



Assam Seeds Corporation Ltd.

Sponsored

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

on

**Agriculture in Assam: Culture, Sustainability,
and the Role of Educational Institution
in the Era of Climate Change**

(Hybrid Mode: Virtual and Physical)

Organised by

H. P. B. Girls' College (Autonomous) Golaghat

In collaboration with

Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat

Date: 25 and 26 September, 2026

Venue: H. P. B. Girls' College (Autonomous)
Golaghat

About the Seminar

Agriculturalism in Assam is not just an economic relation but a civilisational way of life. Over the centuries it has shaped the region in many aspects including the landscape, livelihoods, social life, culture, folklore, festivals and material culture. Agriculture in Assam is firmly grounded in indigenous knowledge and centuries of indigenous practice of the local ecology, the wisdom of which is relevant in the context of contemporary global challenges.

Assam's agriculture today is at a cross-roads. Climate change, floods, loss of soil, fragmentation of land, changing aspirations of rural people and market uncertainty threaten the sustainability of agricultural development. Besides the challenges, there are also opportunities, such as new technologies, climate-smart techniques and public policies for resilient and sustainable food systems. This would mean changing how we think about food systems, viewing agriculture not just as an economic sector, but also a socio-ecological system based on resilience, culture and science

As agriculture is the mainstay of Assam's economy, food security, farmers' income, rural livelihood and rural development, the Government of Assam and the Government of India are promoting sustainable agriculture, organic farming, climate resilient agriculture, agricultural technology, farmer's welfare, women's entrepreneurship and rural development, with required cooperation from policymakers, farmers, researchers, teachers, students and villagers. The role of educational institutions, through interdisciplinary research and dissemination, and engagement with farming communities, is essential, not only in closing the divide between science and indigenous knowledge, but also in promoting public debate about farming systems, and preparing the next generation of farmers and scientists to face the challenges ahead.

In this background, H. P. B. Girls' College (Autonomous), Golaghat and the Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat is organising a seminar to provide an interdisciplinary platform for discussing various aspects of agriculture of Assam. Academics, agricultural researchers, policymakers, educationalists, research scholars, students, and practitioners are invited to investigate and understand the relationships between agriculture, culture, environment, education, gender, technology, governance, and community development.

We invite original papers that reimagine a sustainable, resilient, inclusive, and culturally sensitive future of the agricultural landscape of Assam. Papers addressing any of the following thematic tracks are welcome, although the list is not exhaustive. Contributions on related themes that align with the broad objectives of the seminar are equally encouraged.

Track 1

1. Agriculture in Assam: A Socio-Cultural Perspective

- Farming as lifestyles.
- Agricultural festivals.
- Folklores and rituals related to agriculture.
- Cultural significance of land and crops.
- Agriculture, identity, and community formation.
- Literary and cultural representations of agriculture.
- Media, communication, and public perceptions of agriculture.

Track 2

2. Traditional Agricultural Knowledge of Assam

- Indigenous and endemic seeds, and crop diversity.
- Community-based farming traditions.
- Traditional knowledge in present-day sustainable agriculture.
- Traditional Food Cultures, Ethnic Crops, and Nutritional Heritage of Assam.
- Intergenerational transmission of indigenous agricultural knowledge.
- Traditional medicinal plants and ethnobotanical knowledge.

Track 3

3. Agriculture, Environment, and Climate Change in Assam

- a. Floods and their impact on agriculture.
- b. Soil erosion, riverbank cultivation, and land degradation.
- c. Environmental challenges affecting agricultural sustainability.
- d. Eco-friendly alternatives and community-based environmental responses.
- e. Climate change and its implications for agriculture in rural Assam.
- f. Region-specific farming and agricultural practices across the agro-ecological zones of Assam.

Track 4

4. Women and Agriculture in Assam

- a. Role of women in traditional and contemporary farming systems.
- b. Women's access to land, credit, markets, and agricultural inputs.
- c. Nutrition, food security, and women's role in household farming.
- d. Gender-friendly farm tools and drudgery-reducing technologies.
- e. Participation in Self-Help Groups and collective agricultural initiatives.

