

Dr. Katoch joined Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) as Talent Search Scheme (TSS) Fellow in 1975 and rose through different positions. He served as Founder Secretary of Department of Health Research (DHR) & Director-General, ICMR; Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Govt of India, from 2008 to 2015.

In his nearly 40 years of academic career, of which 30 years in leprosy, TB and mycobacterial research and developer of modern methods of rapid diagnosis of TB, leprosy using immunological and molecular tools , DNA chips; DNA fingerprinting methods, bioluminescence and other viability methods etc.; contributed to expansion of mandate of JALMA from leprosy to all mycobacterial diseases.

As the founder Secretary of new department, played important role in developing and implementing new schemes to accomplish new business. As ICMR Director-General, he led the development of new network programmes on Tribal Health, translation aimed at indigenous technologies, vector borne diseases, environmental health etc. He has contributed over 300 research papers in Indian and foreign journals. He was recipient of various national & international awards and is a Fellow of all national science academies of country : National Academy of Sciences (FNASc); Fellow of National Academy of Medical Sciences (FAMS); Fellow of Academy of Sciences, Bangalore (FASc); Fellow of Indian Academy of Science (FNA).