

## Bhima Kiran -A Success Story

Bhima Kiran is a light red onion variety with good bulb storability developed by the ICAR-Directorate of Onion and Garlic Research (DOGR), Rajgurunagar has become a success story in Maharashtra and



adjoining states. This variety had been recommended at national level in 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Group Meeting of AINPORG held at CITH, Srinagar (J&K) during 10-11 May, 2010 for *rabi* season for cultivation in Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Delhi, Haryana, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Punjab and Uttar Pradesh. It matures in 125-135 days after

transplanting and has light red attractive bulbs with good storability. It is also field tolerant to thrips and foliar diseases. Mr. Harish Nurjee Vadvi, a group leader of tribal farmers of Merali Yaha Shetkari Bachat Gat, Palipada, Navapur, Nandurbar, Maharashtra had raised onion bulb crop as per DOGR recommended technology and produced 200 q per acre marketable bulb yield and earned net income of Rs. 80,000/- per acre even when onion bulbs were sold at the rate of Rs. 6/- per kg. Mrs. Archana Surupsingh Valvi, a group leader of tribal lady farmers of Saraswati Mahila Bachat Gat, Palipada, Navapur, Nandurbar, Maharashtra had raised onion seed crop as per DOGR recommended technology and produced 279 kg per acre onion seed and earned net income of Rs. 1,04,000/- per acre even when onion seed were sold at the rate of Rs. 450/- per kg to DOGR on buy-back basis. Several demonstration have been conducted in different part of the country on onion bulb and seed production of Bhima Kiran including more than fifteen demonstration under tribal belts of Nandurbar and farmers were benefited because Bhima Kiran was found best for bulb storage up to five month during *rabi*. Hence, farmers have shown interest in this variety and DOGR have already sold 23.22 q seed of Bhima Kiran. This variety is now grown over 1000 acres in different states. Most of the farmers are often earning a net profit of more than Rs. 1.0 lakh per acre by cultivating Bhima Kiran. Mr. Harish Nurjee Vadvi and Mrs. Archana Surupsingh Valvi also felicitated on the occasion of 19<sup>th</sup> Foundation Day of ICAR-Directorate of Onion and Garlic Research, Rajgurunagar, Pune celebrated on 16<sup>th</sup> June 2016 for their contribution to onion cultivation gives due credit to DOGR for his achievements.