Track 5

5. Organic Farming, Geographical Indications, and Sustainable Development in Assam

- a. Organic farming, soil health and environmental sustainability.
- b. Organic certification, marketing, and value addition.
- c. Geographical Indication (GI) products and region-specific agricultural practices in Assam.
- d. Local success stories and best practices in sustainable agriculture.
- e. Organic farming and sustainable development.
- f. Cultivation of medicinal and aromatic plants.

Track 6

6. Education, Research, and Innovation for Agricultural Transformation

- a. Agricultural education, curriculum development, and experiential learning.
- b. Role of higher educational institutions in rural and agricultural development.
- c. Research and innovation in sustainable agriculture.
- d. Extension education and dissemination of agricultural knowledge.
- e. Agri-startups, incubation centres, and entrepreneurship development.
- f. Industry-academia-community partnerships for agricultural sustainability.

Track 7

7. Agricultural Transformation: Innovation, Sustainability, and Climate Resilience

- a. Digital Agriculture, Smart Technologies, and Precision Farming.
- b. Water Resources, Irrigation, Aquaculture, and Fisheries.
- c. Agroforestry, Biodiversity, and Ecosystem Services.
- d. Tea, Horticulture, and Plantation Systems.
- e. Food Systems, Food Sovereignty, and Nutritional Security.
- f. Disaster Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation, and Agricultural Resilience.
- g. Livestock, Poultry, Sericulture, and Apiculture.
- h. Protected Cultivation and Advanced Farming Systems. (Greenhouse, Polyhouse, Shade-Net, Hydroponics, Aeroponics, Aquaponics, Vertical Farming, etc.)

Track 8

8. Agriculture, Livelihoods, and Rural Economic Development in Assam

- a. Agricultural Livelihoods and Rural Employment.
- b. Challenges and Opportunities for Small and Marginal Farmers.
- c. Rural Economic Sustainability and Inclusive Development.
- d. Agricultural Governance, Public Policy, and Institutional Support.
- e. Agri-business, Entrepreneurship, Value Addition, and Rural Enterprises.
- f. Agricultural Marketing, Supply Chains, Digital Platforms, and E-commerce.
- g. Cooperatives, Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs), and Collective Action.
- h. Financial Inclusion, Agricultural Credit, and Rural Development Initiatives.

9. Agricultural Policy, Governance, Labour, and Rural Transformation in Assam

- Policy, Governance, and Institutional Frameworks for Agriculture in Assam.
- Youth Engagement and the Future of Agriculture in Assam.
- Migration, Agricultural Labour, and Rural Change.
- Farmers' Movements, Collective Action, and Political Mobilisation.
- Agricultural Institutions, Cooperatives, and Farmer Organisations.
- Rural Development, Social Inclusion, and Agrarian Transformation.

Abstract Submission

Authors are requested to submit their abstracts only by e-mail to agricultureseminar2026@gmail.com. The abstract file should be named after the title of the paper (e.g., Reimagining Agriculture in Contemporary Society.docx), and the same title should be used as the subject of the e-mail.

Registration Fee

(The registration fee covers access to all plenary and technical sessions, a seminar kit, a certificate of presentation/participation, and working lunch and refreshments throughout the seminar.)

Category	With Paper Presentation	Without Paper Presentation
International Delegates	USD 50	USD 50
Faculty Members	1,800 INR	600 INR
Research Scholars	1,000 INR	500 INR
Students	600 INR	400 INR

Important Dates

- Abstract Submission Deadline : 16 August, 2026
- Notification of Abstract Acceptance : 18 August, 2026
- Full Paper Submission Deadline : 30 August, 2026
- Registration Deadline : 31 August, 2026
- Seminar Dates : 25-26 September, 2026

Guidelines

- Papers must be original, not published elsewhere, nor under consideration.
- Manuscripts must be at least 3,500 words excluding references.
- The papers must be consistent with either the MLA Handbook (9th Edition) or the APA Publication Manual (7th Edition) and include in-text citations and references.
- Manuscripts must be submitted in Microsoft Word, using Times New Roman, 12 points, 1.5 spacing, and exactly justified type.
- Authors must submit their full paper in both MS Word (doc/ docx) and PDF formats.
- Authors take responsibility for the originality of their own ideas and the source of any material quoted in each submission. Papers that are suspected of plagiarism or academic misconduct will be rejected.

