

TEC, ICAR–IVRI, Pune organized an Osmanabadi goat and essential inputs distribution programme under TSP at Dhadgaon Seed Village, Nandurbar, on 13th January 2026

The Training and Education Centre (TEC), ICAR–Indian Veterinary Research Institute (ICAR-IVRI), Pune, successfully organized a goat and input distribution programme on 13th January 2026 in the tribal belt of *Dhadgaon and Akkalkuwa* talukas of Nandurbar district (Maharashtra) under the Tribal Sub Plan (TSP). The programme was implemented in collaboration with CInI (Collectives for Integrated Livelihood Initiatives), an associate organization of Tata Trusts, Nandurbar, with the objective of strengthening tribal livelihoods through scientific livestock-based entrepreneurship, particularly *Osmanabadi* goat farming.



(Group photo of 17 tribal beneficiary families with their goat units and other inputs)

As part of the planned intervention, 85 *Osmanabadi* goats were procured from a local Farmer Producer Organization (FPO) located in Dhadgaon on 12th January 2026, ensuring community-based sourcing and strengthening local value chains. Prior to distribution, TEC Pune and partner officials carried out a preliminary survey, followed by verification of beneficiary documents and completion of necessary formalities, including signing of MoUs with the selected

farmers. This systematic approach ensured transparency, accountability, and clarity of responsibilities for long-term sustainability of the programme.

To prepare the beneficiaries for successful adoption of goat farming, an interactive awareness and capacity-building session was conducted. The session focused on the fundamentals of scientific goat management, including good housing practices, balanced feeding, routine health care, and disease prevention. Special emphasis was laid on reducing transportation stress, ensuring safe handling during movement, and adopting stress-minimization measures to enhance survival rate, productivity, and overall performance of goats after distribution. Farmers were sensitized on the importance of timely vaccination, deworming, mineral supplementation, clean drinking water, and regular monitoring of animal health to ensure sustainable income generation.



(Glimpses of interaction with beneficiary goat farmers)

During the distribution programme, each selected beneficiary received a unit of five goats (four females and one male) along with essential inputs required for effective goat rearing. The distributed support package included jute bags, tarpaulin sheets, gumboots, mineral mixture, and goat feed, with 200 kg feed to support the initial adaptation period. In addition, critical accessories such as feeders and waterers were distributed to encourage hygienic feeding practices and improve farm-level management. The initiative aimed not only to provide livestock assets but also to ensure that farmers are equipped with the necessary resources to manage goats efficiently, particularly in remote tribal conditions where access to inputs is often limited.

A total of 17 beneficiary farmers from various villages of Dhadgaon and Akkalkuwa block participated in the programme. In addition to the distribution activities, meaningful discussions were held on the formation of Farmer Producer Groups (FPGs) and Self-Help Groups (SHGs) to promote collective action in goat farming. Farmers were encouraged to explore organized systems of input procurement, health planning, and market-linked sale of goats through group-based approaches. Such collective models were emphasized as essential for strengthening bargaining power, reducing marketing risks, and ensuring better price realization for tribal farmers.



(Glimpses of goat feed distribution to beneficiary goat farmers)

The programme was effectively coordinated by Dr HP Aithal, Principal Scientist and Dr AK Bhalerao, Scientist of TEC–ICAR-IVRI Pune, with active support from Shri Mahadev Walke, AF&AO, ICAR-DFR Pune, and Mr Dinesh Pardeshi, Technical Officer, CInI–Tata Trusts, *Dhadgaon*. The coordinated efforts of all stakeholders ensured smooth implementation of the programme, timely distribution of goats and other inputs, and strong technical guidance for beneficiary farmers.



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