This report highlights our achievements in Research, Policy, Development, and Governance.

**PUBLICATIONS:** 91 (Policy Building, Projects, Dialogues & Report Briefs, Commentary, Research, Case study)

**PUBLICATION VIEWS:** 70,589

**WEBSITE VIEWS:** 1,20,178

**GOOGLE USERS:** 38,750
Jammu & Kashmir Policy Institute (Registered as Trust) is a Srinagar-based independent, non-partisan, youth-driven institution committed to conversations on sustainable development in Jammu and Kashmir.

We believe in facilitating multi-stakeholder dialogues to bring in diverse perspectives and encourage constructive disagreements, introducing new cutting-edge creative problem-solving approaches to issues of SUSTAINABILITY and other matters concerning the human geography of the region.

JKPI is committed to utilizing evidence-based approaches to advance policy advocacy, aiming for a long-lasting, sustainable impact on the future. This humble initiative, powered by a diverse team, has worked on the ground and generated knowledge across various subjects related to the UN Sustainable Development Goals. By collaborating with communities and other institutions to promote sustainability initiatives, our objective is to foster a shared commitment to sustainability.

The JKPI operates as a convening space for multi-stakeholder engagement to initiate a shared vision-building process for sustainable development in J&K. The JKPI emphasizes the need for sustainable development
on a number of priority goals and economic growth. The JKPI contributes and invites contributions, and partnerships in the form of educational dialogue-oriented seminars, panel discussions, opinion briefs, research papers, policy briefs, policy analysis papers and other creative projects.

**We strive to promote**

Effective youth engagement in policy-making and decision-making processes.


Awareness Generation about the critical issues and challenges in J&K.

Interactions between youth and policy-makers for creating a shared vision and openness on the execution of development work.

Partnerships and Collaborations with development agencies think tanks, youth groups, and educational institutions to generate interdisciplinary inputs on a wide range of issues.
School Art Workshops

- Our creative, fun, and interactive art workshops are designed for school children and engage them using various activities and art mediums.
- ALLF artists work closely with teachers to conduct art classes, workshops, and art camps in schools where students experience new dimensions of their imagination.
- ALLF emphasizes and highlights the need for fine arts education in schools.
- Our organization conducts art workshops and art camps in schools, mostly in schools that have no art teacher.
- We also offer a variety of art camps for tribal children throughout the summer.

ART IN LIFE FOUNDATION
An initiative towards sustainability and equality

LOOKING FOR SOLUTIONS THROUGH CREATIVITY.

AN INITIATIVE BY JAMMU & KASHMIR POLICY INSTITUTE, JKPI

artinlifefoundation.org
allofficial2023@gmail.com 7889449487, 7006515945
Embracing school kids as future leaders

With a goal to promote civic engagement, AILF has decided to team up with the future leaders of our society - school kids! Our ultimate objective is to motivate young children to become responsible, knowledgeable citizens who can positively influence their neighborhoods and the wider community.

Through fun and interactive events, we will educate young minds and inform them about the governance institutions that shape their lives. In order to achieve our goal of protecting public values and making a change in a community, we will collaborate with academicians, development practitioners, and government officials.

AN INITIATIVE BY JAMMU & KASHMIR POLICY INSTITUTE, JKPI

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PEACEFUL CLASSMATES

Striving to bring out the best in children

It is widely understood that young children are more pliable than their older counterparts, making it easier to introduce new ideas and activities.

When children act out, disobey, behave rudely, or display disturbing emotions, it’s easy to dismiss them or their behaviour as “bad” or “wrong”. However, the best way to help the children effectively deal with disagreements they may encounter in life, and overcome differences amicably is to teach them conflict resolution and problem-solving skills.

Children must thus be offered opportunities for critical and reflective thinking, analysing and discussing day-to-day problems to find workable solutions, and practising conflict resolution and problem-solving skills.

AILF has introduced the Peaceful Classmates program which aims to promote conflict resolution, problem-solving skills, and positive relations among school-going children, and find ways to reduce bullying in schools that impacts children’s long-term mental health.

AN INITIATIVE BY JAMMU & KASHMIR POLICY INSTITUTE, JKPI
JK Policy Institute presents
EXPERT TALK SERIES

virtual event on
RESILIENT PASTORALISM IN THE CHANGING CLIMATE: Nurturing Sustainability in Kashmir Valley

Dr. Smruti Smita Mohapatra

VETERINARIAN
EDUCATOR
CONSULTANT
RESEARCHER

Join Us

Sunday, July 23
6:00 pm IST

JK Policy Institute

JKPI’s Social Impact Initiative

SUPPORT OUR SOCIAL IMPACT INITIATIVE

Through our social impact projects and programs, we aim to:

A) support and create initiatives to bring about positive change in the lives of people in need.
B) bridge and inspire partnership between government institutions, NGOs, and the community at-large.

We believe that we can all come together to create solutions to the most pressing challenges of our time. Driven by this belief, our mission is to create inclusive, fair, and sustainable communities. We can do this by helping people find work, skills, direction - or whatever it is they need.