Publication Opportunity

All submitted full papers will be peer-reviewed through a double-blind process, and selected papers will be published as an edited volume with ISBN according to the recommendations of the reviewers and the editorial policy and publication ethics. Papers are not guaranteed publication, but only papers that have been peer-reviewed and deemed to be in conformance with the appropriate academic and ethical standards will be considered for publication.

Papers that are submitted on time and pass the peer-review process will be included in the ISBN volume. The volume is to be published on the last day of the seminar, assuming that all editorial and technical works required for the publication of the volume can be completed in a timely manner.

Registration Link



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How to Reach the College

H. P. B. Girls' College (Autonomous) is centrally located in Golaghat, Assam, and is easily accessible by road, rail, and air.

By Air: Jorhat Airport (Rowrah) is the nearest airport, located about 35 km from the College. Taxis and buses regularly connect the airport to Golaghat.

By Rail: Furkating Junction, the nearest major railway station, is about 6 km away. Golaghat Railway Station also offers convenient access. Taxis and auto-rickshaws are available at both stations.

By Road: Golaghat is connected by National Highway 715 (formerly NH 37) to major cities including Jorhat, Dibrugarh, Nagaon, Tezpur, and Guwahati. The College is within the town and accessible by taxi, auto-rickshaw, and local transport from the bus terminus.

Accommodation

Assistance in arranging accommodation may be provided upon prior request. Accommodation charges shall be borne by the participants.

Chief Patron:

Dr. Deepjyoti Rajkhowa, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, AAU, Jorhat

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Dr. Prasanna Kr. Pathak, Dean, Faculty of Agriculture, AAU, Jorhat

Dr. Mamoni Das, Dean, Faculty of Community Science, AAU, Jorhat

Chairperson:

Dr. Bulbuli Boruah, Principal, H. P. B. Girls' College (Autonomous), Golaghat

Coordinators:

Dr. Palash Handique, IQAC Coordinator, H. P. B. Girls' College (Autonomous), Golaghat

Dr. Nabaneeta Gogoi, Pr. Scientist & Unit Coordinator, AICRP-WIA, AAU, Jorhat

Joint Coordinators:

Dr. Moloya Gogoi, Senior Scientist, AICRP-WIA, AAU, Jorhat

Ms. Moyuri Gogoi, Assistant Professor, H. P. B. Girls' College (Autonomous), Golaghat

Organising Secretary:

Mr. Mongolsing Rongphar, Assistant Professor H. P. B. Girls' College (Autonomous), Golaghat

Executive Members:

Mr. Prasanta Bora, Vice Principal, H. P. B. Girls' College (Autonomous), Golaghat

Dr. Mayuri Bora, Senior Scientist, AICRP-WIA, AAU, Jorhat

Dr. Tulika Borah, Senior Scientist, AICRP-WIA, AAU, Jorhat

Dr. Ranjit Kumar Saud, Associate Director of Extension Education, Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat

Dr. Dibya Jyoti Bora, Associate Professor, Dept. of English, H. P. B. Girls' College (Autonomous), Golaghat

Mr. Monjit Gohain, Asst. Professor, Dept. of Pol. Science, H. P. B. Girls' College (Autonomous), Golaghat

Dr. Sunil Handique, Asst. Professor, Dept. of Assamese, H. P. B. Girls' College (Autonomous), Golaghat

Dr. Santulan Mahanta, Asst. Professor & Head, Dept. of English, H. P. B. Girls' College (Autonomous), Golaghat

Dr. Ananya Kashyap, Asst. Professor, Dept. of Com. Science H. P. B. Girls' College (Autonomous), Golaghat

