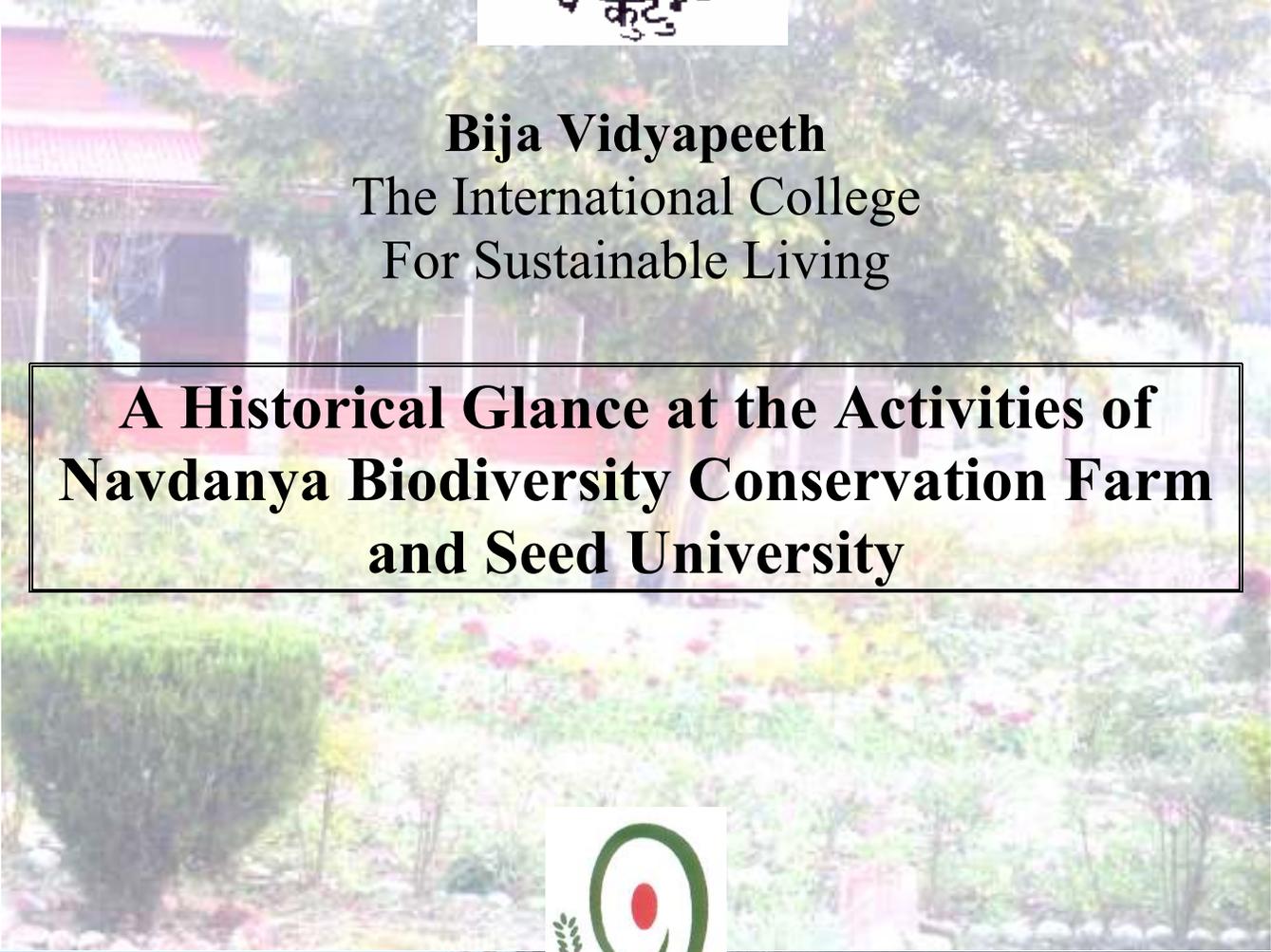




**Bija Vidyapeeth**  
The International College  
For Sustainable Living

**A Historical Glance at the Activities of  
Navdanya Biodiversity Conservation Farm  
and Seed University**



**NAVDAANYA**

**2001-2009**



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## **1. The Idea behind the Project**

When Dr. Vandana Shiva started the Biodiversity Conservation Farm in the outskirts of Dehradun, her initial idea was twofold. On the one hand, she wanted to prevent the disappearance of seed diversity in India caused by the Green Revolution and the farmers' obsession and monomania with high-yielding seed varieties (HYV), thereby forgetting and forsaking their ancestral legacy of agro-biodiversity. On the other hand, her ambition was to demonstrate to Indian agriculturists tangible proof of the superiority of organic and bio-diverse agriculture compared to chemical farming, in terms of yielding, preservation of the soil quality and underground water purity along with the nutritional value of food. Hence, the Seed Bank was the first building constructed on the farm.

Since its creation, Navdanya's mission has been "To protect nature and people's rights to knowledge, biodiversity, water and food." Therefore, its main objective is "to promote peace and harmony, justice and sustainability." Quoting its charismatic leader, Vandana Shiva:

*"We strive to achieve these goals through the conservation, renewal and rejuvenation of the gifts of biodiversity we have received from nature and our ancestors, and to defend these gifts as commons. The setting up of community seed banks is central to our mission of regenerating nature's and people's wealth. Keeping seeds, biodiversity and traditional knowledge in people's hands to generate livelihoods and provide basic needs is our core program for removal of poverty."*

Here is an excerpt from an interview of Dr. Vandana Shiva where she explains her ideas about Bija Vidyapeeth.

### **Why a conservation farm?**

I thought it would be inspiring for farmers to come to a farm and see 550 varieties of rice and 800 species of plants growing in the same field.