JKPI’s social impact offerings are designed for those who are in need of help and support from the government or the people around them.
VIRTUAL LECTURE ON
Climate Change and Sustainable Livelihood for Camel Herders in Ladakh

Guest Expert
Dr. Smruti Smita Mohapatra Samal
Veterinarian | Educator | Consultant | Researcher

Saturday, 17th Feb 2024
06:00 - 07:00 pm
Live Stream
Platform: Zoom

CLIMATE JUSTICE IN INDIA
understanding the social and economic impacts of climate change

Guest Expert
Prof. Prakash Kashwan
Associate Professor of Environmental Studies, Brandeis University

Sunday
17th February 2024
06:00 am IST
Live Stream
Platform: Zoom
"Women are change-makers"
Importance of investing in women’s empowerment across various sectors

Join us in commemorating
INTERNATIONAL
Women’s Day
8 MARCH 2024

GUEST SPEAKERS

Dr. Gazala Gayas
Principal GDC Rajpora, Pulwama

Dr. Kainat Aziz
Research Fellow IT Guwahati

Sugra Malik
Lead Platform Developer (Publicis Sapient, Australia)

MODERATOR
Huzaita Jeelani

#IWD2024
#InvestInWomen

Friday, 08th March 2024 3:30 pm - 5:00 pm
Live Stream
Platform: Zoom
JKPI's work on the nomadic, indigenous communities—Bakarwal and Chopan—has been officially recognized and included on the prestigious Pastoralist World Map!
Our former Research Intern, Yashi Singh, successfully completes her Master’s in International Relations at the University of Leeds with Merit (2022-2023).
The official Instagram page of the School of Public Policy and Governance, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Hyderabad.

39 likes
spgg.tiss Congratulations to Taranum Muzaffar Lone, a senior student from the MA Cities and Governance Programme at the School of Public Policy and Governance, on having her article, "How Smart Cities are Transforming Urban Landscapes - A Case Study of Srinagar and Jammu." published by Daily Kashmir.
Jammu Kashmir Policy Institute remains committed to supporting youth to explore their potential in sports by providing them with kits and right equipment.
Untapped hydropower potential is key to socioeconomic development in J&K

ZAHOOR AHMAD DAR

Does Jammu and Kashmir generate enough hydroelectricity to meet its own domestic consumption or does its true hydropower potential remains untapped? This commentary is an attempt to understand the situation and offer plausible recommendations.

The changing nature of drug trafficking

ANT KUMAR

This commentary explains the changing nature of drug trafficking and its interplay with technology, and the role of pharma giants like China & India and offers a way forward.

Air pollution reaches dangerous levels during winters in Kashmir

ADEELA HAMEED

The air quality of Kashmir with green meadows, high mountains, and forests is perceived to be pure and untainted. Yet studies have found that on certain days, pollution in the valley can be worse than that in a metropolitan city.

J&K could become a clean energy giant but remains a pauper when it comes to harnessing

Jammu and Kashmir has enormous potential to generate power using solar energy, but nothing substantial is being done to harness this potential. The UT too could have progressed and prospered if only it was able to tap and market its clean energy base.
Patriarchy and intellectual feminism: A theoretical analysis

MALVIKA

The woman in the house needs to side with the woman in the house. There is no fighting patriarchy without unity among women and that is something absolutely impossible to achieve without reaching out to the grassroots level of society and its psyche.

Nepali women in Maoist insurgency: Life after war

SHIVANGI SINGH

“...This article looks into the experiences of women ex-combatants and their life after the war in Nepal under the state and society that momentarily make rules that deepen the gender divide.”
How prepared is Kashmir Valley for high-intensity earthquakes?

ADEELA HAMEED

As the probability of earthquake occurrences in Kashmir Valley is very high, the authorities need to revise guidelines and strategies to include the prevention of colossal damage at the onset of disaster (mitigation) rather than over-emphasizing rehabilitation of the affected after it strikes.

Will Hygam wetland be lost to encroachment or is rescue around the corner?

ADEELA HAMEED

Failure to take sustained measures for the conservation of Hygam is taking a toll on its fragile ecosystem. It has led to a decrease in the migratory bird population to the wetland. In the absence of proper regulations, dead logs, and fallen trees have stopped the movement of water from catchment areas surrounding the wetland.

Despite medical advances, repeated outbreaks of Hepatitis continue to make people sick in Kashmir

KAINAT AZIZ

It was in 1978 when an epidemic of severe hepatitis in the Kashmir Valley led to the discovery of Hepatitis E by a native gastroenterologist, Dr. Mohammad Kuruq. The outbreak emanated 5,200 clinical cases with 1,550 deaths engulfing around 200 villages with 60,000 population.

Risks of unchecked mining to trout fish in Jammu and Kashmir

MUHTAR DAR

This study highlights the risks of unchecked mining to trout fish in Jammu and Kashmir and how policies can be improved. It argues that the government needs to adopt a more ecological approach to mining to make it less damaging to the important aquatic habitat.
**Fast Fashion: Through the lens of sustainability**

Neha Aggarwal

Fast fashion became popular due to affordability, faster manufacturing and shipping methods, an increase in consumers’ appetite for current fashion, and an increase in consumer purchasing power—particularly among young people—to satisfy the desire for instant gratification.

**Mapping the unemployment in Jammu and Kashmir**

Zahoor Ahmad Dar

J&K remains in the midst of an unemployment crisis, especially in the wake of retrenchment of employees, mergers of government departments, and slacked recruitment process. Above all, the lack of formal policies—encouraging youth to look for independent work and support entrepreneurship to increase unemployment—has put the Union Territory (UT) on the list of states facing the highest unemployment rates.
MARCH 2023

JK POLICY INSTITUTE
China’s Belt and Road Initiative: Vietnam’s National Interest in Realist World

Papers
09 March 2023

IRFANUL HAQ

China wants to be a geopolitical giant of Asia as evidenced by its economic growth, military modernization programme, and ever-increasing diplomatic maneuvers in Asia and around the world.

