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## **Implications of the Abrogation of Article 370 on the Economy and Development of Jammu And Kashmir**

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### **ABSTRACT**

The lifting of the provisions of Article 370, which provides special autonomy to Jammu and Kashmir, had a major impact on the region's economy and growth. In August 2019, a substantial change in the constitutional status of Jammu and Kashmir occurred, resulting in alterations in government, property ownership, and economic policy. Supporters believe the action has created chances for economic expansion, while opponents are worried about possible social and political outcomes. This abstract gives a concise summary of the significant ramifications, analysing both favourable and unfavourable elements, and highlights the intricate relationship between political decisions and their economic effects in the setting of Jammu and Kashmir.

**KEYWORDS;** - Government, provision, Article, Jammu and Kashmir.

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### **INTRODUCTION**

The repeal of Article 370, which provided special autonomy to Jammu and Kashmir, was a significant episode in Indian subcontinent history. This action, intended to enhance the integration of Jammu and Kashmir with the rest of the country, has sparked considerable debate and scrutiny because of its significant impact on different aspects of the region's socio-economic and political environment. Proponents argue that the elimination of Article 370 has eliminated obstacles to investment and development, granting Jammu & Kashmir unparalleled access to national resources and markets on the economic front. The region is now ready to attract investments and infrastructure projects that were previously obstructed by intricate special rules. The expansion of central laws to Jammu and Kashmir is anticipated to establish uniformity in economic policies, fostering a more favourable climate for enterprises and industries. Critics have concerns about the possible negative aspects of this decision. The sudden change in Jammu and Kashmir's constitutional status has caused confusion, with worries about maintaining the region's unique cultural and demographic identity. Following the abrogation, there were political developments that resulted in the reorganisation of the state into two distinct Union Territories – Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh – causing alterations in governance frameworks.

This research aims to analyse the intricate consequences of the abrogation of Article 370 on the economy and development of Jammu & Kashmir by examining competing opinions. An in-depth analysis of how political decisions and economic changes impact the region reveals the changing dynamics, highlighting future problems and opportunities. Article 370 was revoked in Jammu & Kashmir on August 5, 2019, signifying a major constitutional and political change in India. Article 370 of the Indian Constitution conferred a unique status for the state of Jammu and Kashmir, granting it a significant level of self-governance. This autonomy encompassed the capacity to establish its own constitution, flag, and decision-making authority, apart from defence, communication, and foreign affairs. The revocation of Article 370 was a component of a larger effort by the Indian government to enhance the integration of Jammu and Kashmir with the rest of the country. The state was divided into two distinct Union Territories: Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh. The reorganisation intended to simplify governance, improve security, and promote economic development in the region. The repeal of Article 370 triggered responses from both national and global entities. Advocates of the decision contended that it would facilitate greater economic growth, investment, and infrastructural initiatives in Jammu & Kashmir. Critics expressed worries about the potential influence on the region's distinct identity and the way the decision was executed, such as imposing limits on communication and movement.

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### **Importance of analysing the impact on the economy and development**

The integration of Jammu and Kashmir into the Indian Union occurred through the Instrument of Accession in 1947, facilitated by Article 370 of the Indian Constitution. This article granted a distinctive position to the state within India's quasi-federal polity. The study delves into the legal nature of Article 370 within the Indian Constitution and elucidates the genuine autonomy of Jammu and Kashmir within the Union. The author emphasizes the

arbitrary and unilateral abrogation of Article 370 by the Indian government after seventy-four years, without the consent of the Jammu and Kashmir Constituent Assembly or the elected government. Additionally, the paper examines the social, economic, and political ramifications stemming from the abrogation of Article 370.<sup>1</sup>

Approximately two years after the state elections in 1987, which were widely thought to have been manipulated to ensure the defeat of Muslim United Front candidates in order to secure victory for NC-Congress candidates. The conflict led to the deaths of almost one hundred thousand people in Jammu and Kashmir. The armed conflict led to the implementation of curfews, crackdowns, search operations, arrests, torture, rape, custodial deaths, disappearances of youth, gunfire, pellet shelling, and the enforcement of strict laws such as PSA, AFSPA, and POTA, resulting in various forms of violations. The Ministry of Home Affairs disclosed in an affidavit to the Supreme Court of India, as reported by Kashmir News Observer, that the most occurrences of violence were documented in 1995, while the fewest occurred in 2003. They selected 400 teenage kids from Kashmir valley through simple random selection to investigate the effects of armed conflict and the abrogation of Article 370 on students' lives. The Government of India recently divided the state of Jammu and Kashmir into the Union Territories of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh. Several writ petitions were filed at the Supreme Court of India to challenge the abrogation of Article 370. The study shows that problems such as unemployment, identity crises, and mental stress are all consequences of violent conflict. Most respondents in the study opposed the repeal of Article 370, believing it would widen the rift between the Government of India and the people of Jammu and Kashmir. The group discussion unveiled numerous poignant narratives. During the group discussion, it was disclosed that a small number of unscrupulous individuals, who lacked loyalty to their homeland or its people, tarnished the reputation of Kashmiri people for their own gain. The individuals in authority were relishing life due to their ambidextrous approach. Their study, conducted in Kashmir, initiates a global discussion on the effects of violent war on students.<sup>2</sup>

