



*National Innovation Foundation*

in support of grassroots innovations

## **The Fifth National Biennial Competition for Scouting Green Grassroots Unaided Technological Innovations Traditional Knowledge**

National Innovation Foundation (NIF), constituted by the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India aims to recognize, respect and reward grassroots technological innovators and traditional knowledge experts. 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) providing micro venture innovation fund (MVIF) - 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 competition:** NIF solicits entries about unaided technological innovations and traditional knowledge developed by individual or group comprising farmers, artisans, fishermen and women, slum dwellers, workshop mechanics, students, local communities etc., in managing natural and/or other resources. Innovations can be in machines, gadgets, implements, or processes for, farm operations, household utility, transportation for improved efficiency, energy conservation or generation, and reduction in drudgery, creative use of biodiversity, plant varieties, generation of herbal remedies for human or animal health or developing new or any other low cost sustainable green technology related to various aspects of survival in urban and rural areas. Creative ideas for innovative technologies are also welcome.

**The awards:** The 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, individuals and/or organizations that make extraordinary contributions in scouting grassroots innovations and traditional knowledge may also get awards besides recognition to many others. There will be several consolation prizes of Rs 10,000 each in different categories depending upon the number of entries and incremental inventiveness and potential social and environmental impact.

**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 **fifth national biennial 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.

**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.

**How to participate:** Individuals or groups may send as many entries as they wish on plain paper providing full information with complete educational background. The last date for the fifth biennial competition is December 31, 2006.

### **Where to send entries**

GIAN-NE, IIT Guwahati, N. Guwahati, Assam-781039 E mail: [gian\\_ne@gian.org](mailto:gian_ne@gian.org)

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