

Intensive Awareness Campaign for Adoption of Science-Based Nutrient and Other Input Management, a training-cum-awareness programme was organized at Chomut village, Taluka Parner, District Ahilyanagar, on 17 April 2026

Under the *Intensive Awareness Campaign for Adoption of Science-Based Nutrient and Other Input Management*, a training-cum-awareness programme was organized at Chomut village, Taluka Parner, District Ahilyanagar. The programme aimed to promote the judicious and balanced application of fertilizers and to educate farmers on reducing excessive fertilizer use. The programme was conducted by Dr. Shailendra S. Gadge, Principal Scientist & Nodal Officer (MGMG), Dr. Rajiv B. Kale, Senior Scientist, and Dr. Pranjali A. Gedam, Sr Scientist. Total 27 participants attended the programme.

The programme included field visits to onion crops and storage structures. During the session, the team highlighted various technologies developed by ICAR-DOGR and explained their specific benefits for enhancing onion and garlic production.

The scientists emphasized the importance of the judicious use of fertilizers and discussed the adverse effects of excessive chemical fertilizer application, such as soil degradation, increased pest susceptibility, health hazards, and environmental issues.

In addition to chemical inputs, the team promoted the concept of Integrated Nutrient Management (INM), which combines mineral fertilizers with bio-stimulants, green manuring, and organic amendments. This approach helps restore soil microbial activity and maintain overall soil health.

The team also pointed out that excessive application of fertilizers, particularly nitrogen, significantly increases the rotting percentage of onions during storage. To address this issue, they explained the importance of balanced nitrogen use and shared pre- and post-harvest practices developed by ICAR-DOGR to reduce storage losses in onion and garlic crops.



