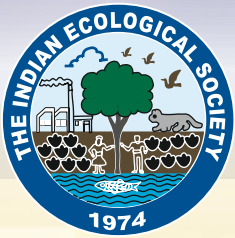


First Circular



IESCCC-2026

National Conference

on

**Sustainable and Climate Resilient Agroecosystems:
Innovations and Policy Framework**

(April, 28-30, 2026 | SKUAST-Jammu, Chatha)

Organizers

Indian Ecological Society, Jammu & Kashmir Chapters

in collaboration with

**Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences & Technology of Jammu (SKUAST-Jammu) and
Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences & Technology of Kashmir (SKUAST-Kashmir)**

Website: <https://iesconf.in/>

Partners





About Conference and Invitation

Global climate change is accelerating at an unprecedented pace, with 2024 confirmed as the hottest year ever recorded—approximately 1.55°C above pre-industrial levels, surpassing 2023. Greenhouse gas concentrations also reached historic highs, with CO₂ at 423 ppm, CH₄ above 1,930 ppb, and N₂O around 338 ppb. These alarming trends are driving glacier retreat, sea-level rise, and more frequent extreme weather events. India, with its diverse agro-climatic zones, remains among the most climate-vulnerable nations, facing rising temperatures, erratic monsoons, floods, droughts, and land degradation that pose direct risks to food, water, and livelihood security.

The Indian Himalayan Region, particularly Jammu & Kashmir, is extremely climate-sensitive. The region has warmed by nearly 0.2°C per decade over the last four decades, leading to glacier shrinkage and altered hydrological flows. The Kolahoi Glacier has lost over 23% of its area since the 1960s, affecting the Lidder and Jhelum rivers that are crucial for irrigation and drinking water. In the Kashmir Valley, these climatic pressures are further compounded by rapid urbanization, unregulated land conversion, and deficit irrigation, resulting in a significant decline in paddy cultivation—from 162,309 ha in 2012-13 to 135,067 ha in 2023-24. This shift has increased dependence on imported food grains, created a cereal deficit exceeding 40%, and intensified the region's fodder deficit, which now exceeds 48%.

In the Jammu region, especially the rainfed Kandi belt and mid-altitude areas, recurring droughts, delayed monsoons, rising heat, and soil moisture stress are reducing the productivity of maize, wheat, pulses, and fodder crops. Hilly districts such as Reasi, Rajouri, Poonch, and Doda

continue to experience flash floods, landslides, and severe erosion, while groundwater depletion and the decline of traditional water-harvesting structures further aggravate irrigation challenges. These challenges reflect broader national concerns. Nearly 60% of India's net sown area is rainfed and highly sensitive to rainfall variability. Coastal belts face cyclones and sea-level rise, arid zones endure desertification and groundwater depletion, and even the Indo-Gangetic plains are increasingly affected by heat stress and declining soil fertility. This complexity calls for region-specific yet nationally aligned strategies for climate-smart, resilient agriculture.

SKUAST-Jammu and SKUAST-Kashmir, as leading agricultural institutions in the Himalayan region, have made notable contributions through the development of climate- and stress-tolerant crop varieties, AI- and ML-based predictive modelling tools, agrometeorological advisories, integrated farming systems, and resource-conserving technologies. Building on these strengths, the Indian Ecological Society (IES), Ludhiana, along with its SKUAST-Jammu and SKUAST-Kashmir Chapters, is organizing the National Conference on “Sustainable and Climate Resilient Agroecosystems: Innovations and Policy Framework.” The conference aims to bring together researchers, policymakers, farmers, youth, industry, and civil society to deliberate on evidence-based strategies for strengthening climate resilience across India's diverse farming systems.

We warmly invite you to participate and contribute to this important national event at the Baba Jitto Auditorium, Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Jammu (SKUAST-Jammu), Chatha, Jammu.

Objectives of the Conference

To bring together leading researchers, policymakers, development agencies, and agri-entrepreneurs to deliberate on innovative technologies, management practices, and policy interventions that foster sustainability, productivity, and climate resilience of agroecosystems, with a special focus on the Himalayan and rainfed regions.