### **I hear that this lush land was barren when you set up your farm?**

Yes, it was a toxic desert created by eucalyptus monoculture. We literally nursed it back to health! It was an occasion to practice whatever we had learnt about organic farming and holistic land practices. The results have been fantastic. Every year there's a 10 per cent increase in the yield, in bio-diversity and friendly pests. We also need to irrigate less as the soil's capacity to hold water is increasing. And each time I come back, I see more ladybirds and butterflies.

### **How did Bija Vidyapeeth happen?**

Satish Kumar had been asking me to set up something on the lines of the Schumacher College in India. I was hesitant at first because I prefer building movements to building buildings! But he convinced me that it was time for an institution like this.

### Why 'bija'?

Satish and I came up with *bija* (seed) mainly because the university was going to be at the Navdanya farm, which is also a seed bank, and also because a seed is an inspiration of renewal, and is an example of the small embodying the whole. Bija Vidyapeeth has really become a *bija*. Instead of the buildings, I now see a progression of dialogue and mutual growth.

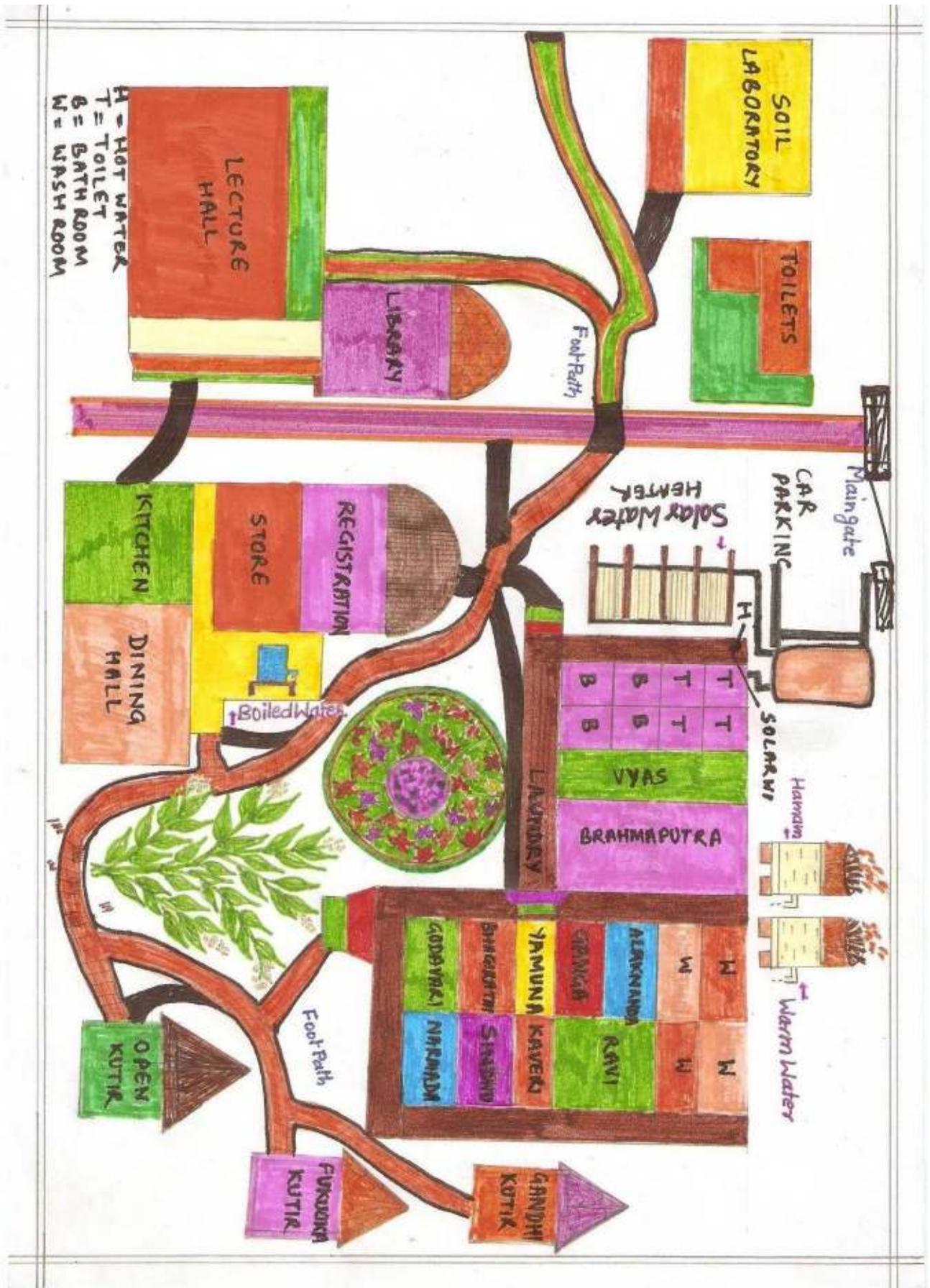
### What are your plans for Bija Vidyapeeth?

We will continue to hold courses with Schumacher College. The best of people have already agreed to come to teach, like physicist Fritjof Capra, Body Shop founder Anita Roddick, and Satish will be returning every year to teach a course in nonviolence. We hold organic farming courses for farmers and might also run *panchayat* (grassroots/ village-level administration in India) camps on sustainable development.