JK POLICY INSTITUTE
Land Subsidence – Could we see a repeat of Joshimath in Chenab Valley?

Environment & Ecology
05 March 2023

KAINAT AZIZ & ADEELA HAMEED

Experts are of the opinion that undue human encroachment in geographically sensitive areas is the main cause of land subsidence. Haphazard construction that has been ongoing without keeping a region’s geomorphology in mind is another reason for increased land subsidence in the Himalayan valleys.

JK POLICY INSTITUTE
Glee and woe of lithium deposits in Reasi district of J&K

Natural Resources Development and Sustainability
30 March 2023

KAINAT AZIZ

The recent finding of 5.9 million tonnes of lithium deposits in J&K provides India with a much-needed boost toward achieving its net-zero energy ambitions by 2070. However, the processes required to extract lithium can pose a threat to the fragile ecosystem of the Himalayas.

JK POLICY INSTITUTE
Role of Women in the Shawl Industry of Kashmir

Investment and Entrepreneurship
22 March 2023

MUCHANA GOIWALI

The shawl industry has had a significant impact on the socio-economic development of Kashmir and its people. The industry provides livelihood and income to thousands of people, improves access to education, and helps to preserve the cultural heritage of the region.
Rare and elusive duck species visit Kashmir after 116 years. But why?

On 22 January 2023, rare duck species were spotted at the iconic Wular lake, which were later identified as Long-tailed ducks (globally vulnerable) and were five in number. These duck species were spotted in Kashmir after 84 years, and the last time they were sighted in Hokarsar was in 1939 by F. Ludlow.

Trout farming offers huge opportunities for economic growth and employment in J&K

Currently, there are 5 trout hatcheries, 42 trout-raising centers, and 268 private rearing units in Jammu & Kashmir. Despite these efforts, more needs to be done as there are many unemployed young people in the UT who could be taught the necessary skills to make a living through trout farming.
APRIL 2023

JK POLICY INSTITUTE

School Infrastructure in Jammu and Kashmir — An Analysis
AJAZ AHMAD DAR

This article provides details about the various infrastructural facilities, and computer and digital initiatives in schools, and makes a comparison between the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir and the country as a whole with regard to the availability of both facilities.

JK POLICY INSTITUTE

Kashmir and India’s G20 Presidency
ANAMITA PANERIEE

With India officially adopting the G20 chairmanship, it is Jammu and Kashmir’s chance to rise to the occasion of exhibiting its market prospects, ecotourism ventures, and cultural assets to the leading global nations.

JK POLICY INSTITUTE

Understanding Recent Trends in Violent Crime in Kashmir
ADEELA HAMEED

Controlling crime is a challenge that requires a comprehensive and multifarious approach. While researchers have begun to identify some of the factors that may have contributed to this upward trend, it is far too soon to say with certainty why crime rose over the last few years.

JK POLICY INSTITUTE

Use of technology and astronomical calculations for moon sightings: Accepted in Saudi, Malaysia and Indonesia, why not here?

With today’s technology, calculations are far more accurate than the claims of sightings. Experience suggests that people often mistake other objects for the crescent moon. Calculations for sightings are surely Haqeq! Yaqeeni, while claims of sighting may be suspicion (Zarur) or mistaken.
Women in Leadership Roles: An Epic Underrepresentation

Women remain underrepresented at all levels of decision-making globally, and political gender balance is still a long way off. Moreover, the representation of women in leadership roles in international organizations has remained disappointingly low. This article is an attempt to understand the barriers to women’s leadership and the ways to overcome these barriers.

Now that the world’s first cloned Pashmina goat is no more, scientists in Kashmir should explore animal cloning more seriously than ever.

When compared to the rest of the world, the idea of cloning is relatively novel in the Kashmir valley. The SKUAST researchers had pursued cloning to protect this threatened breed. Is that it, though? The question is, what should the researchers in Kashmir do next? Did duplicating the Pashmina goat help the survival of this “Near Threatened” goat?

Scientists in Kashmir ought to take animal cloning more seriously than ever in light of the passing of Noori, the first cloned Pashmina goat in the world.

When compared to the rest of the world, the idea of cloning is relatively novel in the Kashmir valley. The SKUAST researchers had pursued cloning to protect this threatened breed. Is that it, though? The question is, what should the researchers in Kashmir do next? Did duplicating the Pashmina goat help the survival of this “Near Threatened” goat?

The Threat Of Exotic Wild Boars To The Ecological Balance Of Dachigam National Park

Dachigam National Park, an ecologically sensitive area and home to the only critically endangered deer species-Hangul is facing serious threats to its long-term sustainability due to habitat fragmentation and human interference, such as bekerwal migration. What adds to the problem is the growing population of wild boars.
Climate change is about more than simply more intense heat waves

KANAT AZIZ

The weather patterns in Kashmir have shifted with the weather becoming more unpredictable over the past few decades. Chilai Kalan sees a decrease in snowfall, as does the rest of winter, although the conclusion of the season sees increased events of snowfall and extreme weather patterns.

