

**Indian Institute of Spices Research (IISR)**  
(Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR))  
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**Media Release**

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**IISR bags outstanding Institution award**

The Indian Institute of Spices Research (IISR), Calicut, a premier institute under Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), has bagged the prestigious Sardar Patel Outstanding ICAR Institution Award for the year 2009. The award is given annually to two ICAR Institutes and one State Agricultural University (SAU) for the best performance in agricultural research, extension and education.

This is the second time IISR is being adjudged as the best ICAR institution. The Institute has bagged this coveted award in the year 1999 instituted by the Council in the name of Sardar Vallbhbhai Patel.

The award, which includes a cash prize of Rupees Five lakhs and a citation, will be presented by Sri. Sharad Pawar, Union Minister of Agriculture during the ICAR Foundation Day Celebration to be held on 16<sup>th</sup> July at National Academy of Agricultural Sciences (NASC Complex), New Delhi.

“The award is a recognition to our contribution in the area of agriculture, particularly in spices cultivation, like conservation of spice germplasm, breeding of high yielding varieties, development of various biocontrol agents for integrated management of pests and diseases, high production technologies and extension activities” says Dr. V A Parthasarathy, Director of IISR Calicut. The Institute is well known for its IT initiatives like office automation, e-library, databases and web-portals.

IISR, an internationally reputed institution in the country engaged in spices research, owes its origin to the All India Coordinated Spices Improvement Project which grew into a regional station of Central Plantation Crop Research Institute (CPCRI), Kasaragod in 1975 and later into a National Research Centre (NRC) on Spices in 1986. The Research Centre was further elevated to present Indian Institute of Spices Research in 1995.

The Institute has also a list of other awards and recognitions to its credit including the award for Best Annual Report and Best Team Research Award.

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