



2,000-Year-Old Buddhist Site discovered in J&K | Jammu & Kashmir | 03 Jan 2026

Why in News?

A **2,000 year old Buddhist archaeological site** from the **Kushan period** has been discovered in **Zehanpora village, Baramulla district of Jammu & Kashmir**.

Key Points

- **Findings:** Excavations revealed **Buddhist stupas, monastic structures, and other artifacts**, indicating the presence of an important **ancient Buddhist settlement**.
- **Historical Significance:** The discovery highlights **Kashmir's role as a center of ancient cultural, trade, and spiritual exchange**, particularly in **Buddhism**.
- **Government Reaction:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi described the discovery as a **“proud moment” for India's heritage**.
- **Tourism & Research:** The site has the potential to **boost archaeological research and cultural tourism** in the region.
- **Archaeological Oversight:** Excavations are being conducted under the guidance of the **Archaeological Survey of India (ASI)**.

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