



## RESEARCH ARTICLE

### OVERALL AND AGRICULTURAL SITUATION OF JAMMU & KASHMIR: AN ANALYSIS

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#### ABSTRACT

Jammu and Kashmir is the northernmost state (presently, UT) of the Union of India. The state shares international border with China and Afghanistan in the north, Tibet in the east and Pakistan in the west. The states of Punjab and Himachal Pradesh form its southern border. Major parts of the Jammu & Kashmir state represent high and rugged mountainous terrain. There are many legends on Kashmir. According to Hindu mythology, Kashmir was created by Kashyap Rishi (Nilmat Purana & Rajtarangini). Emperor Ashok ruled this state in 3rd century B.C. and introduced Buddhism in this valley. Later Kushan king Kanishka ruled this state. In the 6th century Kashmir came under the control of Huns and regained freedom in 530 AD. Thereafter Gupta dynasty ruled this state until the period of Vikramaditya. After the decline of Vikramaditya, Lalitaditya ruled this state in 697-738 A.D. He was a famous builder. Muslims came to this area during 13th century A.D. Famous Muslim ruler Zain-ul-Abidin was a noted patron of music and dance. He ruled this state in 1420-70 and his successor ruled till 1586. Kashmir passed into the hands of Mughals in the period of Akbar. Mughal rulers were strong in this region prior to 1752, when Afghan ruler Ahmed-Shah Abdali took control of this state. Within a month of partition of India into India and Pakistan in August 1947 Pakistan sent the raiders, later to be identified as Pakistan's own troops, into Kashmir valley. But after October 26 1947 Kashmir valley's accession to India, the Indian army went into action. The Indian army pushed back the raiders until the UN-enforced cease fire stopped fighting on January 1, 1949 when two-thirds of the state was cleared of the invaders. The history of Jammu is quite old. It finds a mention in the epic Mahabharata. This region was ruled by Dogra rulers. Raja Maldev and Raja Ranjit Dev are the famous Dogra rulers. After Raja Ranjit Dev the Jammu's Dogra regime became weak and Maharaja Ranjit Singh of Punjab took over the state. Ranjit Singh handed over this state to one of his strongest governors and a scion of Dogra ruling family. His successors ruled the state till 1947. The Dogra King Hari Singh merged the state with the Indian Union. The climate of the state ranges from the scorching heat of the plains of (Jammu Division) to the snow-capped heights of Gulmarg (Kashmir) and the mud peak of Mount Godwin Austin (Ladakh) 21,265 feet above sea level. Broadly, the state of Jammu and Kashmir comprises of three distinct climatic regions: cold arid desert areas of Ladakh, temperate Kashmir Valley, and the humid sub-tropical region of Jammu. The mean annual rainfall in cold arid zone (Ladakh region) varies from 100 mm to 300 mm received by western disturbance. The annual rainfall in temperate region (Kashmir valley & Pir Panjal) varies from 600 – 900 mm and added with snowfall. State of Jammu and Kashmir is home to several Himalayan glaciers. Jhelum, Indus, Tawi, Ravi and Chenab are major rivers flowing through the state. Economy depends on mainly Agriculture and Industry. Agriculture is the mainstay of more than 80 per cent people in Jammu & Kashmir. Major food crops are wheat, paddy and maize. Barley, jowar and bajra are cultivated in some parts of the state. Agro-climatic condition of this state supports horticulture. About 5 lakh families directly or indirectly related with horticulture activities. Handicrafts, the traditional industry, are receiving top priority in view of employment potential and demand for wood carving, paper-machine, carpets, shawls, embroidery etc Carpets earn a substantial foreign exchange. Infrastructural bases are Irrigation, Power, Transport, Education and Telecommunication. Special initiative has taken for flood control, drinking water supply and irrigation of Jammu & Kashmir. At present there are railway connection upto Jammu. Jammu to Udhampur railway connection line works is in progress. Extension of railway line upto Srinagar and beyond and the old Mughal route is approved. The major airports of the state are Srinagar, Jammu and Leh. Education has always received the utmost attention in the state of Jammu & Kashmir. Education is totally free. Terrorist activities have hampered the education system of this state. They have a special fondness for burning down schools as though destruction of such facilities redound to their glory. Kashmir valley is described as a paradise on earth. Major tourist places are Chashma Shahi springs, Shalimar Bagh, Dal Lake, etc in Srinagar; Gulmarg, Pahalgam, Sonamarg, etc. In the Valley, various ancient temple, Buddhist rites, scenic beauty in Ladakh, Vaishno Devi temple and Panitop near Jammu etc. When the heat in the plains of India become oppressive the people's thoughts turn to the hills and many thus used to visit the Kashmir valley. They often lived in the house boat. The famous shrine of Mother Goddess Vaishnodevi is visited by thousands of pilgrimage on foot or horseback. There are many general problems and agricultural problems especially, these problems must be solved to bring acceleration in overall development process of this area. Major emphasis will be given to education, HRD, road and rail line construction, agriculture, health, available resource based industries, hydroelectricity, efficient marketing, tourism and eradication of terrorism completely.

