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39.18 lakh electors...

stations are established near the LOC/ IB for residents residing there. The purpose behind these special polling stations is to spread awareness among sections of society like women, specially abled, first-time young voters to come forward and exercise their right to vote.

Till date more than 1.07 lakh plants have been planted in the premises of all polling stations.

In order to facilitate voters in identification and also to increase voter turnout ratios, all voters have been provided with voter information slips. It is a simple black and white printed piece of paper with information like Polling Station name, date and time of poll, serial number of voter in the list, his full name, QR code but NOT the photograph of the voter. Hence, Voter Information Slips will not be allowed as proof of the identity of voters. Proof of identity will be any documents out of 12 documents, including EPIC. The BLO concerned has distributed 100 per cent voter information slips. The citizens can also view details of the Polling Station, Parliamentary Constituency, and get the contact details of the Booth Level Officer, Electoral Registration Officer among other services, through Voter Helpline App (VHLA), available on the Google Play store and Apple App Store.

Electoral Photo Identification Card (EPIC) card of all those voters who have enrolled as fresh voters or has changed their particulars through form no 8, during recently held Special Summary Roll (SSR) in the month of July- August, have been dispatched by speed post. Without waiting for receipt of these EPIC cards, they can come to polling stations with any one out of 12 IDs, the ECI has allowed for as alternate document for voter identification at Assembly Election.

In addition to Electoral Photo Identity Card (EPIC), 12 types of documents will also be allowed to verify a voter and aid him in voting. It is pertinent to mention here that EPIC card is NOT mandatory for voting. If some voter has misplaced his/ her EPIC card, any of the following documents can be used by him at the Polling Station and after verification. These documents are Aadhaar Card, MGNREGA Job Card, passbooks with photograph issued by Bank/Post Office, Health Insurance Smart Card issued under the scheme of the Ministry of Labour; driving license, PAN card, Smart Card issued by RGI under NPR, Indian Passport, pension document with photograph, service Identity cards with photograph issued to employees by Central/State Govt/PSUs/Public Limited Companies, official identity cards issued to MPs/MLAs/MLCs, Unique Disability ID (UDID) Card, issued by M/o Social Justice & Empowerment, Government of India

With the aim of spreading awareness among the voters, Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP) emerges as a comprehensive programme aimed at reinforcing voter education and promoting active participation in democratic process. The need for SVEEP arises from the Election Commission of India's unwavering commitment to ensuring the participation of every voter in this monumental celebration of democracy. During the last few months, through various modes, SVEEP activities were undertaken in every nook and corner. Various activities like appeal messages in print, electronic and social media, through hoardings, banners, radio jingles etc were carried out. Street plays, use of social media influencers and icons, adventure and indigenous sport activities, along with plantation drives, painting and debate competitions were also done. Because of all these, the voter turnout is expected to be higher than the last Assembly elections.

Similarly, to ensure accessible and inclusive elections, Home Voting has been held for Persons with Disability with more than 40 per cent benchmark disability as well as for elderly electors above the age of 85 years, for all those who had applied for the same.

More than 1600 journalists and cameramen of print, electronic and social media platforms have been provided with requisite pass to cover the polling process. Without compromising secrecy of vote and causing any inconvenience to the democratic exercise, they can cover the polling. Detailed instructions have been given to the journalists on the pass.

The Voter Turnout App will be used to display estimated provisional voter turnout details of each Assembly Constituency entered by the RO. The media can also use the same application to capture estimated voter turnout data. Approximate voter turnout data of each phase of the elections will be displayed through this app. There will be two hourly reporting of voting percentage from 9.00 am to the end of poll. The concerned ARO and RO will share the data with media accordingly. The updated figures shall also be placed in voter turnout app. These figures are always subject to, normally upward correction as the final confirmed figures are collected after receiving the statutory forms from all Polling Stations. So, till these final figures are known, figures on Voter Turnout App are to be always tentative.

All 100 percent Polling stations, (5060) in40 Assembly Constituencies will have CCTV type cameras for live webcasting to control rooms established at District and CEO office. Cameras will be positioned in such a way so that they don't violate the secrecy of vote.

There are few polling stations which falls in communication shadow areas. Suitable alternate arrangements in the communication shadow areas by providing Satellite Phones, Wireless sets, and Special Runners etc have been put in place. All vehicles being used in election, have been enabled with vehicle tracking system (GPS).

