

**S. A. Patil**

Eminent agricultural scientist and educationist, Dr. Sharanagouda Ayyanagouda Patil joined the **Indian Agricultural Research Institute as its Director** on September 1, 2006. Dr. Patil developed a total of 16 hybrids and high yielding varieties in important commercial crops, namely, cotton, groundnut, niger, sunflower and castor. A cotton hybrid Varalaxmi (DCH-3) developed by him was the world's first inter-specific long staple cotton hybrid. He was the recipient of several international, national, state and university awards. Dr. Patil held many senior positions at Dharwad; Instruction (Agri.), AC, Dharwad (1993-1999); Director of Research, UAS, Dharwad (1999-2000); and Vice-Chancellor, UAS, Dharwad (2000-2006). He shares his experiences on India's First farm radio.