

Office of the Public Relations Office
Jamia Millia Islamia

Press Release

JMI's Department of Geography organizes a special invited lecture on **“Understanding Climate Change Vulnerabilities and Adaptive Strategies in the Indian Sundarban Delta”**

New Delhi, April 1, 2026

The Department of Geography, Jamia Millia Islamia (JMI), under the umbrella of Viksit Bharat initiative of Government of India, organised a special invited lecture on **“Understanding Climate Change Vulnerabilities and Adaptive Strategies in the Indian Sundarban Delta”** by **Prof. Shouraseni Sen Roy**, Department of Geography and Sustainable Development, **University of Miami, U.S.A.** on 30th March, 2026. Prof. Roy holds doctoral degree from Arizona State University (ASU), USA. She has done extensive research on long-term climate trends and their societal impacts, with a particular focus on the intersections of climate change, health, and gender in the Global South. Prof. Roy has distinction of being awarded of two prestigious i) Fulbright Nehru U.S. Scholar Fellowship (2018-19) and ii) Fulbright-Kalam Fellowship (2025-26).

Prof. Atiqur Rahman, the Head, Department of Geography welcomed the guest speaker, faculty members and all the students. Prof. Roy began with introducing the concepts of climate change vulnerabilities and adaptive strategies to cope up under the prevalent scenario of climate variability with special reference to Indian Sunderbans. In her address, Prof. Shouraseni Sen Roy provided a comprehensive overview of the environmental and socio-economic vulnerabilities of the Indian Sundarban Delta, emphasizing the region's exposure to sea-level rise, cyclonic disturbances, coastal erosion, and salinity intrusion.

Prof. Roy further elaborated on adaptive strategies essential for enhancing resilience in the region, including community-based approaches, sustainable resource management, and policy-level interventions. The lecture offered valuable insights into the intersection of climate science, human geography, and sustainable development, benefiting both students and researchers. In the Indian Sundarbans Delta (ISD), the changes in the cropping pattern were assessed for the village of Kumirmari island. In her talk, she explained that earlier, only two season cropping was practiced. But to intensify agriculture, three season cropping started. It led to depletion of groundwater and increased groundwater salinity.

Prof. Roy discussed that because of high tides there is increased vulnerability in the rural livelihood of these villages in the Sundarbans. She added that these villages further have tiger widows which are not willing to leave the land because of their belongingness to the forefathers. She stated that these people go to the forest for collecting crabs and selling them in the market. She highlighted that among one of the adaptive strategies to the climate change scenario was a shift from rice cultivation to shrimp aquaculture.

The lecture proved to be a significant learning opportunity for research scholars and students. The event was attended by invited guests, faculty members and researchers and UG & PG students. The lecture was followed by an interactive discussion wherein Prof. Shouraseni Sen interacted with Ph.D. scholars and students of the department. Dr. Aruna Paarcha, Incharge – extension lectures and

webinars conducted the programme and Dr. Hasan Raja Naqvi proposed a formal vote of thanks. The lecture ended on an inspiring note. The event reflects the Department's continued efforts to engage with contemporary global challenges and promote interdisciplinary academic dialogue.

Prof. Saima Saeed
Chief Public Relations Officer



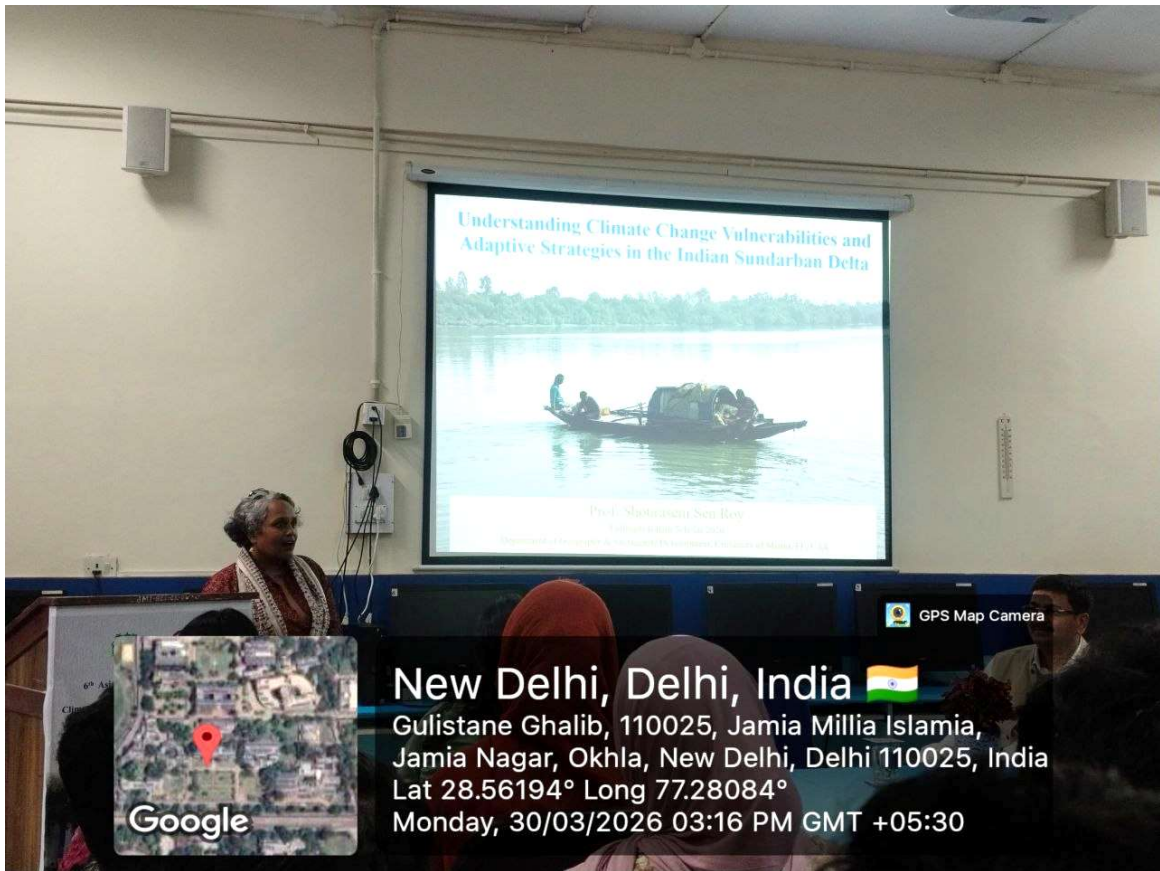
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