



INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AT

NIMBKAR AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Sustainable Rural Development through the Application of Science and Technology

The Institute

NARI is a private non-profit research and development institute. It was established in 1968 by Shri B.V. Nimbkar who remained in the role of its President until 1990. Since then Dr. Nandini Nimbkar has held the position of Permanent President. The institute is registered under the Societies Registration Act XII of 1860 and the Bombay Public Trust Act of 1950. It is situated in the rural town of Phaltan in Maharashtra state.

The institute undertakes research mainly in agriculture, renewable energy, animal husbandry and sustainable development.

Infrastructure

The institute is housed in spacious buildings (total area is about 3500m²) and has about 40 hectares of farm with year-round irrigation facilities for research purposes. NARI also has well-equipped laboratories with sophisticated analytical instruments and computational facilities, a full-fledged workshop, and excellent semen-freezing, parasitology and chemistry as well as basic nutrition and molecular biology laboratories. Most of the hardware for research is fabricated in the workshop. The institute has a small, though well-stocked library with about 6000 books and subscribes to about 60 periodicals (both national and international) in the areas of agriculture, energy and animal husbandry.



The basic philosophy of the Institute is to solve the age-old problems of rural India through the application of science and technology. Consequently, highly innovative research and development programs have been undertaken in the areas of agriculture, renewable energy, animal husbandry and sustainable development.

NARI has pioneered the concept of technologies, such as gasification, distillation, combined lighting and cooking stoves and many others, for rural application. These concepts are now being considered by many institutions worldwide.

The major areas of R&D at NARI are as follows:

Agriculture:

The focus of agricultural research at NARI has been on drought-tolerant crops. Research is therefore being conducted on safflower and sweet sorghum using whole plant approach. Thus the strategy is to use all the parts of the crop for human needs to mitigate food vs. fuel issues. In both these crops NARI is an All India Coordinated research center under the aegis of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), Government of India.



Safflower in bloom

Interns in the past have been Master of Science (MSc) in Agriculture and Management.

Renewable Energy:



kerosene lantern and stove

Renewable energy is one of the main areas of NARI's research. The focus is on the use of the best tools of science and technology to solve the energy problems of rural areas. Consequently innovative R&D has been done in the areas of **household energy** (Lanstove and improved kerosene lanterns), **power generation, mobility issues** (MAPRA: Motor-Assisted Pedal Rickshaw, IMPRA: Improved Pedal Rickshaw), **creation of renewable fuels, household water treatment** among others.

Interns in the past have been Bachelor's, Master's or Ph.D degree-holders in Microelectronics and microsystems, Mechanical Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Chemical Engineering and Physics.

Animal Husbandry:

The Animal Husbandry Division (AHD) of NARI was started in 1990. The chief aim of the AHD is to genetically improve local goats and sheep, and to improve the management of these animals on which the livelihoods of many rural people are dependent. AHD conducts scientific research and implements programmes aimed at increasing the income and wellbeing of people dependent on sheep and goat herding.



NARI Suwama ewe with its 4-month old twin male lambs

Centre for Sustainable Development:

Planning for the construction of Bajaj Centre for Sustainable Development (BCSD) began in 2006. The centre was completed in 2011 and has been a very positive addition to NARI. The center is the venue for educational seminars on sustainable development, spirituality and various areas of research in which NARI is involved.

Two young American architects were instrumental in preparing the design of the centre during their internship.



INTERNSHIP EXPERIENCE AT NARI

Since NARI is an R&D institute, we expect the interns to have a minimum of bachelor's degree in agriculture, engineering or sciences. Interns with master's degree are preferred. NARI benefits from the enthusiasm of these interns and in turn these interns get a rich experience of doing projects relevant to rural India. There is a tremendous opportunity at NARI to get hands on experience of developing technologies.



« Like I said, I worked on a very wide range of subject and for this I can thanks NARI because they allow a lot of freedom to the interns to do they work. » Pierrick Fosseze, 2012

« We are really happy that we came here and we would like to encourage any person who wants to "learn life" to come here. » Vikram Kadam and Amit Bhojane, 2009



« The institute is very helpful to the interns. If you have any problems with your project or just in routine life, they will help you out. ». Sander Greenfield, 2005

For the complete report: nariphaltan.org/volunteers.pdf

LIFE AT PHALTAN

Phaltan is a taluka town in Satara district in the Indian state of Maharashtra.

Phaltan's climate is an inland climate of Maharashtra. The average has a relatively high range between 25 to 45 °C (77 to 113 °F) depending on the season.

Accommodation



Cost of staying in Phaltan is very reasonable. Thus a comfortable one or two bedroom apartment can be rented for Rs. 1500-2000 per month (US \$ 35-45) and good Indian meals cost Rs. 175-225 per day (US \$ 4-5).

Accommodation is also available in NARI BCSD, with all the comforts like continuous water, electricity, internet and European toilet.

Eating

Restaurants: Around 100 meter from the Institute, Rs 1800/ month for lunch and dinner everyday.

Places around Phaltan

- Mahabaleshwar: Famous hill station
- Pandharpur : Vithoba temple on the banks of Bhima river
- Shikhar - Shingnapur : A hill-top temple dedicated to Lord Shiva
- Dhom : Known for its ghats on the banks of Krishna river
- The nearest big city is Pune (2h30min to 3h by bus).



Local Dhaba where lunch/snacks are available



DO YOU WANT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE ?

How ?

By working in a science-based non-governmental organization (NGO) in rural Maharashtra.
www.nariphaltan.org

Nature of work ?

- (1) Develop technologies for rural areas using sophisticated S&T tools.
- (2) Participate in producing innovative ideas for rural development.
- (3) Help in running the Center for Sustainable Development. The details of the center are at www.nariphaltan.org/ncsd

Who can apply ?

Brilliant young engineers/scientists and future leaders who want to be involved in nation-building and providing a better life to the rural poor. Basic requirements are B.Tech in Mechanical or Chemical engineering, Material science, etc. M.Tech and Ph.Ds are also welcome.

How many do we need ?

Two to three persons, at a time.

For how long ?

From three months to one year. We can assure you that it will be a wonderful experience to work and live in rural India. Later on wherever you work you will always look at this experience with fondness and it will help enrich your future work.

When do we need you ?

Immediately.

What will you get ?

This is more in the nature of volunteer work. Hence we will only offer you a free place to stay.

This experience is not for those who consider this as another job. This is not a job but a mission.

If you want to apply for internship at NARI please fill up the form at :
www.nariphaltan.org/internform.pdf

Nimbkar Agricultural Research Institute

Tambmal, Phaltan-Lonand Road,

P.O. Box 44, Phaltan 415 523,

Maharashtra, India

Website: www.nariphaltan.org

Mail: nariphaltan@gmail.com