Uncovering causes and consequences of human trafficking

NEHA AGGARWAL

Human trafficking is a global scourge that continues to threaten the basic rights and freedoms of millions of individuals around the world. The causes of human trafficking are complex and multifaceted, rooted in poverty, gender inequality, and other societal issues.

Why Does Ethics in Bird Watching Matter?

FAHMYAZ YOUSUF

Bird watching is an activity that many people enjoy, but why does it matter to practice ethics in bird watching? In this study, we explore the importance of ethics in bird watching and why it is so important for birders to follow the ethical guidelines set by the community.

How Indiscriminate Use of Pesticides is Impacting the Apple Farming in Kashmir

SEMIRAN FATEEL

Apple farming in Kashmir is facing a severe challenge in the form of indiscriminate use of pesticides. Farmers use pesticides extensively to protect apple crops from diseases and pests. But the excessive use of these chemicals is causing significant damage to both human health & environment.
JUNE 2023

**JK POLICY INSTITUTE**

**J&K has compelling reasons for earthquake-resilient construction**

ADEELA HAMEED

The Turkey-Syria earthquakes demonstrated the effectiveness of seismic protection technologies and engineering techniques that can be employed to manage the reaction of structures to earthquakes.

**JK POLICY INSTITUTE**

**The changing nature of drug trafficking**

ANIT KUMAR

The problem of the illicit drug trade is very complicated and its proper crackdown requires a robust multi-state intercontinental approach like real-time information sharing & a point of communication between states to intercept perpetrators & boats/cargoes carrying illicit drugs.

**JK POLICY INSTITUTE**

**How the air quality is affected and ways to improve it**

KAINAT AZIZ

Presently 12,541,302 individuals in Jammu and Kashmir are inhaling air that is harmful and does not comply with World Health Organization standards for clean air.

**JK POLICY INSTITUTE**

**Locating child labor in the carpet industry of Jammu & Kashmir**

NEHA AGGARWAL

- JK will have 94,26 thousand projected child labor population in the 5-14 years age group by 2025.
- JK ranks third in terms of child labor, which gives a good indication of the prevailing bleak situation.
- The UT is likely to maintain its third-place ranking in 2025 based on the projected number of children working as laborers.
G20 tourism working group meeting in Srinagar: Benefits and Opportunities

By virtue of the G20 tourism working group meeting in Srinagar, the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir got an opportunity to exhibit its market prospects, eco-tourism ventures, and cultural assets to the leading global nations.

The importance of World Environment Day and its relevance in Kashmir

As people all over the world come together to celebrate World Environment Day 2023 with the theme “Beat Plastic Pollution,” Kashmir must join the efforts. Through innovative projects and strong actions, the Kashmir Valley is already taking big steps to stop plastic pollution and setting a strong example for the rest of the world to follow.

Alligator gar in Dal Lake: A matter of grave concern for native aquatic species

No one knows what effect alligator gar will have on native species and the ecological balance of Dal Lake. But because they eat other fish, there are worries that they might compete with native fish for food and mess up the food chain.

China's mediation between Saudi and Iran reflect its growing role in the Middle East

China’s recent entry into Middle East mediation demonstrates its rising diplomatic influence and showcases an alternative narrative of global power dynamics, asserting itself as a powerful rising diplomatic presence, contributing to the perception of a shrinking US global influence.
JULY 2023

**Commentaries**

**9 July 2023**

**Analyzing the transition of Panchayati Raj Institutions in Jammu and Kashmir**

NEHA ADGARWAL

JK Policy Institute

J&K is not an exception to the skewed concentration of political power at the higher levels. Thus, many believe that it was only after the abrogation of J&K’s special status and its transition into a Union Territory that Panchayati Raj Institutions started functioning on the ground. This article delves into the critical analysis of this claim.

**Environment & Ecology**

**12 July 2023**

**Cement factories in Kashmir must balance the relationship between economic gain & environmental protection**

PAIREIZ YOUSUF

JK Policy Institute

The publication offers an informed and balanced opinion on whether the presence of cement factories in Kashmir is a beneficial development or a detriment to the region and proposes to aid economic growth with environmental protection, making it possible for businesses to thrive while still protecting the environment.

**Natural Resources Development and Sustainability**

**2 July 2023**

**Exploring the traditional knowledge of Gujjars and Bakarwals**

ZAHOR AHMAD DAR

JK Policy Institute

Gujjars and Bakarwals not only know the art of animal rearing but also possess the art of healing. They are repositories of indigenous technical knowledge and have a practice of using naturally occurring herbs and shrubs for treating diseases of both humans and animals.

**Climate Change**

**15 July 2023**

**The silent crisis: A 75% land transformation and 68% decline in wildlife**

ADEFEEAH HAWEED

JK Policy Institute

The article presents a sobering account of unprecedented land transformation that has resulted in the destruction of natural habitats and ecosystems, leading to a devastating decline in wildlife populations, which have decreased by an staggering average of 68%.
Tunneling, landslides on NH-44, and the fragile Himalayas

KAINAT AZIZ

Landslides in the Himalayas are a looming threat due to tectonic forces and unstable rock mass. Development projects in the region face challenges, and roads built in transition zones worsen the situation. NH-44 bears the brunt of these disasters, impacting lives and the economy.

Impact of increased social media usage in India on national security: Challenges and opportunities

RAHUL VANKHEDE

This paper analyses the opportunities and challenges created for national security by the rise of social media applications and their increased usage in India and argues that the whole phenomenon has affected the Indian security landscape at three identifiable levels: individual, societal, and national.

