



**School of Vocational Studies**  
**Netaji Subhas Open University**  
(Established by WB Act (XIX) of 1997, Recognized by UGC)

**REPORT**

**A brief report on the seminar “Organic Agriculture in Present Days”**  
(under the Sundarban Bigyan, Prouyukti-o- Deshoprem Utsab-2026)

**Venue:** Joygopalpur Gramviksh Kendra study Centre, Basanti, South 24Parganas

**Date:** 24<sup>th</sup> February 2026

**Collaborative Partner:** School of Vocational Studies, NSOU,  
No. of participants – 150 local farmers (approx.)

Smt. Dola Sen, Hon’ble Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha and Sri Purnendu Basu, Former Minister of Agriculture and Chairperson, WBSCTVESD, GoWB., Shri Biswajit Mahakur, Secretary, JGVK, Dr. Anirban Ghosh, Director, SVS, NSOU and other govt. officials graced the occasion.

The seminar on “**Organic Agriculture in Present Days**” was organized under the sustainable agriculture initiatives of Joygopalpur Gram Vikash Kendra (JGVK), Basanti, South 24 Parganas, which functions as a study and training centre of Netaji Subhas Open University. The seminar was closely aligned with the University’s diploma/certificate programme in Sustainable Agriculture and Horticulture, which integrates theoretical knowledge with practical field-based training. The course structure includes both organic agriculture and horticulture (theory and practical) to develop sustainable, self-reliant farming systems



The seminar objectives were designed to:

- understand the concept and necessity of organic farming
- examine the adverse effects of chemical-based agriculture on soil, health, and environment
- promote sustainable horticultural practices (vegetable, fruit, and multi-cropping systems)
- provide hands-on knowledge of organic inputs (compost, bio-fertilizers, bio-pesticides)
- develop community-based sustainable livelihood models

These objectives reflect the course emphasis on eco-friendly agriculture, biodiversity conservation, and self-sufficient farming systems. The NSOU programme emphasizes learning by doing, combining classroom instruction with field exposure at centres like JGVK

## Key Discussions in the Seminar

The seminar highlighted several important issues:

### a. Need for Organic Agriculture

- Increasing use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides is harming soil fertility and human health.
- Organic farming is essential for long-term sustainability and food safety

### b. Sustainable Livelihoods

- Organic agriculture reduces input costs and increases farmers' income
- Encourages self-reliance among marginal farmers

### c. Climate Change and Agriculture

- The Sundarbans region is highly vulnerable to cyclones, salinity, and climate change
- Organic and adaptive farming practices help in building resilience

### d. Role of Institutions

- NGOs like JGVK play a vital role in capacity building, training, and awareness generation
- Collaboration with government and research institutions is essential.

The seminar on “*Organic Agriculture in Present Days*” successfully emphasized the importance of transitioning from conventional to sustainable farming systems. The initiatives of JGVK demonstrate that organic agriculture can ensure food security, environmental protection, and socio-economic development in vulnerable regions like the Sundarbans.

The programme concluded with a strong message that organic farming is not only a necessity but a pathway towards sustainable development and a healthier future.



--Report prepared by the Director (i/c), SVS, NSOU