



Mansukhbhai Patel

Cotton Stripping Machine



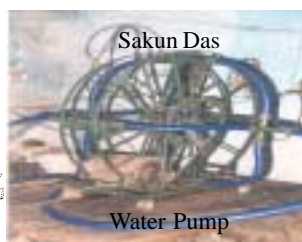
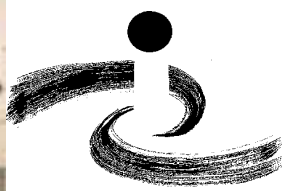
Dhulabhai Patel

Pink Flowered Pigeon Pea Variety



Amrutbhai Agrawat

Arum Bullock Cart



Sakun Das

Water Pump



Bhanjibhai Mathukia

Innovative Check Dam



# National Innovation Foundation

## Celebrating Creativity:

## Rewarding Grassroots Innovations

## & Recognizing Traditional Knowledge

To recognize, respect and reward the unsung heroes and heroines of our society who have solved a technological problem without outside help, the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India, established the National Innovation Foundation in 2000 as an autonomous society under the Chairpersonship of Dr R A Mashelkar, Director General, CSIR. NIF is mandated to build the National Register of Green Grassroots Technological Innovations and Traditional Knowledge Practices developed by various individuals and communities in the unorganized sector. NIF's commitment to grassroots innovators and traditional knowledge holders is aimed at (a) building their linkages with institutional scientists, technologists and designers to add value in their technologies, (b) mobilizing venture capital support to help convert innovations into enterprises, (c) protecting their intellectual property rights and (d) creating a culture of creativity and innovation in society. Through its activities, NIF is striving to make India innovative, self-reliant and a world leader in sustainable technologies.

**The role of Honey Bee Network:** The Honey Bee Network was established about 14 years ago to connect creative people across language and cultures, acknowledge the contribution of innovators and expand policy and institutional space for local knowledge experts. NIF is building upon the Honey Bee philosophy and is trying to generate a movement in the country by linking green grassroots innovators with one another as well as with experts in modern science and technology, markets, design institutions and other relevant formal sector institutions. The national campaign is a means to build solidarity among creative people, by unfolding the potential of genius at grassroots. Several values (7 E's) are being blended such as ethics, excellence, efficiency, environment, education, equity and empathy. The purpose is not only to reward the innovators and traditional knowledge holders but also to enable them to help each other and in the process make India a knowledge intensive society. Creativity in that sense is being combined with compassion, conservation and concern for the disadvantaged people. The entries received by NIF are screened for their possible validity, uniqueness, creativity or embedded valuable traditional knowledge. The selected entries are evaluated with the help of group of experts and Honey Bee Network collaborators. The most outstanding entries are given awards and also support for prototype development and scaling up depending upon the social criticality, potential impact, eco-friendliness, economic condition of the innovator, potential for value addition through linkage with science and technology and prospects of diffusion through commercial and non-commercial channel.

**The competition:** NIF solicits entries about traditional knowledge or unaided technological innovations attempted by individual farmers, fishermen and women, slum dwellers, workshop mechanics, local communities etc. in managing natural resources including biodiversity, generating herbal remedies for human, animal and plant health or developing new technological implements, gadgets or machines or processes for farm operations, household utility, transportation for improved efficiency, energy conservation or generation and reducing drudgery or any other low cost sustainable green technology related to various aspects of survival in urban and rural areas.

**The awards:** The first best three innovations and traditional knowledge practices will be awarded Rs 1,00,000, Rs 50,000 and Rs 25,000 each in different categories. In addition, three individuals and organizations who make extraordinary contributions in scouting grassroots innovations and traditional knowledge will also get awards of Rs 50,000, 25,000 and 15,000 respectively. There will be several consolation prizes of Rs 7,500 each in different categories depending upon the number of entries and incremental inventiveness and potential social and environmental impact. Special awards will be given for innovations and outstanding traditional knowledge of/for women. Outstanding entries will also be widely publicized in the Honey Bee Newsletter and through other media. Summary and/or details of the selected innovative practices and traditional knowledge practices included in the Register will be displayed at the websites of NIF with the Prior Informed Consent (unless such knowledge is already in the public domain) of the innovators/knowledge providers.

**Who can apply:** Individuals or communities who have achieved distinction in improving quality and productivity without the aid of formal institutions are invited to participate in the **fourth competition for ideas, innovations and traditional knowledge**. Ideas for innovative technologies, which have not yet become products are also welcome. The resources of NIF are dedicated to supporting innovators and traditional knowledge holders from the unorganized sector only. Therefore, entries from professionals, that is, those having professional degrees or affiliation with formal institutions are ordinarily not accepted. However, if they have innovated any technology in their individual capacity without any institutional help and that has grassroots applications, it may be considered for inclusion in a separate database of grassroots innovations by professionals. NIF will help them only through linkages and providing visibility, but not financially. NIF is very keen that women knowledge holders participate in this campaign in as large a number as possible. We have had rather limited participation from women in the past and we wish to rectify this situation with the cooperation of groups working with women in the unorganized sector.