Ecological crisis and the complex causes of mass fish deaths in Dal Lake

SEMRAN PARVAIZ

The unexplained mass mortality of fish in Dal Lake has compelled experts and authorities to seek answers and address the impending ecological crisis. In this article, we shed light on the urgency and significance of this issue, highlighting the need for comprehensive solutions to safeguard the ecosystem of Dal Lake.

Sustaining pastoral livelihoods in J&K: Challenges and recommendations

SMRUTI SWITA MOHAPATRA

This article explores Jammu & Kashmir’s pastoralist communities’ dependence on livestock for livelihoods. It highlights migration, protection, importance, climate change challenges, and limited market access. Recommendations aim to sustain their unique livelihoods amid changing environmental conditions.
Emerging multipolarity in Asia: Dynamics, challenges, and the rise of India as a superpower

ANAMITRA BANERJEE

Explore the evolving global power dynamics and the rise of India as a superpower in multipolar Asia. Discover how historical influences, economic stakes, and geopolitical trends have led to a new world order. Learn about the challenges, including regional conflicts and emerging technologies, that shape this multipolar reality.

AR6 Synthesis Report Climate Change 2023: Lessons for the Global Community

ANAMITRA BANERJEE


Respiratory viruses and health after COVID-19: Insights from a distinguished medical practitioner

ADEELA HAMEED

Explore the conversation with Dr. Abdul Hameed, a distinguished medical practitioner, on the changing landscape of respiratory viruses post-COVID. Learn about the shift in virus behavior, the importance of preventive measures, and advancements in vaccine development for a post-pandemic world.

Challenges and opportunities of smart meter installations in Kashmir

HANEEN FARID

In her insightful commentary, Haneen Farid delves into the complex dynamics surrounding the implementation of smart meters in the Kashmir valley. At first glance, the promise of efficient energy usage and reduced emissions seems appealing. However, the reality was met with widespread protests. Concerns over inflated bills and a demand for flat rates ignited public disapproval.
Bakarwal migration’s impact on Dachigam National Park: Balancing tradition and conservation

PARVAIZ YOUSUF

Explore the impact of Bakarwal migration on Kashmir’s national parks, the delicate balance between tradition and conservation, and proactive steps to ensure a harmonious coexistence for these unique shepherds and precious ecosystems.

Healthcare disparities in Jammu and Kashmir: Challenges and systemic inefficiencies

SHEMAR PARVAIZ

One of the most pressing and consequential challenges faced by individuals seeking medical assistance in Kashmir is the arduous wait times experienced at government hospitals. This exacerbating and time-intensive ordeal further compounds the difficulties faced by individuals who are already grappling with health concerns.

Wasteland reclamation: A path to environmental and socioeconomic restoration

ZAHOOR AHMAD DAR

As the global population continues to grow at an unprecedented rate, so does the impact on the environment. One pressing concern is the surge in wastelands – unproductive, barren lands detrimental to nature. This article delves into this vital issue, revealing methods to rejuvenate wastelands, spotlighting the case of Jammu & Kashmir.

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE WORLD’S INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

Explore the vibrant legacy of Jammu and Kashmir’s largest ethnic tribe, a cornerstone of the state’s economy, knowledge, and culture.
Challenges and opportunities of smart meter installations in Kashmir

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Rising cloudburst events in the Himalayas: Causes and consequences

KAINAT AZIZ

Recent years have seen a surge in cloudburst events, but what’s causing them? Know the science behind these phenomena, their impacts, and why it’s crucial to act now.

Read more about the rising cloudbursts in the Himalayas in our latest article by Kainat Aziz.

Investigating the vital link between Clean Energy and Maternal Health

NEHA AGGARWAL

Through an in-depth exploration of case studies and a foundation in scientific research, this article highlights that clean energy initiatives not only champion environmental sustainability but also significantly bolster maternal health outcomes.

Why India’s Historic Moon Landing on the South Pole is So Important

PARVAIZ YOUUSUF

India’s ascent in lunar exploration and its incredible journey from Chandrayaan-1 to groundbreaking Chandrayaan-3 mission. Discover why the Moon’s south pole is a focal point for scientific discovery, resource potential, and global cooperation, as we explore the significance of Chandrayaan-3’s historic landing at the south pole of the Moon.
**JK Policy Institute**

**Kashmir's native fish species in serious decline**

Parvaiz Yousuf

Our native fish species, like the Kashmir gadd and Rami gurun, are facing endangerment due to bad policies, pollution, invasive species, and uncontrolled mining. Read this eye-opening article by Parvaiz Yousuf to understand the critical situation and learn what we can do to protect our aquatic heritage.

**Kashmir's Changing River Beds and the Looming Threat of Floods**

Senran Parvaiz

Explore the complexities of Kashmir's flood vulnerability, and the precarities of Kashmir's susceptibility to flooding in our latest article, “Kashmir's Changing River Beds and the Looming Threat of Floods” by Senran Parvaiz. Dive into the heart of the matter as we shed light on the critical role played by shifting riverbeds in this important piece.

**The shadow epidemic: Escalating crisis of drug addiction in Jammu & Kashmir**

Zaheer Ahmad Dar

The Kashmir Valley is grappling with a severe crisis as over 21,000 people are trapped in the grip of drug addiction, primarily cannabis. Shockingly, this struggle often starts in adolescence, with most individuals getting hooked between the ages of 11 and 20, painting a grim picture of youth battling addiction at a young age.