About Indian Ecological Society

The Indian Ecological Society (IES) was established in 1974 at the College of Agriculture, Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana, with Prof. A. S. Atwal as its founding president. The society was formed with the primary aim of promoting ecological awareness and research across India. Over the years, it has evolved into a significant interdisciplinary platform integrating ecological knowledge across agriculture, forestry, environment, and socio-economic systems.

IES operates through state and institutional chapters to decentralize its activities and foster regional participation. Jammu & Kashmir chapter has been notably active in the society's programs, indicating an operational presence in the region. One of the most significant indicators of this is the hosting of major conferences in Jammu, such as the 3rd International Conference of IES (IESIC-2022) at Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences & Technology (SKUAST), Jammu. w.e.f. October 13-15, 2022. The conference was themed "Sustainable Agricultural Innovations for Resilient Agri-Food Systems" and brought together researchers, students, and policymakers. An earlier conference was also held at SKUAST Jammu in February 2016, with proceedings published under the title Natural Resource Management: Ecological Perspectives.

IES organizes regular national and international events to foster dialogue and disseminate research. Apart from the Jammu events, other major conferences include those held in Sabour Bhagalpur (2017), Solan (2017), Navsari (2023), and the 4th International Conference (IESIC-2024) on November 12-15, 2024, at Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana. These conferences address themes such as agro-ecological innovations, climate change, environmental sustainability, and energy transitions.

The flagship publication of the society is the Indian Journal of Ecology (IJE), which has been in continuous publication since 1974. The journal is a peer-reviewed, open-access platform that publishes original research papers, reviews, and abstracts on a wide range of ecological and environmental subjects. Initially a biannual publication, the journal increased its frequency to quarterly by 2018 and to six issues per year by 2021, reflecting its growing importance and demand in the research community. It is indexed in several international databases like CAB Abstracts, MIAR, and World Cat and carries a NAAS rating of approximately 5.38.

About Host Institute-SKUAST-Jammu

Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Jammu (SKUAST- Jammu) came into existence on 20th September, 1999 following the amendment in Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology Act, 1982, through the State Legislature. The establishment of SKUAST of Jammu has in its background aspirations, commitment and missionary zeal to cater the needs of Jammu Division for the region-specific advances through education, research and extension in the field of agriculture. The university is mandated to address the basic, strategic and applied research related to enhanced production in agriculture and allied sectors (livestock health improvement and quality-based products). SKUAST- Jammu is striving to achieve high standards of excellence in education, research and extension for the betterment of farming community of the region. The university

comprises distinct faculties, including the Faculty of Agriculture, Faculty of Veterinary Sciences & Animal Husbandry, Faculty of Horticulture and Forestry, Faculty of Dairy Technology, Faculty of Agricultural Engineering and the School of Biotechnology. SKUAST-J is a multi-campus university with its headquarter located at Chatha, Jammu. The total land holding, including Research Stations/Sub-Stations and KVKs, of the University is 1223 acres out of which SKUAST-Jammu Chatha campus possess 578 acres area and R.S. Pura campus has 84.13 acres land holding. There are Eight Research Stations/Sub- Stations and nine KVKs in the University which are located in different agro-climatic zones of Jammu region for catering the location-specific needs of the farming community. University pursues research of high standard through projects funded by various central and state agencies.

Publication of Invited /Lead Lectures

The invited and lead lectures presented during the National Conference will be compiled, peer-reviewed and published as an edited book as post-conference issue with **Springer Nature Publishers**. This publication will serve as a valuable reference for researchers, academicians, policymakers, and practitioners, highlighting recent innovations, research advancements, and policy perspectives in the field of sustainable and climate-resilient agro ecosystems. Contributors are encouraged to submit their finalized manuscripts within the stipulated timeline to ensure inclusion in this prestigious volume