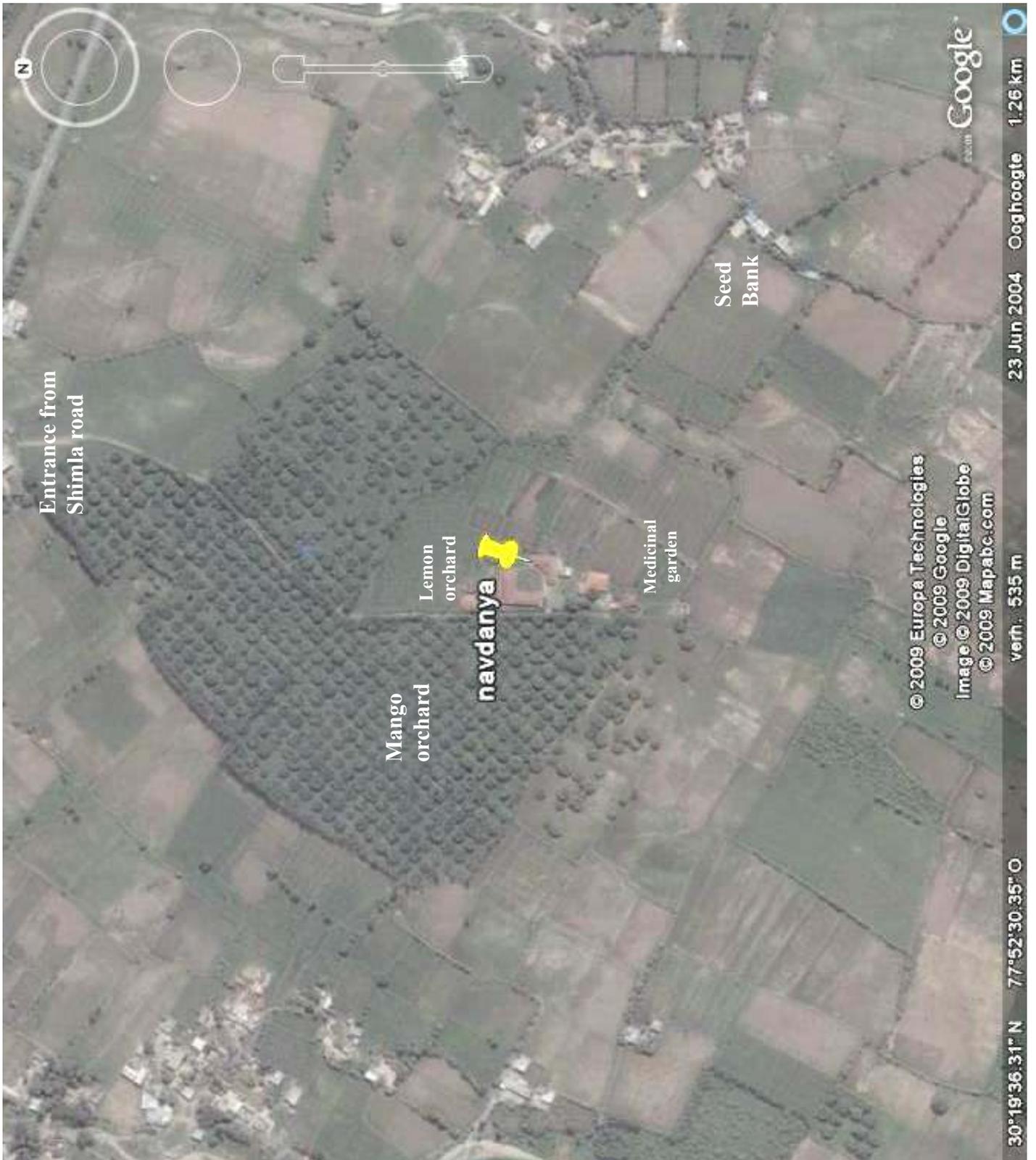




Drawing of the farm by Mr. Anand Kumar



Satellite picture of the farm



### **3. Construction of Dehradun seed bank**

The Navdanya farm in the village of Ramgarh (528 meters of altitude) is located 23 km from clock tower in Dehradun city, and was acquired in 1996. Initially 20 acres were bought, but the farm has expanded since then. Before Navdanya started organic cultivation, eucalyptus and sugar cane had been grown on the land, therefore the soil had become dry and unfertile. Navdanya's first construction was the Seed Bank, built in the first year. Its purpose was to receive and store the different seed varieties that were collected from farmers in order to prevent their disappearance from the Indian landscape. These seeds would be used for cultivation so that the stock could be renewed every year. The idea of Dr. Vandana Shiva was not just to "museumize" the seeds so that future generation will be able to look at it as a vestige from the past; her intention was to re-introduce them in the production cycle and actually in the life cycle. So every year, the seeds would be distributed for free to farmers willing to cultivate their land organically and in a bio-diverse manner, and the next year, after harvest, the same farmers would be given the choice either to return the seeds to Navdanya with a little extra or to give them for free to two other farmers who would have to abide by the same rule. In this way, Navdanya could promote and spread the practice of organic and bio-diverse farming and insure the prosperity of its seed bank and therefore its continuity.



**Dehradun Seed Bank  
created in 1996**

Upon Navdanya's taking over of the farm, the neighbours declared that the land was unfit for good agriculture. It is said that seeds require some time of cultivation cycle in order to be completely acclimatized to the soil and weather conditions of any particular area. During the first 2 years, neither the quality nor quantity of production was satisfactory. The wheat suffered from rust (fungus). But in the last 7-8 years there have been no more major problems from pests or diseases. The structure of the farm has changed a lot since then. It has both expanded in size and the area has undergone ecological shifts. As it is located close to the Shivalik hills (528 meters of altitude), which are characterised by high velocity water flow during monsoon, the structure of the terrain has been adapted to slow down and spread the flow of water so as to minimize soil erosion. The current size of the farm is 20 acres of orchard and 20 acres of fields along with 5 acres next to forest.

## 4. Creation of Bija Vidyapeeth Campus

Navdanya's mission is conservation of biodiversity and promotion of bio-diverse organic farming. Its experimental farm and Biodiversity conservation center provides the learning and educational terrain for teaching associate farmers and important and up to date information on organic farming methods. From the need to disseminate natural organic seeds as well as knowledge about natural resources to farmers, the need for a Seed University (Bija Vidyapeeth) emerged. In addition, the farmers' supply of organic products needed to secure a demand in order to be able to sustain itself. Therefore, consumers needed to be educated, informed of the benefits of organic food and prioritize quality over quantity, simple and healthy food over industrial and fast-food. In addition to Dr. Vandana Shiva and the many other pioneers of the Navdanya farm, there were many other noteworthy promoters and catalyzers, including sage and philosopher Satish Kumar. Satish's ambition was to propagate Gandhian philosophy through direct experimentation of what would be a Gandhian lifestyle, that is to say, a combination of intellectual and philosophical reflection with *dharmic* physical action in a harmonious blend of cheerfulness, love and simplicity.