**Community-Based Rehabilitation: Rethinking rehabilitation for trafficked individuals**

Neha Aggarwal

Neha sheds light on the current landscape, revealing the gaps and challenges we face in the fight against human trafficking. She also delves into the Trafficking in Persons (Prevention, Care and Rehabilitation) Bill 2021. While comprehensive, it raises concerns about the interpretation of rehabilitation and the lack of clarity around ‘reintegration’.
Climate-induced crises in Pakistan: Insights for the Global South

In a world grappling with an escalating environmental crisis, accurate predictions have become the bedrock of informed policies, strategic investments, and innovation. Anamitra Banerjee’s latest research paper introduces us to the intricate web of interactions within Earth’s biological systems, all influenced by global warming. Discover how seemingly rare events can have irreversible consequences.

Hangul’s endangered existence: Challenges and conservation strategies

The Hangul, a symbol of Kashmir’s natural beauty, is on the brink of extinction. Industrialization and human interference are pushing these beautiful creatures to the edge. In the early 1990s, there were around 5000 Hanguls, but now only a meagre 289 or fewer remain. Key threats include cement factories, blocking their vital corridors, environmental pollution, and human-wildlife conflicts. Despite protective measures, experts worry about their survival.

Empowering rural women: Catalysts of change in India’s rural development

Rural India’s transformation is fueled by the remarkable women who are the backbone of our communities. They plant seeds, nurture crops, ensure food security, and make significant contributions to various sectors. Read Neha Agarwal’s commentary for insights into the incredible contributions of women in rural development, explore their pivotal role in agriculture, entrepreneurship, healthcare, education, and community building.

Kashmir’s unrelenting struggle for reliable electricity

As winter approaches, the people of Kashmir face a daunting challenge - recurring power outages that disrupt daily life and hinder productivity. Despite investments in smart meters and infrastructure, the power crisis persists, affecting the economy, healthcare, and well-being of residents. Parvaiz Yousof’s commentary highlights the pressing issue and the need for action.
The global rice crisis: How climate change threatens a staple food of 3.5 billion people

Rice, a staple for billions, faces challenges like heat stress, altered rainfall patterns, and increased pest outbreaks. These factors reduce yields, compromise quality, and threaten food security. Read how climate change is impacting rice and what we can do to safeguard the staple food of 3.5 billion people.

Protecting the Green Gold: A comprehensive look at forest conservation in J&K

India, known for its biodiversity, faces rising deforestation, second only to Brazil. Forest fires endanger 35.46% of India’s forests, including Jammu and Kashmir’s vital resources. Discover challenges and policy solutions in Zahoor Ahmad Dar’s article on forest preservation.
NOVEMBER 2023

**Challenges and solutions in waste management: A case study of rural Jammu and Kashmir**

Muktar Dar

The case study highlights unscientific waste management processes, indicating the inadequacy of current initiatives. To mitigate negative impacts, adherence to SLWM rules is crucial. The government must prioritize building processing sites over dumping sites, implement segregation at the source, and ensure infrastructure serves its purpose.

**The unmet challenge of women’s access to justice worldwide**

Neha Aggarwal

In this commentary, we delve into the disheartening reality that women and marginalized communities face when attempting to navigate the labyrinthine corridors of justice. A United Nations report paints a stark picture, revealing that women, despite constituting half of the world’s population and contributing nearly two-thirds of work hours, receive only a fraction of the world's income and own a minuscule share of global property.

**The Ecological Impact of Unchecked Dredging in River Sindh: The Case Study of Ibis Bill**

Parvaiz Yousof

River Sindh is more than just a lifeline for the Kashmir valley; it’s home to an incredible range of flora and fauna, including the unique ibis Bill, known for its distinctive beak and habitat in rocky riverbeds. But these precious ecosystems are under threat from unchecked anthropogenic activities like dredging, pollution, and unsustainable tourism.

**Eurasian Otter: From extinction in Kashmir to its recent sighting in the Chenab River**

Semraan Parvaiz

Eurasian otters in Kashmir declined due to deforestation, pollution, and overfishing. Urban development destroyed their habitats, and the degradation of wetlands and rivers added to the danger.

Learn more about their struggle for survival and the glimmer of hope on the horizon.
China’s Evolving Role in Afghanistan: A Comprehensive Analysis of Foreign Policy, Sino-American Competition, and post-US Exit Strategies

This study explores China’s evolving foreign policy towards Afghanistan amid Sino-American competition and the post-US exit scenario. It aims to illustrate how Afghanistan, once deemed of little international significance, has increasingly become strategically crucial for China in recent years.

Evaluating Air Quality Monitoring Infrastructure in Kashmir

Kashmir is facing different forms of air pollution, such as emissions from industries, vehicle exhaust, burning of biomass, and dust from construction activities. Given the distinct geography and environmental conditions of Jammu and Kashmir (J&K), it is crucial to closely monitor air quality in the region.
DECEMBER 2023

**Increased spending on essential minerals: A key driver for meeting climate commitments**

ANANYA DASGUPTA

This paper analyses the viability of minerals like copper, lithium, and cobalt in the domain of eco-friendly power and storage tech. It highlights challenges, opportunities, and a comprehensive strategy for sustainable mineral extraction.

