



FARMERS' TRAINING PROGRAMME ON MECHANIZATION FOR GROUNDNUT AND RICE CROP (17-18 MARCH 2026)

ORGANIZED BY

**Department of Agricultural Engineering,
Palli Siksha Bhavana (Institute of Agriculture)
Visva-Bharati A Central University),
Sriniketan, West Bengal, India**



VENUE

**Workshop Building,
Department of Agricultural Engineering,
Visva- Bharati, Sriniketan**

SPONSORED BY

**Indian Council of Agricultural Research-
Indian Institute of Agricultural Biotechnology (ICAR-IIAB),
Ranchi**

About the Training Programme

The Farmers' Training Programme on "Mechanization for Groundnut and Rice Crop" was conducted on 17–18 March 2026 at Sriniketan under Visva-Bharati. The programme was organized by the Department of Agricultural Engineering, Palli Siksha Bhavana (Institute of Agriculture), and sponsored by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research – Indian Institute of Agricultural Biotechnology under the Scheduled Caste Sub-Plan (SCSP) initiative.

The primary aim of the programme was to enhance farmers' knowledge and practical skills in agricultural mechanization. The training focused on rice and groundnut cultivation, with special emphasis on the use of modern machinery and improved techniques to increase efficiency and productivity.

The programme featured expert lectures and interactions delivered by faculty members of Agricultural Engineering from reputed institutions such as Bidhan Chandra Krishi Vishwavidyalaya (BCKV), Seacom Skills University, and Uttar Banga Krishi Vishwavidyalaya (UBKV). Their contributions provided valuable insights into practical applications of farm mechanization.

The training programme witnessed the participation of around 100 farmers, who actively engaged in the sessions and benefited from both theoretical knowledge and hands-on exposure to agricultural machinery.

Key Features of the Awareness Programme

The programme was comprehensive and included multiple interactive and hands-on components:

Scope and Objectives

- The Farmer's trainings and farmer-scientist interaction programs on machineries for paddy and groundnut
- Hands-on session on handling of various Tractor and other machineries
- Farmer-scientist interaction programs on Custom Hiring of Machinery.

Organizing Team

Patron & Director

Professor Binoy Kumar Saren, Principal,
Palli Siksha Bhavana, Visva-Bharati, Sriniketan

Coordinator

Dr. Kishore Chandra Swain, Head and Associate Professor, Department of Agricultural Engineering, Palli Siksha Bhavana, Visva-Bharati.

Co-coordinator(s)

1. Dr. Shrilekha Das, Associate Professor, Department of Agricultural Engineering
2. Dr. Lamneithem Hangshing, Assistant Professor, Department of Agricultural Engineering
3. Prof. Kalipada Pramanik, Professor, Department of Agronomy,
4. Dr. Manojit Chowdhury, Assistant Professor, Department of Agricultural Engineering.

Target Beneficiaries

- More than 1200 Scheduled Caste farmers have benefited from the SCSP initiative since its inception.
- This training programme catered primarily to farmers from economically and socially disadvantaged communities in Ilambazar area.

Programme Implementation

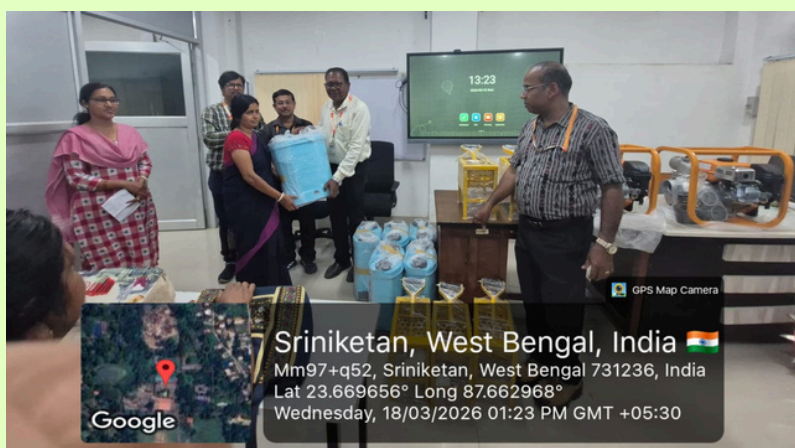
Day 1 (17th March 2026)

- Inaugural session highlighting the importance of mechanization in modern agriculture
- Experts discussed benefits such as reduced labour dependency, increased efficiency, and higher productivity
- Lectures on agricultural mechanization and modern farm machinery
- Hands-on training session on operation and maintenance of tractors and implements for rice and Groundnut
- Distribution of handheld weeders to all participating farmers



Day 2 (18th March 2026):

- Technical sessions on machinery for rice cultivation (land preparation, sowing, transplanting, harvesting)
- Lectures on groundnut mechanization including sowing, intercultural operations, harvesting, and post-harvest processing emphasis on reducing losses and improving crop quality
- Farmer–Scientist Interaction: Interactive discussions on machinery cost, accessibility, and maintenance
- Awareness about Custom Hiring Centres for affordable access to farm machinery
- Distribution of 15 Equipments (knapsack sprayers, water pumps, groundnut decorticators and seed drills etc.)



Conclusion

The Farmers' Training Programme concluded with a valedictory session on 18th March 2026, during which participants shared positive feedback on the overall conduct and usefulness of the training. The farmers particularly appreciated the practical orientation of the programme and expressed their willingness to adopt the demonstrated mechanization technologies in their farming practices.

The programme proved to be a significant initiative towards promoting mechanized agriculture and enhancing farmers' livelihoods. By effectively integrating expert knowledge, hands-on training, and interactive sessions, it successfully bridged the gap between scientific advancements and field-level applications. Such capacity-building programmes play a vital role in fostering sustainable, efficient, and technology-driven agricultural development.