Candidates/ political parties, who need to obtain prior permission for campaigning purposes, can seek online permission on Suvidha app and Portal. Till date election officers have accorded permission for 6291applications and rejected around 700. Candidates were able to campaign in nook and corner of their constituencies between morning 6.00 am to night 10 pm.

In the entire Union territory, from the date of announcement of Elections, material/cash of around Rs 128.00 Crore has been seized. These include cash, liquor, drugs and other freebees seized by Police Department valuing Rs 115.00 Crore.

The public campaigning in all 40 Assembly Constituencies going to polls in 3rdPhase has conclude at 6.00 PM on 29 September; 48 hours before the closing poll hour; also known as the silence period or pre-election silence. All campaign-related activity is supposed to be halted and no one, including citizens, journalists, politicians, would be allowed to partake in any election campaign related activity during this 48-hour-long silence period.

Holding public meetings, conferences, interviews has been stopped to give the voters a peaceful break from being influenced by campaignis so that they may make a considered decision while voting. Besides, political advertisement in print media can only be done only after prior clearance from Media Certification and Monitoring Committee (MCMC). Sale of liquor; even from the licensed shops, has also been banned.

Campaigning concludes for...

Narendra Modi spearheaded the Bharatiya Janata Party's (BJP) campaign, emphasising the party's initiatives over the last 10 years to address what he described as "decades of injustice and historic discrimination".

His remarks at a rally at the M A M Stadium were aimed at galvanising support for the BJP in the party's traditional stronghold, asserting that the Union Territory status for Jammu and Kashmir is merely "temporary" and promising restoration of statehood.

The BJP achieved its best poll performance in Jammu and Kashmir in the 2014 Assembly election, winning 18 seats from the four Jammu districts and securing a total of 25 seats. Historically, the saffron party has never won any Assembly seat in the Kashmir valley.

Senior BJP leaders, including Home Minister Amit Shah, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and party president J P Nadda, have actively campaigned, accusing the Congress, National Conference (NC) and People's Democratic Party (PDP) of pursuing a "Pakistani agenda" and fostering terrorism -- a claim vehemently denied by these parties.

Congress leaders, including party president Mallikarjun Kharge, Rahul Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, have also campaigned vigorously, promising to restore statehood in Jammu and Kashmir and provide a "people-friendly" government in a coalition with the NC.

In the final phase, Jammu district has the highest number of candidates at 109, followed by Baramulla (101), Kupwara (59), Bandipora (42), Udhampur (37), Kathua (35) and Samba (32).

While the NC and the Congress are contesting the election in an alliance, their top leaders have largely campaigned separately for this phase. Rahul Gandhi addressed rallies in Jammu city and Sopore, a region previously known for separatism and insurgency.

India would have...

Vajpayee's famous statement that "we can change friends but we cannot change the neighbours".

"I said, my Pakistani friends, why have strained relations, we are neighbours. If we had good relations, we would have given more money than the IMF," he added.

Singh said the Centre gives money to Jammu and Kashmir for development while Pakistan has been misusing financial aid for a long time.

"It seeks money from other countries to run a terrorism factory on its soil," he added.

The Defence Minister said Kashmir will again become a paradise on earth when Vajpayee's dream of restoring "Insaniyat, Jamhooriyat and Kashmiriyat" in the valley is achieved.

Singh said Pakistan, which has used terrorism as a tool against India, has been isolated at the international forums with some of its trusted allies also stepping back.

"Whenever we have investigated terrorism, we have found Pakistani involvement. Our

successive governments have tried to make Pakistan understand that they should stop terror camps but to no avail. Pakistan is frustrated after revocation of Article 370 and is making attempts to revive terror. They do not want democracy to take roots here. (But) India is strong enough that it can take on Pakistan on its soil. If anyone in Pakistan carries out an attack on India, we can crossover and respond," he added.

Singh said Pakistan has been isolated now.

"Even Turkey, which used to support Pakistan, has not made mention of Kashmir at the UNGA," he added.

The BJP leader said since his party's government came to power at the Centre, peace has returned to Jammu and Kashmir:

"The business of terrorism is not going to last very long now," he added.

Reiterating the promises made in the BJP's election manifesto, Singh said, "As the defence minister, I assure you that if (BJP candidate) Faqeer Mohammad Khan wins, more people from Gurez will be recruited in the Indian Army."

He said the biggest demand put forth from Gurez is construction of a tunnel through the Razdan pass that will establish all-weather connectivity with the rest of the country. Electricity is supplied round the clock, internet towers have been installed. Roads have become better and they will be further improved, he added.

"As the defence minister of the country, I assure you that after polls I will bring the concerned minister here to discuss it," he said.

