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Nearly 61 per cent turnout in Phase 2 of LS polls; Tripura records 78.53 pc, Manipur 77.18

Jammu Lok Sabha segment records impressive 69.01% turnout

NEW DELHI, APR 26 Nearly 61 per cent polling was reported in the second phase of Lok Sabha elections covering 88 seats across 13 states amid few complaints of EVM glitches and bogus voting in some states. Voters in some villages of Uttar Pradesh's Mathura, Rajasthan's Banswara and Maharashtra's Parbhani were boycotting the polls over various issues but were later persuaded by authorities to cast their franchise. Polling for the second stage of the seven-phase elections started at 7 am and ended at 6 pm. Several states experienced intense heat conditions. The first phase of polling was held on April 19 in 102 seats across 21 states and Union territories.

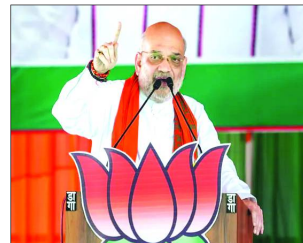


The Election Commission (EC) said polling remained largely peaceful. The tentative figure at 7 pm of voter turnout of 60.96 per cent is likely to go upwards when reports from all stations are obtained. The EC said, adding voters reaching polling stations till the end of polling hour are allowed to cast their vote. The National Democratic Alliance (NDA) under Prime Minister Modi is seeking a stronger majority for a third consecutive term, while the constituents of the opposition INDIA bloc are hoping for a rebound after facing reverses in the 2014 and 2019 elections. Election Commission data showed the highest voting percentage was recorded in Tripura which registered 78.53 per cent polling, followed by Manipur at 77.18 while the turnout

was in Uttar Pradesh at 53.71 per cent and Maharashtra 53.84 per cent. Polling was held in all 20 seats of Kerala, 14 of the 28 seats in Karnataka, 13 seats in Rajasthan, 8 seats each in Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh, 6 seats in Madhya Pradesh, 5 seats each in Assam and Bihar, 3 seats each in Chhattisgarh and West Bengal, and 1 seat each in Manipur, Tripura and Jammu and Kashmir. Congress leader Shashi Tharoor, Union minister Rajeev Chandrasekhar and actor-turned-politician Arun Govil, Karnataka Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar's brother DK Suresh (Cong), and former Karnataka chief minister HD Kumaraswamy (JDS) are among the key candidates while BJP's

Implementation of Uniform Civil Code in country is PM Modi's guarantee: Amit Shah

Will this country run on Sharia Union Home Minister Amit Shah tears into Congress Manifesto



NEW DELHI, APR 26 BJP's position against such practices. Addressing a rally in the Pipral area of Ashoknagar district, Guna Lok Sabha seat in Madhya Pradesh, Shah attacked Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, claiming that the BJP would not allow personal laws, as long as it was in power. He reaffirmed Modi's vow to endorse the UCC

statewide, citing its effective implementation in Uttarakhand. "Rahul Baba, you can do whatever you want for appeasement. As long as the BJP is there, it will not allow personal laws. It is our promise and a guarantee of Modi that we will implement UCC in the entire country as we have done in Uttarakhand," Amit Shah said. According to the report, Shah also commended the Modi government's efforts to eradicate Naxalism and terrorism from the country. Referring to the repeal of Article 370 in Jammu and Kashmir, he condemned the Congress' approach to terrorism, contrasting it with the decisive moves taken by the Modi administration. "In 2019, the Modi government abrogated Article 370 in just

PIL SEEKING MODERN SLAUGHTER HOUSES IN J&K/LADAKH

DB directs U.T. Adm. to apprise the Court regarding abattoir at Allochi Bagh, Srinagar

JAMMU, APR 26 A Division Bench of High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh (Jammu Bench) comprising the Chief Justice M. Kottiswar Singh and Justice Rahul Bharti in the much publicised PIL No.06/2018 filed by an NGO working for the cause of animals namely SAVE (Save Animals Value Environment) through its Chairperson Devinder Kaur Madan

seeking modern slaughter houses in J&K/Ladakh has directed the Authorities of U.T. Administration particularly Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC) to sort it out and apprise the court about the construction of abattoir at Allochi Bagh, Srinagar as the Division Bench was informed by Senior AAG S.S. Namda appearing for the SMC that there is no work going on apparently

Lok Sabha Elections Phase II

ECI establishes 109 special polling stations in Jammu PC

JAMMU, APR 26 In a first of its kind move towards inclusivity and environmental consciousness, the Election Commission of India (ECI) established 109 remarkable polling stations of different categories for voters in Jammu Parliamentary Constituency (PC) which went for polling today in the second phase of



General Elections to Lok Sabha 2024. These innovative polling stations viz: women manned, youth manned, PwD manned,

