



Refugees in J&K Get Land Ownership

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Recently, the **Jammu and Kashmir (J&K)** government granted **proprietary rights** to **West Pakistan Refugees (WPRs)** and individuals displaced during the **1965 India-Pakistan war**.

- **West Pakistani Refugees (WPRs)** are individuals who migrated from West Pakistan to the erstwhile State of J&K (now UT) during the **partition in 1947**, primarily settling in the **Jammu, Kathua, and Rajouri** districts of the Jammu Division.
- This decision was made ahead of the **Supreme Court's** deadline of 30th September 2024, for conducting Assembly elections in the region.
- The move **ended discrimination** by granting these displaced persons **rights to state land**, aligning their rights with those of individuals displaced from **Pakistan Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (PoJK)**.
- Earlier, WPR families were considered "**non-state subjects**" and **couldn't vote** in Jammu and Kashmir due to not being residents at the time of the **1947 Partition**.
- They were granted domicile status and voting rights following the **abrogation of Article 370** on 5th August 2019.



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