Thus, the construction of the campus started in 2001. The first buildings constructed were the dormitories, the dining hall-kitchen complex, the storehouse-registration office complex, laboratory and the rain-water well. Then came the lecture hall and library. Later on a few more accommodations were built. It is interesting to note that in 2005 a different type of construction was built next to a traditional straw hut built by local people with mostly local material (such as sand, cow dung, straw and very little cement). The new construction cost up to five times the price of the straw hut. Yet, the straw house is more effective in terms of temperature regulation than the new concrete one. This embodies the need to look at the traditional for sustainable guidelines.

On the farm, a constant and conscientious effort is put towards avoiding the wasting of natural resources. The rain water is collected in an eighteen-foot deep water harvesting tank and is used for garden irrigation. The water used for domestic purposes, praised for its quality, is pumped from underground at a depth of 120 feet near the dining hall. Also, most of the food consumed in Bija Vidyapeeth is grown on the farm and strictly vegetarian following Gandhiji's ideal of non-violence.

### Special Features on Navdanya Educational Farm

- Use of solar energy for supply of warm water and electricity
- Water harvesting for irrigation purpose
- Bio-gas production for cooking purpose
- Use of bullock-power for farming instead of machine-power
- Compost production for soil fertilization
- Consumption of mostly farm or local products
- Practice of mix-cropping in order to enhance yields thanks to plants synergies and to value the agro-biodiversity

**Solar panels**



**Biogas Unit**



The following pictures give a general idea of the different buildings on the farm.

**Bija Vidyapeeth  
Campus created in 2001**



**A rain-water harvesting tank is located underneath the pavilion**



**Vermicompost Shed**



**Registration Office and  
Dining hall**



**Lecture Hall**



**Library**



**Laboratory where Dr. M.P. Singh does soil testing**



**Inside the Lab**



**Jeetpal's residence and medicinal herbs processing area**

## 5. Courses held on the Farm

The purpose of the Bija Vidyapeeth since its inception has been to spread the knowledge about a holistic way of life respectful of both the environment and the people in their diversity and their singularity. The courses held at Bija Vidyapeeth have mainly been dealing with bio-diverse and organic farming, Earth democracy, Gandhian philosophy and Human Rights in the face of economic globalization dominated by big companies. All in all, the prominent goal of all these courses is to create awareness and help the participants to “be the change that [they] wish to see in the world” by becoming better local and global citizens.

Here is a table that shows all the courses that were held on Navdanya farm:

### International Workshops at Bija Vidyapeeth- Navdanya Farm- Dehradun:

SN	Details of the Courses	Period
1.	Natural farming and Bio-diversity Conservation	26-27 <sup>th</sup> Mar 1999
2.	Participatory Plant Breeding	21-22 <sup>nd</sup> Sept 1999
3.	Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Agriculture	09 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2000
4.	Butterflies, bees and other insects: Their role in Biodiversity Conservation and Food Security	04-06 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2000
5.	Seed Keepers and Organic farmer’s gathering	03-04 <sup>th</sup> Oct 2000
6.	Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Development “Farmers Rabi School”	06-07 <sup>th</sup> April 2001
7.	Sustainable Agriculture	04-07 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2001
8.	Learning from South “ <b>First Course at Bija Vidyapeeth</b> ”	02-23 <sup>rd</sup> Oct. 2001
9.	Gandhi and Globalization	09-28 <sup>th</sup> Dec 2001
10.	Holistic Science	11-30 <sup>th</sup> Jan 2002
11.	Bio-safety and Food Safety	19-20 <sup>th</sup> Jan 2002
12.	Water and Sustainable Settlements	11-22 <sup>nd</sup> Mar 2002
13.	Sustainable Agriculture	23-30 <sup>th</sup> Mar 2002
14.	Training Workshop on Sustainable Agriculture	14-15 <sup>th</sup> April 2002
15.	A Training workshop on “Towards Sustainable Future”	04-07 <sup>th</sup> May 2002
16.	Children’s Earth Summit	19-24 <sup>th</sup> May 2002
17.	Training programme on Food Processing “Mahila Anna Swaraj”	03-04 <sup>th</sup> Jun 2002
18.	Sustainable Food Systems	03-05 <sup>th</sup> Jul 2002
19.	Training on Organic Farming	21 <sup>st</sup> July 2002
20.	Earth Democracy	04-11 <sup>th</sup> Aug 2002
21.	Nature as Teacher	01-14 <sup>th</sup> Oct 2002
22.	Business, Ethics and Sustainability	10-14 <sup>th</sup> Nov 2002
23.	Gandhi and Globalization	01-14 <sup>th</sup> Dec 2002
24.	“Sustainable Agriculture”, for Tibetan officers of different settlements in India	05-25 <sup>th</sup> Jan 2003
25.	Biodiversity, Biotechnology, Bio-piracy	09-22 <sup>nd</sup> Feb 2003
26.	Living Waters	07-21 <sup>st</sup> Mar 2003
27.	Fair Wealth	07-13 <sup>th</sup> April 2003
28.	Biodiversity Conservation and Organic farming	09-12 <sup>th</sup> July 2003
29.	Educators’ Training	15-17 <sup>th</sup> Aug 2003
30.	Buddhist Economics	17-20 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2003

