

Scientific team visited Wafgaon Gulani village in Khed Taluk, Pune on 16 April 2026

As part of the **Mera Gaon Mera Gaurav (MGMG)** programme, a scientific team visited **Wafgaon Gulani** village in Khed Taluk, Pune, to sensitize farmers on judicious use of fertilisers and other inputs using science-based technologies and tools.

The team conducted an awareness meeting with more than 30 participating farmers, which included visits to onion fields and storage structures. During the session, the team highlighted various technologies developed by ICAR-DOGR and their specific benefits for enhancing onion and garlic production. The team emphasised the judicious use of fertilisers and explained the various problems such as soil degradation, increased pest susceptibility, health hazards and environmental problems caused by the excessive application of chemical fertilisers.

Besides the utilization of chemical inputs, scientists emphasised approaches of Integrated Nutrient Management (INM), which integrates mineral fertilisers with bio-stimulants, green manuring, and organic amendments to restore soil microbial life and maintain proper soil health. The team emphasized that the excessive application of fertilizers, particularly Nitrogen, significantly increases the rotting percentage of onions during storage. To address this, they explained the importance of the judicious use of Nitrogen and shared various pre- and post-harvest practices developed by ICAR-DOGR to effectively reduce storage losses in both onion and garlic crops.

During the field visit, the team explained the benefits of mulching technology, including how it conserves soil moisture and lowers production costs by significantly reducing weed infestations and the cost of weedicides.



Farmers in MGMG programme



Demonstration of Mulching Technology





Onion storage structure in farmer's field