

NARI's Achievements

(Details are on our website www.nariphaltan.org)

Agriculture

- High yielding varieties of cotton, sunflower, safflower and sweet sorghum.
- The world's first non-spiny hybrid of safflower, NARI-NH-1.
- Introduced sweet sorghum in India in the early 1970s.
- The complete technology for producing syrup and jaggery from the Madhura sweet sorghum hybrid.

Alternative energy

- The program of Energy Self-sufficient Talukas, which was the basis for the National policy implemented by the Ministry of Non-conventional Energy Sources (MNES), Govt. of India, New Delhi.
- Pioneered in early 1980s the production of ethanol from sweet sorghum. Set up at NARI campus the world's first solar powered distillery plant.
- Developed ethanol stoves and a lanterns that run on a low concentration (50% w/w and above) ethanol-water mixture.
- Technology of solar detoxification of distillery waste using a suitable photo-catalyst.
- Pioneered the development of bagasse and loose leafy biomass gasifier.
- Pioneered the development of improved pedal and electric cycle rickshaws. Also developed electric vehicles for handicapped persons.

Animal husbandry

A new strain of Deccani sheep, called Nari Suwarna, has been developed. The sheep give, on average, 1.5 lambs per litter compared to one lamb per litter produced presently. This enables shepherds to increase their flock size much faster.

NARI's Awards

NARI and its staff have won some major awards, which include the Padma Shri, University of Florida most distinguished alumnae Award, FICCI Award, Jamnalal Bajaj Award, US based Solar Hall of Fame, Energy Globe Award, Vasantro Naik Award, CSIR Rural Technology Award, Sweden based Globe Award etc.



THERE IS ENOUGH IN THE WORLD FOR EVERY MAN'S NEED BUT NOT FOR EVERY MAN'S GREED

- M.K. GANDHI



NARI is on the main Phaltan-Lonand road, 4 km from Phaltan and 100 km from Pune.



Nimbkar Agricultural Research Institute

Address: Phaltan-Lonand Road,
Tambmal,
P.O. Box 44,
Phaltan - 415523,
Maharashtra, India.

Phone: +91-2166-220945
+91-2166-222396

Fax: +91-2166-225246

Email: nariphaltan@nariphaltan.org;
nariphaltan@gmail.com

Website: www.nariphaltan.org

Registered under the Societies Registration Act XXI and the Bombay Public Trust Act of 1950.



Simple living - high thinking

NARI Center For Sustainable Development

www.nariphaltan.org/ncsd



NCSD is a new center of Nimbkar Agricultural Research Institute (NARI) - a rural NGO situated near Phaltan in the state of Maharashtra, India. It is a residential research and teaching facility, providing a forum for professionals from different fields to collaborate and generate solutions for rural India. The participants will include CEOs of the corporate world, civil society, local community leaders and government officials.

The center was made possible through the generous donations of the Bajaj Group, Nimbkar Seeds, as well as numerous other small donors.

The NARI Center

The center is a self-contained facility on NARI's main campus and houses a conference room with modern visual/audio equipment and seating capacity for 100, a dining room and simple yet clean accommodation for 20 people. It has a covered area of 900 m².

Conferences and short courses will be arranged with experts from all over the world who will speak on issues affecting rural areas such as water harvesting and its sustainable use, the environment, sustainable transport and issues of household energy like cooking and lighting. Possible solutions based on high technology will be presented. The potential of creating jobs through the production of renewable energy will also be discussed.

Participants will be made conscious of the lack of basic amenities, poor resource usage and non-sustainability in rural areas. Philosophical issues will be addressed regarding the amount of energy required to live a decent lifestyle and the whole paradigm of simple living and high thinking will be introduced.

A hands-on approach will be the guiding principle and brainstorming sessions will be held to provide solutions for rural areas.

The center is interested in the empowerment of rural women and interactive sessions will be held for this purpose.



Setting

The center is located on NARI campus which is in the countryside 4 km outside Phaltan on the Lonand-Phaltan highway. Phaltan is a lively rural town 100 km south-east of Pune. NARI has 50 acres of research farmland surrounding its main campus, which are used to grow a variety of crops. Visitors are welcome to wander through it in peace - hear the birds, and at night be refreshed by the pleasant climate and have an unobstructed view of predominantly clear starry skies.

The Way Forward

Experience

We believe that we can find the solutions for rural India only if we experience it. The same program held only in a city would be futile. The rural setting of the center will hopefully inspire the participants to think deeply about the issues involved and possible solutions. Thus living on NARI farms and visit to local areas will help in this endeavor. Only if you see it will you feel it. Only if you feel it will you think about it.

Simple living - high thinking

The programs, besides talking about high technological rural solutions, will introduce the concept of simple living in daily life. Thus there will be extensive intellectual exchanges regarding the whole paradigm of high thinking and sustainable living.

Solutions

After the conference/workshop the participants will have a fairly good idea about the pressing problems of rural India and possible technological solutions to them.

About NARI

NARI is a non-profit research and development institute, established in 1968. It carries out research and development in agriculture, renewable energy, animal husbandry and sustainable development. Most of NARI's funding has come from sponsored research by the Government of India, international agencies and private companies. The institute has a tax exempt status under Section 35(1)(ii) of the Income Tax Act and thus all donations to NARI are 100% tax exempt. It is also registered under the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act.



NARI's Philosophy

- The key to rural development is through the use of sophisticated technology to efficiently and holistically convert the locally available but scarce resources and materials into useful end products.
- Energy from agricultural residues can produce wealth and jobs in rural India.
- Solutions are best found through a collaborative effort between the corporate sector, NGOs, government, and local residents, as well as the educational and research sectors.
- Each one of us should become sustainable in our lifestyles so that we use the resources for our needs; not for our greed. Sustainable lifestyles can be possible if we become spiritual, which helps us become more secure. Increased internal security helps in reducing greed.