

Registration Fees

The registration fee may be submitted either by Demand Draft (DD) drawn in favour of “Chairman, Department of Forensic Science”, payable at State Bank of India, Summer Hill, H.P. University, Shimla, or via online transfer to A/C No. 41426342152, IFSC Code SBIN0002490, with all payments to be completed latest by 25 October 2025.

Category	On/Before 25 October, 2025
Research Scholars	Rs. 500.00
Faculty/Delegates	Rs. 1500.00
Accompanying Person	Rs. 700.00

Accommodation and Travel Allowance (T.A./D.A.)

Accommodation will be arranged only for a limited number of resource persons. For outstation participants, accommodation is available in various hotels in the city on a payment basis. Please note that due to limited funds, there is no provision for Travel Allowance (T.A.) or Daily Allowance (D.A.). Registration is mandatory for all participants.

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- Prof. (Dr.) Ambrish Kumar Mahajan,** Department of Environmental Sciences, Central University of Himachal Pradesh, India.
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- Dr. Rajvinder Singh,** Department of Forensic Science, Maharshi Dayanand University, Rohtak, Haryana, India.
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- Dr. Mona Sharma,** Department of Environmental Sciences, Central University of Haryana, Mahendergarh, India.
- Dr. Anita Singh,** Department of Environmental Sciences, Central University of Haryana, Mahendergarh, India.
- Dr. Ruchi Sapahia,** Himachal Pradesh National Law University, Shimla, Himachal Pradesh, India.

Help and Assistance

Prof. (Dr.) Mahender Singh Thakur

Chairman, Department of Forensic Science and Department of Environmental Science, Himachal Pradesh University, Shimla (H.P.), India **Mobile:** +91-9418189221

Dr. Pradeep Kumar Assistant Professor, Department of Forensic Science, Himachal Pradesh University, Shimla (H.P.), India **Mobile:** +91-9459514137



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON Advanced Frontiers in Forensic Science and Environmental Sustainability: Innovations, Technology, and Global Solutions (AFSES-2025)

November 3-4, 2025

Organized by:
**Department of Forensic Science and
Department of Environmental Science
Himachal Pradesh University, Shimla (H.P.), India**

in collaboration with:
**Directorate of Forensics Services
Himachal Pradesh - Shimla Hills, Junga**

About Himachal Pradesh University



Himachal Pradesh University, founded on July 22, 1970, is in the tranquil Summer Hill suburb of Shimla, offering a stunning natural setting of deodar, oak, pine, and rhododendron trees with panoramic views of snow-capped mountains. As the only multi-faculty, residential, and affiliating university in the state, it serves urban, rural, and tribal communities through both formal and distant education modes. Accredited with an 'A' grade by NAAC, HPU is dedicated to disseminating knowledge, advancing learning, and addressing the social and economic needs of society. The university is recognized for its distinguished faculty, who are rich in intellect, skills, and professional expertise, and its pioneering initiatives, including being the first in India to offer postgraduate courses via distant learning. HPU regularly hosts national and international conferences and workshops, with its Human Resource Development Centre being one of the top academic staff colleges in the country. The university also offers tuition fee waivers for girl students and free education for disabled students, with additional seats reserved for single girl children in all courses. HPU students excel in academics, sports, and cultural activities, with many qualifying for national-level exams like NET, SET, and JRF, and the university plays a crucial role in shaping the future of students from across the country and abroad.

About the Department of Forensic Science



The Department of Forensic Science at Himachal Pradesh University, established in 2021, is the first in the state to offer M.Sc., Ph.D., and certificate programs in forensic science. The department addresses the growing demand for trained forensic professionals by providing comprehensive education in areas such as crime scene investigation, DNA analysis, and toxicology. Emphasizing practical skills, the department conducts regular crime scene management demonstrations and expert lectures. Its highly qualified faculty are actively engaged in impactful research, have secured major research grants, and are widely published in leading

scientific journals. They have also contributed to the development of state-of-the-art infrastructure, including advanced lecture halls, dedicated teaching and research laboratories, central instrumentation facilities, and access to a range of e-resources. Many postgraduate students have excelled in national-level examinations such as the CSIR/UGC-NET and have earned FACT fellowships. The department strongly supports student research and hands-on training, admitting 30 students annually through a merit-based selection process. Students actively participate in a range of departmental activities, including the Annual Sports Day, Crime Scene Investigation Case Studies, Monthly Journal and Research Club meetings, Monthly Work Presentations, and field trips. Dedicated to providing a rigorous and rewarding educational experience, the department prepares its graduates for successful careers in forensic science.