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## INTRODUCTION

Agriculture is a key part of human civilization. The growing human population and depletion and degradation of natural resources caused by destructive farming practices all pose challenges to the sustainability of agriculture. Under the current dominant paradigm, hunger is expanding while soil fertility, fresh water quality and quantity, and biodiversity continue to decline. Efforts to maintain this paradigm, which relies on non-renewable energy and resources, are proving inadequate. A paradigm shift is needed to move from current destructive practices to an integrated, holistic approach aimed at improving sustainable production in both the short- and long-term. The Jammu and Kashmir State's economy is predominately agriculture dependent and nearly 70% of population is directly or indirectly engaged in agricultural and allied occupations. Which makes the state dependent on Agriculture which is based on Small Land Holdings. And due to the Geographic positioning the Agriculture activities in the regions remain off due to harsh winters in Kashmir and Ladakh Regions. The Department of Agriculture, Kashmir envisages to make Agriculture a Sustainable & Remunerative economic activity for farmers in the present regime of World Trade Organization (WTO) wherein open market scenario is prevalent across the world. Transformation of Agriculture into Entrepreneurship by participating effectively in the highly competitive Agricultural Markets is the need of the hour. In this regard the Department of Agriculture has shifted its approach from Commodity based to Product Based. In this approach, key products and markets are identified based on market demand, preferences and potential of the commodity. A robust Strategy is being adopted based on Two Guiding Principles for Making Agriculture a Remunerative and a Profitable Venture and Making Agriculture a Glamorous enterprise by turning the farmer into an Agricultural Entrepreneur. As J&K has an edge over the Rest of India by providing off-Season vegetables which helps our farmers to have a monopoly over the market and hence provides them enhanced price for their produce. This approach needs to be replicated in other areas also on the basis of site specific crop production. These crops would be branded as Kashmir Fresh to tap the available potential of the open markets all over the world. Traditional Heirloom Varieties like Mushkabudji, Red Rice (Zagg), Kamad are to be revived and successfully marketed. The department after successfully reviving Mushkabudji is now focusing on revival of Varieties like Red Rice (Zagg), Kamad.

**AREA & DISTRIBUTION:-**Jammu and Kashmir (UT) has a geographical area of 42,241 sq. km. Ladakh, the newly created Union territory with geographical area of about 59,146 Km<sup>2</sup> Aksai Chin (the name literally means "Chin's desert of white stones") It covers an area of 37,555 km<sup>2</sup>. State of Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJ&K) comprises an area of 13,297 square kilometers. Gilgit Baltistan region has a total area of 72,496 sq km. Total area of undivided Kashmir = 42,241+59,146+37555+13,297+72,496=224735 sq km (Approx.) Area of Shaksgam Valley of Gilgit-Baltistan=5180 km<sup>2</sup>. Pakistan in 1963 had given (ceded) Shaksgam Valley to China in lease. Hence, China is enjoying area of Aksai Chin+Area of Shaksgam Valley= 37555+5180=42735 sq km Hence, actual area of Gilgit-Baltistan under Pakistan = 72,496 sq km-5180 sq km=67316 sq km

The actual area, Pakistan is enjoying=PoK of southern region of Kashmir (Azad Kashmir) + PoK of northern region of Kashmir (Gilgit-Baltistan)= 13,297 sq. km+67316 sq km=80613 sq km

**Districts of Jammu and Kashmir UT:** The divisions are further sub-divided into 20 districts viz. Jammu, Kathua, Samba, Poonch, Rajouri, Udhampur, Reasi, Ramban, Doda, Kishtwar, Srinagar, Anantnag, Pulwama, Kupwara, Shopian, Ganderbal, Bandipora, Baramulla, Budgam, and Kulgam.

**Districts of Ladakh UT:-** Union Territory of Ladakh is situated in North of India consisting of two districts Leh and Kargil.

**Districts of Pakistan Occupied Kashmir (PoK) of Southern region of Kashmir:** 1. Muzaffarabad 2. Hattian Bala 3. Neelam Valley 4. Mirpur 5. Bhimber 6. Kotli 7. Poonch 8. Bagh 9. Haveli 10. Sudhanoti

**Districts of Gilgit Baltistan under Pakistan occupied Kashmir of Northern region of Kashmir:** 1. Ghanche 2. Skardu 3. Shigar 4. Kharmang 5. Roundu 6. Ghizer 7. Gupis-Yasin 8. Gilgit 9. Hunza 10. Nagar 11. Astore 12. Diamer 13. Darel 14. Tangir

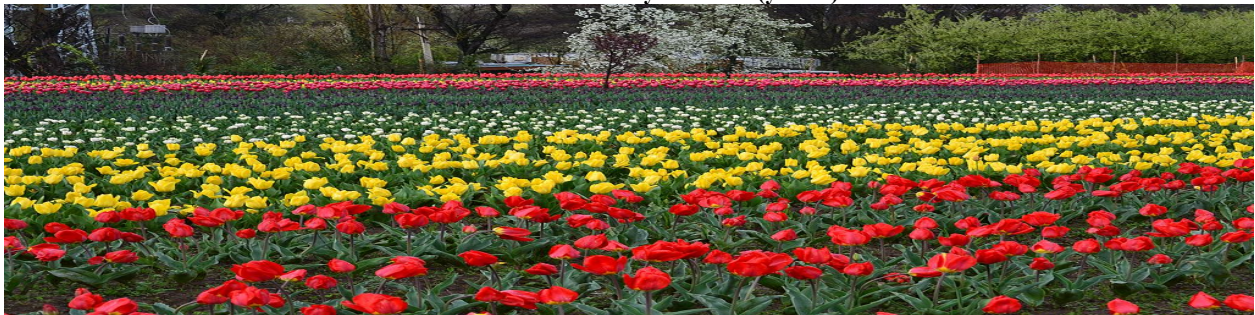
**Districts of Aksai Chin:** Aksai Chin is a region administered by China partly in Hotan County, Hotan Prefecture, Xinjiang and partly in Rutog County, Ngari Prefecture, Tibet

**STRATEGIC POSITION OF J&K:-**It occupies a strategic position in India with borders touching Pakistan in the west, Ladakh in the North and East and the States of Punjab and Himachal Pradesh in the south. As per the Census 2011, it has a total population of 1,22,67,013, comprising of 64,83,906 males and 57,83,107 females. Jammu and Kashmir covers the northern most extremity of India and lies between latitudes 32° 17" to 36° 58" north and longitudes 73° 26" to 80° 26" east. Jammu and Kashmir (UT) has a geographical area of 42,241 sq. km comprising 1.285% of the total area of the Indian territory. It is divided into 20 Districts, comprising 49 Sub-divisions, 207 Tehsils, 520 Nayabats, 1632 PatwarHalqal. There are 6860 revenue villages in the State. Physically J&K comprises two distinct regions, which correspond with its two Administrative Divisions. J&K has no homogeneity, with regard to its physical features but represents an interesting morphology. Morphologically J&K is divided into three distinct micro regions which are as follows: - 1. The Outer Hill Division 2. Jhelum Valley Division 3. Indus Valley Division.

