

UNIVERSITY OF PETROLEUM AND ENERGY STUDIES (UPES)

School of Liberal Studies & Humanities

Kandoli, Dehradun — 248007, Uttarakhand, India

ADVERTISEMENT FOR THE POST OF RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

ICSSR-Sponsored Minor Research Project

Applications are invited from interested and eligible candidates for selection to one (1) post of Research Associate in the School of Liberal Studies & Humanities, UPES, Dehradun, under a research project sponsored by the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR). Details of the project and the post are set out below.

SECTION A: PROJECT & POST PARTICULARS

Project Title	Climate Change and Livelihood Resilience: A Vulnerability Assessment of Nomadic Shepherds in Uttarkashi and Jaunsar Region of Uttarakhand
Sponsoring Body	Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR)
Broad Research Domain	Environmental Studies
Priority Area	Community-Based Climate Adaptation
Post Advertised	Research Associate (1 Post)
Duration of Engagement	10 Months
Consolidated Remuneration	₹47,000/- per month (as per approved ICSSR project budget)
Essential Qualifications	Master's degree in Economics / Energy Economics / Environmental Economics with minimum 55% marks, along with NET / M.Phil. / Ph.D., and two (2) years of documented research experience as a Research Assistant in a formally sponsored project
Desired Qualifications	Proficiency in data analysis software including STATA and SmartPLS
Date & Time of Interview	21 April 2026 at 3:00 PM
Venue	Meeting Room, School of Business, UPES, Kandoli, Dehradun — 248007 / Online (as notified)
Application Deadline	15 April 2026 by 5:00 PM
Mode of Application	Send CV to: abhay.kanwar@ddn.upes.ac.in with subject line 'ICSSR Project'
TA / DA for Interview	No TA/DA shall be paid for attending the interview

ANNEXURE: ADDITIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF ENGAGEMENT

Terms and Conditions of Engagement — Applicable to All Applicants, Shortlisted Candidates, and Appointees

These conditions supplement the guidelines issued by the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) and form part of the formal terms of engagement. Acceptance of appointment constitutes acceptance of all conditions set out herein. Prospective applicants are encouraged to read these terms carefully before applying.

I. ELIGIBILITY, QUALIFICATIONS AND DOCUMENT VERIFICATION

1. Candidates must hold a Master's degree in Economics, Energy Economics, or Environmental Economics with a minimum of 55% aggregate marks (no rounding-up permitted), along with NET (UGC/CSIR), M.Phil., or Ph.D., and two (2) years of documented experience as a Research Assistant in a formally sponsored project. Eligibility is assessed as of the application deadline. CGPA holders must furnish the official university-issued conversion formula; absence of such documentation may render the candidature ineligible. Candidates from reserved categories should produce valid, current, and duly attested certificates. Original documents along with one complete set of self-attested photocopies — covering all academic credentials from matriculation onward, experience certificates (specifying designation, project title, and funding agency), NET/M.Phil./Ph.D. proof, and a valid photo ID — must be presented at the interview. Any material misrepresentation of qualifications or credentials, if discovered at any stage including post-appointment, may result in disqualification or termination of engagement.

II. TECHNICAL COMPETENCY

2. Proficiency in STATA for quantitative data analysis is a core operational requirement for this post, given the project's methodology involving the LVI-IPCC framework and correlation analysis. Working familiarity with ArcGIS or equivalent GIS software is also expected, in view of the geographic scope of fieldwork across Uttarkashi and Jaunsar-Bawar. Candidates should be capable of independently designing and administering structured household surveys, and must have a foundational understanding of the LVI-IPCC framework and climate vulnerability assessment approaches applicable to pastoral and mountain communities. Candidates may be invited to demonstrate their analytical proficiency during the selection process.

III. INTERVIEW, SELECTION AND JOINING

3. The decision of the selection panel constituted by the Project Director is final in all matters relating to shortlisting, interview conduct, and appointment. The Project Director reserves the right to modify, reschedule, or cancel the recruitment process at any stage without assigning any reason; no compensation is payable on this account. No TA/DA is payable for attending the interview. Meeting the minimum eligibility criteria does not guarantee an interview call or appointment. The selected candidate will be required to join duty within seven (7) working days of issuance of the appointment order; written requests for extension may be addressed to the Project Director. An appointment agreement incorporating all terms, milestone deliverables, and confidentiality obligations shall be executed prior to or on the date of joining.

IV. NATURE OF ENGAGEMENT AND REMUNERATION

4. This appointment is purely contractual, project-specific, and temporary in nature, co-terminus with the ICSSR-funded project (duration: approximately 10 months). The consolidated monthly remuneration is ₹47,000/-, as approved under the ICSSR project budget, subject to applicable statutory deductions. No additional allowances, bonuses, increments, or benefits of any nature are payable beyond the approved consolidated amount.