Two terrorists killed in overnight encounter in Sopore

One slain identified as Pakistani national: Encounter after 22 months in Sopore: arms, ammo recovered: IGP Kashmir: says police committed to providing safe, secure environment for LS polls

SOPORE, APR 26 Two terrorists were killed in an overnight encounter at Sopore in north Kashmir's Baramulla district, with the Inspector General of Police (IGP), Kashmir confirming one among them is a Pakistani national, while the identity of the other is being ascertained. Talking to reporters, the IGP Kashmir V K Bhiradi said that two terrorists were killed in the

Govt initiates process to dismiss CRPF DIG accused of sexual harassment NEW DELHI, APR 26 The Government has initiated the process of dismissing a DIG ranked former chief sports officer of the CRPF on charges of sexual harassment levelled against him by some women working in the paramilitary force, official sources said Friday. A notice for dismissal has been issued against Deputy Inspector General Khajan Singh after the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) accepted the recommendation of the

Lok Sabha Elections-2024

Scrutiny of nomination papers completed for 02-Srinagar PC

Candidature of 29 candidates found valid, 10 nominations rejected



JAMMU, APR 26 In accordance with the election schedule issued by Election Commission

of India (ECI) for the conduct of Lok Sabha Elections 2024, the scrutiny of nomination papers for Srinagar Lok Sabha

GMC Rajouri awarded National Bronze certification by NOA under AB-PMJAY

SRINAGAR, APR 26 In a remarkable achievement, Government Medical College (GMC) Rajouri has been awarded the prestigious Bronze Quality Certificate under its dedication to delivering top-notch healthcare services to the community. Government Medical College Rajouri is the 1st GMC of JK UT to be awarded National

SC EVM verdict tight slap to Congress, must apologize: PM Modi

NEW DELHI, APR 26 In the wake of the Supreme Court rejecting pleas seeking complete cross-verification of votes cast using EVMs, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday asserted the verdict was a "tight slap" to the Congress-led opposition which must "apologise" for creating distrust against EVMs. While most opposition parties remained silent after the verdict, the Congress said it will continue with its campaign on greater use of VVPATs to increase the

SC Rejects Pleas Seeking Cross-Verification Of Votes Cast Using EVMs With VVPAT

NEW DELHI, APR 26 The Supreme Court on Friday rejected pleas seeking complete cross-verification of votes cast using Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) with Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT). A bench of Justices Sanjay Khanna and Dipankar Datta delivered two concurring verdicts in the matter. Pronouncing the judgement, Justice Khanna said the court has rejected all the petitions, including those seeking resorting back to ballot papers in elections.

Unemployment, development attract first-time voters to cast ballots in Jammu PC

Excited to vote, youngsters reach polling stations even before 7AM

JAMMU, APR 26 The first-time voters of Jammu parliamentary segment, which has registered over 71 per cent turnout on Friday, saw brimming with excitement and optimism for a better future. From city to rural belts, the first-time voters are among the most excited lot, who have been in the queues outside the polling stations since morning to cast their ballots. Accompanied by elders of the family or friends, the first voters

curiously inquired about the formalities from the officials and then followed the process of voting. According to official figures out of 86.9 lakh electorate, a total of 3.4 lakh are first-time voters in Jammu and Kashmir. Shruti Arora, who exercised her franchise for the first time at Ganahi Nagar, said that she has voted today to elect the representative, who can work on real issues like high inflation, unemployment, infrastructure development and

People tasted 'real democracy' under PM Modi: Jitendra Singh

JAMMU, APR 26 The people of the country, especially those in Jammu and Kashmir, tasted "real democracy" under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union Minister Jitendra Singh said on Friday. On a day when voting is underway in 88 constituencies spread across 13 states and Union Territories in the second phase of the Lok Sabha elections, Singh said the BJP will register a "landslide" victory and form a "stable and strong" government for the third consecutive term. "After Modi took over



In 2014, the people got a feel of real democracy, especially in Jammu and Kashmir where the grassroots level democracy was strengthened with the holding of panchayat and urban local bodies elections and implementation

Will respect EC's decision on possible deferment of LS Polls in Anantnag-Rajouri: Raina

JAMMU, APR 26 With some candidates seeking postponement of polls in the Anantnag-Rajouri Lok Sabha seat due to adverse weather conditions, Jammu and

Power paucity in Kashmir sparks concerns for tourism industry

SRINAGAR, APR 26 The recent announcement by the Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation Limited (KPDDL) regarding limited power availability has sparked concerns among stakeholders in the tourism sector, particularly houseboat owners and hoteliers, who say they are grappling with the adverse effects on their services. Manzoor Ahmad Pakhtoon, President of the Kashmir