**HISTORY OF J&K:-**After the Indo-Pakistani War of 1947-1948, the princely state of Jammu and Kashmir was divided between India (which controlled the regions of Jammu, Kashmir Valley, and Ladakh) and Pakistan (which controlled Gilgit-Baltistan and Azad Kashmir). Maharaja Hari Singh signed the Instrument of Accession on 26 October 1947 after an invasion by Pakistani tribesmen. Sheikh Abdullah was appointed as the Prime Minister of Jammu and Kashmir as part of an interim government by Maharaja Hari Singh in March 1948. In order to integrate the provisions of the instrument of accession relating to the powers of the state and Indian government, the Constituent Assembly of India drew up the draft provision named Article 306-A, which would later become Article 370. A constituent assembly for Jammu and Kashmir was convened to frame a new constitution for the



Area ceded to China by Pakistan (yellow)



Indira Gandhi Memorial Tulip garden (the largest tulip garden in Asia)

state in October 1951, after an election in which all the seats were won by the Jammu & Kashmir National Conference party of Abdullah. Abdullah reached an agreement termed as the "Delhi Agreement" with Jawaharlal Nehru, the Prime Minister of India, on 24 July 1952. It extended provisions of the Constitution of India regarding citizenship and fundamental rights to the state, in addition to the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court of India. Agreements were also reached on issues of abolishing the monarchy, as well as the state being allowed a separate flag and official language. The Delhi Agreement spelt out the relationship between the central government and the state through recognizing the autonomy of Jammu and Kashmir, while also declaring it as an integral part of India and granting the central government control of several subjects that were not a part of the instrument of accession. The government of Jammu and Kashmir quickly moved to adopt the provisions of the agreement. The recommendations of the Drafting Committee on the Constitution of Jammu and Kashmir regarding the monarchy were accepted by the Constituent Assembly of Jammu and Kashmir on 21 August 1952. The Jammu and Kashmir Constitution Act 1952 was amended in November 1952 to adopt the resolutions and the monarchy was officially abolished on 12 November.

The regent Karan Singh was formally elected as the *Sadar-i-Riyasat* or head of state by the Constituent Assembly and was later recognized by the President of India.

The amendments incorporating the provisions into the state constitution entered into force on 17 November. Abdullah however sought to make Article 370 permanent and began calling for the secession of the state from India, which led to his arrest in 1953. Bakshi Ghulam Mohammad then became the Prime Minister of Jammu and Kashmir. The Constituent Assembly of the state passed a resolution in February 1954, extending some provisions of the Constitution of India and formally ratifying the accession of the state to India per the Instrument of Accession. A Presidential Order was passed on 14 May 1954 to implement the Delhi Agreement, drawing its validity from the resolution of the Constituent Assembly. The new Constitution of Jammu and Kashmir was adopted on 17 November 1956 and came into force on 26 January 1957. Following this, the state constituent assembly dissolved itself and elections were held for the legislative assembly in 1957, with the National Conference winning 68 out of 75 seats. In 1956–57, China constructed a road through the disputed Aksai Chin area of Ladakh. India's belated discovery of this road culminated in the Sino-Indian War of 1962; China has since administered Aksai Chin. Following the Indo-Pakistani War of 1971, India and Pakistan signed the Simla Agreement, recognising a Line of Control in Kashmir, and committing to a peaceful resolution of the dispute through bilateral negotiations. In December 1964, the Indian government extended provisions of Articles 356 and 357 of the Constitution of India, which allowed for President's rule in the

state. In April 1965, the legislative assembly approved renaming the positions of *Sadar-i-Riyasat* to Governor and *Wazir-i-Azam* (Prime Minister) to Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir. Though the change had no actual effect on the legal structure of the state, it conveyed that the government of Jammu and Kashmir was equal to that of any other Indian state. Despite Nehru releasing the imprisoned Abdullah in April 1964 to initiate dialogue with Pakistan, it viewed these developments as leading to the inseparability of Jammu and Kashmir from India and launched an armed conflict, infiltrating Kashmir during Operation Gibraltar in August 1965. However, it ultimately failed in its objective and both countries returned to the status quo after the Tashkent Declaration of 1966. The government of Ghulam Mohammed Sadiq meanwhile rapidly extended many provisions of the Indian Constitution to further integrate the state into India. The failure of Pakistan in the 1971 Indo-Pakistani war weakened the Kashmiri nationalist movement and Abdullah dropped demands of secession. Under the Indira-Sheikh Accord of 1975, he recognised the region as a part of India, the state legislature requiring the approval of the President to make laws, and the Parliament of India being able to promulgate laws against secessionism. In return, Article 370 was left untouched and Abdullah became the Chief Minister of the state. The region remained mostly peaceful until his death in 1982. In the late 1980s, discontent over the high-handed policies of the union government and allegations of the rigging of the 1987 Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly election triggered a violent uprising and armed insurgency which was backed by Pakistan. Pakistan claimed to be giving its "moral and diplomatic" support to the separatist movement. The Inter-Services Intelligence of Pakistan has been accused by India and the international community of supporting, supplying arms and training mujahideen, to fight in Jammu and Kashmir.

**RECENT SITUATION:-** In 2015, former President of Pakistan Pervez Musharraf admitted that Pakistan had supported and trained insurgent groups in the 1990s. India has repeatedly called Pakistan to end its "cross-border terrorism" in Kashmir. Since 1989, a prolonged, bloody conflict between the Islamic militant separatists and the Indian Army took place, both of whom have been accused of widespread human rights abuses, including abductions, massacres, rapes and armed robbery. Several new militant groups with radical Islamic views emerged and changed the ideological emphasis of the movement to Islamic. This was facilitated by a large influx of Islamic "Jihadi" fighters (mujahadeen) who had entered the Kashmir valley following the end of the Soviet-Afghan War in the 1980s. By 1999, 94 out of the 97 subjects in the Union List and 260 out of 395 articles of the Constitution of India had become applicable in the state, though it retained some of its autonomy. Article 370 had meanwhile become mostly symbolic. Following the 2008 Kashmir unrest, secessionist movements in the region were boosted. The 2016–17 Kashmir unrest resulted in the death of over 90 civilians and the injury of over 15,000. Six policemen, including a sub-inspector were killed in an ambush in Anantnag in June 2017, by trespassing militants of the Pakistan-based Lashkar-e-Toiba. An attack on an Indian police convoy in Pulwama, in February 2019, resulted in the deaths of 40 police officers. Responsibility for the attack was claimed by a Pakistan-backed militant group Jaish-e-Mohammed. In August 2019, both houses of the Parliament of India passed resolutions to amend Article 370 and extend the Constitution

