

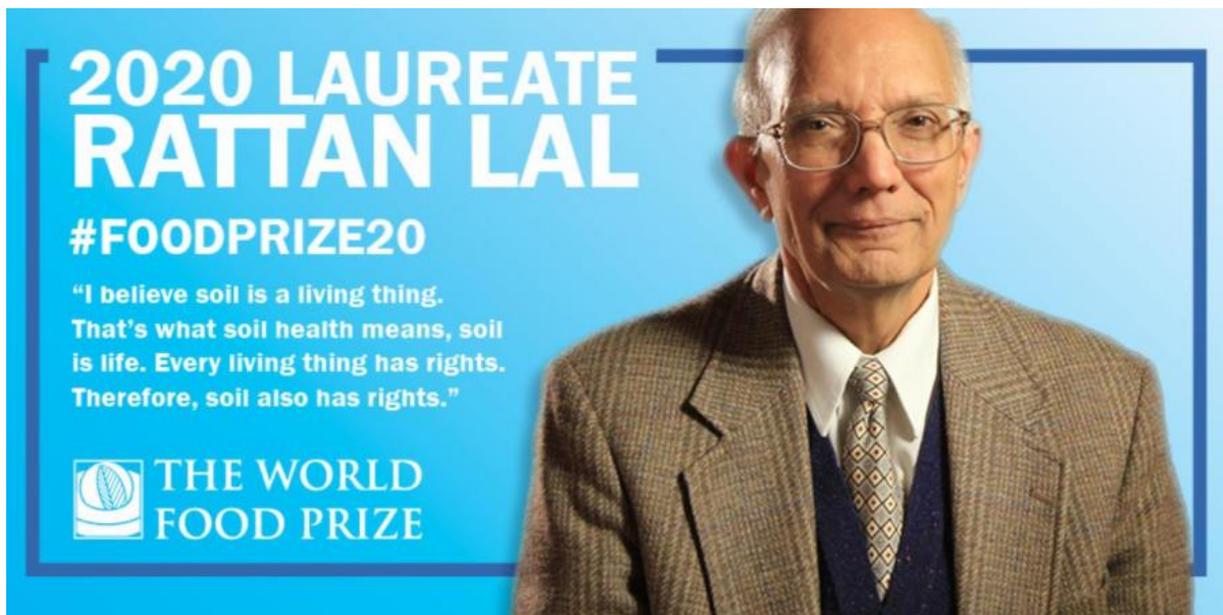


World Food Prize 2020

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Why in News

Indian-American soil scientist - **Dr. Rattan Lal** - has been declared the winner of the World Food Prize 2020.



- He played a major role in developing and mainstreaming a **soil-centric approach** to increasing food production that conserves natural resources and mitigates climate change.
- Three separate United Nations Climate Change Conferences have adopted his strategy of restoring soil health as a means to sequestering carbon.
- In 2007, he was among those **recognised with a Nobel Peace Prize Certificate** for his contributions to the **Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)** reports, when the IPCC was named co-recipient of the **Nobel Prize**.

Key Points

- **Objective:** The World Food Prize is the foremost international honor recognizing the achievements of individuals who have advanced human development by improving the **quality, quantity or availability of food in the world.**
- **Field Covered:** It is an **annual award** that recognizes contributions in any field involved in the world food supply including plant, animal and soil science; food science and technology; nutrition, rural development, etc.
- **Eligibility:** It is open for any individual without regard to race, religion, nationality or political beliefs.
- **Cash Prize:** In addition to the cash award of \$2,50,000, the laureate receives a sculpture designed by the noted artist and designer, Saul Bass.
- **Presentation of the Award:**
 - The Prize is presented each October on or around **UN World Food Day (16th October).**
 - It is presented by the **World Food Prize Foundation** which has over 80 companies, individuals, etc. as donors.
 - The World Food Prize Foundation is located in Des Moines, USA.
- **Background:**
 - **Dr. Norman E. Borlaug**, winner of the **Nobel Peace Prize in 1970** for his work in global agriculture, conceived the Prize. He is also known as the **Father of the Green Revolution.**
 - The World Food Prize was created in 1986 with sponsorship by General Foods Corporation.
 - It is also known as the "**Nobel Prize for Food and Agriculture**".
 - **Dr. M.S. Swaminathan**, the father of India's green revolution, was the **first recipient of this award in 1987.**

Source: IE