

## **Dr. P. M. Govindakrishnan**

(b. August 22, 1954)

Former Project Coordinator (AICRP POTATO), Shimla, No 56, Maurya Residency, K. Vadamadurai P.O., Coimbatore 641017 govindakrishnan\_pm@yahoo.com Dr Govindakrishnan joined the ICAR in 1978 as Scientist S1 at Central Potato Research Institute (CPRI) Shimla, after qualifying the Agricultural Research Service examination. He was promoted as Senior Scientist in 1983 as Principal Scientist in 1998 and was selected as Project Coordinator, AICRP (Potato) in May 2012 and superannuated from that position in August 2016. He was associated in various projects of the institute and had the opportunity to specialize in crop modeling, remote sensing, GIS and developing decision support tools. He was associated in development of INFOCROP POTATO a potato crop simulation model and a decision support tool viz The Computer Aided Advisory System for Potato Crop Scheduling (CAASPS) which gives information on the optimum time of planting, the most suitable variety and the expected yield at different dates of harvest for more than 700 locations. He was also associated with development of a methodology for regional level yield forecasting of potato. He also worked extensively on the quantification of likely yield loss in potato due to climate change as well as gains due to adaptation strategies viz change in date of planting, improved variety and additional nitrogen application. He was also involved in the development of Potato Pest Manager which helps identification of disease/pest problem and give its prevention/ control strategies, "Potato – An E Book", "Potato Scenario in India – A thematic Analysis" and "A Compendium of Climate based Potato Zones in India". During his tenure as Project Coordinator, a major achievement was the development of a Pan India Late Blight forecasting model "INDO BLIGHTCAST" which is being used for forewarning late Indian Potato Association Hand Book 42 blight appearance. He also worked on characterizing potato growing environments in India and also delineated target domains for different pests and diseases using ecological niche modeling techniques. He is a recipient of the "Nanaji Deshmukh ICAR award for outstanding interdisciplinary team research in agricultural and allied sciences" for the year 2016 and the "IPA-Kaushalya Sikka Memorial Award" for the year 2013-2017.