of India in its entirety to the state, which was implemented as a constitutional order by the President of India. At the same time, the parliament also passed the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act, 2019, which contained provisions that dissolved the state of Jammu and Kashmir and established two new union territories: the eponymous union territory of Jammu and Kashmir, and that of Ladakh. The reorganisation act was assented to by the President of India, and came into effect on 31 October 2019. Prior to these measures, the union government locked down the Kashmir Valley, increased security forces, imposed Section 144 that prevented assembly, and placed political leaders such as former Jammu and Kashmir chief ministers Omar Abdullah and Mehbooba Mufti under house arrest. Internet and phone services were also blocked.

**RECENT AGRICULTURAL SITUATION:-**The majority of the people of Jammu and Kashmir are engaged in subsistence agriculture of diverse kinds on terraced slopes, each crop adapted to local conditions. Rice, the staple crop, is planted in May and harvested in late September. Corn, millet, pulses (legumes such as peas, beans, and lentils), cotton, and tobacco are—with rice—the main summer crops, while wheat and barley are the chief spring crops. Many temperate fruits and vegetables are grown in areas adjacent to urban markets or in well-watered areas with rich organic soils. Sericulture (silk cultivation) is also widespread. Large orchards in the Vale of Kashmir produce apples, pears, peaches, walnuts, almonds, and cherries, which are among the union territory's major exports. In addition, the vale is the sole producer of saffron in the Indian subcontinent. Lake margins are particularly favourable for cultivation, and vegetables and flowers are grown intensively in reclaimed marshland or on artificial floating gardens. The lakes and rivers also provide fish and water chestnuts. In Jammu and Kashmir economy is predominately agriculture dependent and nearly 70% of population is directly or indirectly engaged in agricultural and allied activities. The J&K government works on a vision on daily basis to look beyond subsistence agriculture by leveraging special agro-climatic conditions of the Union Territory for securing high returns to the farmers from transformed and modern sustainable and inclusive agriculture interventions. Also with the introduction of innovative and globally validated farm technologies, raising of the requisite state of the art infrastructure and creation of an enabling ecosystem, agriculture sector is being developed on modern lines across length and breadth of J&K. The mission of J&K Administration is to secure a complete transformation in the lives and outlook of the farmers of the UT from subsistence to modern, vibrant and high return agriculture by the end of year 2023. The objective of government is also to dispel the image of agriculture as a means of sustenance and to promote in a big way agripreneurship as a means of high return and respectable employment. They are also making maximum effort for aggregating Farmers Interest Groups (FIGs) particularly youth and women and Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) in product specific clusters to meet the objectives of Atamirbhar Bharat and making the most of funding and opportunities available under various CSS for securing the welfare of farmers of the Union Territory. In recent years, mechanization of farming sector is an important step to transform the agriculture sector which will help farmers to produce more. As a part of agricultural mechanization support to the farmers for broader economic transformation, Lieutenant Governor of J&K handed over sanction letters for 100 tractors to the



farmers and 1035 threshers for panchayats. The government is also setting up Custom Hiring centres and Farm Machinery Banks in different parts of the union territory. As many as 151 custom hiring centres and 122 farm machinery banks have been started so far. Agriculture sector and Horticulture sector are key drivers of J&Ks economic growth and efficient use of seed technologies, high-density plantation, nutrient management and widespread adoption of integrated dairy farming schemes to make Jammu-Kashmir agriculture powerhouse. Facilities have been provided like cold-storage, market linkages and food-processing units, besides developing a strong framework for farmer industry connect and generating employment opportunities for rural youth to bridge the rural-urban divide. Moreover till recent months, Direct financial assistance has been provided to 11.7 lakh farmers through the Kissan Credit Card and incentives worth Rs. 1,706 crore have been disbursed to more than a million beneficiaries under the PM-KISAN scheme. Extending Technology benefits to farmers, the government distributed Paddy/Maize threshers to 3000 Panchayats which will be distributed to all Panchayats soon. Also, 1.29 lakh soil samples being tested during current year, 56,426 soil health cards (SHCs) have been distributed besides more than 1 lakh quintals of quality seed has also been distributed among farmers to amplify the production and make them economically sustainable. The government has also launched several other remarkable initiatives to develop the agricultural sector of J&K.

Under National Saffron Mission, irrigation infrastructure inclusive of sprinkler system has been started which is connected to 126 deep production wells. As a result of this, around 2578.75 hectares of land stands rejuvenated till date. The implementation of Mission has also ensured substantial increase in the crop yields from 1.88 kg/Ha to 4.5 kg/Ha which in turn has ultimately doubled the income of saffron growers. The government has also started several marketing initiatives to make the agricultural sector of J&K more viable. G.I. tagging for Saffron and Guchi (Wild Mushroom) of Doda has given remarkable strides to acclaimed Saffron of Kashmir in international market as well to the Guchi Mushroom. Moreover organic Certification of Basmati Rice of R.S. Pura has also increased the marketing value for the rice. Similarly, other remarkable achievements like Lal Mirch harvested on 1182 Ha, Sweet Corn harvested on 160 Ha(6105 Qtl), Exotic vegetable has been harvested over 125 Ha and others have generated massive returns for the farmers. In a bid to give major boost to agriculture sector in Jammu and Kashmir, the UT government signed a pact with New Zealand for the transformation of the sheep farming sector in the Union Territory. The overarching objective of the pact is to improve farmer's remuneration, transfer of technology in research and development as well marketing and value addition of sheep products of Jammu-Kashmir. Online registration certification has also started in Jammu and Kashmir to facilitate registration and ensure growth in organic farming. For the first time in history, 2000 trucks of vegetables have been exported from Jammu and Kashmir to other parts of the country. Jammu and Kashmir has achieved top position in the entire country with a yield of 70 quintals per hectare of paddy. Moreover, 60,000 hectares of basmati agriculture land is being converted into high productivity land. In last one year, a record 5400 metric tonnes of mushroom and 22,182 quintals of honey has been produced. Kissan Credit Cards have been made available to more than 11 lakh 60 thousand farmers.