Call for Extended Abstract / Papers

Researchers, scholars, academicians, and practitioners are invited to submit extended abstracts (up to 1,000 words) on the themes listed below. The extended abstract should be typed in Arial font, size 11, with bold titles and headings. The theme should be clearly mentioned at the top of the first page. Each abstract should include the following sections: Title: 10-15 words, Keywords: 4-5 words (arranged alphabetically), Introduction, Material and Methods, Results and Conclusion (limited to one table or figure), References: maximum of two. The extended abstract should be submitted online through the Indian

Ecological Society – Conference website: www.iesconf.in and a copy must also be emailed to cccjk2026@gmail.com on or before 31st January, 2026. Authors of accepted abstracts will be invited to submit full-length papers for publication in the Indian Journal of Ecology. The papers must be submitted online following the journal's guidelines available on the conference website, by or before 15th February, 2026. Authors are encouraged to refer to the sample abstract and full-length paper available on the conference website: www.iesconf.in for formatting and reference purpose.

Topics of the Conference

1. Climate- Smart Breeding and Production Systems for Resilient Agriculture
2. Soil, Water, and Natural Resource Management for Sustainable Agroecosystems
3. Livestock, Fodder Systems, Fisheries, and Allied Sectors under Climate Change
4. Agro-biodiversity, Horticulture, Agroforestry, and Ecosystem Services
5. Digital Agriculture, Artificial Intelligence, and Emerging Technologies for Climate Resilience
6. Integrating Indigenous Knowledge and Innovative Extension Services for Climate
7. Innovations, Policy, and Partnerships for Climate-Resilient Agriculture
8. Market Linkages, Agri-Entrepreneurship, Startups, and Sustainable Food Systems

Registration

Participants are requested to register for the conference by filling out the registration form available on the conference Website: www.iesconf.in by or before 5th March, 2026. A late fee will be applicable for registrations received after this date. The registration fee can be paid through Cash, Demand Draft, Pay Order, Online Transfer, or QR Code Scanner. The proof of payment should be send to Organizing Secretary, IES Conference along with name via email at cccjk2026@gmail.com. The bank account details are provided below for making the payment.

Bank Details:

Account Name : **India Ecological Society Climate Change Conference (IESCCC-2026)**
Account Number : **1235010200000013**
Bank Name : **J&K Bank, SKUAST-Jammu Chatha**
IFS Code : **JAKA0EAURSP**



Registration Fee

Category	Early Bird (₹ / USD)	Late Registration (₹ / USD)
Scientists / Faculty/ RA / SRF (Non Members)	₹ 6000	₹ 6500
Scientists / Faculty/ RA / SRF (IES Members)	₹ 5000	₹ 5500
Students (PG/PhD)	₹ 3000	₹ 4000
Industry / Pvt. Organizations	₹ 9000	₹ 10000
Accompanying Family Member	₹ 3000	₹ 3000
Foreign Delegates (SAARC Countries)	₹ 6000	₹ 6500
Foreign Delegates (Non-SAARC Countries)	USD 150	USD 150

Important Dates

First announcement	: November 15, 2025
Start date submission of extended abstract	: December 05, 2025
End date submission of extended abstract	: January 31, 2026
Start date-submission of full-length paper	: February 05, 2026
End date-submission of full-length paper	: February 15, 2026
Start date-registration	: November 20, 2025
End date registration	: March 05, 2026
Request for accommodation	: March 05, 2026
Willingness for post-conference visit/tours	: March 05, 2026



IES Awards and Recognitions

The Indian Ecological Society (IES) offers a range of prestigious awards during the conference to acknowledge outstanding academic, scientific, and professional contributions. Participants may apply for the following awards:

1. Dr. A.S. Atwal Young Scientist Award
2. Dr. G.S. Dhaliwal Best Scientific Writing Award
3. IES Fellow
4. IES Lifetime Achievement Award

Detailed guidelines, eligibility criteria, and application proforma for each category are available on the conference website (<https://iesconf.in/>)



Weather

During the conference period (April 28-30), Jammu generally experiences warm to hot weather, with temperatures ranging between 20°C and 32°C. The days are typically dry and sunny, with occasional light winds, while the evenings remain pleasant and slightly cooler, providing comfortable conditions for outdoor events.



