




JK Policy Institute


Advocating for Sustainability 

Six Years of Advocacy, Impact,
and Nurturing Intellectual
Excellence in Jammu & Kashmir

 <https://www.jkpi.org/>



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A NOTE OF CELEBRATION AND APPRECIATION

Jammu and Kashmir Policy Institute (JKPI), an independent and nonpartisan institution based in Srinagar (J&K) advocating for sustainability, has completed six years of impactful operations. Throughout this journey, we have been joined by bright, independent young minds who have contributed to our growth and achievements.

Hailing from diverse backgrounds, regions, and cultures, they bring unique perspectives and a deep understanding of our work and its impact. Their testimonials not only reflect their association with us but also highlight the meaningful change they believe JKPI is driving in Jammu and Kashmir.


From these testimonials, we derive a profound insight: JKPI has nurtured a community of intellectuals who are free from political biases, driven purely by thoughtful motivations, and committed to genuine intellectual discourse. If this small but dynamic community of writers and thinkers continues to be given a platform, it will contribute meaningfully to the development of informed and sustainable policies.

These individuals have the potential to contribute meaningfully to global discussions, representing both their country and Kashmir in various capacities. They are respected for their credibility and maintain a positive standing, free from any controversial background.





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They were drawn to the JKPI because its values and goals aligned with their passion for contributing to sustainable development, rather than being selected for any specific agenda. They have been trained to present issues objectively, ensuring that their analysis remains unbiased and grounded in facts rather than personal opinions or emotions. Their knowledge and perspectives have already made a valuable contribution to the information landscape of Jammu and Kashmir.

These testimonials serve as powerful motivators, reminding us of the significance of our work. We are deeply grateful to everyone who contributed, including those whose testimonials could not be included here, for being an integral part of JKPI's journey and success.

Akeel Rashid


Executive Director

JKPI

Date: Saturday, 4 Jan 2025




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TESTIMONIALS



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**Lavya
Bhasan**

**Research
Intern at JKPI**

- Student at the National Law Institute University, Bhopal
- Served as an editor for the NLIU Law Review and several journals including the Indian Arbitration Law Review and the Centre for Labour Laws.

What inspired you to contribute to JKPI's mission?

I was searching for an internship in the policy domain, and when I discovered that JKPI is a policy institute based in my hometown, everything aligned perfectly. This motivated me to contribute to policy-making in Kashmir and give back to my community, which inspires me to work with them.

Why do you believe the work JKPI is doing is important?


Numerous policy changes have occurred in recent years that need to be documented and discussed to promote public awareness. Additionally, many areas in Kashmir, such as education and sustainable tourism, require significant attention and improvement. Therefore, I believe JKPI's work is not only important but essential in creating and normalizing public discourse in Kashmir and contributing to good governance by serving as the grassroots of policy-making in J&K.

How has JKPI provided you with a platform to share your ideas and make an impact?

JKPI has offered me a platform to share ideas that hold deep meaning for me while also allowing me the flexibility to choose topics I am passionate about. I distinctly remember an instance when my article on higher education in Kashmir was published, and I received a call from a senior official who had previously worked in this field. They wanted to discuss my ideas further. That moment made me realize that the work I am doing with JKPI is truly making a meaningful impact.



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**Fiza
Farooq**

**Contributor
at JKPI**

- Master's degree in Political Science (Pursuing)
- Bachelor's degree in Arts

I'm grateful for the opportunity to share my thoughts on being part of JKPI's mission.

What inspired me to contribute to JKPI's mission is the organization's unwavering commitment to addressing the unique socio-economic and political challenges of Jammu and Kashmir. JKPI's focus on evidence-based research and policy recommendations resonates deeply with my belief that meaningful change begins with informed action. The opportunity to contribute to shaping the narrative of our region and working towards sustainable solutions has been both inspiring and fulfilling.


I believe the work JKPI is doing is critical because it provides a much-needed platform for research, dialogue, and advocacy on issues that often remain underrepresented. JKPI bridges the gap between grassroots realities and policy frameworks, ensuring that the voices of the people are heard and acted upon.

JKPI has also provided me with a valuable platform to share my ideas and make a tangible impact. The institute has encouraged me to explore, write, and publish articles on key regional issues. This not only amplifies important conversations but also gives me a profound sense of contribution and purpose. The support and encouragement I've received from the team have been instrumental in building my confidence and pushing me to engage deeply with pressing concerns.