To give more boost to Agriculture sector here, Agriculture department has also decided to collaborate with Amazon Fresh which has evinced a keen interest in Fruit & Vegetable assortment available in Jammu with the motive of expanding network in North India. Jammu is also going to have a collection/procurement centre next year. To provide market for Kashmiri Saffron, National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India (NAFED) has decided that it will sell Kashmiri Saffron at all its outlets across the country, thereby providing another option to the farmers to sell their produce at attractive prices. Apart from saffron, Jammu and Kashmir is number one in the whole country in the production of apple, walnut and almond and the upcoming industries in the food processing sector will help farmers income to grow manifold in the coming days. As agriculture sector is the driving force of J&Ks economy, the reforms brought by the J&K government in the recent months for the development and progression of agriculture sector are yielding encouraging results.

**PROBLEMS OF PEOPLE OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR:-**(a) Terrorist activities.(b) Infiltration across the Line of Control (LoC).(c) Terror financing.(d) Stone-pelting (e) Drug smuggling across the LoC.(f) The single biggest challenge and threat to the security and stability of the Valley is radicalization. (g) Blackmailing India is a trait of Kashmiri.(h) Poverty (i) Low literacy level (j) Lack of gender equality (k) Lack of clean water (l) Lack of proper sanitation (m) Lack of electricity (n) Lack of adequate industries (o) Low per capita income (p) Migration of Kashmiri Pandits (q) Problems of official language (r) Discrimination with Jammu and Ladakh (s) There is no special provisions for the promotion and development of local crafts/weaving industry like (Loee and Kambal) of Jammu region.(t) Problems of refugee (u) Problem of political management (v) Problem of land to tiller.(w) Diversity and divergence (x) At over all planning and development level too Jammu region has been neglected, if not discriminated.(y) The road network in this region also remained severely overlooked etc.

**SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEMS OF PEOPLE OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR:-**(a) Introduction of machines in industries (b) Development of the means of communication ©Development of means of transport (d) Development of new agricultural technologies.(e) Scholarship schemes for promoting literacy.(f) State social welfare measures:-There are various state social welfare schemes which are working for the progress and development of each section of the society in the state such as :-• Scholarship schemes for promoting literacy• Rajiv Gandhi scheme for employment of girls• Indira Gandhi Matritiva Sahyog Yojana• Integrated child development service schemes• Scheme for women, adolescent, girls and child development • J & K State Pre-matric, Post-matric Scholarship schemes for SC'S, ST'S, OBC'S, DNT'S, RBA'S, Minorities and economically backward sections of the state • Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao (g) State poverty alleviation scheme-• Jawahar Rozgar Yojana• Antyodaya programme• Garibi Hatao• IRDP (Integrated rural development programme)• TRYSEM (Training rural youth for self employment)• RLEGP (Rural landless Employment guarantee programme)• NREP (National Rural Employment Programme)(h) Mobile schools for Gujjars and Bakerwals in the state (i) Management of girls, Pahari hostels.(j) Management of boys, Pahari hostels.(k) Hostel facilities for

SC/ST/OBC/Gujar and Bakerwals.(l) State Rehabilitation council for militancy victims.(m) Balwadis, Aganwadis and Nariniketans are opened at District and Zonal levels in the State etc.

#### AGRICULTURAL PROBLEMS OF PEOPLE OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR:-

(a) There is no programme /incentive for promotion of production of Jammu Desi Basmati. There is no special value project and programme of Saffron(Kesar) as grown in the villages of Kishtwar. (b) There is no special programme/incentive for promotion of Horticulture of Jammu Region. (c) Similarly there is no special provision for the promotion and development of local crafts/weaving industry like (Loee and Kambal) of Jammu Region. (d) Jammu region has been the largest producer of quality honey of appreciable medicinal value and Doda region had been the leader of wild honey but there are no proper arrangements of promoting this production. (e) There is also no programme for development and promotion of World renowned pulses like Rajmas of the hills of Jammu region. (f) Hilly Terrain, (g) Small and fragmented land holdings, (h) Fragile Soil in hilly areas susceptible to soil erosion, (i) Limits to mechanized farming and transportation of products, (j) Extreme limits to irrigation of cultivated land, (k) Single Cropping season in temperate / high altitude areas, (l) Inadequate and unorganized marketing infrastructure, (l) Distant markets for export outside the State.

**Major Challenges and Priorities:-** (a) The main challenges are shrinking land base, (b) depletion of water resources, (c) adverse impact of climate change, (d) shortage of Farm Labour as dignity of labour vanishing, (e) Increasing costs of inputs, (f) uncertainties of weather, (g) soil erosion, (h) and volatility in national and international markets.

#### SOLUTIONS AGRICULTURAL PROBLEMS OF PEOPLE OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR:-

Around 70% of the population of the State resides in the rural areas and directly or indirectly depend upon this sector for their livelihood and employability. Despite of its importance for ensuring inclusive growth and providing Food Security, the contribution of Agriculture towards Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) seems constant which is indication of development of the economy, as agricultural land over the years has shrunken due to developments in other sectors like housing colonies, establishment of new universities and colleges, four lanning of National Highway, development of railway tracks conversion of agricultural land under horticultural activities etc which should have given a set back to the agricultural sector.