**The transformative power of police-community relations — A case study of Jammu and Kashmir**

JAVAID TRAH

This commentary explores the pivotal role of police-community relations in conflict-ridden regions, with a specific focus on Jammu and Kashmir. Through two compelling case studies, it highlights the transformative impact of such interactions on both the community and the police force.

**Balancing progress and preservation: Environmental crisis in the Himalayas and Char Dham project**

PARVAIZ YOUSUF

The Himalayan Mountain range, a global treasure, is facing unprecedented challenges due to human impact, particularly in the aftermath of the collapse of a tunnel in Utrarakhand. JKPI sheds light on the Char Dham National Highway Project, initially aimed at facilitating pilgrimages but now a major environmental disaster. Here’s why we need to rethink our approach to development in the Himalayas.

**Sustainability education in Kashmir: A path to environmental resilience**

SEEMAN PARVAIZ

In a world grappling with unprecedented climate threats, JKPI highlights the critical role of sustainability education in combating climate change, especially in the eco-fragile region of Kashmir. Dive into the challenges, solutions, and the global impact of Nature-based Solutions (NbS) in this insightful commentary.
India’s Neighbourhood Aid Policy: Contextualising Afghanistan and Bangladesh

This research paper focuses on India’s aid policy towards its neighbors, particularly Afghanistan and Bangladesh, with an emphasis on understanding the essential templates that guide this policy. The paper aims to explore the forces and factors shaping India’s aid policy, highlighting a perceived gap in addressing the balance between moral exceptionalism and strategic pragmatism.

The rising trend of Spot Admissions in Higher Education in Kashmir

The article delves into the challenges faced by higher education institutions in Kashmir, particularly the rising trend of ‘On Spot Admissions.’ It highlights the decline in admissions, questioning the education system’s relevance, course offerings, and institutional perception. The piece explores the impact on academic standards, potential compromises on merit, and concerns about accountability.
Global Warming and European security: Environmental challenges in defence and homeland security

As global temperatures rise, so do risks to peace and security. Governments worldwide are realizing the challenges of environmental damage. For over two decades, the European Union has led environmental efforts, but there's more to do. In national security, changing circumstances require rethinking defence costs. The EU is reshaping the link between the environment and security through initiatives like the European Green Deal. They aim to boost green energy, promote conservation, and reduce the environmental impact of military actions.

Evolution and challenges of Panchayat Raj System in Jammu and Kashmir - an overview

Despite notable improvements in transforming Panchayats into active contributors to rural development, challenges persist at the grassroots level. Issues such as the absence of Gram Sabhas, illiteracy among Panchayat members, insufficient infrastructure, misuse of women's reservation in Panchayats, and coordination problems all impact the overall effectiveness of the Panchayat Raj System in Jammu and Kashmir.

Inclusive Education for Children with Disabilities in India: A comprehensive overview

In India, inclusive education has been described as excluding children with disabilities. Disabled children rarely complete primary school, with only 9% completing secondary school. Approximately 45% of disabled people are illiterate, and only 62.7% of disabled people aged 8 to 35 have ever attended regular schools.

Examining the surge in cardiovascular diseases in Kashmir and beyond

The article provides a comprehensive overview of the global scenario of Cardiovascular Diseases (CVDs), with staggering statistics from organizations like the World Health Organization (WHO) and the American Heart Association (AHA). In India, CVDs have become the leading cause of death, accounting for 25% of all fatalities. The situation is particularly critical in Kashmir, where limited research has been conducted, and a unique set of stressors might be contributing to the rise in heart attacks.
**Women in the Indian Armed Forces: A Historical Perspective and Future Responsibilities**

This research article analyses the main arguments for the role of women in the Indian military. It observes, that female warriors, after demonstrating equal capabilities, will now have to shoulder equal responsibilities while in service, to crucially their demands of equal opportunities in military service.

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**Role of Sustainable Resource Management in Combating Climate Change**

In a time marked by prominent environmental issues, the concept of sustainable resource management has emerged as a beacon of hope amidst the looming threat of climate change. The urgency to adopt sustainable practices in resource utilization has never been more imperative, considering the alarming rate at which our planet’s natural resources are depleting.

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**Pakistan’s influence in Bangladesh: Impacts on India’s Security & China-India Dynamics**

This study aims to analyse the role of Pakistan in the politics of Bangladesh how the ISI has deep-rooted itself in the political system of the country and how it poses a major threat to the Northeastern states of India, especially the state of Assam region.
India’s approach towards the National Action Plan on Climate Change

Anamitra Banerjee

From the inception of the National Communication study to the launch of the National Action Plan on Climate Change, India has made commendable strides in addressing climate challenges. However, assessments by Climate Action Tracker (CAT) underscore the need for accelerated action. India’s current strategies, while commendable, fall short of aligning with the 1.5°C warming goal.

Kashmir’s inland waterways: A path to economic and touristic transformation

Muhhtar Dar

With modernization efforts from the central government and long-term projects by the UT administration, inland water routes in Kashmir could significantly boost tourism, alleviate road congestion, and generate revenue akin to the success of the Gujarat Gondola.