In many ways, JKPI has not only been a professional platform but also a personal journey of growth and learning, enabling me to contribute to meaningful change while honing my skills.



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**Sheeba
Allie**

**Contributor
at JKPI**

- Psychology graduate from Ashoka University
- Peace First Ambassador 2023-2024
- Policy enthusiast with a focus on education, mental health, and climate advocacy

What inspired you to contribute to JKPI's mission?

The moment I came across JKPI, their impactful work in addressing regional challenges through evidence-based policy solutions deeply resonated with me. As someone passionate about driving sustainable growth, I was instantly inspired to become a part of the organization.

Why do you believe the work JKPI is doing is important?


I believe public policy research is essential for driving sustainable development and addressing complex regional issues. In Kashmir, having a dedicated policy research institute like JKPI is truly transformative. The institute's commitment to ground-level engagement and innovative solutions makes its work both unique and invaluable for the region's sustainable growth.

How has JKPI provided you with a platform to share your ideas and make an impact?

JKPI has been incredibly open and supportive in offering me a platform to share and develop my ideas. It fosters critical thinking, innovation, and an impact-driven approach. My journey with JKPI has been nothing short of empowering—it has allowed me to explore significant policy questions while identifying areas where I aspire to make a lasting difference. It has played a pivotal role in shaping my perspective and deepening my commitment to public policy.



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**Semran
Parvaiz**

**Contributor
at JKPI**

- Master's in Environmental Science and Management from Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi
- Accomplished full-time science writer with over four years of experience

What inspired you to contribute to JKPI's mission?

I was inspired to contribute to JKPI because of its focus on sustainability and its commitment to addressing the unique challenges of Jammu and Kashmir. The region's issues—especially around climate change, gender equality, and governance—deserve greater attention, and JKPI provides a platform where real, evidence-based solutions can be discussed. I'm passionate about creating lasting change, and JKPI's mission to bring together communities and experts to find solutions truly resonates with me.

Why do you believe the work JKPI is doing is important?


JKPI's work is crucial because it tackles the pressing challenges faced by Jammu and Kashmir, such as climate action, gender equality, and sustainable development. By focusing on evidence-based policy advocacy, JKPI is helping shape a future that is both just and sustainable. It's not just about raising awareness—it's about taking actionable steps that can make a tangible difference in people's lives, especially in a region often excluded from the global conversation on sustainability.

How has JKPI provided you with a platform to share your ideas and make an impact?

JKPI has given me the opportunity to share my ideas in a supportive environment where diverse perspectives are valued. Through its events and discussions, I've been able to contribute to critical conversations on topics like climate change and gender equality. It's empowering to be part of a space where young people's voices are heard, and where we can collaboratively work towards creating meaningful change in the region.



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Nowsheena Akhter

**Research
Intern at JKPI**

- Master's degree in social work from the University of Kashmir
- Contributing solutions through both hands-on practice and writing


I am truly inspired by the unique mission and approach of the Jammu and Kashmir Policy Institute. Having previously interned with organizations primarily focused on charitable relief, I found JKPI's commitment to sustainability both refreshing and impactful. Your emphasis on an evidence-based approach, multi-stakeholder dialogues, and fostering a shared vision for sustainable development in J&K is remarkable.

I deeply admire how JKPI bridges the gap between communities and policymakers, encouraging constructive dialogue and innovative problem-solving. This focus on sustainability and human-centric development has inspired me to contribute to JKPI's mission and be part of this transformative journey.

Thank you for creating such a dynamic platform for change.



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**Khushi
Amit**

**Research
Intern at JKPI**

- Master's graduate in Public Policy
- Experience at the Centre for Policy Research and TERI
- Proficient in English, Hindi, French, and Spanish

What inspired you to contribute to JKPI's mission?

I've always been drawn to policy research that drives meaningful change, especially in areas often overlooked. JKPI's focus on addressing real challenges in Jammu and Kashmir—whether it's education, climate change, or governance—immediately resonated with me. Having worked on sustainable development and climate issues during my internships, I saw JKPI as the perfect platform to continue this work while amplifying voices that are often unheard. The organization's dedication to evidence-based policymaking and community-driven solutions inspired me to contribute to its mission.

Why do you believe the work JKPI is doing is important?

