

## An ordinary farmer became a torch bearer for dissemination of CSV 216R (Phule Yashoda) – AICRP-Sorghum, Tandur

Mohd. Waheed of Karimpur village in Bantwaram mandal in Ranga Reddy district is an enthusiastic farmer and ready to adopt new technologies. He was having 4 ha of land of shallow black soils. Every year, he used to grow pigeon pea on 2 ha and keep 2 ha *Kharif* fallow for *rabi* sorghum. As he was possessing 3 pairs of cattle, it was inevitable to take up *rabi* sorghum every year for fodder. He used to harvest only 1000-1100 kg /ha of grain and 3500-4000 kg /ha of fodder per year. He learnt that, despite taking every care, the sorghum yields were not improving and contacted the sorghum scientists of the Agricultural Research Station (ARS), Tandur. After diagnosing the problem, ARS Tandur scientists suggested and supplied him seeds of the improved *rabi* cultivar CSV 216R. The farmer could realize 2000 kg of grain which was 82% higher than the local cultivar (1100 kg/ha) and 6500 kg of fodder which was also 86% higher.



The farmers in the village were so much convinced with the performance that many of them had procured the seeds for the next season. The village farmers observed a significant improvement in *rabi* sorghum cultivation in the farmer's fields. In order to make publicity, the ARS Tandur organized a Farmers' Rally and Field Day in the village in January. About 80 farmers from Karimpur, neighbor villages and officials from the Department of Agriculture Govt. of Andhra Pradesh participated. As a result, the *rabi* sorghum cultivation scenario in Karimpur village and adjoining villages with rapid adoption of the variety from farmer to farmer. The efforts of scientists of ARS, Tandur were appreciated by the farming community and the department officials. The concentrated efforts of ARS Tandur continued to make *rabi* sorghum more profitable in the area.