

CLEAN PLANT FACILITY THE PILGRIMAGE OF SHRI AMARNATH SHRINE

Clean Plant Facility (CPF) is a controlled environment designed to prevent contamination during the production of goods, particularly in industries that deal with pharmaceuticals, biotechnology, food production, and high-precision manufacturing.

Clean plant facilities are built with stringent controls over environmental factors such as temperature, humidity, air pressure, and particulate levels. The aim is to minimize the risk of contamination from airborne particles, microbes, and even human contact.

One of the most critical aspects of a CPF is the air quality. These facilities use specialized HEPA (High-Efficiency Particulate Air) filters or ULPA (Ultra-Low Penetration Air) filters to remove particles from the air.

Clean plant facilities are classified based on the level of cleanliness required for the specific manufacturing process. These classifications typically follow standards such as ISO 14644-1 for cleanrooms, which categorizes cleanliness by the number and size of particles per cubic meter.

The design of the clean plant is another important consideration. The facility will often include walls, floors, and ceilings that are smooth and easy to clean. Materials used are non-porous and resistant to chemical contamination.

One of the main components of contamination control in clean plant facilities is the management of airflow. A system of positive air pressure, combined with airlocks and gowning rooms, is used to prevent unfiltered air from entering the clean zones.

To ensure that contamination is minimized, clean plant facilities often have strict protocols regarding hygiene and personnel access.

Employees entering the cleanroom must wear special garments, including suits, gloves, hair covers, and shoe covers. These garments help to contain contaminants from the body and prevent the introduction of particles into the environment.

Personnel must undergo specific training to understand the importance of contamination control and how to behave within the clean zones. This includes understanding the flow of operations, how to use protective equipment correctly, and maintaining cleanliness within the plant.

Surfaces within a clean plant facility are regularly cleaned and disinfected using materials that do not introduce contaminants. Special cleaning agents and techniques, such as sanitizing wipes, are used to remove any debris, dust, or microbial agents.

Clean plant facilities rely heavily on monitoring systems that track environmental factors, such as temperature, humidity, air quality, and particle counts. Sensors can trigger alarms if these parameters go out of control, providing early warning signs before contamination becomes a risk.

DR V.K MAGOTRA



The unflinching faith of devotees towards Shri Amarnath Shrine for bestowing peace & harmony to the Universe has once again embarked upon as part of the annual feature of Kashmir Valley.

Unfazed with the tragedy of Pahalgam terror attack in which 26 innocent people were killed by terrorists in April, 2025, the pilgrims with undeterred spirits are all set to undertake Shri Amarnath Yatra for purifying the mind, mutual love & brotherhood.

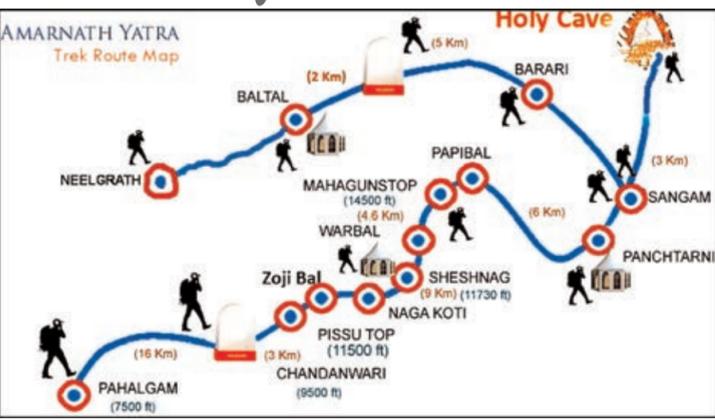
The pilgrimage of Shri Amarnath Shrine commenced from 3rd of July 2025, is indeed an amazing, adventurous and arduous endeavour of J&K Union Territory. The enchanting Amarnath cave is one of the most revered pilgrimage sites of Hindus.

Notwithstanding the constraints 4 to 5 lakhs pilgrims are expected to throng at the site of Amarnath cave to have a glimpse of snow formed, "SHIVLING" a symbolic representation of Lord Shiva this season. The formation of Shivaling from melting of ice from the roof of the cave to the floor is perhaps unprecedented in whole of universe where people all across the world turn up to pay obeisance to Lord Shiva.

The entire Kashmir Valley is dotted with ancient shrines mosques temples, stupas. Every shrine has its own prominence and sanctity which is carved out with a legendary tale behind and is held in high esteem by all communities irrespective of caste, color and creed even today.

The pilgrimage of Amarnath Cave would be incomplete without knowing the history of Kashmir which reveals beautiful cradle of ancient culture. The ancient India has nothing more worthy as its early civilization than that of the grand ruins of Kashmir.

Amarnath Yatra: Quest for Peace & Harmony



nants of hundreds of temples, stupas and viharas and numerous schools of thoughts would show how in ancient times it has been a nursery of two great religions of India-Hinduism and Buddhism and how these religions met and mingled in the mind - scape of the people.