'Sea of people...

which happened in J&K post 2019, paving way for the transformation of the areas which lacked development. The sea of people in BJP rally in Gurez speaks louder than words", said Rajnath Singh.

He sketched the roadmap of the Modi Government for the special areas like Gurez with prioritised developmental programmes and initiatives.

"We assure you all a future of security, peace, development, stability and economic boost in coming days. It is the BJP only which has the will and power to transform border areas with special infrastructural development projects", said Rajnath Singh. In her welcome address Dr D a r a k h s h a n Andrabi said that BJP's win from this border constituency will be a powerful reply to those dynastic parties, who have used politics as a tool of coercion and corruption.

"Gurez is all set to write history this time. Dynastic politics has been rejected here. Those who represented this constituency for decades deprived this place from development and progress. Fakir Mohammad Khan will be the new MLA from here & the mission of transformation of Gurez will get a boost", said Darakhshan.

She said that all worked hard and she expressed gratitude to all leaders & workers who toiled hard at the ground level during past many days for seeking support for BJP candidate.

Terrorist killed in...

two-day operation to two, the officials said.

They said a grenade launcher, some grenades and other materials were recovered from the possession of the slain terrorist, while a massive search operation is underway to neutralise other foreign terrorists.

Head Constable Bashir Ahmad laid down his life and two officers - Deputy Superintendent of Police (Operations) and Sukhbir Singh and Assistant Sub-Inspector (ASI) Niaz Ahmad - were injured when terrorists attacked a joint security search party on Saturday evening.

Director General of Police R R Swain paid tributes to the fallen policeman, saying "Bashir did not fear death when it came to protecting his community and countrymen".

Additional Director General of Police, Jammu zone, Anand Jain said the search operation was launched in the village on Saturday following information about the presence of three to four foreign terrorists in a house.

Talking to reporters near the scene of the encounter, he said both the injured officers are stable. "The whole area is under tight security cordon and an operation is underway to neutralise the terrorists hiding in the area," he said.

Asked about the interception of the terrorist group ahead of the third phase of polls on October 1, the police officer said the operations against terrorists will continue.

"We are getting continuous information about terrorists and subsequently conducting operations with an endeavour to neutralise them as soon as possible," he said.

He said adequate security arrangements have been put in place in all poll-bound areas to ensure that there is no terror-related incident.

Besides Kathua, the third phase covers Jammu, Udhampur and Samba districts in Jammu region and north Kashmir's Baramulla, Kupwara and Bandipora districts.

The DGP, in a statement, condoled the demise of the head constable and said that the entire police force stands behind his family.

"While the J-K police force cannot bring back HC Bashir; it undertakes to extend every possible support to the family and avenge the martyrdom of the courageous Bashir who did not fear death when it came to protecting his community and countrymen and gave hell to the foreign terrorists with his LMG before succumbing to his injuries," he said. The police chief also prayed for the speedy recovery of other injured personnel. Meanwhile, to pay honour and respect to J&K Police Head Constable Bashir Ahmed, wreath laying ceremony was held at Gulshan Ground Gandhi Nagar Jammu this evening where floral tributes were paid to the martyr.

Nalin Prabhat , Director General of Police, Operations and Security J&K and all personnel paid homage to the martyr. All Police officers, colleagues and family members paid rich tributes & laid floral wreaths on the mortal remains of the martyr:

The martyrs' body was later on handed over to his next of kins for last rites.

Jammu and Kashmir Police stands by the family of Martyr at this critical juncture and pay our rich tributes to the martyr for his supreme sacrifice made in the line of duty.

Why Jammu can't...

J&K has been against 3 families and people now hate these families- Abdullahs, Muftis and Gandhis.

"The polling in the first 2 phases is against Abdullahs, Muftis and Gandhis and Omar; Gandhis and Muftis will lose this election," Chugh said, while adding, "Omar will lose both seats he is contesting from".

Abdullahs and Muftis used to become CMs with just 6 percent to 8 percent polling. "This is the first election when there is no boycott and no violence and people have rejected the three families," Chugh said.

He added, "These families, which gave stones and guns in the hands of youth, are now shamelessly going to the people to seek votes". He said the Congress has surrendered its manifesto, agenda and ideology before the NC.

"Cong is fully behind NC, which says that they will release jailed terrorists, stone pelters and bring back Article 370," Chugh said, while adding, "If Abdullahs take birth ten times more even then Article 370 will not return".

