

REVIEW PAPER

## Improving the practice and use of forensic science

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### ABSTRACT

Forensic science can be defined as criminalistic science. In other words the scientific studies or investigation of crime can be termed as Forensic Science. Along with the development of science and technology the pattern of our society has also changed to cope with the day to day development. Nowadays criminal use different techniques for commission of various crimes<sup>1</sup> within the society. So it has become a problem for the law enforcing agencies to check the potentiality of crimes. For such checking the need of forensic science becomes an essential prerequisite on the part of the investigative agencies. Considering the necessity and importance of forensic science, Government of India has established a few forensic sciences laboratories in the different parts of our country. Similarly the Government of various states has also established some forensic science laboratories. In the same spirit, the Government of Assam has also established a forensic science laboratory at Guwahati<sup>2</sup>. Forensic Science Laboratory, Assam is a scientific institution under the Police Department established in the year 1967. This laboratory has been established in the pattern of an ideal forensic science laboratory, comprising eight important branches of science like Chemistry, Physics, Biology, Serology, Ballistics, Toxicology, Question Documents and Photography.

**Key Words :** Physical science unit, Biology unit, Firearm unit, Stages

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### Different units of the forensic laboratory:

Basic services provided by crime laboratories in the field of investigation is a milestone and helps to fast track investigation crime laboratories provides services in relation to—

#### *Physical science unit:*

The physical science unit applies principles and techniques of chemistry, Physics and geology to the identification and comparison of crime scene evidence; it is staffed by criminalities that have the expertise to utilize chemical tests and modern analytical instrumentation for the examination of items as diverse as drugs, glass, paint, explosives

: and soil. In a laboratory that has a staff large enough to permit  
: specialization, the responsibilities of this unit may be further  
: subdivided into sections devoted to drug identification, soil  
: and mineral analyses and the examination of a variety of trace  
: physical evidence.

#### *Biology unit:*

: The biology unit is staffed with biologists and  
: serologists who apply their knowledge to identification and  
: typing of dried bloodstains and other body fluids, the  
: comparison of botanical materials such as wood and  
: paints.

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