Dr. Pompy Dutta, Asst. Professor, Dept. of Agril. Economics, FA, AAU, Jorhat

Ms. Akashi Borau, Asst. Professor, Dept. of Pol. Science, H. P. B. Girls' College (Autonomous), Golaghat

Dr. Harit S. Khandayatray, Asst. Professor, Dept. of English, H. P. B. Girls' College (Autonomous), Golaghat

Ms. Losonita Hazarika, Asst. Professor, Dept. of English, H. P. B. Girls' College (Autonomous), Golaghat

Key Note Speaker:

Dr. Anup Kr. Das, Director of Post Graduate Studies, AAU, Jorhat

Inaugurator:

Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, AAU, Jorhat

Invited Speakers:

Dr. Bijoy Krishna Handique, Head, Agriculture & Soil Division (ASD),
Northeastern Space Application Centre, Govt. of India

Dr. Pranjal Buragohain, Associate Professor, Dibrugarh University

Dr. Kalyan Pathak, Professor & Head, Dept. of Agronomy, FA, AAU, Jorhat

Dr. Mayuri Bora, Senior Scientist, AICRP-WIA, AAU, Jorhat

Dr. Hemanga Kalita, Professor & Head, Department of Extension Education, AAU, Jorhat

Dr. Chinmoy Kr. Sarma, Chief Scientist, Water Management, AAU, Jorhat

Dr. Nibedita Deka, Professor and Head, Dept. of Agril. Economics, FA, AAU, Jorhat

International Speakers



Professor Miguel Altieri

Professor Emeritus at University of California, Berkeley
Department of Environmental Science, Policy and Management



Dr. Haruhisa Asada

Faculty Division of Humanities and Social Sciences
Research Group of History, Sociology and Geography
Nara Women's University, Japan



Hemo Prova Borbora Girls' (Autonomous) College, Golaghat

Hemo Prova Borbora Girls' (Autonomous) College, Golaghat, a premier women's college of Assam, was established in 1969. It is the only women's college in Golaghat district to impart higher education to girls, particularly those belonging to economically backward, rural, semi-urban and remote areas. The College owes its establishment to the generous donation of the late Alock Chandra Borbora, in memory of his mother, the late Hemo Prova Borbora, after whom the College is named. The College is affiliated with Dibrugarh University and is recognised under Sections 2(f) and 12(B) of the University Grants Commission (UGC). The College attained Autonomous Status on 4 June 2025 providing more opportunities for academic and curricular flexibility. As per the National Education Policy 2020, the College is offering Four Year Undergraduate Programme (FYUGP), Integrated Teacher Education Programme (B A -B Ed) and Postgraduate Programmes from the 2025-26 academic session. After completing the Golden Jubilee year in 2022, H. P. B. Girls' College continues to strive for excellence and offers quality education with the vision to promote ethics and critical thinking and women's empowerment.





The Assam Agricultural University (AAU)

The Assam Agricultural University (AAU) was established on 1 April 1969 under the Assam Agricultural University Act, 1968, making it the first agricultural university in North East India and the only agricultural university in Assam. Its origins lie in the establishment of the Assam Agricultural College at Jorhat and the Assam Veterinary College at Nagaon in 1948, while the region's agricultural education tradition dates back to the rice research stations at Karimganj (1913) and Titabor (1923). The University, as envisaged by Bharat Ratna Late Gopinath Bordoloi, the first Chief Minister of Assam. Gopinath Bordoloi and other founding fathers, integrates education, research, extension and innovation. The university has faculties in the fields of Agriculture, Veterinary, Community Science, Fishery, Horticulture and Sericulture with 9 constituent colleges - three in agriculture, two in veterinary science and one each in community science, fishery, horticulture and sericulture. Except horticulture and sericulture, all the other seven constituent colleges have their own state of the art facilities for imparting education in designated locations in the state. The University nurtures skilled human resource, conducts quality research, popularizes science and technology, and contributes towards increasing agricultural production and productivity, rural development, food security and environmental sustainability in Assam and the Northeastern region.



For further information or assistance regarding the seminar, please contact:

+918638335711 / +918133098522 / +917002362565

Email: agricultureseminar2026@gmail.com