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### NEWS

**Dr. V.K. Bhatia**, life member of the Indian Society of Agricultural Statistics has been appointed as Director, Indian Agricultural Statistics Research Institute in August, 2008. He has made significant contributions in the applied aspects of Agricultural Statistics in general and Statistical Genetics in particular. He is also a recipient of **Dr. DN Lal Memorial Lecture Award** and **Prof. PV Sukhatme Gold Medal Award** instituted by the Indian Society of Agricultural Statistics. He has published several research papers in national and international journals of repute, one Handbook on Statistical Genetics, several technical reports, popular articles and one electronic book. The papers published by him have been awarded as **Best Paper Award** by the journals of repute six times. He has guided 8 research students of Ph.D. and M.Sc. in the discipline of Agricultural Statistics. Dr. V.K. Bhatia has been an outstanding teacher and has received **IARI Best Teacher Award** for excellence in teaching.