JKPI is filling a crucial gap by shedding light on the challenges faced by rural and vulnerable communities. It's not just about research; it's about creating actionable solutions and driving conversations that matter. From transforming education in remote areas to addressing climate change's impact on livelihoods, JKPI's work highlights issues that demand urgent attention. Their focus on sustainable development and inclusive policymaking makes a real difference—not just locally, but also as a model for other regions facing similar challenges.


How has JKPI provided you with a platform to share your ideas and make an impact?

JKPI has given me the space to explore complex topics and share insights through reports and expert discussions. Whether it was writing about climate change's impact on traditional livelihoods or transforming rural education, I felt supported to dig deep and present actionable solutions. It's empowering to know that the research we produce doesn't just sit on paper—it sparks conversations and influences decisions.

As we wrap up this year, I feel proud to have contributed to JKPI's mission and excited about what lies ahead. There's so much more to explore and accomplish, and I'm grateful to be part of this journey.



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**Parvaiz
Yousuf**

**Research Associate
at JKPI**

- PhD Scholar at James Cook University Australia
- Former Research Associate at JKPI
- MSc in Zoology from the Central University of Kashmir

What inspired you to contribute to JKPI's mission?

I had worked with several organizations and platforms before, but I wanted something deeply rooted in Kashmir—and that's exactly what inspired me to contribute to JKPI's mission. It gave me an opportunity to address local issues in Kashmir and share my knowledge and ideas with the right audience.

Why do you believe the work JKPI is doing is important?


We have very few institutions that focus on addressing core local issues, whether on a regional or larger scale. The level of awareness and information that JKPI is spreading is commendable. Constructive criticism is essential for societal progress, and JKPI is doing an excellent job in this regard.

How has JKPI provided you with a platform to share your ideas and make an impact?

I've always wanted a platform that could effectively deliver my message to the right audience, and JKPI has provided me with just that. Here, I've written about crucial topics involving society, animal welfare, conservation, nature, and the environment. This platform has enabled me to share my message with a wider audience and uphold a professional standard. It has undoubtedly filled a gap I had been looking to address for a long time, and I'm excited to continue sharing my ideas in the future as well.



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**Saurabh
Kumar**

**Contributor
at JKPI**

- Masters Degree in Anthropology
- Works at the intersection of law, justice, public policy, and sustainable development goals.

What inspired you to contribute to JKPI's mission?

Academically, I come from a legal background, and justice is the cardinal principle we learn and practice. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) also emphasize Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions (SDG-16). This is one of the core areas of research at JKPI. The Jammu and Kashmir Policy Institute is a premier policy institute that works extensively on SDGs. Therefore, working at JKPI in areas of justice, peace, and strong institutions motivated me to contribute to its mission.

Why do you believe the work JKPI is doing is important?


Though based in Kashmir, JKPI does not limit its research to the region alone. It operates across diverse verticals aligned with all 17 SDGs, addressing areas such as gender justice, social justice, poverty alleviation, inclusive economic growth, health, education, technology, rural development, tourism, climate change, and sustainable development. This policy think tank has created an alternative space to foster dialogue and address critical issues that were previously relegated to secondary importance. This makes JKPI not only relevant but indispensable.

How has JKPI provided you with a platform to share your ideas and make an impact?

The Jammu and Kashmir Policy Institute has certainly provided me with a platform to voice issues that need to be heard. As a research associate and someone from the legal fraternity, I write on topics such as justice, peace, and strong institutions. Through my articles, I explore how peace, justice, and institutions intersect, enabling a space for dialogue and discussion. The issue of justice permeates everyday social, political, and economic interactions, demanding immediate attention and solutions from both government and policy circles. Therefore, as a research associate, I document these problems and propose actionable solutions.



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Zahoor Ahmad Dar

Research Fellow
at JKPI

- Master's in International Relations
- Bachelor's in Liberal Arts
- Public policy, sustainable development, energy policy, international relations, emerging technologies such as AI, and data sciences.


As a social science researcher, I apply an ecological approach to understand the dynamics of my surroundings. Climate change and public policy have been areas of interest for me from the very beginning. Rising global temperatures and their impact on people's livelihoods have compelled us to think critically and contribute meaningfully to addressing these challenges. JK Policy Institute primarily focuses on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Its emphasis on climate change and public policy motivated me to contribute to its mission.

JK Policy Institute believes in interdisciplinary research that intersects with society, culture, and technology. It works on critical areas such as climate change, health, poverty, hunger, and sustainable development. The institute's objectives clearly reflect its core agenda: fostering peace and development. Everyday issues affecting people and communities are extensively debated and written about—for example, the health, education, and climate change challenges faced by the Gujjar and Bakarwal communities of Jammu & Kashmir. JKPI's overarching aim is to make society a better place and the Earth a sustainable planet to live and thrive.

