

Report of MGMG Team, ICAR-DOGR, Pune

Date: 28 April 2026

As part of the Intensive Awareness Campaign on Science-Based Nutrient and Input Management under Mera Gaon Mera Gaurav (MGMG) programme, a scientific team from ICAR–Directorate of Onion and Garlic Research (DOGR), Pune, visited Papalwadi (Pait) village, Tal. Rajgurunagar, District Pune on 28 April 2026 to organize training cum awareness programme focused on promoting efficient, science-based input management practices among farmers.

An awareness programme was conducted with 20 farmers, including 4 women participants. The programme commenced with an introduction by Mr. Vilas Darekar, a progressive farmer, who facilitated interaction between the scientific team and farmers. The team elaborated on the objectives of the campaign, which included promoting balanced and site-specific nutrient management, encouraging judicious use of fertilisers and other inputs, enhancing soil health and resource-use efficiency, and creating awareness on sustainable, eco-friendly agricultural practices. In addition, key technologies developed by ICAR-DOGR for improved onion production and post-harvest management were demonstrated to the participants.

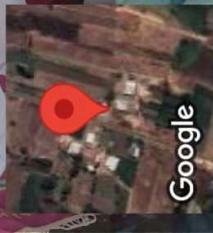
The discussion focused on optimising input use through scientific approaches, stressing that imbalanced and excessive application of chemical fertilisers and pesticides can adversely affect soil quality, increase pest problems, and lead to environmental and health concerns. Farmers were encouraged to adopt need-based input application and more sustainable practices to maintain long-term productivity and ecological balance. To promote sustainable agriculture, the team recommended adoption of Integrated Nutrient Management (INM) practices. Farmers were encouraged to use organic inputs such as green manure, compost, vermicompost, and bio -fertilisers including Azotobacter and phosphate-solubilising bacteria (PSB) to improve soil health and sustain productivity.

Improved pre- and post-harvest management practices were also discussed to minimise storage losses. Key advisories included selection of suitable varieties, seed treatment with *Trichoderma* spp., adoption of drip or sprinkler irrigation, and proper curing prior to storage. Farmers were further guided on quality seed production, including the “one village–one variety” approach.

The team also created awareness on scientific storage practices, discouraging the use of chemical powders during onion storage and promoting safe, natural alternatives.



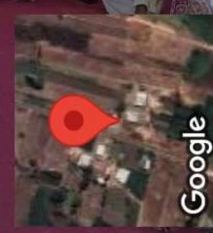
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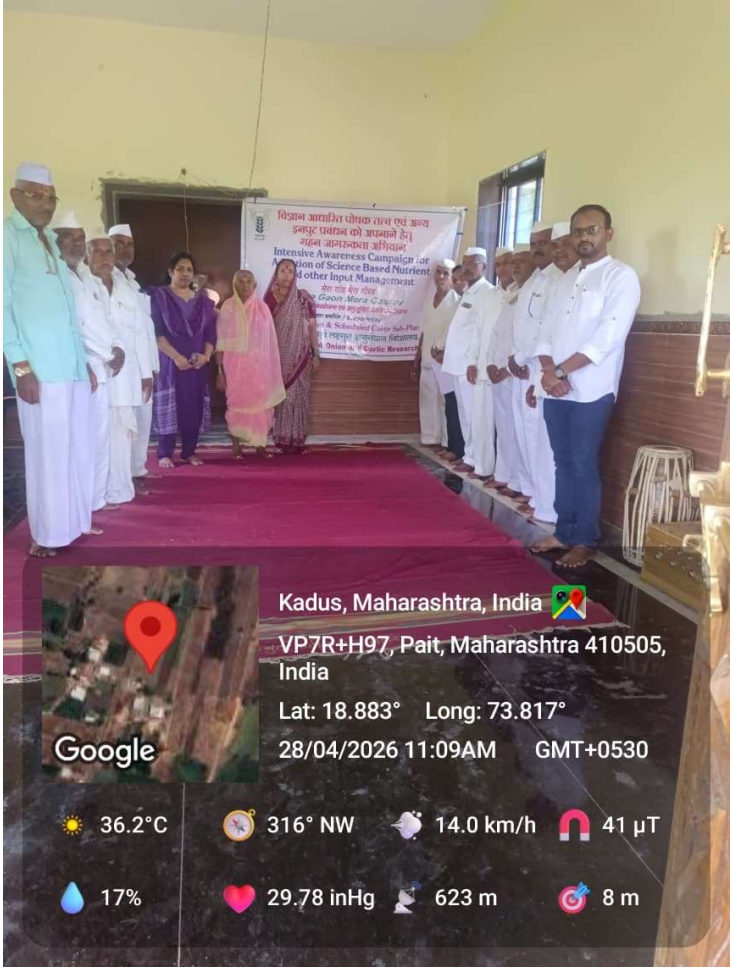


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