**Journal of Himalayan Ecology & Sustainable Development**

**UGC approved Journal**

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**Guidelines for Contributors**

Journal Title Journal of Himalayan Ecology & Sustainable Development

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**Aims and Scope**

The *Journal of Himalayan Ecology and Sustainable Development* invites research and review articles on all aspects of Ecology with emphasis on Himalayan Ecology, interactions between humans, ecosystems, pollution, wildlife, Forests, policy papers regarding sustainable development, environmental problems, natural resource management, biodiversity, agriculture, climate change, environmental management, environmental chemistry, toxicological, health, GIS, remote sensing, Geoinformatics, Glaciers, Geography, and use change, socioeconomic, and environmental impact assessment etc.

# **Peer Review Policy**

The practice of peer review is to ensure that good science gets published. Our referees/Reviewers therefore play a vital role in maintaining the high standards of research work being published in our journal. .

## **Manuscript evaluation**

It is the responsibility of the Editor first to evaluate all manuscripts and in extreme cases will be referred to another editor matching his field of specialization. In majority of the cases, the submissions are sent to for referees and it is rarest of the rare that any submission of high quality and standard is accepted at this stage without being sent for review. Those rejected at this stage are insufficiently original, does not add much to field of science, have serious scientific flaws, have poor grammar or English language, or are outside the scope of this journal. Those that meet the minimum criteria are passed on to at least 2 experts for review. Authors of manuscripts rejected at this stage are usually communicated within 3 weeks of receipt.

## **Type of Peer Review**

This journal employs double blind reviewing, where both the referee and author remain anonymous throughout the process. Referees are matched to the paper according to their expertise. Referees are both from national and international institutes which are normally working in the field for which this journal invites the manuscripts.

## **Referee reports**

Referees are asked to evaluate manuscript as per the format provided to them with respect to following points:

- Is original

- Is methodologically sound

- Follows appropriate ethical guidelines

- Has results which are clearly presented and support the conclusions

- Correctly references previous relevant work

- Quality of manuscript

- Title is appropriate to the content

- Contribution and significance

- Clarity and expression

Referees are not expected to correct or copyedit manuscripts. Language correction is not part of the peer review process.

## **Review process**

Typically the manuscript will be reviewed within 4 months. Should the referees’ reports contradict one another or a report is unnecessarily delayed a further expert opinion will be sought. All our referees sign a conflict of interest statement. Revised manuscripts are usually returned to the initial referees within 2-3 week. Referees may request more than one revision of a manuscript either minor or a major revision.

A final decision to accept or reject the manuscript will be sent to the author along with any recommendations made by the referees, and may include at times verbatim comments by the referees. Referees are also asked to send the confidential comments to the Editor if any.

## Editor’s Decision is final

Referees advise the editor, who is responsible for the final decision to accept or reject the manuscript.

**Publication frequency**

The Journal of *Himalayan Ecology and Sustainable Development* is published annually.

**Submission**

Manuscripts complete in all respects (MS word, 2007 or higher) should be sent to the editor in Chief through email only to mail address [journalhesd@rediffmail.com](mailto:journalhesd@rediffmail.com)

The manuscript should not exceed twenty A-4 size pages (having all round margins of 1.5” and 1.5 lines space in between the lines) including abstract, tables, figures and references.

Manuscript may generally be organized in the following order:

**Title Page**

The title page should include:

The name(s) of the author(s)

A concise and informative title

The affiliation(s) and address (es) of the author(s)

The e-mail address and telephone number of the corresponding author

**Abstract**

Please provide an abstract of 150 to 250 words. The abstract should not contain any undefined abbreviations or unspecified references. It should contain a very brief description of the study, methods, results and conclusions.

**Keywords**

Please provide 4 to 6 keywords which can be used for indexing purposes.

### Text

The text of original research articles should be divided into the following sections:

***Introduction***

The Introduction should state the purpose of the investigation and identify clearly the gap of knowledge that will be filled in this study.

***Materials and methods***

The Materials and Methods section should provide enough information to permit repetition of the experimental work. It should include clear descriptions and explanations of sampling procedures, experimental design, essential sample characteristics and descriptive statistics, hypothesis tested, exact references to literature describing the tests used in the manuscript, number of data involved in statistical tests, etc.

***Results and Discussion***

The Results section should describe the outcome of the study. Data should be presented as concisely as possible - if appropriate in the form of tables or figures, although very large tables should be avoided. The Discussion should be an interpretation of the results and their significance with reference to work by other authors.

