



**Dr. Pushkarnath**

Dr. Pushkarnath was born at Srinagar (Jammu & Kashmir) on 20th March, 1910. He obtained B.Sc. (Hons.) in 1931 and M.Sc. (Botany) from Punjab University, Lahore in 1932. He became Associate (Agricultural Botany) of Indian Agricultural Research Institute and was awarded Ph.D. degree from Punjab University in 1941. He did Post Doctoral work on characterization of potato genotypes at Imperial Bureau, Cambridge during 1945-46. He also received advanced training on virus pathology and breeding of potatoes.

Dr. Pushkarnath was appointed as Officer-in-Charge of Potato and Wheat Breeding Station of IARI at Shimla in 1935. After the establishment of Central Potato Research Institute (CPRI) at Patna in 1949, he was appointed as Botanist in 1950 at the Potato Breeding Sub-station, Shimla. In 1955 he joined as Director of Agriculture (H.P.) and continued till May, 1956 when he came back to ICAR CPRI and took over as its Director in 1956 after Dr. S. Ramanujam relinquished charge of Director. He continued in this position till his retirement in 1969. Dr. Pushkarnath was Honorary Fellow of Indian Potato Association. He was the Chairman of numerous Government and other official committees including the All India Board of Research, ICAR. He was also the President of Indian Society of Genetics and Plant Breeding. After his retirement he was appointed as consultant to National Seeds Corporation, New Delhi and Chairman of Council of Science and Technology, Himachal Pradesh.