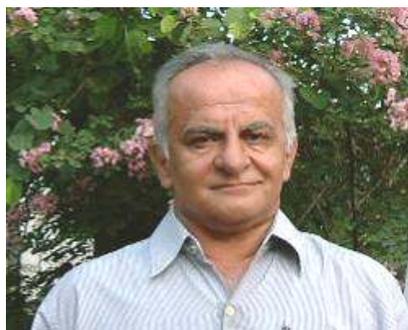
31.	Food First: Food, Famine & Freedom from Hunger	01-14 <sup>th</sup> Oct 2003
32.	Health Care as if the Earth and Human Being Mattered	07-13 <sup>th</sup> Nov 2003
33.	Chemical free Organic Farming	20-21 <sup>st</sup> Nov 2003
34.	Gandhi, Non Violence, and Cultures of Peace	01-14 <sup>th</sup> Dec 2003
35.	Trainers Training on Organic and Sustainable Agriculture	21 <sup>st</sup> Dec 2003
36.	Training on Organic and Sustainable Agriculture	25 <sup>th</sup> Dec 2003
37.	Training Programme on Organic / Sustainable Agriculture	19 <sup>th</sup> Jan 2004
38.	Recovery of the Commons	15-22 <sup>nd</sup> Mar 2004
39.	Earth Spirit and Activism	01-14 <sup>th</sup> Apr 2004
40.	Vasundhara “National gathering of Organic Communities”	01-02 <sup>nd</sup> Aug 2004
41.	Another World Under Construction	01-07 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2004
42.	Food and Culture	03-07 <sup>th</sup> Oct 2004
43.	Gandhi and Globalization	01-14 <sup>th</sup> Dec 2004
44.	Sustainable Agriculture / Organic Farming for group of Burmese and Thai Farmers and representatives of the NGOs	28-31 <sup>st</sup> Jan 2005
45.	Soil as A Living System	07-11 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2005
46.	3 <sup>rd</sup> International Conference on Women and Water	25-28 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2005
47.	Management and Conservation of Water (Building Water Democracy)	18-24 <sup>th</sup> Mar 2005
48.	Participatory Workshop/Course on “Agricultural Regeneration and Revival in Tsunami Affected Areas” in Nagapattinam	09-10 <sup>th</sup> July 2005
49.	Biodiversity, Biopiracy and Patents	03-10 <sup>th</sup> Aug 2005
50.	Organic Fair Trade Vs WTO Free Trade	03-10 <sup>th</sup> Oct 2005
51.	Gandhi & Globalization	24 <sup>th</sup> Nov-07 <sup>th</sup> Dec 05
52.	Building Water Democracy	03-07 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2006
53.	Healthcare as if Earth and Human Beings Matter	26-04 <sup>th</sup> Mar 2006
54.	Training on Organic Farming for Tibetan farmers	24 <sup>th</sup> Mar 2006
55.	Special Training programme on Chemical Free Organic Farming for Forest officers and farmers from Kinnaur (HP)	22-24 <sup>th</sup> Mar 2006
56.	International course on Sustainable Agriculture	03-10 <sup>th</sup> Apr 2006
57.	Trainers’ Training on Chemical Free Organic Agriculture and Biodiversity Conservation,	24-26 <sup>th</sup> May 2004
58.	Training programme for (APEDA) Auditors of the state govt. certification agencies of different states of India	06-14 <sup>th</sup> Aug 2006
59.	International course on Sustainable Agriculture	12-14 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2006
60.	International course on Gastronomic Sciences for the students Gastronomic University, Italy	18-29 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2006
61.	Special Training programme for students of Plymouth University USA	08-10 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2006
62.	International course on Women and Food Sovereignty (Mahila Anna Swaraj)	03-10 <sup>th</sup> Oct 2006
63.	Gandhi and Globalization	24 <sup>th</sup> Nov-07 <sup>th</sup> Dec 06
64.	Swaraj Vidyapeeth training course	05-15 <sup>th</sup> Jan 2007
65.	Limits of globalization	13-15 <sup>th</sup> Jan 2007
66.	Students of SOS VTC, Tibetan, Selaqui Dehradun	20th January 07
67.	Grandmother’s University Course for Future Generations “Mahila Ann Swaraj”: Grandmother’s Knowledge and Biodiversity – Food, Health and Nutrition,	03rd – 05th February 2007
68.	Biodiversity based Organic Farming (Sustainable Agriculture),	23-27 <sup>th</sup> March 2007

69.	Biodiversity Week	22-26th May 2007
70.	Students of Moradabad College	30th April - 6th May 2007
71.	Globalisation Course	17th - 25th June 2007
72.	Gastronomy	9 <sup>th</sup> to 18 <sup>th</sup> July-07
73.	SAGE Group	25th - 28th July-07
74.	Exposure tour for students of different school at USA	24th - 26th Aug 07
75.	Agro Ecology/ Organic Farming	17 <sup>th</sup> -21 <sup>st</sup> Sept 2007
76.	Lewis & Clark Group visit	23rd Sept to 28th Sept 2007
77.	Food Safety and Food Security	3rd - 7th October 2007
78.	Gandhi and Globalisation	24th Nov- 7th Dec 2007
79.	St Mary's School Visit	14 <sup>th</sup> to 16th Dec 2007
80.	Lady Sri Ram College Visit	21st - 24th Dec 2007
81.	Grandmother's University: Women's Traditional Knowledge in Food and Health	February 1 – 5 2008
82.	Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Agriculture	February 25 – 29 2008
83.	Women, Health and Environment	March 3 -7 2008
84.	Water and Climate Change: Glaciers, Rivers and Dams in the Himalayas	March 17 – 21 2008
85.	Earth Democracy	April 1 – 5 2008
86.	In Praise of Hands: Crafts as a Solution to Climate Change	May 1 – 5 2008
87.	Summer School on Globalization	June, 2008
88.	Course on Nanotechnology with ETC, Canada	September, 2008
89.	Fast Food Nation	October 3 -10 2008
90.	Gandhi and Globalisation	Nov. 24 – Dec. 7, 2008
91.	Biodiverse Organic Farming: The Solution to the Food and Climate Crisis	Feb 1-3 2009
92.	Gastronomy University course	Mar 17-18 2009
93.	Grand Mothers University Organised by Diverse Women for Diversity	March 27-29 2009
94.	Dr. Anita Anantharam Group from University of Florida	May 20-Jun 28 2009
95.	Ecological Agriculture	Sep 4-6 2009
96.	Annadana: The Gift of Good Food	Oct 3-7 2009
97.	Gandhi & Economic Self Reliance: Facing the Economic Crisis	Nov 24-Dec 7 2009