Accommodation

Accommodation will be served to the early registered participants within university guest houses at standard rate. In addition, participants can go for accommodation in pre-arranged elite hotels at Jammu on personal payment basis. Participants can indicate their preferences in the registration form for further arrangements.

Stall Exhibition

An exhibition will be organized at the Conference venue during the Conference. The exhibition area will be the focal point of the conference and the programme is structured to maximize the opportunity for delegates to visit this area. It has limited access to non-delegates also. Space for exhibition can be reserved by contacting the organizers. Exhibitors will get 5 m × 5 m space within the exhibition area, having three sidewall, carpet, 1 table, 2 chairs, one standard electric power point, two spotlight and dustbin.

Sponsors

Organizers will be delighted to have sponsors in this event. This conference is a unique opportunity to promote your organization on the national stage. Sponsors of this conference will get marketing exposure to extensive onsite visibility to post-event coverage. Sponsoring the conference is the ideal way to reach a huge gathering of scientists, administrators, policy and decision makers and consumers. This will provide an excellent opportunity for cost effective marketing. In order to provide maximum flexibility to the sponsors. Sponsors may contact the organizers to negotiate various combinations in order to maximize their opportunities.

Advertisement

In Souvenir of the conference which will contain message from VIPs and articles from renowned scientists, policy makers and administrators have provision for advertisement by the companies. Souvenir is a very important publication of the conference and is usually kept by the delegates for long period and used as reference book. Interested companies may contact the organizers for giving their advertisements. The rates for the advertisement are as follows:

Back cover age	₹ 25,000
Inner page of back cover	₹ 20,000
Full page insertion	₹ 15,000
Half page insertion	₹ 10,000
Quarter page	₹ 5,000

GLIMPSES OF PREVIOUS IES-CONFERENCES



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Places of Tourist Interest in Jammu & Kashmir



Shri Raghunath Temple, Jammu



Bagh-E-Bahu, Jammu



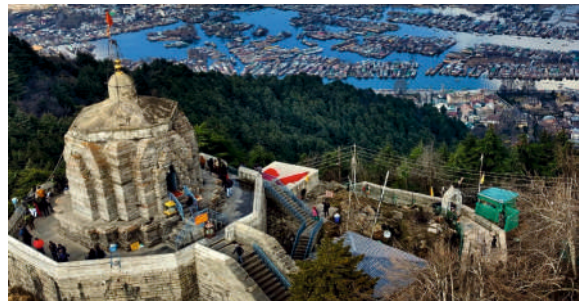
Vaishno Devi Temple Katra, Jammu



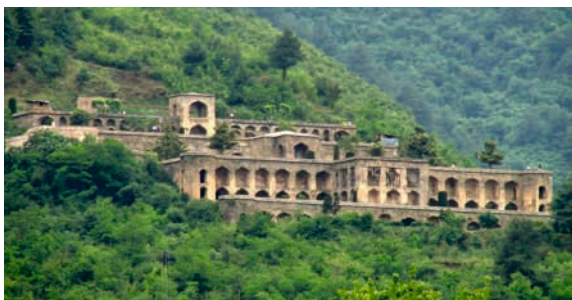
Mansar and Surinshar Lakes, Jammu



Dal Lake Srinagar, Kashmir



Shankaracharya Temple, Srinagar



Pari Mahal Srinagar, Kashmir



Gulmarg, Kashmir



Betab Valley, Pahalgam



Tulip Garden, Kashmir





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National Conference

on

Sustainable and Climate Resilient Agroecosystems: Innovations and Policy Framework

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Registration Form

PHOTO

1. Name.....
 2. Designation
 3. Organization.....
 4. Correspondence Address.....
 5. Telephone:- Office..... Mobile..... Whatsapp No.....
 6. Email.....
 7. If presenting a paper, title of the paper
 8. Theme :
 9. Mode of Presentation: Oral / Poster
 10. Details of registration Fee :
Transaction No..... Date Amount.....
 11. Accommodation Required: Yes / No
 12. Whether interested in the post conference tour : (Yes / No)
- Date
- Place.....

Endorsement
(For students only)

Signature
Head, Department /Division