

CSIR AWARD FOR S&T INNOVATIONS FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT (CAIRD)

1. Purpose of the Award:

The Award recognizes those outstanding S&T innovations/ solutions that have helped transform the lives of rural people or alleviated the drudgery of the rural people or have helped in generation of employment. Successful S&T innovations/solutions that are implemented at ground level thus are considered. The innovation/solution applied for, should simultaneously have also broaden interactions among academic, R&D and rural financial institutions, industry and commercial sectors, and rural people and provided newer vehicles for participatory developments. CSIR values purpose of innovation.

2. The Award:

This annual award consists of cash prize of Rs. 10 lakhs, a citation and a plaque.

3. Eligibility:

Any Indian team, or an organization, or a company registered in India will be eligible to apply.

4. Selection Criteria:

The technological innovation should have:

- Created a paradigm shift in standards of quality of life or alleviated the drudgery of the rural people;
- Demonstrated competitive advantage and positive user response;
- Helped in generation of rural employment in the country; and
- Shown a new way of conducting business to achieve social and economic transformation in the domain of rural development.

5. Selection:

For selecting the awardee, a two-tier selection process will be adopted. The initial screening, to shortlist the qualifying applicants out of the total applications received, will be done by a committee of eminent experts representing diverse disciplines. The Committee will be chaired by an eminent rural development expert / social scientist/ technologist/ member of the CSIR GB. The shortlisted applicants will then be considered by a high-level expert committee chaired by an eminent rural development expert / social scientist/ technologist/ Chairman of the CSIR Advisory Board.

The Award is normally presented along with the CSIR Diamond Jubilee Technology Award and Shanti Swaroop Bhatnagar Awards.

Previous Year Awardee(s)

| Year | Awardee(s) |
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| 2006 | Central Leather Research Institute, Chennai for developing and implementing "Critical Technologies of Socio-economic Significance for Leather Sector" |
| 2007 | National Research Centre on Yak (NRC-YAK), Dirang jointly with Nimbkar Agricultural Research Institute (NARI), Phaltan and National Chemical Laboratory (NCL), Pune for "Improvement of Sustainable Yak Husbandry Practices in Himalayan Region" and for "Use of the FecB (Booroola) gene in Deccani breed of sheep to increase lamb production and thereby the incomes of shepherds" respectively |
| 2008 | Central Salt & Marine Chemical Research Institute (CSMCRI), Bhavnagar jointly with Central Institute of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants (CTMAP), Lucknow for "Innovations in the area of Salt for Rural Development" and for "Biovillage strategy for Agri-business of Medical and Aromatic Plants" respectively |
| 2009 | Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL), R&D Centre, Faridabad for "Development of environment friendly, non-toxic, bio-degradable Servo Agrospray Oil for agricultural crops" |
| 2010 | Defence Institute of High Altitude Research (DIHAR), Leh Ladakh for the "Development of cold arid agro-animal technologies for rural development in Ladakh region (J&K)" |
| 2011 | Directorate of Agriculture, Govt. of Uttar Pradesh and CSIR-National Botanical Research institute (CSIR-NBRI) Lucknow for the "Plant Growth Promoting Microbial Bioinoculants for Enhanced Crop Productivity |
| 2012 | CSIR-Central Salt & Marine Chemicals Research Institute (CSIR-CSMCRI), Bhavnagar along with AquAgri processing Pvt. Ltd. (AquAgri), New Delhi for "Cultivation of red seaweed Kappaphycus alvarezii and co-production of bio-nutrients & Carrageenan from fresh seaweed" |
| 2013 | CSIR-Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CSIR-CCMB), Hyderabad along with Directorate of Rice Research (DRR), ICAR, Hyderabad New Delhi for "Development and deployment of an improved Samba Mahsuri rice variety which is bacterial blight resistant, high yielding and possesses fine-grains |
| 2014 | CSIR-Central Institute of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants (CSIR-CIMAP), Lucknow along with Directorate of Rice Research (DRR), ICAR, Hyderabad New Delhi for "Enhancing incomes of farm communities through Vetiver based Technological Interventions" |
| 2015 | None found suitable |
| 2016 | CSIR-Indian Institute of Petroleum (CSIR-IIP) for "Development & Wide Popularization of eco-friendly and efficient Jaggery Plant" |