At JK Policy Institute, I explore issues related to climate change and public policy. I write about topics concerning education, health, climate technology, and the vulnerabilities faced by marginalized communities. This work not only sparks important conversations but also contributes to addressing both immediate and future challenges.



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**Mukhtar
Dar**

**Social Media
Strategist & Data
Officer at JKPI**

- First class degree in Journalism from the media school of Islamic University of Science and Technology
- Known for his relentless efforts to record the grievances of the public from the remotest of areas

What inspired you to contribute to JKPI's mission?

JKPI provides us with a space where we can thoroughly analyze an issue, explore all its angles and follow-ups, and present well-rounded recommendations. This approach sets JKPI apart. Additionally, the friendly environment and constant encouragement motivate us to produce more impactful work.

Why do you believe the work JKPI is doing is important?


I believe JKPI addresses topics that are deeply significant but often overlooked or not covered with the same depth and detail. This level of comprehensive analysis is what makes JKPI's work truly unique.

How has JKPI provided you with a platform to share your ideas and make an impact?

JKPI has empowered me to reach a wider audience and share impactful ideas, particularly those focusing on rural areas. By writing articles on topics relevant to rural communities, I've been able to highlight pressing issues, raise awareness, and potentially spark meaningful change. JKPI's platform has given me a voice to communicate my ideas effectively, influencing public opinion and advocating for practical solutions that could positively impact rural populations.



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Malvika


**Contributor
at JKPI**

- UGC NET
- Masters Degree in English Literature
- Masters Degree in Women and Gender Studies (Pursuing)

I entered academia after a decade-long gap and was trying to gain admission to a Ph.D. program. I felt very underconfident and uncomfortable about my qualifications and experience, unsure if I was an eligible candidate for research. This was my situation when I got an opportunity to intern with JKPI. They not only welcomed me as a suitable candidate but also valued the experience I brought as a feminist, outside the typical textbook scholar. The cherry on top for me was the remuneration we received for writing for JKPI; it was definitely a motivational factor that encouraged me to read and write more. We had many opportunities to engage with experts in their respective fields. It would not be inaccurate to say that the writing exercises I undertook at JKPI helped me prepare to write my accepted proposal for my Ph.D. thesis. As a mainland Indian citizen, I also got a chance to see Kashmir — its struggles, future, and socio-political realities, beyond just a peace and conflict perspective. But the most enriching part of the entire experience was the committed team at JKPI, who were always quick to offer their assistance and intervention whenever needed. Most importantly, JKPI has a team made up of good human beings, and I believe they will be a lifelong acquaintance for me. JKPI marked the beginning of a new chapter in my life, and today, I am a Ph.D. scholar at Jamia Millia Islamia.



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**Neha
Aggarwal**

**Research Associate
at JKPI**

- Political science graduate from the University of Delhi
- Public policy, industry and infrastructure, health, and climate change.

What inspired you to contribute to JKPI's mission?

I've always been intrigued and fascinated by how policies shape societies and influence real change. Back in school, I was drawn to discussions about governance and development, always wondering how things could be improved for the better. During my undergraduate studies, I learned about JKPI and its mission, and I felt an instant connection. The focus on sustainable development, especially in a region as dynamic and complex as Jammu and Kashmir, deeply resonated with me. I admired how JKPI wasn't just about theory but actively worked to create practical, evidence-based solutions. It felt like the perfect place for someone like me, who wanted to grow, contribute, and be part of something meaningful. Joining JKPI allowed me to channel my passion into real-world projects that aim to make a difference, and that's what inspired me to become part of their journey.


Why do you believe the work JKPI is doing is important?

In times of relentless and often unchecked development, the work JKPI is doing becomes more crucial than ever. Jammu and Kashmir's geopolitical sensitivity and its vulnerability to natural disasters call for resilient and sustainable practices in agriculture, urban planning, and disaster management. By aligning its efforts with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), JKPI addresses pressing global priorities like poverty alleviation, quality education, gender equality, and climate action. This approach not only addresses immediate challenges but also lays the foundation for a resilient and sustainable future.