He said that NC-Cong insulted the Maharaja. "Hari Singh was not the Maharaja of Jammu but entire J&K and insult of Maharaja is insult of the entire country," Chugh said. "Three families are responsible for death, destruction and terrorism in J&K. We will issue a white paper to fix responsibility for giving justice to terror victims and expose those who brought terrorism," Chugh said.

He said that BJP is committed to end discrimination with Jammu region and promoting tourism. A tourism city like Gulmarg and Pahalgam will be developed in Jammu, he said. 'We will make biggest Ayurved center at Kishtwar; big airport at Jammu, bring metro in Jammu, pharmaceutical hub in Udhampur,' Chugh said, adding, 'We gave 10 medical colleges, AIIMS, IIM, IIT to Jammu'.

Jammu is nationalist and has embraced all, be it KPs, PoJK refugees or others, he said, adding that the BJP will make J&K tourism capital of the world.

"As long as one BJP worker is there, Tiranga will always flutter in Kashmir," Chugh said, while adding, "bullet will lose and ballot will win".

Gupkar Gang will...

he has said and stuck on to it? In actual sense he has lost these elections. Omar is cooking a stale dish on the statehood. The Prime Minister and the Home Minister of the

country have already announced on the statehood so there is nothing for Abdullahs to hold on to this topic. They actually lack of an agenda and are telling Congress is not doing anything in these elections, by this it is clear that the Congress and NC alliance has failed. By saying there will be a hung assembly, they are for sure showing their fear and finding safe root for their loss. I am saying with confidence that Omar Abdullah will lose from both the constituencies and Mufti and her family will also lose the elections. People of J&K don't like separatists and people who create conflicts in the region and who deprived the region of the development. They do not like them anymore which is why this corrupt Gupkar gang will lose the election", Chugh said in a statement.

Cong always stands...

Narendra Modi has taken revolutionary steps to improve the living standards of the weaker sections of society, and the B-JP will form its government in Jammu and Kashmir with a full majority.

Anurag Thakur said that the Modi government has taken solid steps to strengthen the country's defense system, including the creation of Rafale and Tejas fighter jets, and implemented the One Rank One Pension policy for soldiers.

He noted that PM Modi celebrates Diwali with the soldiers instead of his family. He accused Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi of accepting crores of rupees from China under the Rajiv Gandhi Foundation, which is why they stand with Chinese officials rather than with Indian soldiers.

Thakur added that during the Congress rule, thousands of acres of land were given to China, but since Modi's arrival, not an inch of Indian land has been taken.

He said that during the Emergency, forced sterilization and mass jailing of people were among the atrocities committed. If not for Ambedkarji's Constitution, the Emergency might never have ended, he added.

He said that in the past ten years, the Narendra Modi government has developed several sites named after Bhimrao Ambedkar and taken numerous welfare measures for the Dalit community.

He mentioned that it was the B-JP that granted reservations to ST Gujjars, Bakarwals, and the Pahari community.

Thakur questioned the Congress and National Conference's soft stance on Pakistan, recalling that after the surgical strikes, Pakistan was shouting about its destroyed hide-outs, while some Indian leaders were asking for phaw.

Thakur said that Pakistan's Defence Minister Khawaja Asif has disclosed their relations with Congress and the National Conference, stating that they are on the same page regarding Article 370.

Jammu will take...

president Sat Sharma, national spokesperson R.P. Singh, spokesperson and media center-in-charge Arun Gupta, spokesperson Girdhari Lal Raina, and media head Dr. Pradeep Mahotra were also present in the press conference.

Reddy said that Congress, National Conference, and PDP are fooling the people. "These parties are responsible for terrorism and bloodshed in J&K," he said, adding, "Terrorism was the biggest speed breaker in way of development".

He described the abrogation of Article 370 as the foundation for Jammu and Kashmir's development and said that prosperity reigns in Prime Minister Narendra Modi's new Jammu and Kashmir:

Reddy appealed to the people of Jammu to vote for the BJP's symbol, the "Lotus," in the upcoming elections so that a majority BJP government can be formed to make Jammu and Kashmir a developed and self-reliant state.

G. Kishan Reddy said that under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, an atmosphere of security and peace has been established in Jammu and Kashmir.

He said that to eliminate terrorism, stone-pelting, and separatist politics, the Modi government has taken strict measures, leading to a wave of development in Jammu and Kashmir today.

He emphasized that the instability in Jammu and Kashmir so far has been caused by parties like the Congress, National Conference, and PDP, which have betrayed the people for their own familial interests.

