

Innovation Ideas Awards from MNRE

Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) announced Awards for Innovative Ideas in New and Renewable Energy-'Abhinav Soch-Nayec Sambhawanayen'.

Innovation is imperative for indigenous technology development and hence socio economic development. In renewable energy, the sustained technology innovation has resulted into widespread adoption of various renewable energy systems and devices for various applications across the globe. Prizes for innovative ideas is therefore a practical way for stimulating the desire to invent and implement the refined and established technologies. In this endeavor, the Ministry of New & Renewable Energy (MNRE) has introduced a scheme "Award for Innovative Ideas in New and Renewable Energy"- "Abhinav Soch-Nayec Sambhawanayen" in order to recognize and encourage the innovation in New and Renewable Energy Sector.

Nature of Award

The award will be given for innovative ideas supported by basic scientific principles covering design, operation and

utility aspects of the product. The awards will be given annually, total 16 awards will be given in area of the new and renewable energy as follows:

- a) Solar: Any innovation in Solar Water Heaters, Solar Cookers, solar concentrating collector, evacuated tube collector, receiver, selective coating, Solar PV home/street lighting/off-grid system, Invertor, storage systems, including related components, Solar PV water pumping systems and any solar hybrid system.
- b) Wind: Any innovation in wind turbine based power generating system, wind water pumping system, any wind hybrid system.
- c) Biomass: Any innovation in Bio-methanation, biogas purification / enrichment system, gasification and biofuels.
- d) Small Hydro: Any innovation in turbine technology, management of

generated power, design aspects in civil work.

- e) New Technologies: Any innovation in new technologies such as hydrogen, fuel cell, geothermal.

The award will consist of a citation and cash prize of Rs.5,00,000/- (Rs. Five Lakh), Rs 3,00,000/- (Rs. Three Lakh) and Rs 2,00,000/- (Rs. Two Lakh) for first three ranks, respectively .

Purpose of Awards

The objective of the award is to encourage talent of any age for their innovative ideas in resource assessment, improved design, improving the conversion efficiency/ production/ process/ reducing maintenance schedule/automation, improving the machinery used in production, marketing/mass-scale propagation, etc. in the area of new and renewable energy.

The awardee will be given an opportunity to pursue R&D for transforming his/her/their innovation to



product/process as an entrepreneur for desired applications. The MNRE will organize support in form of grant to the innovator for the purpose.

Nomination

- (i) Nominations for the award will be invited by MNRE through its website and national/regional dailies and also through relevant both state and central government departments / organizations.
- (ii) Heads of SNAs, Vice-Chancellors of Agricultural Universities / Central Universities / CSIR Labs/ Directors of ICAR/ AICTE / DC EI' institutes / Biofuel Boards / National Innovation Foundation (NIF), Ahmedabad, IITs, CIIE, IIM, Ahmedabad will be requested to identify and nominate

the candidates in their area of jurisdiction and forward the authentic information in duly filled application in the format to MNRE. These institutions will play an important role in identifying the candidates who have innovative ideas which could be translated into a product. Self-nomination in prescribed format through speed post/ registered post or through MNRE website may also be considered.

- (iii) Information regarding the nomination should be sent by the candidate with a two page concept note describing the complete details of innovation including drawings and working principle on or before the closing date.

be set up by MNRE to examine the nominations for their worth and shortlist the nominations. The shortlisted candidates will be invited to display their design/drawings/innovation in an exhibition to be organized at National Institute of Solar Energy (NISE), Gurgaon.

The innovators will be required to explain the working and merits of the innovation in the exhibition/competition. The shortlisted candidate will be provided 'FA/ DA as per Government of India rates.

A five-member Judging Committee comprising experts in the respective area will be appointed by Secretary, MNRE for making on the spot assessment and recommendation of awards.

Presentation of the Award

A national level competition will be organized at National Institute of Solar Energy (NISE), Gurgaon, wherein the shortlisted candidates will be provided an opportunity to display and demonstrate their innovation.

Table 1: Cash Prize Details

S.No	Category	Cash Prize (Rs)	Number of awards in each category	Total award value (Rs)
1.	First Prize	500000	1	500000
2.	Second Prize	300000	5	1500000
3	Third Prize	200000	10	2000000
Total				4000000

Number of Awards

There will be 16 awards in the field/sector viz. Solar, Wind, Biomass, Small Hydro and New Technology with following cash prizes as mentioned in the Table 1.

Screening of Nominations

A preliminary screening committee will