

Advancing Sustainability through Knowledge, Research, and Action

The Department of Environmental Studies, University of Delhi, is committed to advancing sustainability through rigorous academic engagement, interdisciplinary research, and meaningful institutional collaboration. By connecting environmental scholarship with practical action, the Department creates platforms that respond to some of the most pressing ecological challenges of our time, including climate change, pollution, environmental health, biodiversity loss, and sustainable resource governance.

The Department's work reflects a sustained effort to integrate environmental education, research, outreach, and public engagement into a cohesive framework of sustainability leadership. Through conferences, academic collaborations, student initiatives, and knowledge-sharing platforms, it actively contributes to a future that is ecologically resilient, socially just, and developmentally responsible.

These efforts support a broad spectrum of the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly SDG 4 (Quality Education), SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation), SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production), SDG 13 (Climate Action), and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals).

Building a Culture of Sustainability

The Department promotes sustainability as both an academic pursuit and a shared societal responsibility. Its approach combines classroom learning with applied engagement, enabling students and institutions to think critically, collaborate meaningfully, and act responsibly.

Through interdisciplinary teaching, academic support for sustainability-oriented programmes, institutional partnerships, and student engagement in innovation and dialogue, the Department strengthens both environmental literacy and institutional capacity. In doing so, it helps cultivate environmentally aware, socially engaged, and solution-oriented learners who can respond to contemporary sustainability challenges with insight and responsibility.

International Conference on Emergent Pollutants and Climate Resilience (ICEPCR 2026)

Held on 29–30 January 2026, the International Conference on Emergent Pollutants and Climate Resilience (ICEPCR 2026) marked a major academic initiative in addressing contemporary environmental challenges through dialogue, research, and collaboration. Jointly organized by the Environment Awareness Committee, Rajdhani College, University of Delhi, and the Department of Environmental Studies, University of Delhi, with support from the Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF), DST, Government of India, the conference brought together distinguished academicians, scientists, environmental experts, policymakers, and students from India and abroad.

Designed as an interdisciplinary platform, the conference examined the growing links between emergent pollutants, climate vulnerability, environmental health, and resilience-building. It fostered critical conversations on scientific developments, policy frameworks, and practical pathways for sustainable futures.

Key Highlights

ICEPCR 2026 was distinguished by several important features that underscored its academic depth and contemporary relevance. The conference drew more than 150 delegates, reflecting strong participation from the scholarly and student community. It featured keynote and invited lectures by eminent national and international experts, creating a rich platform for cross-disciplinary exchange. The event also enabled young researchers to present their work through oral and poster sessions, thereby strengthening emerging research networks and scholarly engagement.

The conference was organized around four major thematic areas:

- Emergent Pollutants and Remediation
- Climate Change and Solutions
- Climate Change, Contaminants, and Health Nexus
- Indigenous Knowledge Systems and Climate Resilience

These themes allowed the conference to engage with issues such as pollution control, environmental monitoring, climate adaptation, health impacts of contaminants, and the value of indigenous and community-based knowledge in strengthening resilience.

Sustainability Relevance

ICEPCR 2026 made meaningful contributions to several Sustainable Development Goals, especially:

- **SDG 6 – Clean Water and Sanitation**, through discussion on pollution, water quality, and remediation
- **SDG 3 – Good Health and Well-being**, through the exploration of contaminants and health impacts
- **SDG 13 – Climate Action**, through resilience, adaptation, and mitigation discourse
- **SDG 15 – Life on Land**, through ecological protection and environmental risk reduction
- **SDG 17 – Partnerships for the Goals**, by bringing together academia, researchers, institutions, and stakeholders on a shared platform

ICEPCR 2026 reaffirmed the Department's role in fostering informed, solution-oriented environmental dialogue and advancing collaborative responses to emerging ecological challenges.