on October 8. Prime Minister ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

> youths. Also, there will be 45 green in this phase. polling stations in order to spread BJP leader said. The voting will take place from 7.00 message about environmental conam to 6.00 pm and before that there cern and 33 Unique Polling stations. will be mock poll in the polling sta-29 polling ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Why Jammu can't decide future of J&K? Chugh asks Abdullahs

BJP National General Secretary and Incharge of J&K

affairs, Tarun Chugh addressing gathering in Jammu.

What is the reason that J&K and discriminated with

there has been no CM from Jammu". Chugh said that

J&K he asked saving "The polling in 2 phases in

Why no CM from Jammu so far? 'Gupkar Gang will be routed in elections'

SRINAGAR: BJP National General Secretary Tarun Chugh on Sunday said that Jammu and Kashmir is marching ahead now and all the divisive forces would lick the dust in days to come.

Referring to Omar Abdullah, Chugh termed him as the most confused politician.

"Omar used to say he would not contest elections but he is contesting from two assembly constituencies, s there anything which ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

JAMMU: A terrorist, suspected to be affiliated with the Pakistan-based Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) outfit, was killed in a remote village

of Kathua district, officials said on Sunday. Also, a fresh encounter broke out in the Thanamandi area of Rajouri district on Sunday evening when security forces launched a cordon and search operation after

STATE TIMES NEWS

getting information about the presence of two terrorists, the officials said. "Based on specific intelligence about the presence of terrorists, a joint search

operation was launched by

Gali in Thanamandi. Contact has been established and few rounds have been fired from both sides," a police official said. Earlier in the day, a live

security forces at Manial

hand grenade was found on the banks of a stream in the area and the device was later destroyed by experts in a controlled explosion.

In Kathua district, the body of an unidentified terrorist was recovered this afternoon from the scene of the Saturday evening encounter at Kog-Mandli in Billawar tehsil, taking the death toll in the

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Vote for development; maintain unity, brotherhood: Azad

hood and vote for develop-

ment and progress in the

Addressing a series of pub-

lic meetings in Jammu, Azad

upcoming elections.



STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Chairman DPAP, Ghulam Nabi Azad on Sunday urged the people to maintain unity and brothersaid, "For years, political parties have used division as a tactic, offering excuses not to develop both the regions. This has led to conflict, while those in power continue to enjoy their privileges."

three families always looted

He urged the people to recognise that their shared struggles should unite them rather than create rifts, stressing that only through unity can genuine progress be achieved.

Reflecting on his tenure as Chief Minister, he noted "People witnessed real progress and

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Cyber Police warns people against posting inflammatory content

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STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Cyber Police Kashmir has warned social media users against fanning communal or sectarian tensions in the valley in the wake of the killing of Hezbollah chief Hassan Nasrallah in Israeli strikes in

Lebanon on Saturday. "We've noticed inflammatory and sectarian posts being shared on social media, threatening communal harmony. We urge everyone to refrain from posting or engaging in such divisive content," the Cyber Police Kashmir said in an an

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Jammu will take lead, decide next Govt in J&K: Reddy

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Union minister and J&K election in-charge, G. Kishan Reddy on Sunday said that this is the historic time when Jammu will take lead and decide next government in Jammu and Kashmir.

He said that for the first time, the BJP is poised to form a government on its own in Jammu and Kashmir, and the people of Jammu now have the power to decide their own destiny.

Addressing a press conference at BJP media center, Reddy said that due to the



Reddy briefing media in Jammu on Sunday.

Modi government's "zero tolerance" policy, terror incidents have decreased by 98 percent, and now Jammu

and Kashmir is on the path of development and prosperitv. BJP's working

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

J&K Assembly polls - Jammu is at centerstage



India announced J&K Assembly elections on August 16. That was a landmark day in the history of the five-yearold Union Territory aspiring to become

state again. There are some parts of the history, which are loved by some as they want to read them time and again seeking pleasare, but there are few which irritate them. In the first category was abrogation of Article 370 on August 5, 2019 .It gave rush to a number of feelings across Jammu and Kashmir with the Indian nation watching it with same amount of relief as Germany felt when Berlin Wall was brought down in November 1989. This may not be the exact simile, it is a metaphor for the watershed moment in the world history nevertheless.

Jammu and Kashmir became part of India because of the instrument of accession signed y Maharaja Hari Singh on October 26,

. This historical event and moment needs to be reinforced time and again as the Maharaja hailed from Jammu and his inclination toward India was due to his devotion to the idea of India. He wanted his state to become part of India, as he was convinced that this nation would accommodate all his subjects in a dignified manner whereas Pakistan had assaulted them, made many of them homeless and let loose marauders on

them . There was a string resentment and anger over what happened to Hindus and Sikhs in what is now Pakistan occupied Jammu and

This is an established fact that Jammu played a crucial role in Jammu and Kashmir's accession to India. Unfortunately, this also is part of history that Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah and Jawaharlal Nehru worked out a special arrangement for J&K in the Indian Union in shape of Article 370. Although this provision was titled "temporary", but no one dared to scrap it . This Article sat in the Constitution for 69 years -

that is from 1950 to 2019. It was conceived in 1949 and its contours were worked out in that year.

The Congress claims that during its rule it had hollowed Article 370 and nothing was left in it. This assertion has been made in response to the Narendra Modi government's decision to throw this Article out of the Constitution . Going by the argument of Congress, it becomes clear that it had no respect for its own commitment and it did what

it does best betray . The second part is more obnoxious. Why resort to slow poisoning than to kill the provision that it thought was not good for the country . It should have scrapped the provision. It is characteristic of the Congress to betray its commitments . It should have done it long ago what Prime Minister Modi's government did in August 2019. Straight and simple.

In doing so, the Modi government granted special respect to Jammu and its people. Article 370 and Article 35 A similar guarantees for the people of Jammu , and $\rm \widetilde{L}adakh$

as for the Kashmir Valley. The land and jobs that were within the uninterrupted reach of the people of the special status state now gone forever, never percolated to Jammu residents. They, like the residents of Ladakh , now a separate Union Territory , were discriminated against. Their land had come under threat and their jobs thinned with every passing day.

Jammu residents are equal citizens of India as countrymen living in other parts of the country. They have equal rights enshrined in the Indian constitution. They are entitled to everything that the people in the rest of country have . Jammu should be proud of its history that was kept in suspended animation for long .Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah have acknowledged the historical importance of

In the changed situation of the past five years, Jammu has regained its pride. This election has brought that into sharper focus. Jammu holds key to future of the whole of

23 Govt employees suspended for MCC violations **STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: Taking cognizance of participation of government employees in election campaigning and related political activities, the J&K Election Office on Sunday suspended 23 officials besides disengaging six contractual/Adhoc employees for violating MCC guidelines.

Moreover, 20 employees have also been shifted from their incumbent offices to offices in other tehsils/districts against whom there where complaints of acting in partisan way.

The election office has further informed that a total of Rs 130 crore seizures have been made by

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9