

**Dr. Raj Kumar**

(b. February 7, 1967)

Principal Scientist and In-Charge Head, ICAR-CPRS, Jalandhar Model Town PO, PB No. 1, Jalandhar-144003 (Punjab) Dr Raj Kumar, a Geneticist, started his career by joining ICAR in 1993. He joined ICAR-Central Potato Research Station, Jalandhar in 1994. Dr Raj Kumar worked throughout his career on potato breeding and germplasm conservation. He developed in 2006 high yielding main crop potato variety Kufri Pushkar with very good keeping quality. He developed in 2008 high yielding short (60-75 days) duration potato variety Kufri Khyati for Indian plains. He developed in 2012 main crop nutrient use efficient cultivar Kufri Gaurav for Indian plains. He developed following germplasm which got registered with ICAR-NBPGR: JW 96 for very good combining ability for yield at early (60 and 75 days) harvests; JX 123 for very good combining ability for yield at early (60 and 75 days) harvests; JX 90 for horizontal resistance to late blight and very good combining ability for Late blight resistance; JEX/A 785 for cold chipping and resistance to cold induced sweetening; JEX/911 with multi-coloured flesh and suitable for making multi-coloured chips with attractive colour pattern. He as member of team developed morphological descriptor for DUS testing of potato varieties. He published over 70 research papers and popular articles, book chapters and bulletins including in the high impact journals like Euphytica, Journal of Agricultural Science (Cambridge), Potato Research. In recognition of his research contributions, he was conferred 'Dr S. Ramanujam Award' for the block year 2012-2015 for outstanding research/leadership in potato improvement/production as team associate