AI’s role in shaping public policy and governance: The path forward

Neha Aggarwal

AI holds immense potential for improving government services. With advanced technologies, government agencies can cut labour costs, enhance accuracy and precision, avoid overlapping of programmes, speed up processes, save man-hours and provide smooth and quicker services to the public.
How Smart Cities are transforming urban landscapes – A case study of Srinagar and Jammu

The growth of smart cities is changing how we live in urban areas. Look into how Srinagar and Jammu are on the path to becoming sustainable, tech-savvy cities under India’s Smart Cities Mission. Explore their ongoing progress, transitioning from facing social and economic issues to making significant improvements in areas such as better infrastructure, waste management, and provision of public services.

Kashmir’s snow drought: Climate change crisis and its far-reaching consequences

This year’s winter in Kashmir has been peculiar – a prolonged absence of snowfall, breaking the tradition of the 40-day “Chilai Kalan.” What’s causing this? Experts reveal a shocking 43% decrease in strong Western disturbances, attributed to climate change.

Disaster management strategies in Kashmir amid growing natural calamities

In Kashmir, harsh winters pose serious challenges. From transportation issues to agricultural losses, winter disasters affect various sectors. However, proactive steps such as establishing disaster management authorities, enacting legislation and initiatives like snow removal and avalanche forecasting, along with community engagement, highlight efforts to enhance winter disaster preparedness.
**Disparities in access and equity: A study of higher education in J&K**

Using data from the All-India Survey on Higher Education (AISHE), this study highlights the disparities in access to higher education within the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir. From analyzing Gross Enrolment Ratios (GER) across social groups to examining Gender Parity Index (GPI), the findings shed light on the challenges faced by marginalized communities and genders.

**VIHI District: A geologically significant but largely unknown area in Kashmir**

Have you heard about the VIHI District in Kashmir? It's a geologically significant area holding immense ecological, geological, and historical importance, yet it remains largely unknown. In this article, we go into everything concerning the VIHI district, including its composition and significance.
J&K achieves remarkable development from grassroots level

Kashmiri women turning business models for other states

Through Mission Youth, Govt drive socio-economic empowerment among JK youth

Gross output of vegetables in J&K to double from Rs 3982.50 Cr to Rs 8021.25 Cr per year

Aapki Zameen, Aapki Nigrani portal revolutionizing revenue system across J&K

E-Unnat ensures efficient, reliable services to common citizens

J&K govt all set to introduce Panchayat Development Index

Rapid Growth, Welfare of Common Man Center of Union Budget for J&K

J&K govt announces Rs 129.05 Cr initiative to reduce fodder deficit, boost livestock sector under HADP

COVER STORY
Lt Governor Manoj Sinha unfurls National Flag at Republic Day function

Full story on page no. 4
ASPIRE

HIGHEST-EVER INFLOW OF ABOUT ₹9000 CRORES INTO UT UNDER CSS FOR FY 2022-23

3rd G20 TOURISM WORKING GROUP MEETING CONCLUDES SUCCESSFULLY IN SRINAGAR

WAVIL BRIDGE EMERGES AS A VITAL LINK BETWEEN KASHMIR, LADAKH

Kashmiri Women Entrepreneurs raise Rs 75 lakhs funding from India Network at JKEDI Startup Event
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PM Modi engages with students, addresses exam stress, peer pressure, and technology intrusion

Cover Story

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Summary of the interim Union Budget 2024-25

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TARANUM MUZAFFAR LONE

PAVINI LAVU

HUZAIFA JEELANI

MUNEEB MAJID MIR

PEERZADA MUNEER

BHANU PRATAP SINGH
This certificate is presented to
Huzaifa Ali
for successfully completing the fellowship program focused on harassment prevention, consent and gender equality from June 2023 to September 2023.
This certificate is presented to

Mehak Nabi

for successfully completing the fellowship program focussed on harassment prevention, consent and gender equality from June 2023 to September 2023.

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Executive Director
Three students (SILPA PT, SARATH P and RESHMI KRISHNA K) of SREE SANKARACHARYA UNIVERSITY OF SANSKRIT REGIONAL CENTRE, TIRUR (DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK) travelled to Srinagar to do their 25-day (from 01/08/2023 to 31/08/2023) fieldwork (paid internship) with JK Policy Institute to gain a deeper understanding of “integrating social work theory with real-life experience”.
CERTIFICATE OF INTERNSHIP

PROUDLY PRESENTED TO

Sarath P

for successfully accomplishing an offline internship from 01st August 2023 to 28th August 2023 according to the regulations for internships at the Jammu & Kashmir Policy Institute (JKPI).

On behalf of JKPI, we wish to record our sincere appreciation for this time rendered and would like to wish him a successful career ahead.

DATE 28-AUGUST-2023

MENTOR

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Sector 5, Bemina, Srinagar, Jammu and Kashmir, India, 190018
AKANKSHA TRIPATHI
Gandhi Fellow (A two-year residential educational leadership program offered by Piramal School of leadership and Kaivalya Education Foundation)

AMBREEN YOUSUF
Associate Fellow at Manohar Parrikar Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses (IDSA)

ANANDITA PAVAGADHI
MA International Studies And Diplomacy (SOAS University of London)

ARKA CHAKRABORTY
Cultural Researcher at India Lost and Found
JIGYASA GULATI
First Advantage

YASHI SINGH
University of Leeds, University of Leeds Masters, International Relations
(Volunteer with Leeds Hospitals Charity as a Retail Volunteer)
*The yearly assessment is focused on the most notable accomplishments to facilitate the understanding of the functioning of JKPI.*