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## **A study on the relevance of political instability under article – 370, 35-A in Jammu and Kashmir**

**Reetu Gupta**

### **Abstract**

Picturesque valleys, a thriving local culture and some of the most magnificent views in all of India, Jammu and Kashmir have rightfully earned the sobriquet of “paradise on earth.” For years, the erstwhile state and now union territory has served not only as a perfect shooting location even. Jammu and Kashmir has always attracted creative minds for decades, and this also includes entrepreneurs. Considering how popular Jammu and Kashmir used to be for tourism, business, and cultural activities. But that’s not the case, so what went wrong? The political tension and instability have been the chief factors which have cancelled out the development over the years. The spate of internet shutdowns, cellular services blockages and curfews has also marred the business atmosphere. After abrogation of 370, With Jammu and Kashmir becoming union territory, there is some hope that direct intervention of the central government will spur on the J&K startup ecosystem and it will get the same boost as the rest of the country. The decision to revoke Article 370 will give more political mileage to the ruling BJP across India Popular support from various constituencies will also make it an electoral talking point for upcoming state elections and the 2024 Lok Sabha polls. An unsuccessful integration process might have long-term political implications for the BJP since opposition parties may see it as a reason to unite against the ruling party in future state and parliamentary elections. The BJP understands that it has a marginal political presence in the Kashmir valley, where many are opposing the abrogation of Article 370. The two most popular political parties in Kashmir, the National Conference and the Peoples Democratic Party are unlikely to join hands with the BJP after recent arrest of their top leaders. Possibility of a united opposition in the valley may dampen the BJP’s chances of ruling the new Union Territory. In the worst-case scenario, Kashmir-based parties may also decide to boycott elections to protest the scrapping of Article 370, which may lead to maximum political instability in Jammu and Kashmir in future.

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