

# Modi promises elections in Kashmir

Indian premier Narendra Modi has said his government plans to hold elections in the Muslim-majority Kashmir region, in a major reversal of his policy since August 2019

► Modi's new conciliatory approach reflects growing strategic pressures, including rapprochement with rival Pakistan, tensions with China and concerns about rise of Taliban following U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan



► **Aug 2019:** Indian government strips **Jammu and Kashmir** state of semi-autonomous status. State split into two new federally-administered territories – **Jammu and Kashmir (1)**, and **Ladakh (2)**

**Jun 2020:** At least 20 Indian soldiers killed during clash with China in Ladakh's Galwan Valley. **India maintains 50,000 troops deployed in Ladakh**