V. DUTIES, FIELDWORK AND EXCLUSIVITY OF ENGAGEMENT

5. The Research Associate shall be engaged on a full-time, exclusive basis. Concurrent employment, consultancy, or research engagement — paid or unpaid — with any other institution or individual requires prior written approval of the Project Director. The post involves fieldwork in geographically remote and high-altitude areas of Uttarkashi (Bhatwari, Dunda, Chinyalisaur, Purola, Mori, and Barkot tehsils) and

the Jaunsar region (Chakrata and Tiyuni tehsils). Key responsibilities include: (a) developing and pre-testing the structured questionnaire; (b) coordinating and supervising Field Investigators; (c) managing data entry, coding, cleaning, and verification; (d) constructing the LVI-IPCC framework; (e) conducting statistical analysis using prescribed software; (f) preparing draft sections of the project report; and (g) maintaining fortnightly field diaries and progress records for submission to the Project Director. Any additional tasks assigned by the Project Director consistent with the project objectives are also expected to be undertaken.

VI. PERFORMANCE REVIEW, DELIVERABLES AND LEAVE

- Continuation beyond the initial two-month probationary period is subject to a formal performance review by the Project Director and Co-Directors. The Research Associate is expected to meet milestone-linked deliverables in accordance with the project timeline. Leave will be governed by applicable ICSSR project guidelines. Unauthorised absence exceeding three (3) consecutive working days without prior written intimation may be treated as abandonment of the project. Field travel and daily allowance claims must be pre-approved by the Project Director; retrospective claims will not be entertained.

VII. CONDUCT, ETHICS AND CONFIDENTIALITY

- The Research Associate shall adhere to the institutional code of conduct of UPES, Dehradun, and applicable ICSSR project management guidelines. All project data, survey instruments, field records, analytical outputs, and draft materials are strictly confidential and shall not be shared, reproduced, or utilised outside the scope of the project — during or after the period of engagement — without the express written permission of the Project Director. Research participants, including nomadic shepherd communities and public officials, shall be treated with full respect for research ethics, participant confidentiality, and the principles of informed consent, in accordance with applicable social science research norms. All communications with ICSSR or government authorities concerning the project must be routed through and approved by the Project Director in advance.

VIII. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND PUBLICATIONS

- All intellectual outputs produced during this engagement — including datasets, field instruments, the LVI-IPCC framework, policy briefs, working papers, and journal articles — constitute the joint intellectual property of the Project Director, Co-Directors, and UPES, in accordance with ICSSR guidelines on project outputs. The Research Associate shall not claim sole authorship of any output produced under the project. All publications must acknowledge ICSSR funding and UPES as the host institution. The Research Associate shall obtain the prior written consent of the Project Director before submitting any manuscript derived from this project for publication or conference presentation. No primary dataset or unpublished project material may be retained after the conclusion of the engagement without explicit written approval from the Project Director.

IX. TERMINATION AND RESIGNATION

- Either party may initiate discontinuation of engagement: the employer will ordinarily provide fifteen (15) days' written notice (or salary in lieu thereof), and the Research Associate is requested to provide a minimum of thirty (30) days' written notice addressed to the Project Director. In the event of serious misconduct — including but not limited to data falsification, plagiarism, breach of confidentiality, or misrepresentation of credentials — the project director reserves the right to terminate the engagement without notice and to report the matter to ICSSR and relevant statutory authorities, as appropriate. Pending salary for any notice period not served, and the cost of unaccounted project materials or advances, may be adjusted from dues payable.

X. EXPERIENCE CERTIFICATE AND RELIEVING CERTIFICATE

10. An Experience Certificate and Relieving Certificate will be issued upon the satisfactory completion of the full approved tenure, subject to the return of all project equipment, data files, survey instruments, and materials entrusted during the engagement. We encourage all candidates to note that if a Research Associate leaves or resigns mid-project without the formal approval of the Project Director or without serving the requisite notice period, it may not be possible to certify the partial tenure served or the specific work completed — for academic, professional, or institutional purposes. Candidates are therefore encouraged to consider the full-time commitment this role entails before applying.

These conditions form part of the formal terms of engagement and are consistent with ICSSR project management guidelines. The Project Director, in consultation with the host institution, reserves the right to interpret or amend any condition within the applicable ICSSR framework. We look forward to welcoming a committed and enthusiastic Research Associate to this team.

Sd/-

Dr. Abhay Vir Singh Kanwar

Project Director & Assistant Professor

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