**Students:** Young inventors and innovators are invited to send their ideas or innovations for a special category of awards for them. These should be unsupervised, an outcome of their own creativity, without any support from their teachers or outsiders. Students are also encouraged to join SCAI at grassroots (Student Club for Augmenting Innovations) to help other innovators ([scai@nifindia.org](mailto:scai@nifindia.org)).

**How to participate:** Individuals or groups may send as many entries as they wish on plain paper providing the genesis of innovation and traditional knowledge and the background of innovator/ traditional knowledge holders, accompanied by photographs and/or videos if possible and any other information that may help in replicating innovations/ traditional knowledge. Herbal entries may be accompanied by dried plant samples to enable proper identification procedure. The last date for the fourth competition is December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2004. It is requested that every entry is sent with a **full postal address, to facilitate** further communication.

## Where to send Entries

National Coordinator (Scouting and Documentation), **National Innovation Foundation**, Satellite Complex, Bungalow No 1, Premchandnagar Road, Jodhpur Tekra, Ahmedabad 380 015 Gujarat. Email: [campaign@nifindia.org](mailto:campaign@nifindia.org)

[www.nifindia.org](http://www.nifindia.org)

[www.sristi.org](http://www.sristi.org)

[www.gian.org](http://www.gian.org)

[www.indiainnovates.com](http://www.indiainnovates.com)



Gopal Malhari Bhishe

Bicycle Plough



Arvindbhai Patel

Auto Sprayer Pump



Sitaben

Herbal Medicine Practitioner



Annasaheb Udgavi

Rain Gun



Kalnesh Gujjar

Energy Saving Oil Expeller



K. D. Kharkongar

Pest Control in Paddy



Lingamadaiah

Farmer Bred Paddy Variety

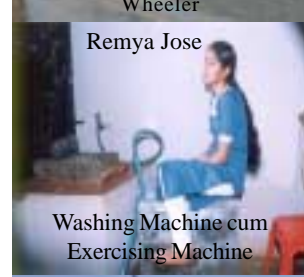


SRISTI Herbal Pesticides & Growth Promoters based on Pooling of Farmers Innovations



Angama Naidu Narayansami

Cell Phone Charger for Two Wheeler



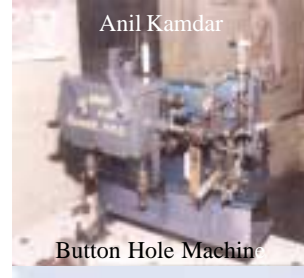
Remya Jose

Washing Machine cum Exercising Machine



Bhanjibhai Mathukia

Mini Tractor



Anil Kamdar

Button Hole Machine



Radhey Shyam & Nathulal Tailor

Trencher



Mansukhbhai Jagani

Motor Cycle Plough



Narayan Bhatt

New Arecanut Variety



Khimjibhai Kanadia

Device to Shift Load from Head to Shoulder



Honey Bee Network



Indian Institute of Management

National Campaign co-sponsored by



Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR)



Society for Research & Initiatives for Sustainable Technologies and Institutions (SRISTI)

# GUIDELINES



National Innovation Foundation

## Why this contest?

The purpose of the competition is to uncover the hidden creative and innovative talent of our society so that livelihood prospects for masses improve through greater efficiency in existing enterprises and also through establishment of new innovation based enterprises. NIF believes that innovations developed by individuals in our society without any outside help from markets or formal institutions can help generate a new model of poverty alleviation and providing employment. These innovations will also hopefully help in conserving resources and energy in every sector. **A National Micro Venture and Innovation Fund is being set up with the support of SIDBI. The idea is to provide risk capital to such individuals from the unorganized sector whose innovations or traditional knowledge are found promising and meet the priority criteria of NIF. GIANS (Grassroots Innovation Augmentation Network) provide incubation support to the selected and prioritised innovations scouted through the contest.**

Outstanding traditional knowledge is getting eroded very fast. We want to document and disseminate the valuable knowledge produced by individuals and communities under the conditions specified by the knowledge providers. This will also contribute towards preservation and augmentation of the heritage of creative knowledge systems.