**Potentials:-** (a) Organic Basmati Rice, Rajmash, off-season vegetables, potatoes, aromatic & medicinal plants, (b) Virus free potato seeds for all seasons, (c) Development of commercial floriculture, Production of virus free quality seeds for flowers and vegetables, aromatic & medicinal plants, (d) Mushrooms round the year, (e) honey and honey by-products, fodder intensification, etc, (f) Wide range of flora available to boost bee keeping, (g) Boost to Quality Saffron Production, (h) Jetropha (Biofuel) cultivation on waste lands and rainfed areas of Jammu region under NWDPR.

**Centrally Sponsored Schemes:** In addition to State Plan Department of Agriculture implements following Centrally Sponsored Schemes:- (a) National Food Security Mission. (b)

National Mission on Agricultural Extension & Technology. (c) National Mission on Oil seeds & oil Palm. National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture. (d) Catalytic Development Programme (Sericulture). (e) Command Area Development & Water Management Programmes. (f) Weather based crop insurance scheme. (g) National Bamboo Mission

**Key Drivers of Growth:** Availability and dissemination of result oriented technologies which depend on quality of research and extent of skill development. Adequate investment on Agriculture and strengthen of infrastructure, improve functioning of markets besides optimum utilization of scare economic resources. Governance in terms of institutions that make better delivery of services like credit, quality inputs, like seeds, fertilizers, farm machinery etc. For addressing food security and sustainability extension of green revolution to low productivity areas, besides focusing on water stress zones is emphasized during 12th Five Year Plan period. Modernization and computerization of land in a time bound manner. Leveraging the refined private investment as well as Policies for making markets more efficient and competitive. Agriculture Research and Education: For providing dent to the poverty and reducing hunger, the Agriculture Research play a crucial role and shall be addressed in a big way. Providing of quality seed: The ratio of quality seed to total seed use by the farmers is still much below the norm and there is considerable scope to raise crop productivity by raising this ratio during 12th Five Year Plan period. The importance of PPP in Agriculture in extension will also explored besides introducing small size of machine for Agriculture operation in view of small size of holding in the State.

#### AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITIES

Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology (SKUAST), Srinagar:-The establishment of agricultural university under the name Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology was passed by the State Legislature in the 33rd year of the Republic of India on 31st of March, 1982 which came into force on 1st of August, 1982 with its jurisdiction over the entire State of Jammu and Kashmir and headquarter at Shalimar, Srinagar. With the establishment of Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology (SKUAST), agricultural education, research and extension training units were transferred to SKUAST from various development departments of Jammu and Kashmir State viz. agriculture, animal husbandry, sheep husbandry and sericulture. It is a multi-campus University. It is a matter of great satisfaction that extremely in coherent and stagnated research infrastructure, an initial customary educational base and non-existent extension education services have given way to an organized institution of SKUAST, which has taken over responsibility of supporting the state in its effort to develop agricultural economy in agriculture and allied sectors.

Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Jammu (SKUAST-Jammu):-SKUAST-Jammu came into existence on 20th September, 1999 following the amendment in SKUAST Act, 1982, through the State Legislature. The establishment of SKUAST of Jammu has in its background aspirations, commitment and missionary zeal to cater the needs of Jammu Division for the region specific advances through education, research and extension. The university is mandated to address the basic, strategic and

applied research related to enhanced production in agriculture and allied sectors (livestock health improvement and quality based products). SKUAST-Jammu is striving to achieve high standards of excellence in education, research and extension for the betterment of farming community of the region. The university comprises distinct faculties, including the Faculty of Agriculture, Faculty of Veterinary Sciences & Animal Husbandry, Faculty of Horticulture and Forestry, Faculty of Dairy Technology, Faculty of Agricultural Engineering and the School of Biotechnology. SKUAST-J is a multi-campus university with its headquarter located at Chatha, Jammu. Chatha campus possess 578.00 acres area and R. S. Pura campus has 84.13 acres land holding. The total land holding, including Research Stations/Sub-Stations and KVKs, of the University is 1223 acres. There are Eight Research Stations/Sub-Stations and nine KVKs in the University which are located in different agro-climatic zones of Jammu region for catering the location-specific needs of the farming community. University pursues research of high standard through projects funded by various central and state agencies.

### AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH INSTITUTES

**ICAR-Central Institute of Temperate Horticulture (CITH), Srinagar:** The CITH was established in 1994. Initially it started functioning from Lucknow, and shifted to Srinagar in 1997. Research activities started first at Mukteshwar regional Station because of social disturbances in Kashmir valley. Field trials could be initiated at CITH main institute only in 2000 AD. Keeping in view the importance of these crops with respect to involvement of major population in temperate region in their cultivation and their contribution towards national economy a separate Institution has been established under the aegis of Indian Council of Agricultural Research at Srinagar, Jammu and Kashmir. ICAR-CITH, Srinagar with its two regional stations at Mukteshwar, (Uttarakhand) and Dirang, (Arunachal Pradesh) is playing a great role in designing and developing research programmes on crop improvement, production, protection and post-harvest management for achieving economic and nutritional security in the entire Himalayan region. Institute is mainly focussing on research and development in temperate fruits, nuts, vegetables, ornamentals, medicinal & aromatic plants and saffron. 2. Ayurveda Regional Research Institute 3. Central Sericultural Research & Training Institute 4. Regional Sericultural Research Station 5. Regional Station for Forage Production & Demonstration

**STATE GOVERNMENT AGRICULTURAL INSTITUTES:** 1. Agricultural Research Sub-Station Ponichak 2. All India Maize Improvement Project Udhampur 3. Ambri Apple Research Centre Balpora 4. Cattle Breeding Farm Mansbal 5. Cropping System Research Chatha 6. Division of Sericulture Mirgund 7. Dryland (Karewa) Agriculture Research Station Budgam 8. Dryland Research Sub-Station Rakh Dhiansar 9. High Mountain Arid Agriculture Research Institute Leh 10. J&K Council for Science & Technology Jammu 11. Maize Breeding Research Sub-Station Poonch 12. Maize Research Station K.D. Farm 13. Mountain Livestock Research Institute Manasbal 14. Mountain Agriculture Research and Extension Station Gurez 15. Mountain Crop Research Station Larnoo 16. Mountain Crop Research Station Sagam 17. Pulses Research Sub-Station Samba 18. Rain fed Research Sub-Station for Sub-tropical Fruits Raya 19. Regional Agricultural Research Station Tandwal 20. Regional Agricultural

