



R. S. Sharma

Professor of Practice- Forensic Science
rssharma@iujaipur.edu.in

PROFILE

Prof. R. S. Sharma is a distinguished forensic science professional, academician, forensic expert, and trainer with an extensive career spanning more than five decades. With over 55 years of experience in forensic science, he has made significant contributions to forensic investigation, laboratory science, crime scene management, medico-legal and medico-forensic applications, and the development of forensic infrastructure and training systems in India. He currently serves as Professor of Practice in Forensic Science at ICFAI University, Jaipur, where his extensive field experience provides an important bridge between academic learning and the practical application of forensic science.

Prof. Sharma's professional journey is particularly associated with the Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL), Rajasthan, where he served for 39 years from 1970 to 2009, ultimately holding the position of Additional Director. During this exceptionally long tenure, he supervised and reported on more than 55,000 criminal cases, a contribution described in the profile as the highest in the forensic history of the state. His experience encompasses a broad spectrum of forensic disciplines, including Forensic Chemistry, Forensic Biochemistry, Medico-Legal and Vetro-Legal Sciences, Crime Scene Management, and applications of forensic science in criminal investigation.

Beyond conventional laboratory responsibilities, Prof. Sharma has played an important role in the development and modernization of forensic infrastructure in Rajasthan. His contributions include the establishment of Range Laboratories and 34 Mobile Forensic Units, as well as efforts toward transforming the Rajasthan FSL into a modern, state-of-the-art forensic institution. These initiatives reflect his involvement not only in casework but also in strengthening the institutional framework required for effective forensic investigation and scientific support to law enforcement agencies.

His expertise has also extended to major and complex criminal investigations. Among the significant cases associated with his professional contributions is the 2008 Jaipur Bomb Blast investigation, where his forensic expertise contributed to the broader investigative process. His career, involving tens of thousands of criminal cases, demonstrates substantial practical exposure to the application of scientific evidence in criminal investigations and the interpretation of forensic findings within medico-legal and investigative contexts.

Prof. Sharma's professional qualifications combine scientific and legal education. He holds an M.Sc. in Forensic Chemistry and Biochemistry from AIC Calcutta, an LL.B., and a Fellowship

from FS SAFCON. This combination of forensic science and legal education has supported his work across scientific investigation, medico-legal applications, crime investigation, and the interface between forensic evidence and the justice system.

His commitment to forensic education and professional training has been a major component of his career. Since 1976, he has served as a faculty member and trainer at several prominent institutions, including the Rajasthan Police Academy, Central Detective Training Institute (CDTI), National Institute of Criminology and Forensic Science (NICFS), OTS, Judicial Academies, and various law-enforcement agencies in India and abroad. Through these teaching and training engagements, he has contributed to the professional development of personnel involved in forensic science, policing, criminal investigation, and the judicial system.

His professional exposure has also included advanced forensic training in Italy, France, and Germany, in addition to training at multiple forensic institutions across India. This international exposure has complemented his extensive domestic experience and provided opportunities to engage with forensic practices and developments beyond the Indian forensic system.

Prof. Sharma's contributions have received significant recognition. Among his major distinctions is the Outstanding Performance Award in Forensic Science, conferred by Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah. He has also received the Rajasthan Gaurav Award for exceptional contribution to forensic science and crime investigation, conferred by the Rajasthan High Court, in addition to multiple awards and commendations from national and international bodies.

His contribution to forensic research is reflected in 25 research papers, with the document noting that all have been recognized and awarded. His research contributions encompass areas within chemical and life sciences, further complementing his extensive practical experience in forensic casework. He has also served as an invited expert member on various national- and state-level forensic and investigative committees, contributing his professional expertise to forensic and investigative policymaking and advisory activities.

Following his retirement, Prof. Sharma continued his contribution to forensic science through several important professional roles. He was reappointed as a Forensic Expert and Vice Principal at CDTI under the Bureau of Police Research & Development (BPR&D), Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, Jaipur. He has also served as an Advisor to the Government of Rajasthan for FTRI and FSL-related crime investigation training and research activities. His continued involvement illustrates his sustained contribution to forensic education, investigation, institutional development, and professional training beyond his formal government service.

Adding another distinctive dimension to his professional profile, Prof. Sharma has appeared as himself in the upcoming Bollywood film SURYA, featuring Sunny Deol and others. According to the provided profile, this represents the first instance of a real forensic scientist being featured in a crime-investigation role in Indian cinema.

Overall, Prof. R. S. Sharma represents a rare combination of long-term forensic casework experience, scientific expertise, legal knowledge, institutional leadership, professional training, research, and forensic infrastructure development. His career of more than five decades, involvement in over 55,000 criminal cases, contribution to the modernization of forensic services in Rajasthan, extensive teaching and training engagements, international exposure, research achievements, and professional recognitions establish him as an experienced figure in the field of forensic science and criminal investigation.