There are good geological and mythological reasons to believe that the Kashmir valley was once a vast span of water, similar to a huge dam, walled by high mountains. There were some habitations on the higher ranges which were not under water.

According to Kalhana a Kashmiri Pandit who wrote "Raja Tarangini", the river of kings in 1149 A.D., the history of various dynasties which ruled Kashmir from earliest period described monumental work in Sanskrit literature.

Amarnath ji considered to be one of the major Hindu Dhams of Kashmir valley. The holy cave is the abode of Lord Shiva. The guardian of the absolute, Lord Shiva - the destroyer is enshrined in the form of Ice-Lingam in the cave.

with the moon. Though there is no scientific proof till now. Alongwith 'Shivling', one can also witness two other ice formations which are said to be of Goddess Parvati and Lord Ganesha.

Although the existence of the Holycave is mentioned in the Puranas well, as per a Hindu legend, it is believed that when Parvati asked Shiva to marry her, he refused but she insisted, so he decided to reveal the secret to her.

enter the cave with Parvati. To ensure no one was listening, he created fire to demolish all the life around him. But a pigeon under Lord Shiva remained and heard the secret of immortality.

Amarnath Yatra is organized every year. There are 2 routes - Pahalgam and

Baltal one can choose. This can be covered in 4 to 5 days (Pahalgam) or 1 to 2 days (Baltal). Most devotees prefer the longer and more traditional route from Srinagar though elderly citizens can choose to ride on a horse too.

Buta Malik - a Gujjar shepherd first discovered the cave as per references of Rajatarangini, which has a mention of Amarnath Temple (Amreshwar) & the people believe that Queen Suryamathi gave a present of Trishul, banalingas, and sacred emblems to Amarnath temple back in the 11th century AD.

The Pilgrimage of Amarnath shrine is still one of the most difficult pilgrimages of the northern India till date. The devotees trek through the daunting mountains to Shri Amarnath Ji shrine in south Kashmir to pay obeisance. At present the shrine is managed by Shri Amarnath Ji Shrine board (SASB) which was constituted by an act of the J&K State legislature in 2000.

Allot efforts are being made for comfortable pilgrimages of devotees/ tourists by way of providing transport, accommodation medical, Telecom and Langer Facilities. Not even this to avoid any threat of security all roads/treks are being widened & sensitized.

Lieutenant Governor of J&K Manoj Sinha has reaffirmed, "With full proof security & safety arrangements for over half a million devotees of Lord Shiva, Amarnath Yatra will culminate successfully with blessings of Mahadev- ushering in new era of prosperity in J&K."

QUAD sends strong signals on terrorism: A unified stand against global threats

MANMOHAN DHAR

In an era marked by increasing geopolitical turbulence, the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (QUAD) - comprising the United States, India, Japan, and Australia - has emerged as a formidable alliance promoting peace, stability, and democratic values in the Indo-Pacific.

tion of a zero-tolerance policy marks a turning point. The joint statement issued after the summit condemned terror acts globally and also called out the use of terrorism as a tool of statecraft - a not-so-subtle reference to countries that continue to harbour or fund extremist elements under the guise of proxy warfare.

This collective resolve signals a shift from reactive to proactive measures. India's voice within the Quad on counterterrorism carries a special weight. As a nation that has long suffered the brunt of cross-border terrorism, particularly from Pakistan-based terror outfits, India brought moral authority and

strategic urgency to the discussion. New Delhi underscored the need to counter radical networks that exploit digital platforms, launder funds through transnational channels, and thrive under political patronage.

The Quad's growing alignment with India's longstanding call for a comprehensive global convention on terrorism reflects a deepening synergy. This is not just symbolic - it reinforces India's position as a credible and pivotal security partner in the Indo-Pacific.

The Quad's anti-terrorism posture goes beyond military response. It emphasizes disrupting terror financing, tracking illicit arms trade, pre-

venting radicalization, and strengthening local governance in vulnerable regions. The countries also agreed to share real-time intelligence, enhance border control mechanisms, and support multilateral forums like the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) in naming and shaming enablers of terror.

Australia and Japan, while not direct victims of terror as frequently as India or the US, acknowledged that terrorism is not confined to geography. The attack on peace, stability, and international norms in any part of the world is an attack on all. By standing together, they are reinforcing the notion that terrorism is a global evil requiring a col-

lective firewall.

The Quad's strong stand is not just a declaration - it's a warning. To those nations that turn a blind eye to terror camps on their soil, or worse, lend silent support for strategic gain, the message is unequivocal: the world is watching, and accountability is non-negotiable.

This new clarity also puts pressure on multilateral institutions to shed diplomatic ambiguity and take firmer action against repeat offenders. By demonstrating strategic convergence on counterterrorism, the Quad is reshaping global norms and reclaiming moral leadership.