***Conclusions***

This section should highlight the major, firm discoveries, and state what the added value of the main finding is, without literature references.

***Acknowledgments***

Acknowledgments of people, grants, funds, etc. should be placed in a separate section before the reference list. The names of funding organizations should be written in full.

***References***

The journal uses APA reference style. See References for more details.

***Appendices***

If there is more than one appendix, they should be numbered consecutively.

**Publication Charges**

There are no publication charges for publishing the research work in"***Journal of Himalayan Ecology and Sustainable Development***”

#### Text Formatting

Manuscripts should be submitted in Word (2007). Text should be in English, well written, precise and to the point. The following points should be considered while submitting the manuscript;

* Use a normal, plain font (e.g., 12-point Times Roman) for text.
* Use italics where applicable.
* Use the automatic page numbering function to number the pages.
* Do not use field functions.
* Use tab stops or other commands for indents, not the space bar.
* Use the table function, not spreadsheets, to make tables.
* Use the equation editor for equations.
* Save your file in docx format (Word 2007 or higher)
* Abbreviations should be defined at first mention and used consistently thereafter.
* Always use footnotes instead of endnotes.
* All tables and figures are to be numbered using Arabic numerals.
* Tables and figures should always be cited in text in consecutive numerical order.
* For each table, please supply a table caption (title) explaining the components of the table.
* Figure parts should be denoted by lowercase letters (a, b, c, etc.).
* Footnotes to tables should be indicated by superscript lower-case letters (or asterisks for significance values and other statistical data) and included beneath the table body.
* Each figure should have a concise caption describing accurately what the figure depicts. Include the captions in the text file of the manuscript, not in the figure file.
* Figure captions begin with the term Fig. in bold type, followed by the figure number, also in bold type.
* No punctuation is to be included after the number, nor is any punctuation to be placed at the end of the caption.
* When preparing your figures, size figures to fit in the column width.
* Units and Symbols should follow the metric system.

The reference list should be arranged alphabetically according to the surname of the first author. More than one reference of the same author(s) for different years should be arranged chronologically. Only the references cited in the text need to be given in the list of References. Abbreviations of journal titles in reference list should follow the forms used in World List of Scientific Periodicals. References should follow the pattern as exemplified below:- .

**Journal article:**

i) Hora, S.L. 1951. Fish culture in rice field. *Curr. Sci*., **29**(7): 171-173.

ii) Price, T. and Jamdar, N. 1990. The breeding birds of Overa Wildlife sanctuary, Kashmir. ***J. Bomb. Nat. Hist. Soc.* 87(1)**: 1-15.

**Chapter in a book:**

i) Narayan, N.S. and Madhyastha, M.N., 1985. Heavy, metal pollution in India-A review. p. 272-294. In: *Current Pollution Researches in India* (R.K Trivedi & P.K. Goel, eds.). Environmental Publications, Karad, India.

**Technical Report:**

i) Anon. 1980. Annual Report for the year 1979. National Environmental Engineering Research Institute, Nagpur, India.300 pp.

**Book:**

i) Jhingran, V.G., 1975. ***Fish and Fisheries of India***. Hindustan Publication Corpn., New Delhi, India.

**Web references**

As a minimum, the full URL should be given and the date when the reference was last accessed. Any further information, if known (DOI, author names, dates, reference to a source publication, etc.), should also be given. Web references can be listed separately (e.g., after the reference list) under a different heading if desired, or can be included in the reference list.

**Ethics Policy**

This journal is committed to upholding the integrity of the scientific record. Authors should refrain from misrepresenting research results which could damage the trust in the journal, the professionalism of scientific authorship, and ultimately the entire scientific endeavour. Authorship should be limited to those who have made a significant contribution to the conception, design, execution, or interpretation of the research work. The authors are expected to ensure that they have written entirely original works, and if the authors have used the work and/or words of others, which needs to be appropriately cited or quoted. An author should not publish the same work in more than one journal except abstract, lecture note and dissertation. Authors should be ready to provide the raw data when asked and demanded by the Editor. Authors must give the proper acknowledgement and should disclose explicitly the conflict of interest if any in the submission. Authors are also required to bring into the notice of Editor of any major error or inaccuracy of their published work to retract or correct the paper. The journal uses software to screen for plagiarism. (For details see Plagiarism Prevention Policy of University of Kashmir Srinagar)

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