

# OFFICE OF THE ELECTION AUTHORITY

UNDER PANCHAYATI RAJ ACT, 1989  
(CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER, JAMMU & KASHMIR)

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“Greater Participation for a Stronger Democracy”

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## **PRESS RELEASE**

**DATED: 26/11/18**

Polling in the 4<sup>th</sup> phase of the 9 phase Panchayat Elections 2018 will take place on 27<sup>th</sup> November. As per the detailed schedule published on 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2018, the nomination process for 531 halqas having 4140 Panch constituencies commenced with the issuance of notification on 1<sup>st</sup> November 2018. While 99 Sarpanch and 969 Panch have been elected unopposed, polling will take place for 339 Sarpanch and 1749 Panch seats, with 5470 candidates in fray. An electorate of 472160 will be voting for Sarpanch constituencies while it is 332502 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, 2618 polling stations are being set up - 639 in Kashmir Division and 1979 in Jammu Division. Of these, 777 have been categorized as Hypersensitive - 571 in Kashmir Division and 206 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).

In the 3<sup>rd</sup> phase, the State has witnessed a polling percentage of 75.2% - in the Kashmir Division 55.7% and in the Jammu Division 83.0%. Results have been announced for all these by the respective Returning Officers except some of the constituencies of Block Mugal Maidan, Kishtwar due to the re-poll ordered at Panch Constituency-01 Hirkhani of Panchayat Halqa Drubeel and Sarpanch Constituency of Panchayat Halqa Rahalthal. The re-poll shall be held alongwith the 4<sup>th</sup> phase.

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 8:00 am to 2:00 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.

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**ANNEXURE TO PRESS RELEASE DATED 26<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 2018**

District	Blocks	Total Panchayat Halqas	Total Panch Wards	Sarpanch Elected	Panch Elected	Poll Going Sarpanch Seats	Electors for Sarpanch Seats	Candidates in fray for Sarpanch Seats	Poll Going Panch Seats	Electors for Panch seats	Candidates in fray for Panch Seats	Polling Stations set up
Kupwara	1	22	200	9	122	13	14834	36	37	5352	75	119
Bandipora	1	26	182	12	61	8	9545	21	15	2527	30	57
Baramulla	3	42	334	10	144	26	31054	71	80	11381	167	218
Budgam	2	36	314	14	28	0	0	0	1	134	2	1
Pulwama	2	40	316	11	9	1	2254	2	0	0	0	9
Shopian	1	12	107	3	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kulgam	1	10	84	3	26	6	6730	13	7	1304	15	46
Anantnag	5	81	615	37	178	24	38081	56	22	4632	65	189
Kishtwar	1	12	88	0	14	12	15542	67	74	13196	185	88
Doda	3	41	289	0	75	41	46957	135	214	37141	511	289
Ramban	1	17	125	0	69	17	18073	55	56	8729	117	125
Udhampur	2	38	294	0	36	38	54486	192	258	48388	654	294
Kathua	4	50	390	0	60	50	75361	225	330	65124	840	390
Jammu	5	51	407	0	57	50	94286	202	341	81760	817	398
Rajouri	2	27	193	0	38	27	32002	90	155	26090	356	193
Poonch	1	26	202	0	43	26	32955	106	159	26744	365	202
<b>Total</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>531</b>	<b>4140</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>969</b>	<b>339</b>	<b>472160</b>	<b>1271</b>	<b>1749</b>	<b>332502</b>	<b>4199</b>	<b>2618</b>