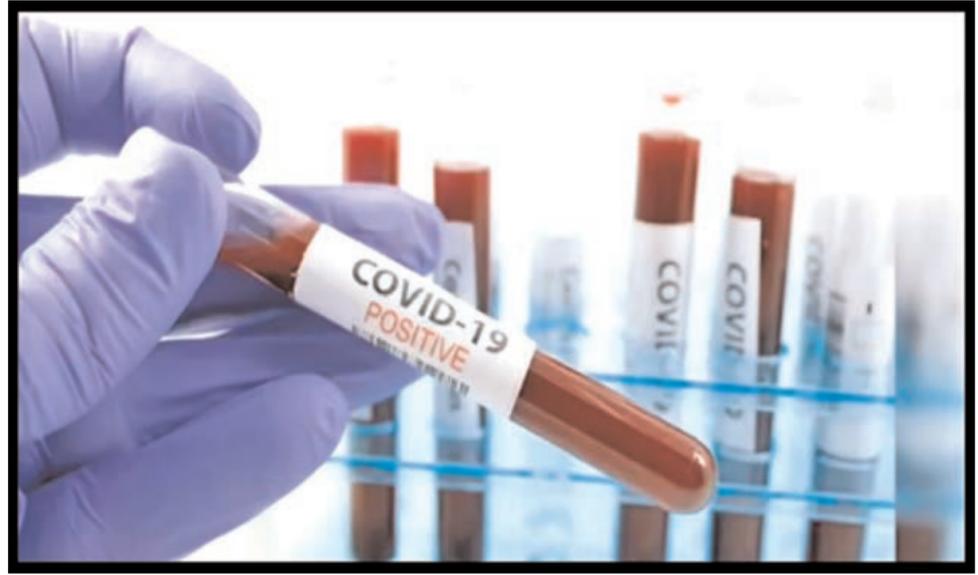
The Quad's unified declaration against terrorism marks a critical step toward a safer Indo-Pacific and, by extension, a safer world. In a geopolitical landscape riddled with gray zones and complex threats, this alliance is proving that democracies can - and must - act together with purpose.

As terrorism mutates with technology and transnational backing, only a coordinated, uncompromising, and multidimensional strategy can deter its spread. With this strong and timely message, the Quad has not only strengthened its own foundation but also inspired hope for a world where terror has no place to hide.

COVID-Then 19, Now 25: Lessons, Realities and the Road Ahead

DR. SHIVAM JASROTIA

In late 2019, the world was introduced to a tiny virus with massive consequences-SARS-CoV-2, the novel coronavirus that gave rise to the COVID-19 pandemic. Within months, the virus brought the world to a standstill, challenging healthcare systems, economies, education, and the very fabric of social life.



The pandemic forced rapid innovation: telemedicine boomed, digital health tracking became mainstream, and hospital protocols evolved. However, it also revealed deep cracks-understaffed hospitals, underfunded public health systems, and disparities in healthcare access. In India, especially in rural areas, the lack of robust infrastructure made pandemic management even more challenging.

Mental Health: The Invisible Pandemic

If there was one shadow pandemic that COVID highlighted, it was the mental health crisis. From students struggling with remote education to families grieving the loss of loved ones, the emotional toll was unprecedented. Even today in 2025, we are seeing the psychological aftermaths. Anxiety, burnout, and depression continue to affect all age groups.

new norm. Technology is deeply integrated into the learning process, offering flexibility and new opportunities. However, the digital divide remains a concern and must be addressed if we want equitable education for all.

Economy and Employment: The New Work Culture

COVID-19 reshaped the world of work. The gig economy expanded, remote working became mainstream, and people re-evaluated their work-life balance. Many realized the importance of job security and health benefits, while employers began investing more in employee well-being.

Science and Trust: A Delicate Balance

The pandemic reminded the world of the power of science-and the dangers of misinformation. While scientists delivered vaccines at record speed, fake news and vaccine hesitancy posed massive challenges. In 2025, we must continue to invest in science education and ensure that the public understands and trusts scientific institutions.

increased, and carbon emissions temporarily dipped. It was a wake-up call to our overconsumption and unsustainable practices.

Environmental Wake-Up Call

Lockdowns inadvertently gave us a glimpse of a cleaner, quieter planet. Air quality improved, wildlife sightings

As we build a post-pandemic world, environmental sustainability must be at the center. Green infrastructure, public transport, and climate-smart policies are more relevant than ever.

Personal Reflection: Resilience and Re-evaluation

As a professor and researcher, I saw firsthand how the pandemic changed priorities. Research went remote, academic schedules were disrupted, but human resilience shone through. We adapted. We connected virtually. We supported one another.

Personally, the pandemic pushed me to re-evaluate what truly matters-health, family, ethical living, and compassion. My vegan lifestyle, rooted in minimizing harm and promoting wellness, gave me a sense of control and peace amidst the chaos.

The Road Ahead

COVID-19 may no longer dominate headlines, but its lessons must not fade. It has shown us that global crises require global cooperation. That science, when combined with empathy, can save lives. That we must be proactive, not reactive. In 2025, we have the tools, the experience, and the perspective to build a more resilient world. Let's not waste this hard-earned wisdom.

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