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What makes JKPI's work stand out is its ability to foster inclusive dialogue. By creating a platform for academics, policymakers, students, and practitioners to come together, it ensures that diverse perspectives are heard and valued. In a region as complex as Jammu and Kashmir, where varying opinions coexist, such collaboration is essential for building consensus and shaping impactful policies.


Equally significant is JKPI's focus on empowering youth. Through initiatives like internships, workshops, and research opportunities, the organization nurtures young individuals to contribute to policymaking while growing personally and professionally actively. By bridging local challenges with global goals and fostering both collaboration and leadership, JKPI is driving meaningful change for both the present and the future.

How has JKPI provided you with a platform to share your ideas and make an impact?

JKPI has truly been a transformative platform for me. It has allowed me to share my insights and propose evidence-based solutions for critical issues in health, education, gender equality, and climate action. Moreover, JKPI's focus on interactive learning has been one of its most enriching aspects. I've had the opportunity to participate in seminars, panel discussions, and workshops where ideas are exchanged, debated, and refined. These sessions have helped me understand different perspectives, refine my thoughts, and collaborate with like-minded individuals. Being part of JKPI has also connected me with a remarkable network of academics, policymakers, and fellow interns who share a passion for development and policy. This network has been a constant source of inspiration, pushing me to think bigger and aim higher in the impact I want to create. JKPI is a space where my ideas are valued, my skills are honed, and my passion for policy work is continually fueled.



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**Shivangi
Singh**

**Research Associate
at JKPI**

- B.A. and M.A. in political science from Indraprastha College for Women, University of Delhi
- Role of Women in International Relations and Political Philosophy

What inspired you to contribute to JKPI's mission?

My association with JKPI began because of an alignment with their mission. The organization's work in creating meaningful conversations and driving evidence-based policymaking resonated with me, as I have always been passionate about governance, public policy, and social justice. Their platform amplifies the voices of people who often go unheard. For me, it wasn't just about being part of a think tank but becoming part of a community dedicated to making a difference.

Why do you believe the work JKPI is doing is important?


JKPI's work is pertinent because it bridges the gap between rigorous research and policymaking. The organization doesn't just analyze existing policy problems but actively works on finding practical solutions. This approach is critical given the complexity of current global and local issues, which often require a balance between research and action-based solutions. JKPI's ability to provide a platform for such discussions through expert talks and the publication of high-quality research articles makes its work both timely and essential.

How has JKPI provided you with a platform to share your ideas and make an impact?

JKPI has been instrumental in providing me with a platform to articulate my ideas and contribute to meaningful discussions. Through my articles published on the platform, such as "The Situation of Women's Healthcare in J&K" and "Domestication of Body Objectification," I have been able to explore complex topics and share them with a broader audience. This has not only allowed me to refine my research and writing skills but also enabled me to voice my ideas on pressing policy matters. The constant support and encouragement from the JKPI team have been invaluable. JKPI has truly inspired and empowered me to turn my passion for public policy into real contributions that matter.



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Tuba Naquib

**Contributor
at JKPI**

- Politics, Governance, and Public Policy
- Authored more than 20 articles for various publications

What inspired you to contribute to JKPI's mission?

JKPI's mission to drive meaningful change through social responsibility, knowledge sharing, and positive societal impact inspired me to contribute to the organization. I was drawn to JKPI's mission because it aligns with my personal values, such as education, justice, and community service in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir. The idea of making a tangible difference in society through informed action and collaboration was a key motivating factor.

Why do you believe the work JKPI is doing is important?


JKPI's continuous efforts in policy advocacy aim to create long-lasting, sustainable impacts on the future while effectively disseminating information within the Jammu and Kashmir community. This initiative fosters knowledge generation across various subjects related to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in J&K. The organization's commitment to sustainability has played a crucial role in driving positive change.

How has JKPI provided you with a platform to share your ideas and make an impact?

Through the platform provided by JKPI, I have actively engaged in knowledge sharing, research, and policy integration related to environmental sustainability. Contributing to these efforts has allowed me to connect with a broader community of scholars, policymakers, and practitioners, offering insights to bridge the gap between knowledge and real-world impact.



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**Dr Smruti
Mohapatra**

**Visiting Fellow
at JKPI**

- Ph.D. in Veterinary Physiology
- PG Diploma in Animal Protection Laws from NALSAR
- Resource person for national dairy and poultry farmers' training programmes. IIT, Kharagpur

What inspired you to contribute to JKPI's mission?

While exploring opportunities in Jammu & Kashmir two years ago, I came across JKPI's website. The thematic areas in which JKPI operates resonated with my areas of interest and aligned with my professional profile.