## 6. The Team



**Dr. Vandana Shiva**  
Navdanya's founder and leader



**Wg. Cdr. Kuldip Shiva**  
Honorary Director



**Dr. Vinod Kumar Bhatt**  
Additional Director



**Darwan Singh Negiji**  
National Program  
Coordinator since 1990



**Anand Kumar**  
Regional Coordinator



**M.P. Singh**  
Soil scientist



**Bija Devi**  
Seed Keeping Expert



**Bija Devi and Jeetpal**  
in the Seed Bank



**Jeetpal Singh**  
Medicinal Herb Expert



**Satya Narayan**  
**Organic Chef**



**Komal Kumari**  
**All-purpose Expert**



**Prem Chand Singh**  
**Organic Chef**



**Narender Singh**  
**Driver**



**Girish Vashista**  
**Office Staff, Coordinator and**  
**Marketing Manager**



**Rajesh Singh**  
**Plow master and**  
**Field worker**



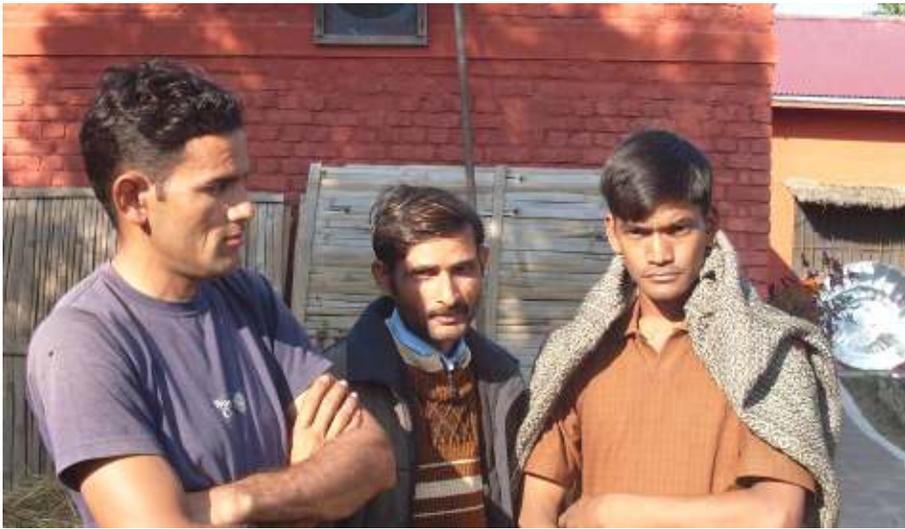
**Jay Singh Chowdri**  
**Campus Night Watchman and**  
**Field worker**



