

OFFICE OF THE ELECTION AUTHORITY

UNDER PANCHAYATI RAJ ACT, 1989

(CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER, JAMMU AND KASHMIR)

“Greater Participation for a Stronger Democracy”

PRESS RELEASE

DATED: 03/12/18

Polling in the 7th phase of the 9 phase Panchayat Elections 2018 will take place on 4th December. As per the detailed schedule published on 22nd October 2018, the nomination process for 545 halqas having 4345 Panch constituencies commenced with the issuance of notification on 9th November 2018. While 85 Sarpanch and 912 Panch have been elected unopposed, polling will take place for 341 sarpanch and 1798 panch seats, with 5575 candidates in fray. An electorate of 475865 will be voting for sarpanch constituencies whereas it is 345880 for panch constituencies. Photo Voter Slips have been distributed among the voters to inform them of their polling station. The district wise details are in the enclosed Annexure.

In this phase, 2714 polling stations are being set up - 576 in Kashmir Division and 2138 in Jammu Division. Of these, 892 have been categorized as Hypersensitive - 428 in Kashmir Division and 464 in Jammu Division. Basic Minimum Facilities (BMF) have been ensured in all the polling stations for facilitating the voters. Security arrangements have been made including deployment of Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF).

At the end of 6 phases, in respect of the Sarpanch and Panch constituencies that have seen contests, the overall voter turnout has been 73.6% for the State, with a poll percentage of 46.1% in the Kashmir Division and 82.8% in the Jammu Division.

Orders have been passed in various complaint cases as well as on directions of the Hon'ble Courts and wherever necessary Notifications appointing the election schedule have been issued. All such orders/notifications are available at website of CEO J&K.

In order to ensure free and fair polls, general observers, expenditure observers and micro observers have been appointed apart from magistrates. Control Rooms established in all the districts are responding to any complaints of violation of the Model Code of Conduct or any other election related matter. The legal provision of end of campaigning including public meetings, processions, etc. 48 hours before the hour fixed for the end of poll stands enforced in the areas going to poll. Necessary orders pertaining to declaration of dry day have also been issued.

The timing of poll is from 8 am to 2 pm. The State Government has declared holiday on the day of poll, including under the Negotiable Instruments Act, and, therefore, it is enjoined upon all establishments, whether Government or Private to observe the same strictly. Also, provision of Special casual leave for state government employees has been made. Central government offices shall also afford reasonable facility to its employees who desire to vote.

The Chief Electoral Officer, J&K appeals to the voters to come forward and exercise their right to franchise in order to choose their local self government to address their local needs.

ANNEXURE TO PRESS RELEASE DATED 3rd DECEMBER 2018

District	Total Panch Halqas	Total Panch Wards	Sarpanch Elected Unopposed	Panch Elected Unopposed	Poll Going Sarpanch Seats	Electors for Sarpanch Seats	Candidates in fray Sarpanch Seats	Poll Going Panch Seats	Candidates in fray Panch Seats	Electors for Panch seats	Polling stations setup
Kupwara	57	477	13	181	38	40949	102	101	215	13666	314
Bandipora	12	88	1	4	2	2923	5	1	2	161	14
Baramulla	54	424	15	44	6	7575	16	3	6	514	50
Ganderbal	6	44	3	15	1	884	2	0	0	0	7
Budgam	30	250	11	70	11	14782	24	8	17	1571	93
Pulwama	16	144	1	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Shopian	17	133	3	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kulgam	12	84	1	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Anantnag	68	536	37	122	13	16450	30	4	8	508	98
Ramban	25	183	0	44	23	25884	106	123	292	25121	167
Reasi	54	400	0	64	54	66899	192	334	796	57541	400
Samba	30	238	0	45	30	50678	137	193	477	42005	238
Jammu	60	486	0	65	60	126889	269	421	1065	111890	486
Rajouri	61	495	0	78	61	74168	234	416	1016	63620	495
Poonch	43	363	0	158	42	47784	132	194	432	29283	352