

FROM JOBNER TO ICAR's PINNACLE:

Dr. M.L. JAT

**A VISIONARY LEADER FOR
INDIAN AGRICULTURE**



Dr. M.L. JAT

A SON OF JOBNER LEADING INDIAN AGRICULTURE

In a historic moment for Indian agriculture, Dr. Mangi Lal Jat, hailing from the modest village Pachkodiya of Jobner in Rajasthan, has been appointed as the Secretary, Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE) and Director General, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), New Delhi on April 17, 2025. This remarkable achievement not only marks a personal triumph for Dr. Jat but also brings immense pride to the farming community, stakeholders of Jobner, and the state of Rajasthan. As a distinguished alumnus of Sri Karan Narendra Agriculture University (SKNAU), Jobner, Dr. Jat's journey from a small village to one of the highest posts in Indian agricultural research is a testament to his dedication, vision, and relentless pursuit of excellence.



FROM HUMBLE BEGINNINGS TO GLOBAL ACCLAIM

Born and raised in Jobner, a village in Jaipur district known for its agricultural heritage, Dr. Jat grew up amidst the challenges of arid farming. His early life was shaped by the realities of rural Rajasthan, where water scarcity and limited resources tested the resilience of farmers. Inspired by the need to transform agriculture, he pursued his academic journey with unwavering focus. Dr. M.L. Jat is a well-recognized Systems Agronomist with over 25 years of rich experience in Systems Science across the developing world. As a Global



Research Program Director for the Resilient Farm and Food Systems (RF & FS) program of at ICRISAT, Dr Jat leads and provides scientific, strategic and partnership guidance to dynamic and vibrant research teams of the program across five clusters – Climate Adaptation and Mitigation Science, Geo-spatial and Big Data Sciences, Digital Agriculture, Landscapes, Soil Health and Water Science and the ICRISAT Development Center.

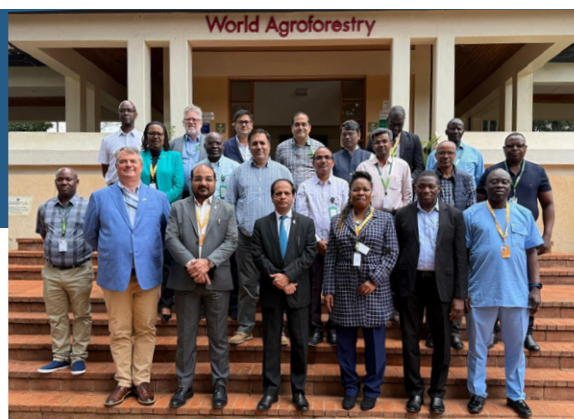
Dr. Jat completed his **B.Sc. (Agriculture)** at SKN College of Agriculture, Jobner, laying the foundation for his illustrious career. He furthered his studies at the prestigious **Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), New Delhi in Ph.D (Agronomy) with specialisation in Soil Moisture Conservation**. His doctoral research focused on resource-efficient farming systems, a theme that would define his career. His time at IARI honed his expertise in conservation agriculture, nutrient management, and climate-resilient farming, earning him recognition as an internationally acclaimed agronomist.



A TRAILBLAZING CAREER

Dr. Jat's professional journey is marked by significant contributions to agricultural science and policy. Before his appointment as ICAR Director General, he held several prestigious designations:

- Global Research Program Director, International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT), Hyderabad (until 2025): Led global initiatives in sustainable agriculture, focusing on dryland farming systems.
- Principal Scientist, International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT), New Delhi:



Pioneered conservation agriculture practices in South Asia, impacting millions of farmers.

- Senior Scientist, ICAR institutes: Contributed to research on cropping systems and soil health.

His work at CIMMYT and ICRISAT earned him global recognition for promoting sustainable intensification and climate-smart agriculture. Dr. Jat's research has directly benefited farmers in Rajasthan, particularly through technologies like zero-tillage and precision nutrient management, which align with the state's arid conditions.



AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS



Dr. Jat's contributions have been honored with numerous accolades, reflecting his impact on agricultural science:

Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Award-2018, CIMMYT Recognition Award-2020; ICRISAT Honour-2022; Gold Medal, Indian Society of Agronomy-2015, Certificate of Appreciation by Government of Cambodia; Prof. Mahatim Singh Memorial Award (2015), Society for Advancement of Wheat Research (SAWR), ICAR-IIWBR, Karnal, India; Plaque



of Appreciation (2014), APAARI-CIMMYT-FAO-DoA (Thailand); Award of Honour-2014 by Chief Minister of Government of Punjab, India; Award of Honour jointly by Indo-US Science and Technology Forum, Colorado State University and PAU for contribution in precision agriculture technologies; Recognition Award (2014), International Plant Nutrition Institute (IPNI), USA; The FAI Golden Jubilee Award for Excellence-2017; Dhiru Morarji Memorial Award, The Fertilizer Association of India, 2003; PS Deshmukh Young Agronomist

Award, Indian Society of Agronomy, 2004; Young Soil Conservationist Award, Indian Association of Soil & Water Conservationists, 2006; Member, Regional Technical Coordination Committee (RTCC) of the Rice-Wheat Consortium for the Indo-Gangetic Plains, 2005-2009.

His publications, exceeding 200 peer-reviewed papers, and patented technologies have set benchmarks in agricultural research, particularly for semi-arid regions like Rajasthan.



ICAR UNDER HIS LEADERSHIP: WHAT LIES AHEAD

As Director General of ICAR, Dr. Jat is now at the helm of India's apex agricultural research body with 113 research institutes, 74 agricultural universities, and thousands of scientists across the country.

In his dual role as Secretary of DARE, he will be responsible for:

- Shaping India's agri-research policy and international collaborations
- Leading the innovation pipeline for farmer-centric technologies
- Strengthening extension, skill-building, and climate-ready agriculture
- Driving the digital and genomic transformation in Indian agri-science
- Transforming Agriculture & Transforming Education with Viksit Bharat @2047



“From the fields of Jobner to the halls of Krishi Bhawan, Dr. M.L. Jat is proof that India's agricultural future is in excellent hands.”

— Dr. D.P.S Badwal