



Dr. T A Joseph was born at Anikad village Kottayam district, Kerala on 25th December 1950. He completed BSc.Botany (1971) and MSc. Botany degree (1973) from University of Kerala and Ph.D (1999) from Himachal Pradesh University Shimla. He started his career from Central Potato Research Institute Shimla with headquarters at CPRS Mukteswar, Nainital, Uttar Pradesh on 11th June 1974 and later joined the Agricultural Research Service on 1st October 1975 as Scientist and later served the Central Potato Research Station Mannavannur, Kodaikanal, Tamil Nadu. He was promoted to Scientist-S1 (1983) and posted at Central Potato Research Institute, Shimla and became Scientist S-2 (1986) and Senior Scientist (1999), at Central Potato Research Institute Shimla, and joined the Central Potato Research Station, Muthurai, Ootacamund, The Nilgiris, Tamil Nādu on 20th January 2000. He was promoted to Principal Scientist on 19th June 2007 and remained as Acting Head of Central Potato Research Station, Muthurai, The Nilgiris, Tamil Nādu till his superannuation on 31st December,2012.

Dr Joseph was the project Leader of the research Project "Breeding Improved Cultivars for North Indian Hills" and contributed significantly to the development of late blight resistant varieties in multidisciplinary approach as the Senior Breeder and released potato varieties viz.Kufri Giriraj, Kufri Shailaja, Kufri Himalini, Kufri Surya and Kufri Girdhari which are the popular varieties for hill regions of the country. He was also the Programme Leader of the Research Programme "Management of Potato Nematodes" and released cyst nematode and late blight resistant potato variety Kufri Neelima and Kufri Sahyadri suitable for cultivation in Nilgiri hills. He also contributed in registration of unique potato germplasms, E/79-42 and OS/01-516 having cyst nematodes resistance and maintained with NBPGR.

Dr Joseph visited International Potato Centre (CIP) Lima, Peru and Quito, Ecuador, South America and presented a research paper in the Global Initiative on Late Blight (GILB) and CIP, Lima, Peru on March 16-19, 1999. The contribution of Dr. TA Joseph has been duly recognized by the ICAR and the Institute. He is the recipient of a number of awards including ICAR Award for Outstanding Interdisciplinary Team Research in Agriculture and Allied Sciences for biennium 2007-08, Best paper Award and Gold Medal from Indian Potato Association for the research paper entitled "Kufri Surya: A new heat -tolerant potato variety suitable for early planting in north- western plains, Peninsular India and processing into French Fries and Chips" for the research paper published in Potato Journal Vol.33:35-43. Received Merit Award from Central Potato Research Institute Shimla in recognition of contribution to Potato Research and development in India on the occasion of Dr Ramanujam Birth Centenary Celebrations. He has got 95 publications in his credit including research papers, book chapters, popular articles, abstracts of research paper and presentations in seminars/symposia etc.