

## **IIVR celebrates 86th ICAR foundation day in the tribal belt of Sonbhadra district of Uttar Pradesh**

*16th July, 2014, Varanasi*

86th ICAR foundation day was celebrated at Dahakudandi village of Chopan block of Sonabhadra district in UP. The celebration was attended by about 700 farmers. Indian Institute of Vegetable Research has adopted 1000 tribal households in Chopan block of Sonbhadra district under Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) programme for improving their nutritional and livelihood securities. The major activities under TSP are distribution of improved seeds of drought resistant varieties of cereals, pulses, vegetable kitchen garden packets, saplings of fruit plants, promotion of backyard poultry and water conservation activities.



During celebrations, the Director, IIVR, Varanasi informed that we were unable to feed 35 crore population of the country at the time of independence. ICAR with 99 research institutes and 55 Agricultural Universities are making concerted efforts to develop improved varieties/breeds and efficient agricultural production technologies. Due to these research efforts, government policies and innovativeness of Indian farmers, we could enhance food grain, horticultural, fish, milk and egg production by 4, 6, 9, 6 and 27 folds, respectively during the last 66 years and are surplus for many agricultural commodities after feeding a population of more than 121 crores.

On this occasion vegetable kitchen garden packets, seeds of pigeon pea and saplings of fruit plants were distributed to the tribal households. Vegetable kitchen garden packets consisted seeds of improved varieties of vegetables like Kashi Anmol (Chilli), Kashi Vishesh (Tomato), Kashi Taru (Brinjal), Kashi Pragati (Okra) etc.

*(Source: IIVR, Varanasi)*