**Gaffar Khan**  
**Vermicompost Master**  
**and Field Worker**



**Puran Kumar**  
**Night Watchman**



**Jai singh, Anand and Sunil**



**Sunil Sajwan**  
**Plow master and Field Worker**



**Babalu Kumar**  
**Plow Master and Field Worker**



**Sheela Godial (Didi)**  
**Seed Keeper**



**Jay Kishur**  
**Cowherd and Field Worker**



**Baddle**  
**Lovely Watchdog**



**Lucie**  
**Lovely Watchdog**



**Bijli**  
**Lovely Watchdog**

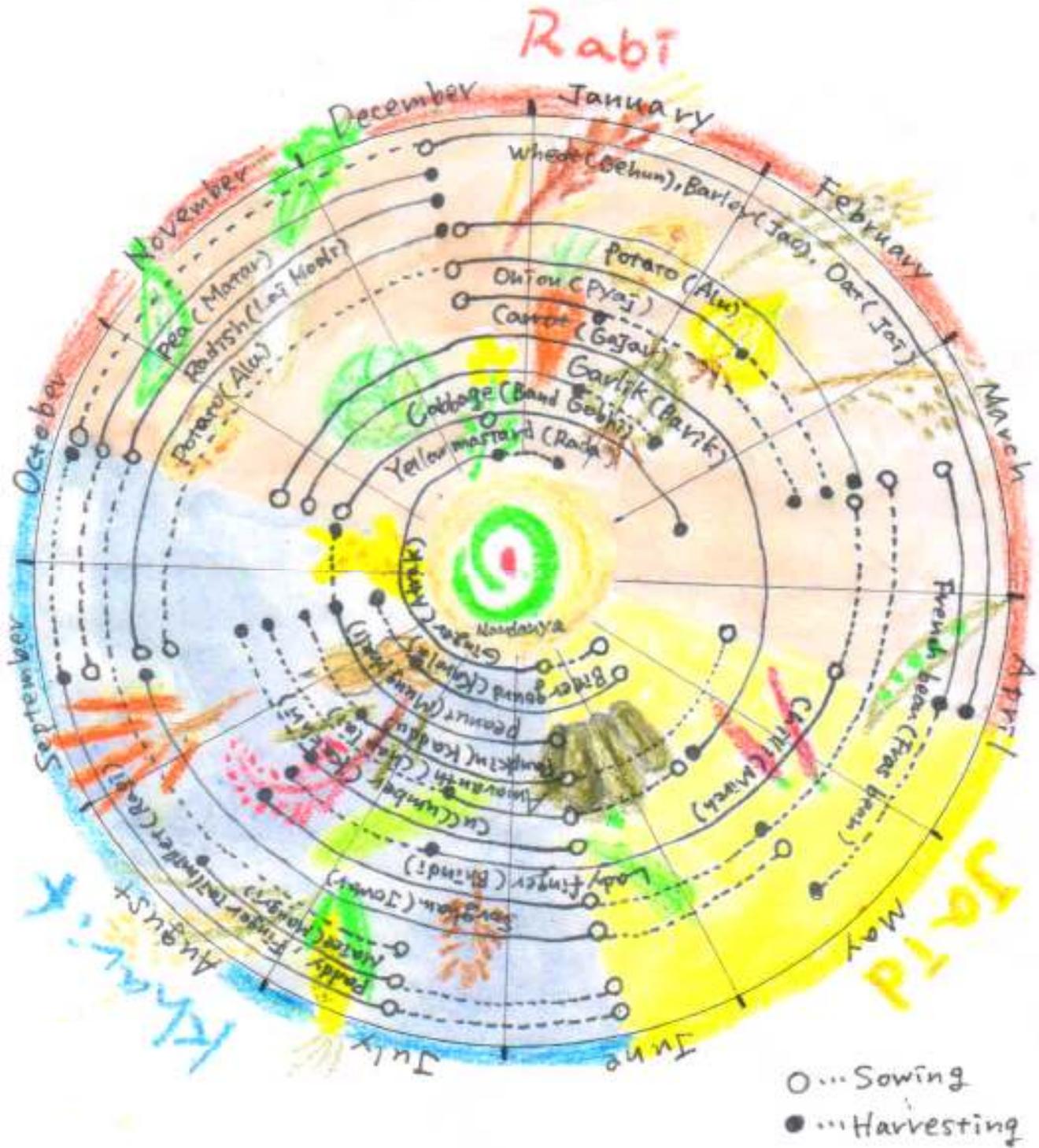
## 7. Life on the Farm

Life on the farm follows the rhythm of the two main seasons, the cold and dry season called Rabi (November- May) and the hot and rainy season called Kharif (June-October). Most of the staff on the farm is busy with either farm work, kitchen work or administrative work. Volunteers can get involved in any of these activities provided they manage to get to know what to do and how to do it. This is not such a difficult thing to achieve, but it requires overcoming one's shyness and to face the language barrier (if one does not speak Hindi). Added to the courses that are regularly held on the farm, there are many opportunities to learn, either by getting to know the staff more intimately or by reading books in the library. However, when there are no courses at the Seed University, it is rather difficult to find any proper professor to teach about organic farming and sustainability. That is why the first true lesson on the farm is self-reliance. If one wants to get the knowledge, one has to go and search for it without hesitating, and even to be a little bit insistent if needed.

Thus, life on the farm is not only made of what the staff members do, but also of the different projects going on simultaneously, undertaken by a diversity of volunteers with a diversity of interests. Hence, one of the greatest ways to learn in Bija Vidyapeeth is probably to take on a project and bring it to completion, without forgetting that different activities are going on at the same time and that the main mission of a volunteer is to act in a spirit of dedication and service in order to merge harmoniously with the environment and the people around. Rather than waiting to be told how to contribute, it is best to draw on one's own passion and expertise when proposing and pursuing a project which will contribute to the vision and life of Navdanya's work.



# Navdanya's Main Crop Calendar



## *Activity Calendar*

Month	Activities on the Farm
January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Weeding in the vegetable and pulses fields, as well as in the wheat, barley, oat, mustard, and linseed areas.</li> <li>• Cleaning of the Seed bank</li> <li>• Filling of all compost</li> </ul>
February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Irrigation of the different crops</li> <li>• Cleaning of the Seed bank and of the entire campus</li> <li>• Some work in the compost unit</li> </ul>
March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Harvesting of the barley, linseed, mustard, of the vegetables and of some pulses</li> <li>• Cleaning, drying and storing of the seeds in the seed bank</li> </ul>
April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Harvesting of the wheat, collection of all the different wheat seed varieties and yield data and other varieties like barley, oat, mustard, linseed, vegetables and pulses</li> </ul>
May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Harvesting and threshing of wheat, barley, oat, mustard, linseed, and pulses.</li> <li>• Cleaning and storing of different seeds in Seed Bank</li> </ul>
June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sowing seeds for green manuring, sowing of Kharif season pulses and vegetables (corn/maize, cucumber, peanut, oilseed, millet varieties, rain-field rice and fodder varieties)</li> <li>• Sowing of conservation varieties for renewal of seed stock: multiple rice variety nursery planting</li> <li>• Preparing rice fields</li> <li>• Weeding in maize/corn, peanut, rain-field rice varieties, and vegetables</li> </ul>
July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Uprooting of different varieties of rice from nursery</li> <li>• Preparing rice fields for transplanting through process of “paddling”</li> <li>• Labeling of all planted Kharif season varieties</li> <li>• Weeding of vegetable varieties</li> </ul>
August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Making of map of all varieties</li> <li>• Weeding and irrigation of rice fields</li> <li>• Protecting of crops from wild animals</li> </ul>
September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Harvesting of corn, cucumber, sesame, millets</li> <li>• Collection of farm yield data</li> <li>• Seed bank and Vermicompost unit cleaning</li> </ul>
October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rainfield rice varieties, pulses, vegetables harvesting</li> <li>• Harvesting of all rice varieties and peanuts in last week</li> <li>• Threshing of rice varieties</li> <li>• Collection of farm yield data</li> </ul>
November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Drying, labeling, and storing of all crop seeds in seed bank</li> <li>• Plowing of all fields</li> <li>• Sowing of wheat, barley, oat, vegetables, and pulses (last week of the month)</li> </ul>
December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sowing of wheat, barley, oat, vegetables, and pulses (first week of the month)</li> <li>• Labeling of all planted Rabi season varieties (writing of the name tags, tagging in the fields)</li> <li>• Mapping of the wheat, vegetables, pulses and all Rabi crops (last week of the month)</li> <li>• Starting of the weeding an</li> <li>• Irrigation of the different crops</li> </ul>

## *Climate & Rainfall in Dehradun District*

The Climate of the district is generally temperate. It varies greatly from tropical to severe cold depending upon the altitude of the area. The district being hilly, temperature variations due to difference in elevation are considerable. In the hilly regions, the summer is pleasant, but in the Doon, the heat is often intense, although not to such degree as in the plains of the adjoining district. The temperature drops below freezing point not only at high altitude but even at places like Dehradun during the winters, when the higher peaks are also under snow. The area receives an average annual rainfall of 2073.3 mm. Most of the annual rainfall in the district is received during the months from June to September, July and August being rainiest. Climate Data of Doon Valley for all the months is as under on the basis of mean of last 25 years.