Why do you believe the work JKPI is doing is important?


JKPI integrates global aspirations with localized approaches. Its focus on research and implementation of the UN SDGs for 2030 not only addresses regional and contemporary challenges in Jammu and Kashmir but also serves as a model for global adoption. It provides an excellent platform for academicians and researchers.

How has JKPI provided you with a platform to share your ideas and make an impact?

As a veterinarian, I have been working with pastoralist communities across the country. JKPI offered me a platform to highlight the challenges faced by these marginalized groups on a broader scale. With 2024 designated as the International Year of Camelids, JKPI provided an excellent opportunity to discuss potential research and developmental prospects in this area.



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Ulvee Muneer

Event Coordinator
at JKPI

- Masters in International Studies from Jamia Hamdard (Deemed to be University)
- A graduate student of SBSCE, University Of Delhi.

What inspired you to contribute to JKPI's mission?

What inspired me to contribute to JKPI's mission was its unique focus on bridging the gap between local realities and global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Growing up in the Kashmir Valley, I've witnessed firsthand how deep-rooted issues such as poverty, gender inequality, climate change, and lack of education impact people's lives. However, I've also seen the immense potential for transformation through community-driven solutions. JKPI provides a platform to address these challenges in alignment with the SDGs, making global goals relevant to the people living in the valley. The opportunity to contribute to projects that directly impact the region while advocating for sustainable development truly motivated me to join and collaborate with others who share the same vision.


Why do you believe the work JKPI is doing is important?

The work JKPI is doing is incredibly important because it connects the sustainable development agenda with the on-ground realities of the Kashmir Valley. In a region where socio-economic development, environmental conservation, and gender equity often seem disconnected, JKPI is creating tangible pathways to address these issues in locally relevant





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ways. By focusing on areas such as sustainable agriculture, renewable energy, gender equality, and community resilience, JKPI not only raises awareness about the SDGs but also sensitizes local communities about their role in addressing these global challenges. Through grassroots initiatives, JKPI promotes long-term solutions deeply rooted in local culture and environment—solutions that not only bring immediate relief but also ensure sustainable futures for generations to come.

How has JKPI provided you with a platform to share your ideas and make an impact?

JKPI has provided me with an invaluable platform to contribute ideas rooted in the local context of Kashmir while aligning them with global frameworks like the SDGs. One of the most significant ways it has empowered me is by enabling direct engagement with local communities to highlight the interconnectedness of local issues and global challenges. Whether through workshops, community engagement, or advocacy programs, JKPI offers space for meaningful conversations around climate change, gender equality, and economic development—crucially tying these discussions to actionable steps on the ground. The institute fosters dialogue about the importance of education, resource management, and policy change, making the SDGs more accessible and relatable to people in Kashmir. It's not just about raising awareness; it's about equipping individuals with the knowledge and tools they need to create real-world impact.



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Amandeep Kumar

**Contributor
at JKPI**


- Researcher at the Centre of India West Asia Dialogue New Delhi
- UGC-NET in Defence & Strategic Studies
- Diploma in Peace & Conflict Studies from M.C.P.R (UNESCO Peace Chair) at B.H.U, Varanasi.

JKPI's mission centres on the effective implementation of policy advocacy to achieve the UN Sustainable Development Goals strategically, fostering a better and more sustainable future for humanity. Their work addresses the challenges of a fast-paced generation, which, amidst globalization, often overlooks the responsibility of caring for ourselves and future generations. By bridging this gap, JKPI is paving the way for a more sustainable world.

Personally, JKPI has provided me with an invaluable platform to share my ideas and ensure they reach decision-making tables. The integration of these inputs into policy-making reflects a tangible impact at the grassroots level, underscoring the institute's pivotal role in driving meaningful change.



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**Kainat
Aziz**

**Visiting Fellow
at JKPI**

- Post Graduation in Environmental Sciences from the University of Kashmir
- Research Scholar at the Central University of Gujarat
- Advisory member of Viswa Vasudha Education, Hyderabad

My inspiration to contribute to JKPI's mission stems from my deep concern for the environment and the urgent need for collective action to address environmental challenges, with a special focus on the eco-fragility of the Kashmir Valley. As an advocate for sustainability and climate consciousness, I believe that platforms like JKPI play a crucial role in raising awareness, driving meaningful conversations, and inspiring change.


