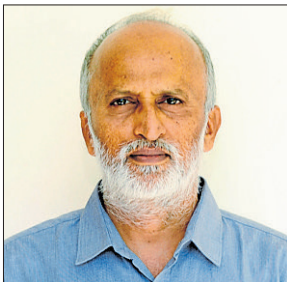


# CPCRI, Kasaragod gets new director

**MANGALURU, DHNS:** Dr K Balachandra Hebbar has been appointed as the director, ICAR-Central Plantation Crops Research Institute (CPCRI), Kasaragod, on the recommendations of Agricultural Scientists' Recruitment Board (ASRB), President, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR). He will take charge on Monday.

Dr K B Hebbar joined as scientist at the Central Institute for Cotton Research, Nagpur, in 1995. As a physiologist, the drought, salinity and flooding tolerant traits and cotton genotypes developed, were well recognized. He was the first



**Dr K Balachandra Hebbar**

one to demonstrate the cause and management strategy for sudden/parawilt of BT Cotton.

He developed and validated cotton simulation model Infocrop for the simulation of growth and production of

cotton under future climate. In 2007, he got selected as the Principal Scientist at the Indian Institute of Soil Science, Bhopal.

Dr K B Hebbar has been working as the Head, Plant Physiology, Biochemistry and Post Harvest Technology at the ICAR-CPCRI since 2010. In addition to his credit, he has developed a simple technology 'cocosap chiller' for the collection of hygienic and unfermented coconut sap (neera) from the coconut spadix. Kalprasa and its value-added products like coconut sugar developed, have obtained a facelift to the institute under his leadership.