

Report on Khet Bachao Abhiyan Awareness Program

Date: 29 June 2026

Village: Walad village of Khed tehsil, Pune district

Under the nationwide '*Khet Bachao Abhiyan*' launched by the Government of India through the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare and Ministry of Rural Development during 1-30 June 2026, a scientific team from the ICAR-DOGR, Rajgurunagar, Pune organized an awareness program at Walad village of Khed tehsil, Pune district under the Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP). The programme aimed to promote scientific, climate-resilient and efficient input management practices among farmers for sustainable agricultural production. The scientific team comprised Dr. Amar Jeet Gupta, Principal Scientist (Hort), Nodal Officer (TSP) and Team Leader; Dr. Shailendra Gadge, Principal Scientist (Agril Extension) and Nodal Officer (SCSP); and Dr. Bhushan Bibwe, Senior Scientist (ASPE). Mr. H. S. Gawali, Technician, and Mr. R. S. Kulkarni of ICAR-DOGR also actively participated in the programme and assisted in its successful conduct.

The programme was attended by more than 26 farmers and villagers, including eight women farmers. It commenced with the welcome and felicitation of the ICAR-DOGR scientific team by Mr. Kailash Sahae Asvale, a progressive farmer of the village. The programme was also graced by Mr. Sopan Balwant Pokharkar (Former Sarpanch), Mr. Nathuram Mahae Ladege (Chairman, Self-Help Group), and Mr. Radgu Hari Pokharkar (Chairman, Gram Society).

During the interaction, the scientific team explained the objectives of the Khet Bachao Abhiyan and emphasized the importance of balanced and judicious use of fertilizers, integrated nutrient management, climate-resilient farming practices, weather-based agro-advisories, efficient water management, agricultural mechanization and effective utilization of various government schemes. Farmers were also provided location-specific recommendations on crop selection, crop diversification, risk mitigation strategies, and suitable alternatives under conditions of water scarcity and climatic uncertainties.

Dr. Amar Jeet Gupta highlighted the importance of adopting scientific cultivation practices, including the use of season-specific improved varieties, quality seed, seed treatment, balanced fertilizer application, integrated nutrient management, and sustainable crop production technologies. He also discussed suitable crop planning and management options for minimizing production risks arising from climate variability and limited water availability. He also explained the scientific method of soil sample collection for Soil Health Card preparation and highlighted its role in promoting balanced fertilizer use and improving soil health.

Dr. Shailendra Gadge presented various onion production and extension technologies developed by ICAR-DOGR and interacted with the participants regarding the ongoing activities under the Scheduled Caste Sub-Plan (SCSP). He created awareness about the benefits of ICAR technologies and government-supported programmes for improving farmers' livelihoods. He also encouraged farmer groups and Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) to visit ICAR-DOGR to utilize facilities such as the Agri-Business Incubation Centre, custom hiring services, and onion processing and value-addition technologies.

The programme also showcased various ICAR-DOGR technologies related to improved onion production, crop management, post-harvest handling and productivity enhancement. Farmers actively participated in the interactive session, seeking technical guidance on nutrient management, sustainable crop production and strategies for improving productivity while conserving soil health. The programme concluded with an enthusiastic discussion, reflecting the farmers' keen interest in adopting scientific and climate-smart agricultural practices for sustainable livelihood improvement.







Latitude: 18.995065
Longitude: 73.750272
Altitude: 604.9±15.0 m
Accuracy: 87.6 m
GPSTime: 29 Jun 2026 10:46
Note: Walad, Tal. khed, pune

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