Month	Rainfall (mm)	Relative Humidity (%)	Temperature		
			Max	Min	Ave.
January	46.9	91	19.3	3.6	10.9
February	54.9	83	22.4	5.6	13.3
March	52.4	69	26.2	9.1	17.5
April	21.2	53	32	13.3	22.7
May	54.2	49	35.3	16.8	25.4
June	230.2	65	34.4	29.4	27.1
July	630.7	86	30.5	22.6	25.1
August	627.4	89	29.7	22.3	25.3
September	261.4	83	29.8	19.7	24.2
October	32.0	74	28.5	13.3	20.5
November	10.9	82	24.8	7.6	15.7
December	2.8	89	21.9	4.0	12.0
<b>Average Annual</b>	<b>2051.4</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>27.8</b>	<b>13.3</b>	<b>20.0</b>

Source: <http://www.ua.gov.nic.in>

## **8. On-going Projects**

Quite a few projects are being carried out at the moment in Navdanya Farm:

-First, near the seed bank, two buildings are being erected. One will provide additional space for seed storage, and the other will be space for seed processing into flour. Therefore, the farm will soon have in its vicinity bigger storehouses and a flour mill which will be of great use for making the farm more self-sufficient.

-Then, right inside the mango orchard, new accommodations are being constructed along with a Himalayan Center for Climate Change where the results of a survey collecting the elderly Himalayan people's ideas for climate change mitigation will be exposed.

-Finally, Navdanya is thinking of offering lodging to the families of its staff members so that they need not leave their near and dear in order to earn their living.



**Present construction of  
storehouse and mill near  
seed-bank**



**Present construction of  
Himalayan Community  
Center for the Study and  
Training on Climate Change**

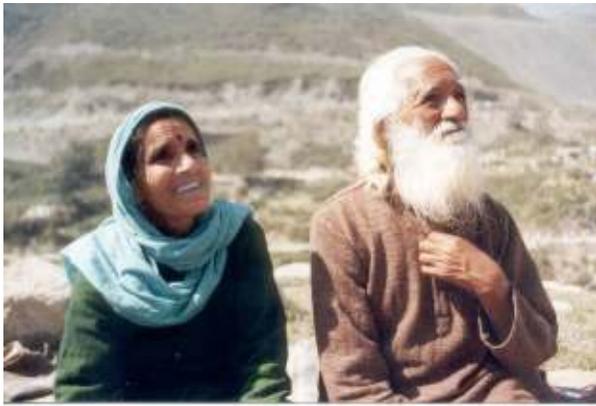


## **Building of new accommodations**

### **9. Vision for the Future**

As the movement for sustainable, bio-diverse agriculture in India spreads, the role of Navdanya in this progress will reveal itself. Vandana Shiva's vision for the farm is to increase the diversity of food and medicinal plants grown in the fields, rejuvenating the earth that has been so severely damaged in the most recent decades. She has said that she would love to see the day when all of India celebrates the annual Holi festival using only traditional, natural colors. Navdanya farm and Bija Vidyapeeth will continue to organize courses and events to spread the idea that a life full of joy is a life where one lives in harmony with one's environment, one's fellow citizens of the world, and with one's Self. In search of these goals, Navdanya is seeking alliances with organizations across the globe in the promotion of its loving, organic ideals. Recently, it has joined together with the Tibetan government-in-exile to spread organic farming techniques among Tibetan farmers-in-exile. For two decades now, Navdanya has been building a dirt road to the future, and will continue to do so until it has connected all the nations of the world in a joyous harmony.

As the Navdanya farm develops, its face will be subject to many changes. New volunteers, new workers, new buildings, more crops; every change adds a little bit of color to the mural of the farm. In this way, Bija Vidyapeeth will continue to progress towards its ideal and abide more and more by the principles of Gandhian philosophy: Satyam (truthfulness), Ahimsa (non-violence), and Brahmacharya (self-perfection through self-control and contentment.)



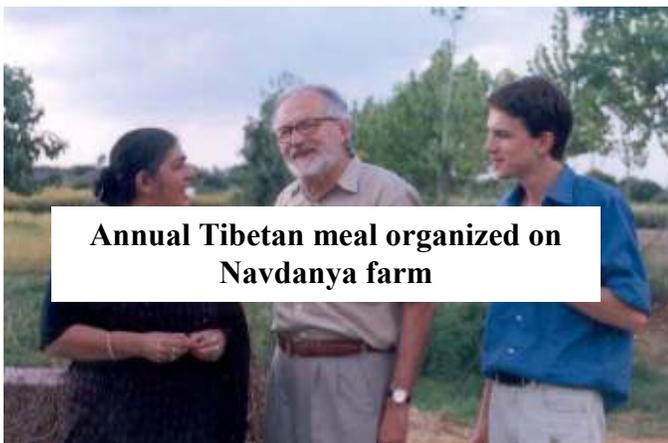
**Sri SL Bahuguna and Mrs. Vimla Bahuguna  
Leaders of the Chipko Movement**



**Dr. Arun Gandhi (grand son of Mahatma Gandhi)  
and Dr. Vandana Shiva at Bija Vidyapeeth**



**Yoga class in the lecture hall**



**Vandana Shiva with Mr.  
Edward Goldsmith founder  
of Ecologist magazine**

**Dr. Shiva and Sri Masanobu Fukuoka  
(Father of Natural farming)  
at Navdanya Seed Bank**

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