Their study was investigated the perspectives of young people in India with regard to the economic recovery of Jammu and Kashmir following the repeal of Article 370, and to determine the policy implications that may be adopted in order to expedite the economic recovery of regions that are now experiencing conflict. Jammu, Kathua, Rajouri, and Poonch are the four districts that have been taken into consideration for this study, which has been limited to the Jammu region and has focused on those districts. A technique known as cluster sampling was utilised in order to choose responders from the districts that were identified. Only the educated young people of certain districts have been included in the study since they are the ones who best reflect the hope for the future and have the ability to better interpret the economic recovery. An online questionnaire survey was sent to the young people in a number of different districts in order to collect the primary data. On the basis of their approximate proportional representation in the overall population, a total of 120 educated young people have been chosen. These young people include graduates, postgraduates, and research degree holders who belong to various religious groups, such as Hindus and Muslims, who each have forty members, and Christians and Sikhs, who each have twenty members. The data have been analysed using descriptive statistics that are straightforward. The research report demonstrates that in order for the economy to revive, there must be significant growth in both enterprises and local economies. When it comes to economic development, the young population serves as both the heartbeat and the energetic drive. In light of this, their participation in the economic recovery process is absolutely necessary in order to provide the economy with the appropriate direction, particularly in light of the fact that Jammu and Kashmir's special status has been suspended. Reforms in agriculture, investments in industry, transportation, health, education, infrastructure, and banking, and transparency in all aspects of development planning and implementation were the primary goals of the younger generation's ambitions for development. In order to facilitate economic recovery following the repeal of Article 370, the government placed a high priority on youth education and training, as well as self-employment opportunities, which included the growth of the tourism, horticulture, and handicrafts industries. Taking action to reduce the continuously high unemployment rate in Jammu and Kashmir has been identified as one of the most important areas of focus for the economic recovery process. It is necessary to revitalise the ailing industrial units in order to increase the number of long-term employment prospects available to young people. Through the provision of substantial support from both the central government and the private sector, the tourism, handicrafts, and horticulture industries ought to be encouraged in order to alleviate poverty, encourage exports, and offer employment opportunities for its younger population.<sup>3</sup>The international world engaged in a vigorous diplomatic response in response to the deletion of Article 370 and the split of the state of Jammu and Kashmir in the month of August 2019. For the most part, the choice that the Government of India made was met with widespread approval from the general public. On the other hand, there have been accusations levelled against the limits that have been placed in the region with regard to civil liberties and communication regulations. Specifically, China and Pakistan reacted with animosity and made an effort to initiate a new chapter about Kashmir at the United Nations Security Council. However, they were unsuccessful. The topic of this paper is the shifting of debates throughout the world regarding the subject of the region that was formerly known as Kashmir. It contends that India's narrative on the Jammu and Kashmir valley has been impacted as a result of the decision to remove Article 370, which has resulted in a substantial degree of worldwide reaction for India.<sup>4</sup>The administrative division of Kashmir, which is a triangularly contested region between India, Pakistan, and China, lies between India and Pakistan. Kashmir has been the source of three major wars and innumerable small-scale military actions in relation to the competition for control of the region. The abrogation of Article 370 of the Indian Constitution, which had granted Jammu & Kashmir a distinctive status in the field of peripheral governance and autonomy, took place on August 5, 2019, and it had a significant impact on the geopolitical and socioeconomic dynamics of the territory. Over the course of several years, the government has been spreading the narrative that the dissolution of this article was the result of numerous inputs, with the consent of Kashmiris and with facilitation from the elected state government. This was done in order to achieve the goals of integration, administrative ease, and good governance. Nevertheless, the manner in which the revocation of Article 370 had been carried out, which included the heavy militarization of the region and the arrest of all of the Kashmiri politicians, was not at all amicable. In addition, as a result of the abrogation, the Kashmir valley has been subjected to political instability, violations of human rights, and the modification of indigenous identity through the process of forced migration and the revision of exclusive land rights. On the ground, the reality of a militarised life in Kashmir stands in stark contrast to the presentation of abrogation as the most successful achievement by the Indian administration. Using both primary and secondary sources, as well as correspondence with Kashmiri academics, the purpose of this paper is to evaluate the contemporary geopolitics of the Kashmir conflict following the repeal of Article 370. Specifically, the paper will investigate the factors that led to this decision as well

as the effects it has had on the Kashmiri people. According to the findings of the study, the abrogation of Article 370 may have momentarily strengthened India's control over the territory; however, it has also made the situation of human rights in Kashmir even more precarious and further strained the geopolitical tightrope that exists between India, Pakistan, China, and other international powers.<sup>5</sup>

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