Research Station Udhampur 21. Regional Horticulture Research Sub-Station Baderwah 22. Rice Research and Regional Station 23. Saffron Research Station Khudwani 24. Seed Production Farm Chakroi 25. Sheep Breeding Farm Shuhama 26. Temperate Sericulture Research Institute Mirgund

**EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTES OF J&K:** 1. Baba Ghulam Shah Badshah University 2. Central University of Jammu 3. Central University of Kashmir 4. Islamic University of Science and Technology 5. National Institute of Technology Srinagar 6. Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University 7. University of Jammu 8. University of Kashmir

**HEALTH INSTITUTES OF J&K:-** 1. College of Nursing, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University 2. Government Medical College, Srinagar 3. Government Medical College, Anantnag 4. Government Medical College, Jammu 5. Sher-i-Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences 6. Government Medical College, Baramulla 7. Government Medical College, Kathua 8. Government Medical College, Rajouri 9. Acharya Shri Chander College of Medical Sciences, Jammu 10. Government Medical College, Doda 11. Government Medical College, Handwara 12. Government Medical College, Udhampur 13. IPHH College of Nursing and Allied Health Science, Jammu 14. Government Dental College Srinagar

### MAJOR INDUSTRIES OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR:

**Some of the important industries of the Jammu and Kashmir state have been concisely described in the following paragraphs**

**Silk Textile:** Silk textile is one of the most ancient industries of Jammu and Kashmir state. Kashmiri silk-goods are renowned the world over for their quality, colour and shades.

**Carpet-Making and Woolen Textile:** Carpet-making is one of the oldest industries in Kashmir. Kashmiri carpets are famous all over the world for their excellent designs and natural patterns. Though carpets are made in almost all the towns of the valley, their major factories are in and around the City of Srinagar.

**Forest-based Industries:** The state of Jammu and Kashmir has about one-third of its total area under forest. Most of the forest species in the higher altitudes belong to the conifers, while in the lower altitudes pine and deciduous broad-leaves trees are more prominent. These forests provide raw material to a number of forest-based industries. Paper, pulp, match, delicate boxes, sports goods (cricket bats), furniture, joinery, toys, artifacts and decoration pieces are some of the agro-based industries well developed in the Valley of Kashmir.

**Agro-based Industries:** The state of Jammu and Kashmir has an agrarian economy. In fact, agricultural products not only yield over 50 per cent of the states Gross Domestic Product (GDP), it provides raw materials to a number of industries. Fruit-canning, edible oil extraction, flour mills, rice-husking factories, bakery and alcohol preparation draw their raw materials from agriculture.

**Papier Mache:** Papier mache is made from the pulp of paper. The lacquer-workers apply their beautiful designs to smooth wood. These designs are very intricate, and the drawing is all



freehand. The pen-boxes (qalamdan), tables, cabinet, trays, boxes are the main articles of papier mache. Papier mache still has great national and international market. Papier mache industry is largely confined to the City of Srinagar and its adjacent areas.

**Cement Industry:** The raw materials for the manufacture of cement are calcareous and argillaceous materials. These are mixed in suitable proportions to form the raw mix limestone, gypsum, coal; bauxite and clay are the main ingredients of this industry. Limestone and gypsum are available in large quantities in Baramulla and Anantnag districts.

**Industrial Complexes:** Since 1980, the Government of Jammu and Kashmir state has been paying adequate attention towards the establishment of agro-based, forest-based and mineral-based industries. The State Industrial Development Corporation has established a number of industrial complexes at Rangreth, Khunamoh and Doabgah in Kashmir and at Bari Brahman in Jammu. The Government of India has notified a New Central Sector Scheme for Industrial Development of Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir on 19.02.2021 with an outlay of Rs. 28,400 Cr to boost industrial development. In addition, J&K Industrial Policy 2021-30, J&K Industrial Land Allotment Policy 2021-30, J&K Private Industrial Estate Development Policy 2021-30, J&K Wool Processing, Handicrafts and Handloom Policy 2020 have also been notified and various initiatives have been taken by the Government of Jammu and Kashmir for making the UT an investor friendly destination.

**WATER RESOURCES OF J& K:-**Jammu and Kashmir are drained by five main rivers Jhelum, Chenab, Indus, Ravi, and Tawi. It has ample water resources in the form of lakes, glaciers, and rivers. There are 1230 water bodies in Jammu and Kashmir. The Ganges and the Yamuna originate from the glaciers in the Himalayan region. The Wular Lake, Manasbal Lake, Dal Lake, and Nageen Lake are the leading lakes in the region. The Jhelum river, at the banks of which the city of Srinagar is located, has its source in Verinag spring in the Anantnag district. It flows into the Wular Lake after passing from Srinagar and then passes through Baramulla and Uri to Pakistan. The hydroelectricity project constructed on the Jhelum river generates most of the electricity in the Kashmir Valley. The Indus river passes through the Kashmir region, flowing between the Ladakh range and the Zaskar range. Gilgit River, Gumal River, and Kabul River are its main tributaries. The river Chenab, popularly known as Chandrabhaga, enters Paddar at Kishtwar. The Hydro-power projects of Salal, Dulhasiti, Sawalkot, and Baghilar are located on this river. Jammu and Kashmir has many lakes, rivers, and glaciers. Significant rivers that flow through Jammu & Kashmir from the Himalayas are Jhelum, Chenab and Ravi. These river basins are located at a higher elevation facilitating huge hydro power potential. The major rivers in Jammu and Kashmir are :- (a) Brengi River or Bringhi River (b) Chenab River (c) Dudhganga - is a tributary of the Jhelum that flows from Ludurmarg and rises in the central Pir Panjal range near Tatakooti Peak. Two mountain streams, the Sangesafed and the Yachera, form this river. This river flows through Batmalu Swamp near Srinagar.(d) Jhelum River (e) Lidder River (f) Markha River (g) Nala Palkhu (h) Kishanganga River (i) Poonch River (j) Rambhara (k) Ravi River (l) Sandran River (m) Sind River (n) Tawi River (o) Ujh River (p) Veshaw River (q) Yapola River (r) Neeru river (s) Marusudar River

