

## Professor VK Gupta

Research, innovation and education are synonym of Professor Vinod Kumar Gupta, who is known for his significant and outstanding theoretically creative and methodologically innovative contributions in the development of the subject of Statistics and its real-world applications in agricultural research system. Professor Gupta, presently the ICAR National Professor at IASRI, New Delhi, was conferred the prestigious *Sankhyiki Bhushan* award from the Indian Society of Agricultural Statistics at its 64<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference held during 03-05 December 2010 at Farmers' Training Centre (Lake Hall), Bidhan Chandra Krishi Viswavidyalaya, Kalyani.



Prof. Gupta, who started his academic career in the year 1975, has authored more than 100 research papers, several books, book chapters and monographs and more than 20 research projects. He has also produced 11 Ph.D and 3 M.Sc. students. He has made pioneering contributions towards optimality aspects of designs for various experimental settings and robustness of designs against several disturbances like loss of data, presence of outliers etc. Among his outstanding contributions are obtaining weighted A-optimal designs for making test treatments vs. control treatments comparisons, generating algorithms for computer aided search of efficient designs for many experimental situations and for many practical ranges of parameters, obtaining optimal two-level and mixed level supersaturated designs. The use of combinatorics in sample surveys has resulted in several original contributions to the theory of survey sampling, particularly variance estimation from large scale complex survey data, unequal probability sampling, controlled selection and balanced and distance balanced sampling plans.

Professor Gupta has also contributed significantly towards disseminating research which has enabled the use of many sophisticated, appropriate, efficient and modern designs by experimenters throughout the country. He has been a prolific partner in developing software for generation of randomized layout of designs and also their analysis and web portal “Design Resources Server” which is being viewed throughout the globe. His commitment and energy have benefited his wide range of collaborations.

Professor Gupta has received Dr. DN Lal Memorial Lecture Award, Prof. PV Sukhatme Gold Medal Award, Best Teacher Award of the PG School, IARI. He is an elected member of the International Statistical Institute and Fellow of the National Academy of Agricultural Sciences. Prof. Gupta is Vice President of the Indian Society of Agricultural Statistics and Chair Editor of the Journal of the Indian Society of Agricultural Statistics. He is also the Executive President of

the Society of Statistics, Computer and Applications. He is also the Associate Editor of the Journal of Statistical Planning and Inference and the Journal of Statistical Theory and Practice.

His proclivity to mentor students has made him an outstanding role model to others in statistical sciences.