He noted that there is now an environment in Jammu and Kashmir where the youth are excited about their future.

"Instead of picking up stones, children are now picking up laptops and books", he said, adding that Jammu and Kashmir is being developed as an economic power to compete with the Middle East and other states.

Cyber Police warns...

advisory posted on X.

The police warned of strict action against anyone posting or sharing any inflammatory or provocative content.

"Any individual found posting or sharing sectarian, inflammatory, or provocative content aimed at disturbing peace will face strict legal action under the relevant sections of law. Let's work together to maintain the unity and tranquility of Kashmir," it added.

Spontaneous protests broke out in the Shia-dominated areas of Srinagar and Budgam districts soon after the killing of the Hezbollah chief.

While the protests on streets have been peaceful so far, there were reports of some social media users posting provocative content online.

Vote for development...

development during my time. Through double and triple shifts, we initiated a developmental revolution that no other leader has been able to replicate. Many projects that I sanctioned remain incomplete to this day, highlighting the urgent need for a renewed focus on development."

Azad voiced concerns over the promises made by various political parties regarding the return of Article 370, asserting that these promises are not grounded in reality.

Azad stated, "We all want return of Article 370, but we cannot expect anything from the BJP. Even Congress fails to speak on this crucial issue. It is not possible to restore Article 370 through the assembly, but we can introduce legislation to ensure that no outsider can buy land or secure jobs in our region.

This was the essence of Article 370."

He said, "I do not cheat, lie, or mislead. I recognise that some people have become accustomed to falsehoods and have been voting based on those lies, but I speak the truth, which only a few may comprehend. I will never give false hope or make unrealistic promises." Azad acknowledged the widespread disillusionment among people, who are tired of false slogans that have only led to bloodshed and unrest, saying: "People are fed up with the empty promises that have resulted in nothing but chaos and division. Today, we must focus on creating jobs for our youth, who are increasingly becoming involved in drugs, this is the biggest issue we face."

He highlighted the desire for peace and unity among the people of Jammu, stating, "Whether in Samba, Gandhi Nagar, or Bakshi Nagar; the people of Jammu yearn for harmony. This is part of our Dogra culture and we must strive to maintain this unity. We cannot allow ourselves to be influenced by parties that seek to divide us." Azad said that his return to Jammu and Kashmir is driven by a desire to serve the poor; who remain deprived of basic necessities such as water and electricity. "We will restore the Roshni scheme, which previously benefited the poor; but unfortunately, this government revoked it," Azad stated.

"Our focus will be on ensuring that every citizen has access to the essential services they deserve", he asserted. Azad outlined a comprehensive development agenda that includes the creation of more districts, schools, tehsils, colleges, and roads to enhance infrastructure and educational opportunities in the region.

"This is our only agenda," he asserted, stressing for the need for tangible progress that addresses the needs of all people.

23 Govt employees...

different enforcement agencies in J&K during ongoing assembly elections 2024 till now. The Police Department has made highest seizure of Rs 107.50 crore followed by CGST with Rs 9.88 crore, SGST/CT with Rs 8.03 crore, NCB with Rs 2.06 crore, Income tax department with Rs 87 lakh and State Excise Department with Ra 50 lakh respectively. The Chief Electoral Officer (CEO), P K Pole, while elaborating details in this regard, stated that about 7088 permissions have been given to different political parties and candidates regarding rallies, processions, opening of party offices, vehicles, display of banners, flags, pamphlets, hoardings, street corner meetings, door to door canvassing, helicopters and helipads, video vans, vehicle permissions for star campaigners, party office bearers and vehicle permission within ACs. Out of total 1263 MCC violations reported till date, 600 stand closed after enquiring and taking appropriate action while 364 are under investigation which too will be disposed off soon besides notices stand issued to 115 candidates/political parties/media houses and others for reported MCC violations. Taking a stern action on carrying drugs, cash and liquor illegally, the concerned enforcement agencies have registered 32 FIRs, the CEO informed.

Kharge falls ill...

be provided medical help.

"He was addressing a public rally in Jasrota when he felt uneasy and dizzy. His colleagues helped him into a chair," Congress general secretary Gulam Ahmed Mir told PTI. Kharge had flown to Jasrota to address a rally to garner support for his party candidates in the assembly polls. Jammu and Kashmir Congress vice president Ravindra Sharma said Kharge felt dizzy and was taken to a room, where doctors were called for a check-up. They will advise whether he can attend the second rally at Udhampur or not, he said. Later, Kharge's second rally at Udhampur was cancelled. He will return to Delhi.