

TEC–IVRI, Pune organized a *Kisan Goshti* under the MGMG programme and conducted follow-up visits, advisory services, health check-ups of goats, and input distribution under the TSP programme at Trimbakeshwar, Nashik (Maharashtra) during 26–27 May 2026

TEC, ICAR-IVRI, Pune, in collaboration with the Department of Animal Husbandry, Government of Maharashtra, organized a *Kisan Goshti* under the *Mera Gaon Mera Gaurav* (MGMG) Programme at Vinayaknagar village of Trimbakeshwar Taluka of Nashik district, on 26 May 2026. Subsequently, on 27 May 2026, the team conducted monitoring of programme achievements, provided advisory services, carried out health check-ups of goats, and distributed various livestock inputs to beneficiaries in Vinayaknagar and Alwand villages of Trimbakeshwar.



Glimpses of Kisan Goshti at Vinayaknagar Village

During the *Kisan Goshti*, farmers were sensitized about the judicious use of chemical fertilizers, insecticides, and pesticides to minimize their adverse effects on soil health and crop productivity. They were encouraged to adopt integrated farming systems involving livestock and fisheries, which facilitate greater utilization of farmyard manure (FYM), compost, and vermicompost. Such practices help maintain soil fertility, improve soil health, and enhance the production of crops, vegetables, and fruits in a sustainable manner.

The participants were also informed about the potential risks associated with the excessive and indiscriminate use of agrochemicals, including the possibility of chemical residues entering the food chain and adversely affecting human health. Emphasis was placed on adopting balanced nutrient management and eco-friendly farming practices to ensure the production of safe and wholesome food while protecting environmental and public health. The farmers were encouraged to adopt organic and natural farming practices to reduce dependence on chemical fertilizers and promote both soil health and human well-being. A total of 42 farmers (24 men and 18 women) participated in the programme.



Snapshots of monitoring visit to farmer beneficiaries in Vinayaknagar seed village

The participants were also educated on measures to mitigate heat stress in livestock during the summer season. Interactions were held with existing beneficiary farmers to assess the status of their goat-rearing units and to discuss various aspects of goat care, health, and management. Various livestock inputs, including gumboots, anthelmintics, mineral mixture, anti-stress supplements, and milk cans, were distributed to the beneficiaries. Efforts were also initiated for the formation of Farmer Producer Groups (FPGs) and Self-Help Groups (SHGs) to facilitate collective marketing and strengthen farmers' market linkages, thereby enabling better price realization and enhanced income from the sale of live goats.

On 27 May 2026, a team comprising scientists from ICAR-IVRI, Pune, and LDOs from Nashik visited and supervised the housing, feeding, and management practices of 21 goat-rearing units at Vinayaknagar and 10 units at Alwand village. The team interacted extensively with the beneficiary farmers and provided technical guidance for improving goat health, productivity, and overall farm management. The farmers were advised on scientific feeding practices, and a balanced ration formulation was explained to facilitate optimum growth, production, and reproduction in goats. Recommendations were also provided to further improve housing hygiene, ventilation, and animal comfort for enhanced health and productivity.





Glimpses of monitoring and input distribution in Alwand village cluster

Most of the beneficiary farmers followed a semi-intensive system of goat rearing, wherein the animals were grazed twice daily, during the morning and evening hours, and supplemented with green fodders such as maize, Hybrid Napier, and sugarcane tops. Farmers were maintaining records on kidding, mortality, and the sale of goats, which facilitated monitoring of the progress and performance of the units.

At Vinayaknagar village of Trimbakeshwar Taluka, during the last 14-month period, a total of 77 goat kids were born, while 151 goats were sold, leaving a current stock of 152 goats with the beneficiary farmers. Eighteen farmers sold goats and collectively earned ₹12,78,500, with an average income of ₹71,023 per farmer over the 14-month period, equivalent to approximately ₹5,073 per farmer per month. The majority of kiddings resulted in twins, while the remaining were single births. Kid mortality was mainly attributed to enteritis and pneumonia.

Similarly, at Alwand village, during the 20-month period, a total of 14 kids were born and 34 goats were sold, with a remaining stock of 18 goats. Eight farmers sold goats and earned a total of ₹2,51,000, corresponding to an average income of ₹31,375 per farmer over the 20-month period, or approximately ₹1,569 per farmer per month. As observed at Vinayaknagar, kid mortality was primarily due to enteritis and pneumonia.

Dr AK Bhalerao, Senior Scientist and Dr SK Das, Principal Scientist of TEC IVRI, Pune coordinated the programme.



(A beneficiary tribal farmer of Vinayaknagar cluster along with his goats)