**Prior Informed Consent:** Each knowledge provider whose contribution is accepted for entry into the National Register will be requested to sign a Prior Informed Consent form. It will specify the conditions under which the knowledge provided to NIF can be shared with third parties with or without restriction on a commercial or non-commercial basis. The PIC form also provides an option for suggesting benefit-sharing formulae, should that technology or traditional knowledge be commercialized.

## NIF will not include the entries in which

- the innovation has received institutional support at any stage of the research design or experiment, either in the development of process or product.
- the research has been pursued in formal research institutions supported by private or public sector (except the unaided innovations in small scale or tiny industrial sector).
- innovations are developed by those having professional degrees or diplomas in say engineering, medical science, pharmacy, biotechnology, veterinary science, architecture, agriculture etc.
- research projects by students supervised and guided by faculty.
- essays or mathematical formulae or proposals for some development projects or only infeasible ideas are given.

A separate database of innovations by professionals for applications at grassroots will be developed. These entries will include cases (a) where a self employed professional or one engaged in tiny or small sector has developed an innovation or conceived an idea with applications at grassroots without institutional help, (b) a professional has developed an innovation in a field other than in which he is professionally trained with applications in saving energy, reducing drudgery of women or other such priority areas. The decision of NIF in regard to acceptance of entries and for consideration of award will be final and no correspondence will be entertained in the matter.

## Criteria for Screening Entries for National Competition 2004

NIF accepts only those entries that are self-driven i.e., developed entirely through one's own efforts at the individual or community level singly or in small groups. An 'aided' grassroots innovation/traditional knowledge shall not be considered in the competition.

The following norms will be followed by NIF for screening of entries:

**4th  
National  
Competition  
for  
Green  
Grassroots  
Technological  
Innovations &  
Outstanding  
Traditional  
Knowledge**

Last Date December  
2004

**Address:**  
National Innovation Foundation  
Bungalow No. 1, Satellite  
Complex, Jodhpur Tekra,  
Premchand Nagar Road,  
Ahmedabad - 380 015,  
Gujarat, India,

For enquiry:  
Email: [info@nifindia.org](mailto:info@nifindia.org)

	Innovations/Idea Traditional Knowledge	Kind of Recognition		Inclusion in National Register <sup>1</sup>	Facilitation through different linkages/ NIF website	
		MR	NMR <sup>3</sup>			
Unaided	Without any institutional involvement	Cash Award	Yes	Yes	Yes	
	Without any support/award	Cash Award	Yes	Yes	Yes	
	Received award from any organization at the state level	With modification	Cash Award	Yes	Yes	Yes
		Without modification	No Award (Financial Sup- port in deserv- ing cases possible)	Yes	Yes	Yes (if social impact is high)
	Innovation by a tiny/small or cottage sector industry by self employed non professional person/s	Cash Award	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Aided	Assistance (monetary/academic) from the formal sector for developing the innovation	No Award	No	No	No	
	Research work/dissertation in a formal research institution/laboratory	No Award	No	No	No	
	Funded research from the public/private sector	No Award	No	No	No	
	If aided by schemes like TePP but the nnovation/ traditional knowledge is developed by an individual/community from the informal sector	Cash Award	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Professional <sup>2</sup>	Self-employed or retired, associated with small scale or tiny industrial units having technological applications for grassroots	No Award	Yes	No	Yes	
	Developed product/device based on known community/individual traditional knowledge	No Award	No	No	Yes	
	Innovations developed in another discipline other than one's own but having application at grassroots	May consider	Yes	No	Yes	
	Innovations developed for non-grassroots application	No Award	No	No	No	
Student	Unsupervised work	Cash Award	Yes	Yes	Yes	
	Supervised work (Faculty, Institutional) with grassroots application	No Award	No	No	Yes	
Theories, Arts and Crafts	Theories, software applications, mathematical formulae	No Award	No	No	No	
	Crafts, fine art design or music compositions or other performing art presentations without any technological innovations	No Award	No	No	No	
	Suggestions for developmental projects, infeasible ideas	No Award	No	No	No	

<sup>1</sup> National Register for Green Grassroots Technological Innovations and Traditional Knowledge includes only unaided innovations and traditional knowledge developed by common people (individuals, groups and communities) at the grassroots.

<sup>2</sup> Experts in any particular field or those who have acquired expertise through professional degree /diploma courses (such as medicine, engineering, biotechnology, polytechnic, pharmacy, veterinary science, architecture, agriculture etc.) from formal universities/research institutions.

<sup>3</sup> Non Monetary Recognition (NMR): This kind of recognition some times is more meaningful than the monetary rewards. It includes public honour, opportunity to **showcase** one's work at various levels and platforms nationally or in some cases even internationally, networking support so as to encourage peer learning, visits to centers of excellence and receiving opportunities of mentoring by outstanding innovators and other experts in their respective fields.