About the Department of Environmental Science

Established in 2020, the Department of Environmental Science at Himachal Pradesh University, Summer Hill, Shimla, has swiftly grown into a vibrant hub of academic excellence and innovative research. The department offers M.Sc. and Ph.D. programs in Environmental Science, along with Add-on and Certificate Courses, aimed at nurturing skilled professionals equipped to tackle contemporary environmental challenges. Emphasizing an interdisciplinary approach, the department's research focuses on key areas such as Ecology, Waste Management, Environmental Monitoring, Remote Sensing and GIS, Bioremediation, Carbon Management, and Climate Change. With a commitment to sustainability and environmental stewardship, the department blends rigorous academic training with hands-on field and laboratory experience. Through its dynamic curriculum, active research projects, and community engagement, the Department of Environmental Science is dedicated to advancing knowledge, fostering innovation, and contributing meaningfully to global environmental sustainability.

About Directorate of Forensic Services

The Directorate of Forensics Services (DFS), Himachal Pradesh, was established to provide scientific and technical support to the investigative and judicial systems of the state. Initially operating from the Police Complex, Bharari, Shimla, with divisions in Biology & Serology and Chemistry & Toxicology, the laboratory was relocated to Junga in 1996. Over the years, it expanded its expertise by introducing several specialized divisions, including Documents & Photography, Physics & Ballistics, DNA, NDPS, Voice Analysis, Fingerprint Bureau, Digital Forensics, and Forensic Psychology. To ensure scientific autonomy, the Directorate was brought under the administrative control of the Home Department in 2005. Since then, DFS has evolved into a technologically advanced and institutionally robust organization, comprising the State Forensic Science



Laboratory at Junga, Regional Forensic Science Laboratories (RFSLS) at Dharamshala and Mandi, and District Forensic Units at Bilaspur, Nurpur, and Baddi. DFS has spearheaded several pioneering initiatives such as establishing Disaster Victim Identification (DVI) Cells, Digital Forensics and Auditing facilities, and Cyber Training Centres under national schemes including CCPWC and the Nirbhaya Fund. Its scientific excellence and infrastructure development have earned it national and international recognition. DFS Himachal Pradesh is the first State Forensic Laboratory in India to develop a comprehensive forensic infrastructure with all its laboratories accredited to ISO/IEC 17025:2017 by NABL. It is also a recognized member of the Asian Forensic Sciences Network (AFSN) and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). Furthermore, the Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology, Government of India, has designated DFS as an Examiner of Electronic Evidence under Section 79A of the IT Act, 2000, making it the first Regional Forensic Science Laboratory (RFSL) in the country to receive this distinction. Through its continued scientific advancements and expert services to state and central investigative agencies such as the CBI, NIA, and the Enforcement Directorate, DFS Himachal Pradesh remains a cornerstone of excellence in forensic science and justice delivery in India.

About the Conference

The rapid advancement of technology, coupled with pressing environmental challenges, is reshaping both forensic science and environmental sustainability. Forensic science has evolved into a highly dynamic and in-demand field, essential for ensuring justice, enhancing public safety, and supporting law enforcement worldwide. Innovations such as artificial intelligence (AI), machine learning, virtual reality, advanced instrumentation, and genomic profiling are transforming crime detection, evidence management, and criminal investigations. With the rise of cybercrime, sophisticated criminal networks, and increasingly complex forensic evidence, there is an urgent need for trained professionals and cutting-edge research. Forensic laboratories and academic institutions are actively integrating novel technologies, improving analytical accuracy, and establishing standardized protocols to meet global demands.

Simultaneously, environmental science has become a global priority due to escalating climate change, biodiversity loss, and environmental degradation. Ecosystems, water quality, and species populations in fragile regions such as the Himalayas are declining at alarming rates, exacerbated by human activities such as deforestation, pollution, unsustainable agriculture, and frequent natural hazards like landslides. To address these challenges, environmental scientists are leveraging remote sensing, AI, renewable energy innovations, and circular economy models to develop sustainable solutions, particularly focused on Himalayan landscapes and mountain ecosystems.

