

ಪತ್ರಿಕಾ ತುಣುಕುಗಳು
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Shah says statehood for J&K at 'appropriate time'

NEW DELHI, DHNS: Home Minister Amit Shah on Saturday said that Jammu and Kashmir will be given statehood at an "appropriate time", insisting that the development of the region was the government's top priority.

Replying to a discussion on the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation (Amendment) Bill in the Lok Sabha, Shah slammed Opposition members who said the proposed law negates the hopes of the region getting back its erstwhile statehood.

The Bill seeks to replace the ordinance to merge the Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) cadre of civil service officers with those of Arunachal Pradesh, Goa, Mizoram Union Territory (AGMUT). The Bill was passed by a voice vote.

Responding to claims that passing an amendment to the 2019 Bill—which split the state into two union territories after Article 370 was withdrawn—meant the Centre had no intention of restoring its statehood, a furious Shah said the legislation has nothing to do with statehood.

Jammu and Kashmir will be accorded the status at an appropriate time, he said.



Amit Shah speaks in the Lok Sabha on Saturday. PTI

After the abrogation of Article 370 in 2019, the Modi government has implemented more development works than those that ruled the state for generations, he said.

Reading out statistics, Shah said the government expects to create 25,000 government jobs in Jammu and Kashmir by 2022.

Taking a swipe at the Congress and others who had backed Article 370 that gave special status to J&K, Shah said it was a temporary provision which was being continued for over 70 years before the Modi government annulled it.

Now the people chosen by the masses will rule Jammu and Kashmir, and not those born to "kings and queens", he said.

More funds for MGNREGA if needed: Sitharaman

Under attack for reducing budgetary allocation for rural jobs scheme MGNREGA in the Budget for 2021-22, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said in the Lok Sabha on

Saturday that the Narendra Modi government will allocate more funds for the scheme if needed, DHNS reports from New Delhi.
Details on Page 9