

A Report on the Third Regional Research Advisory Committee Meeting
December 14 & 15, 2007
GIAN-North, Jaipur

The Third Regional RAC meeting of GIAN-North was held at GIAN-North office on December 14 & 15, 2007 to discuss the short-listed innovations from Fifth National Competition on Grassroots Innovations and TK from North India States which are covered by GIAN-North and some more selected innovations from MP, UP, Bihar and Jharkhand.

The experts present in the meeting were

1. Dr. Gopal Agarwal, Professor, Department of Mechanical Engg., Dean Administration and Dean Student Affairs, MNIT-Jawaharlal Nehru Marg, Jaipur – 302017, Ph.:- 9414078962
2. Dr. D. P. Darmora, In-charge, Department of Agriculture Engineering, Agriculture Research Station, (Rajasthan Agriculture University), Durgapura, Jaipur, Phone - 94147-81762
3. Dr. Shyamlal Soni, Professor & Head, Department of Mechanical Engg., MNIT-Jawaharlal Nehru Marg, Jaipur – 302017, Ph.:- 9829128150
4. Dr. Dilip Sharma, Associate Professor, Department of Mechanical Engg., MNIT-Jawaharlal Nehru Marg, Jaipur – 302017, Ph.:- 9414250328
5. Prof. S.C. Sharda, Ex-Principal-JECRC, 13/1041, Malviya Nagar, near Karan Dhaba, Jaipur, Ph:- 9314502944
6. Sh. Sundaram Verma, Agriculturist & Board Member, Danta, Sikar, Ph.:- 01577 - 270074

The other members present were

1. Rajeev Singhal, CIM, GIAN-North
2. Vishnu Mathur, SM-BD, GIAN-North
3. Mahendra, Fellow, IPR, NIF
4. Hardev Chaudhary, Research Associate (Agri.)
5. Rakesh Maheswari, Fellow, VARD, NIF
6. Alok Gora, Fellow, VARD, NIF
7. Punit, Fellow, BD, NIF
8. Rajeev Sharma, Accounts cum Office assistant, GIAN-N

A brief presentation on NIF and GIAN was given and some examples of grassroots technologies from Northern India were shared. A summary on the innovations to be discussed was presented along with the purpose the meeting and relevance of NDA, parameters to be considered for evaluation etc.. The respective files of the Shortlisted innovations containing relevant information about the innovator, innovator, prior art search results, photographs etc. was presented to the experts and discussion took place in detail with the present innovators too. 14 innovators (list enclosed) participated in the meeting and discussed upon their work. Six innovations were demonstrated before the experts and the rest were presented with the help of videos, photographs, documents and direct discussions with the innovators. Most of them appreciated the initiative and expressed their thanks for providing this opportunity to them for present their own case.

Following Parameters were considered for evaluation of the Innovations

- A) Degree of novelty/uniqueness
- B) Technical Feasibility

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- C) Commercial Viability
- D) Cost effectiveness
- E) Social impact/Relevance to mass
- F) Adoption potential (is it easy or difficult)
- G) Eco-friendliness/ Environmental Implication and Remarks

A total of 19 selected innovations from North India state covered by GIAN-North were discussed. In addition 15 more innovations were discussed from M.P., U.P., Bihar and Jharkhand. List of these innovations is enclosed for reference. A summary of the evaluation by the experts on the discussed innovations is also enclosed along with the actual comments given by each expert.

General recommendations made by the experts are listed as below

- Brief details about the innovations to be discussed may be shared with the experts highlighting the novelty of the innovation.
- It is advisable to present the innovations whose prototyping has been done than the innovations which are only at idea stage.
- The innovators should also be invited in the meeting to discuss their work and if possible a demonstration of their work may be made.
- The IPR of the innovations which are good, should be protected immediately.
- Instead of having a common evaluation sheet and criteria, specific points/questions may be mentioned for experts to evaluate the work of the innovator.

Learning/ experiences from the meeting

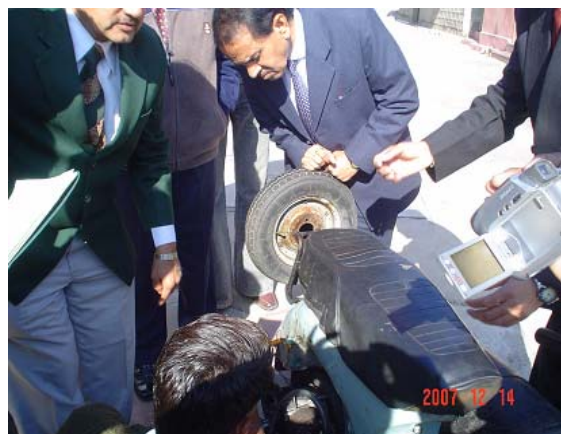
GIAN-N team experienced and observed following points which may help in taking up initiatives to get more results out of such meetings.

- The comments from the experts are in brief and indicative ones. We may send the selected cases back to concerned experts for detailing of the comments and recommendations. Experts who has facilities and proposed to help further, may be requested to take up projects for further development.
- Direct Interaction of innovators and Experts is observed as fruitful. The interaction clarified several queries of the experts on the spot. This also boosted the moral of the innovators for getting the opportunity to present their work, interact with such group and understand the process and the limitations. Most of the innovators were open for the criticism also.
- The environment was encouraging as every participant was willing to contribute and the innovators were open to share the information which otherwise they are reluctant to.
- The meeting may be arranged in a conference hall such that proper presentation could be made. The space available at GIAN-N is open and has limitations.
- A Programme Schedule of the presentation of innovations (*with proper time allocation*) would help in getting clear comments. Dedicated time may be given for writing comments after each innovation is discussed.
- The innovators may be requested to share their experience and suggestions about the activity. This may help us in understanding their view.
- We may have participation from women experts as well as women innovators in the meeting.
- Several points were emerged out of the interaction between the participants (*especially the experts and the innovators*), which helped us in planning the further course of action like value addition/ prototyping proposals, testing proposals, participation in fairs.
- Sh. Gopal Dave is participating in Kissan Mela in January 2008 in Jodhpur alongwith some more innovators/ innovations who didn't planned it earlier. GIAN-N is facilitating the process. Sh. Dave also gave inputs to Sh. Ranjit

Singh and Amandeep Singh to improve their seed drill part of multi-functional farm implement. This is a good example where one innovator is helping another to improve their innovation and also guiding them to take it to market.

- One innovator from Punjab, Sh. Malkit Singh who has modified a two cylinder engine and improved its performance has worked with a private company for four years. Although he is an art graduate but may/ may not come under prof. category. We were confused, whether to include him or not, but finally he was invited. His work was most appreciated by the experts and they were surprised, how can such an error was left in engine design for years? Experts offered to test his engine at MNIT, Jaipur and check its performance. His work after proper testing and trials may get good business.
- The experts may be involved more actively not only once but at different levels of incubation.

Glimpses of the Meeting



The team of experts busy in look on compressed air vehicle innovation



Team of Experts(L to R) Shri SC Sharda, Sh. DP Darmora, S. Soni and Sh. Dilip Sharma, listening the presentation from innovator



Live demo of multifunctional farm machine to experts



CIM, briefing about the background of the next innovation to be presented



Sh. Dharamveer, innovator Multipurpose Extraction/ processing machine explaining the process to experts



The range of Herbal products extracted From Extraction Machine of Mr. Dharamveer, highlighted in meeting



Malkit Singh, innovator, running two cylinder engine in continuity explaining the innovation, highly appreciated by experts

Team of NIF presenting Innovations

Rajeev Singhal
CIM, GIAN-North