Though distinct, both fields share a common goal: applying science and technology for societal benefit, whether ensuring justice or sustaining life on Earth. Integrating technological innovations with sustainable practices is essential to meet the complex challenges of the 21st century.

In response to these urgent needs, the International Conference on “Frontiers in Forensic Science and Environmental Sustainability: Innovations, Technology, and Global Solutions (AFSES-2025)” will be held on 3-4 November 2025 in hybrid mode. The conference offers a platform for researchers, practitioners, and policymakers to exchange knowledge, showcase innovations, and explore interdisciplinary solutions. Discussions will focus on cutting-edge advancements in forensic science and strategies for environmental sustainability, under the following sub-themes:

Forensic Science Themes:

- AI and Machine Learning in Forensic Investigations
- Digital and Cyber Forensics for Cybercrime Detection
- Forensic Genomics and Next-Generation DNA Profiling
- Forensic Toxicology of Novel Psychoactive Substances
- Virtual Reality and 3D Crime Scene Reconstruction

- Nanotechnology and Advanced Forensic Instrumentation
- Voice, Speech, and Biometric Forensics in Criminal Justice
- DNA and Forensic Genetics
- Forensic Documentation and Evidence Management
- Environmental & Occupational Toxicology
- Challenges in Laboratory Operations

Environmental Science Themes:

- Climate Change Adaptation and Resilient Ecosystems in Himalayan Regions
- Carbon Management and Net-Zero Strategies
- Environmental Monitoring using Remote Sensing and AI in Himalayan Landscapes
- Circular Economy and Zero-Waste Approaches
- Biodiversity Conservation and Wildlife Protection in Fragile Mountain Ecosystems
- Renewable Energy Transitions and Green Technologies for Himalayan Sustainability
- Water Pollution, Bioremediation, and Sustainable Use in Mountain Watersheds
- Landslide Mitigation, Risk Assessment, and Resilient Infrastructure in Mountain Regions
- Plastic Waste, Microplastics, and Ocean Health
- Sustainable Agriculture and Food Security in Himalayan Terrains
- Air Pollution, Human Health, and Policy Interventions

The conference invites researchers, policymakers, industry professionals, and practitioners to share insights, solutions, and strategies aimed at building a sustainable and resilient future, with a particular focus on the unique challenges and opportunities in the Himalayan region, including natural hazards such as landslides, as well as advances and applications in forensic science to enhance justice, public safety, and crime prevention.

Places to Visit

1. Jakhu Hanuman Temple: Located on Jakhu Hill, Shimla's highest peak at 2,455 m, this ancient temple is dedicated to Lord Hanuman. It features one of the tallest Hanuman statues in the world and hosts a vibrant Dussehra festival.
2. The Mall Road, Shimla: The main shopping and social hub of Shimla, featuring showrooms, cafes, restaurants, and a Himachal emporium selling woollens, handicrafts, pottery, and jewellery.
3. Rashtrapati Niwas (Viceregal Lodge): Former residence of the British Viceroy of India, situated on Observatory Hill, Shimla. The heritage building houses historic artifacts and colonial architecture.
4. Kalka-Shimla Toy Train Journey: One of India's most picturesque train rides. The journey offers views of lush green valleys, pine forests, waterfalls, and historic railway stations.
5. Kufri: A hill station 20 km from Shimla. Kufri is famous for its panoramic views, adventure activities, souvenir shops, and cafes.
6. Fagu: A serene village near Kufri known for its apple orchards, terraced fields, and peaceful ambiance, perfect for nature walks and relaxation.

Submission of Abstracts

Abstracts and full papers should be submitted via e-mail as an MS Word document (maximum 300 words, Times New Roman, 12pt font, single-spaced) to hpu.forensicsciences@gmail.com or environmentalscience433@gmail.com no later than 20 October 2025. Notification of acceptance of abstracts and full papers will be communicated by 25 October 2025.

Presentations

The conference will feature both oral and poster presentations. Posters should not exceed 100 cm × 90 cm in size and must clearly indicate the title, authors, affiliation, and e-mail address. Authors are expected to be present during their presentations for public interaction and discussion.