The opportunity to write for JKPI has allowed me to amplify my voice on Jammu and Kashmir's critical environmental issues while aligning with the platform's mission of educating, informing, and motivating others to take responsibility for the planet.

In today's rapidly changing world, it is more important than ever to have reliable platforms that not only highlight the severity of environmental issues but also offer practical pathways for individuals, communities, and organizations to take meaningful action. The intersection of science, policy, and community





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engagement that JKPI promotes is vital for creating a more sustainable and resilient future. JKPI is helping to shift public consciousness and policy in ways that could have long-term benefits for both the planet and future generations.

JKPI has provided me with a powerful platform to share my ideas and raise awareness about the environmental challenges facing Kashmir—a region particularly vulnerable to both natural disasters and human-driven ecological degradation. Through my articles, I've been able to shed light on the fragility of Kashmir's environment and the urgent need for sustainable practices to prevent further damage.

By contributing to JKPI, I've had the opportunity to connect with like-minded individuals and organizations. Together, we're fostering a more informed, proactive community. It's deeply rewarding to know that my writing could inspire action, influence public opinion, and contribute to ongoing efforts to protect Kashmir's fragile ecosystems for future generations.



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**Huzaifa
Jeelani**

**Event Coordinator
at JKPI**

- English Honours graduate
- Worked in various organisations ranging from UNICEF India, U&I India, MotherHelpage UK, Claylab Education Foundation and The STEARS

1. What inspired you to contribute to JKPI's mission?

JKPI's mission of driving positive change through policy aligns with my passion for addressing daily issues that hold significance in our society. The very idea of inspiring change continually motivates me to contribute to JKPI in every way I can.

2. Why do you believe the work JKPI is doing is important?


Research is always essential. JKPI's commitment to bridging the gap between issues and solutions through research, providing a platform for voices often unheard, and fostering meaningful dialogue highlights the critical importance of its work. These efforts make JKPI's contributions invaluable.

3. How has JKPI provided you with a platform to share your ideas and make an impact?

As a moderator for JKPI's events, I've been given a unique platform to facilitate crucial conversations, engage with experts, and amplify diverse perspectives. This role has enabled me to connect with grassroots leaders, fostering dialogue that sparks innovation and solutions. It's empowering to know that my voice and efforts contribute to a larger movement for positive change, all thanks to JKPI's inclusive and supportive environment.



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**Anamitra
Banerjee**

**Research Associate
at JKPI**

- Geopolitics and defense studies
- Held credible appointments, including positions at the Centre for Joint Warfare Studies and the Headquarters Integrated Defence Staff

1. What inspired you to contribute to JKPI's mission?

The vision of JKPI to drive meaningful change through policy innovation deeply resonates with me. Its commitment to addressing complex societal issues with practical and impactful solutions inspired me to be part of this transformative journey. The opportunity to contribute to a platform where diverse perspectives come together to create actionable strategies felt like an ideal way to make a real difference. Knowing that my efforts can directly influence policies and improve lives has been a profound motivator.


2. Why do you believe the work JKPI is doing is important?

JKPI's work is crucial because it bridges the gap between research and real-world policy implementation. In a rapidly changing world, well-informed policies are essential to address challenges like inequality, sustainability, and economic development. JKPI not only identifies pressing issues within Kashmir but also across India and globally, providing innovative, evidence-based solutions to tackle them. By engaging policymakers, stakeholders, and communities, JKPI ensures that impactful ideas translate into meaningful action, fostering progress and social equity.





JK Policy Institute

Advocating for Sustainability 


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3. How has JKPI provided you with a platform to share your ideas and make an impact?

JKPI has offered a dynamic and inclusive platform to present my ideas, collaborate with experts, and engage with policymakers. Through its projects, workshops, and as a holistic think tank, I've been able to contribute to discussions that shape impactful strategies. The organization values diverse perspectives, encouraging creativity and innovation, which has amplified my ability to make a tangible difference. By providing resources, mentorship, and exposure, JKPI has empowered me to transform my ideas into actions that create lasting change for the country.



JK Policy Institute

Advocating for Sustainability 

As we step into the new year, we remain dedicated to our mission of contributing to sustainable and inclusive growth in Jammu and Kashmir and are excited to continue empowering passionate youth researchers and nurturing the next generation of changemakers in J&K and across India. Together, they will form what we call a '*Constituency of Wisdom*,' creating an intellectual legacy that will inspire many more to follow.

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2025