



Jammu & Kashmir Elections 2024 | Jammu & Kashmir | 03 Oct 2024

Why in News?

Jammu & Kashmir held its first assembly elections in a decade and the first since the abrogation of [Article 370](#) in 2019. The third and final phase concluded on **1st October, 2024**.

Key Points

- **Constituencies and Turnout Breakdown:**
 - **Kashmir Division (16 Seats):**
 - **Highest turnout: Gurez (77.96%)** has highest turnout across the Kashmir region, outpolling 37 constituencies of Jammu division also.
 - **Jammu Division (24 Seats): Highest turnout: Inderwal: 82.16%**, Padder-Nagseni: 80.67%, Shri Mata Vaishnodevi: 80.45%, Akhnoor: 79.70%, Marh and Chhamb: 79%
- **First phase voter turnout (18th September): 61%**
- **Second phase voter turnout (25th September): 57.3%**

Jammu & Kashmir Demography

- **Population Statistics (2011 Census):**
 - Total population: 12,541,302 (0.93% of India's total population).
 - Males: 6,640,662.
 - Females: 5,900,640.
 - Sex ratio: 892 females per 1,000 males (compared to the national ratio of 933).
- **Religious Composition:**
 - Muslims: 68.32%.
 - Hindus: 28.44%.
 - Sikhs: 1.87%.
 - Buddhists: 0.90%.
 - Christians: 0.28%.
 - Others: 0.01%.

Impact of Candidate's Death in Elections | Jammu & Kashmir | 03 Oct 2024

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In a significant development, a 75-year-old candidate from the **Surankote constituency** in **Poonch district** passed away just six days ahead of the results of the [Jammu & Kashmir Assembly election](#).

Key Points

- **Results Awaited:** If a candidate dies after voting but before the results are declared, the election results will be awaited as usual.
- **If Another Candidate Wins:** The results will be valid, and no re-election is needed if another candidate wins after counting.
- **If the Deceased Candidate Wins:** If the deceased candidate wins, the election will be cancelled.
- **Re-Voting/By-Election:** A re-election or by-election will be held on this seat since the elected candidate cannot represent the constituency.
- **Relevant Law: Under Section 151A of the [Representation of the People Act, 1951](#),** elections must be held within **6 months in such a case.**
- **Death of a Candidate Before Voting:**
 - **Election Cancelled:** If a candidate dies before voting and after the nomination and withdrawal period has ended, the election on the concerned seat is cancelled.
 - **New Poll Date:** A new date is set for the election in that constituency to ensure voters can choose a replacement candidate.
 - **Relevant Provision:** The process is governed by the [Representation of the People Act, 1951](#), ensuring that voters have the chance to elect a new candidate fairly.

Representation of the People Act, 1951

- **Provisions:**
 - It regulates the **conduct of elections.**
 - It specifies the **qualifications and disqualifications** for membership of the houses,
 - It provides provisions to curb **corrupt practices and other offences.**
 - It lays down the procedure for **settling doubts and disputes** arising out of elections.

PDF Reference URL: <https://www.drishtiias.com/statepcs/23-09-2023/jammu-&-kashmir/print>