**FUTURE PROSPECTS OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR:-** J&K's Rail link was expected to be connected to All India during 2023. Airports are also being upgraded. The Urban development is also high on agenda, smart city projects are being implemented in the capital cities of J&K. The power generation capacity is likely to be doubled in 4 years and tripled in next 8 years. J&K State is lagging behind in diversified economic structure; as such the state economy is mostly dependent on Agriculture sector. Situation is not any better in primary sector where the proportion of net area sown to the total cropped area, average yield per hectare of land, and production of food grains has been stagnant through 80s and much of the 90s. And from the last fifteen years it has been declining. This has created a situation where the imports constitute 80 per cent of the SDP which makes massive leakage effect leading to present crisis. Prior to the turbulent period, the J&K economy was primarily based on agriculture and the service sector was dominated only by tourism. Tourism was identified as the engine of growth and development. However, militant activities since 1989 onwards, there was a colossal setback of it. History bears witness to the fact that whenever and wherever militancy or political instability found roots, the economy of that region became a major causality. The Government has a policy of zero tolerance against terrorism. The approach of the Government is to dismantle the terror eco-system. Security measures are being strengthened to sustain peace and stability in J&K. The strategies adopted and actions taken for containing acts of terror incidents in Jammu and Kashmir include:- (a) Round-the-clock nakas at strategic points. (b) Group security in the form of static guards.(c) Intensified Cordon and Search Operations (CASO) to effectively deal with the challenges posed by terrorist organizations. (d) Sharing of intelligence inputs on a real-time basis, amongst all security forces, operating in Jammu and Kashmir.(e) Day & night area domination (f) Security arrangements through appropriate deployment.(g) Preventive operations involve identifying the strategic supporters of terrorism and initiating investigations to expose their mechanisms of aiding and abetting terrorism.(h) Identifications of vulnerable spots to prevent terrorist attacks on civilians. Besides, sensitizing men on the ground about the issue and initiation of measures to defeat the machination of terrorists or their mentors.

## CONCLUSION

Despite different problems in the state, state social welfare department and government of Jammu and Kashmir has taken major steps to eradicate all problems and to meet with the needs of every section of the society. The divergence however is not difficult to tackle, if an effort is made to address it. One can start by celebrating the diversity and plurality of the state. With all kinds of diversities religious, linguistic and cultural the state is an interesting mosaic. It is important to note that different ways of life are accepted at the social level. It is a mix society where there is space for all kinds of people. Despite all kinds of problems at the political level, community level, caste level, there is not much tension now a days. Plurality is the reality of the state. The plural and secular character of the state are the other basic fundamentals on the basis of which further movements for building the consensus can be made. However to move further, it is important to go beyond the stated positions and to take benefit out of all the social welfare schemes which are formed for the benefit of



every section of the society and every section of the society can only be uplifted if the above cited social welfare measures are to be followed in a proper manner. Therefore, it is to be concluded that only the welfare measures prescribed by the state Government and state social welfare department can help a lot to tackle all social issues in the Jammu and Kashmir state. The Government is fully committed to the overall development of the Jammu and Kashmir and has taken several measures that have significantly boosted the development of Jammu & Kashmir. Details are as under:

- Projects are being implemented by 15 Ministries/Departments in the UT of Jammu and Kashmir under the Prime Minister's Development Package-2015.
- New Government Medical Colleges have been operationalized.
- The academic session of All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Jammu has been made operational.
- Under Hydro Power generation, MoUs signed for development of 05 Mega Projects, namely Sawlakote, Dul Hasti, URI, Kirthai, and Rattle.
- Smart Pre-paid metering is under implementation in three phases in J&K.
- Under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), 6,912 Km. road length constructed during the last three years.
- A new milestone has been achieved by up-gradation of Jammu-Srinagar National Highway by way of constructing 8.45 Km long twin tube Qazigund-Banihal tunnel.
- The Air Traffic to and from J&K has been doubled post 2019.
- Under Jal Jeevan Mission, about 13.54 Lakh rural households covering all villages provided with Tap Water Connections since start of the Mission.
- During 2022-23, an investment of Rs. 2153.45 crore has been realized in the industrial sector.
- Handloom and Handicraft Exports doubled from Rs. 563 Crore in 2021-22 to Rs. 1116.37 Crore in 2022-23.
- Around 2900 hectares area covered high density plantation.
- PM Kisan saturated to eligible farmers of J&K.
- Kashmiri saffron got GI Tagging for its uniqueness.
- Meeting of G20 has placed the UT of J&K on the Global stage and served as a significant milestone in the progress and development of tourism.
- In the recent past, the Tourism Sector in J & K has done exceptionally well.
- Health Sector- "AB-PMJAY-SEHAT SCHEME" a universal health insurance scheme provides free of cost insurance cover to all the residents of the UT of Jammu and Kashmir upto Rs 5.00 lakh per family on floater basis.
- Under Pre, Post and Merit cum Means Minority Scholarship Schemes, the Govt. has been able to register 210% increase in coverage. Similarly, 169% increase in coverage of Scheduled Caste Scholarships.
- Tribal Affairs Department has done significant work in various sectors.
- The Government of Jammu and Kashmir has taken concrete steps to fill all the vacancies.
- Implementation of self-employment schemes across various sectors.
- Youth- More than 62 lakh participation was witnessed in different sports activities.
- More than 5 lakh youth are associated with Mission Youth for Innovation.
- The Government of J&K is continuously realigning resources and strategizing efforts to promote a long-term sustainable preservation, conservation and restoration of cultural, architectural, ethnic, linguistic and artistic values of J&K.
- The Government of J&K has taken various IT initiatives.
- 100% saturation of various schemes being implemented in UT of J&K. The Government has been working to provide access to the basic amenities of life such as portable water, affordable health care, road connectivity, financial support to vulnerable groups, to realize equality of opportunity and equity of life outcomes through various flagship schemes.

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