

# IISER scientist gets Bhatnagar award

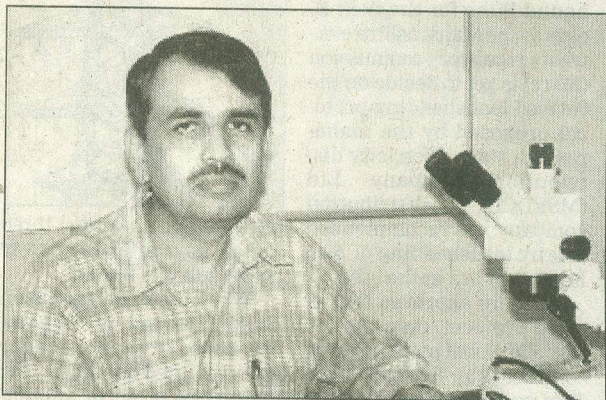
## Honoured For Work In Developmental Biology

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Pune:** L.S. Shashidhara, teacher of biology at the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER) here, has been awarded the CSIR Bhatnagar Award in Biological Sciences for this year, an IISER release said.

The award is given to scientists below the age of 45, who have done outstanding research work. Shashidhara, who pioneered the use of transgenic fly systems (flies with modified genes or newly introduced genes) in India to address key questions in developmental biology, is internationally known for his work on genetics and developmental biology.

"The award will help me personally and it will also help the institute and its students. My colleagues and students will have more confidence in me, and the IISER will have more weightage," Shashidhara told TOI on Monday. "Life hasn't changed much after the award. In fact, more responsibility has come in," he added.



Shashidhara will be awarded a citation, plaque and Rs 5 lakh

Shashidhara received his Ph.D degree from the Cambridge University. After a brief stint as a post-doctoral researcher at Cambridge, he joined the Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology, Hyderabad, in 1995.

Shashidhara was invited to the IISER in 2007 as teacher and co-ordinator of biology. Within a year, he established state-of-the-art biology research facilities. Shashidhara is a fellow of the Indian National Science

Academy, Delhi, and the Indian Academy of Sciences, Bangalore.

The award, comprising a citation, a plaque and Rs 5 lakh, will be presented by Prime Minister Manmohan Singh at a function later.

The IISER is a premier research institute started by the Government of India in 2006. It is a unique initiative, where research and teaching in the basic sciences are seamlessly integrated.