

# **Integral Institute of Agricultural Science & Technology (IIAST)**

## **Integral University, Lucknow**

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### **Brief report on Kisan Pathshala on Empowering Agriculture with Organic Farming and Sustainable Practices (जैविक खेती और सतत प्रथाओं के साथ कृषि को सशक्त बनाना) organised by Department of Agriculture, Integral Institute of Agricultural Science and Technology (IIAST) on 02<sup>nd</sup> August 2019 in Khwaja ka Purva Village**

The Kisan Pathshala on Empowering Agriculture with Organic Farming and Sustainable Practices, organized by the Department of Agriculture, IIAST, on August 02, 2019, in Khwaja ka Purva Village, served as a pivotal platform for fostering awareness and education among farmers. Organic farming is an agricultural process that uses biological fertilisers and pest control acquired from animal or plant waste. It was initiated as a response to the environmental sufferings caused by the use of chemical pesticides and synthetic fertilisers. Thus, the event aimed to propagate the adoption of organic farming techniques and sustainable practices within the agricultural community.

The session commenced with an insightful discussion on the significance of organic farming in enhancing soil fertility, preserving biodiversity, and mitigating the adverse effects of chemical inputs on human health and the environment. Mr. Nadeem Khan elucidated various organic farming methods such as composting, crop rotation, and biological pest control, emphasizing their effectiveness in ensuring long-term agricultural sustainability. Practical demonstrations were a highlight of the event, where farmers were provided hands-on training in organic farming techniques. They were guided through the process of preparing organic fertilizers and pesticides using locally available resources, thereby promoting self-reliance and reducing dependency on external inputs. Dr. Mustafa Hussain educated the farmers about the growing demand of the of the organically produced food and also provided the information regarding various types of beneficial schemes offered by the government for adopting the organic farming practices and also educated the farmers how they can avail these schemes. Farmers were encouraged to adopt practices that reduce their dependence on chemical inputs while enhancing the resilience of their crops to diseases and climate variability.

In conclusion, the Kisan Pathshala in Khwaja ka Purva village proved to be an enlightening and empowering event for the local farming community. It not only equipped farmers with valuable knowledge and skills but also emphasized the integral link between agriculture and human health. Through such initiatives, the Department of Agriculture aims to continue supporting farmers in their journey towards sustainable and prosperous agricultural practices.

The pathshala was observed under the guidance of Prof. Mohd Haris Siddiqui, Dean, Faculty of Agricultural Science and Technology and Prof. Saba Siddiqui, Head, Department of Agriculture, IIAST. The faculty coordinators Mr Nadeem Khan, Dr Mustafa Hussain and Dr Sunil Kumar along with the supporting staff Mr. Dheer Pratap Singh and Mr Mohd Mued accompanied the students of B.Sc. (Hons.) Agriculture to the Khwaja ka Purva village where the Pathshala was organised.

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**Glimpses of the event**

