

TEC, ICAR-IVRI, Pune Distributes Poultry and Goat Units to SC Farmers under SCSP Project in Ajegaon block, Sengaon Taluka, Hingoli District, Maharashtra on March 11–12, 2026

The Training and Education Centre (TEC) of ICAR–Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Pune organized a two-day resource input distribution programme for Scheduled Caste (SC) farmers under the Scheduled Caste Sub Plan (SCSP) scheme as part of a Farmer Participatory Research Project in Ajegaon block of Sengaon taluka in Hingoli district of Maharashtra.

The activity was conducted from 10 to 12 March 2026 with the objective of promoting sustainable livestock-based livelihood opportunities among small and marginal SC farmers in the region. The programme focused on strengthening backyard poultry and goat farming enterprises through the supply of quality livestock inputs along with scientific guidance.

Under this project, 30 poultry farmers (10 women) and 16 SC goat farmers (13 women) from the Ajegaon block were selected as beneficiaries. The farmers were identified through a systematic field survey conducted by the local project coordinator Dr. Tukaram Bhuktar (CVAS, Parbhani), who personally visited the villages, interacted with farmers, and collected baseline socio-economic and livestock management data. Finally, the TEC-IVRI team ensured that the beneficiary selection process was carried out carefully so that the benefits of the project reach deserving farmers from the SC community who are in need and interested in developing sustainable livestock-based livelihood opportunities.



On 11 March 2026, a poultry bird distribution programme was organized at Ajegaon village, where 30 selected farmers received desi Kaveri birds suitable for backyard poultry farming. Along with the birds, the farmers were also provided with other essential inputs including poultry feed, feeders, waterers, and umbrellas to support proper management and protection of the birds. The initiative aims to encourage low-cost backyard poultry farming, which is considered an effective livelihood option for rural households, especially for women and small farmers.

On 12 March 2026, a similar programme was organized at Waghjali village in Sengaon taluka, where 16 selected goat farmers were distributed with Osmanabadi goat units. Each unit consisted of five goats (four females and one male), along with pelleted goat feed, milk can, mineral mixture and umbrella, which is considered an ideal breeding unit for small-scale goat farming enterprises.



During the programme, Dr. HP Aithal and Dr. Sanghratna V Bahire from TEC Pune delivered detailed technical guidance to the farmers. They explained various aspects of scientific goat and

backyard poultry farming, including: scientific housing and management practices, balanced feeding and fodder production, disease prevention and vaccination, breeding management, and marketing opportunities and value addition in livestock products. They also discussed the objectives of the research project, operational guidelines, and responsibilities of the participating farmers. Farmers were encouraged to adopt improved livestock management practices so that the project can serve as a successful model for rural livelihood development.



Local farmers expressed appreciation for the initiative and said that the support provided by ICAR-IVRI will help them start or expand their livestock activities and improve their economic condition.

Through such field-level interventions, TEC, ICAR-IVRI, Pune continues to strengthen technology transfer and promote scientific livestock farming practices among rural communities.





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Mar 11, 2026, 10:03