



## BIODATA

**NAME** : **ANIL K. RAJVANSHI**

**PRESENT POSITION** : Director, **Nimbkar Agricultural Research Institute (NARI)**  
PHALTAN 415523, Maharashtra, India.

Phone : 02166-22396 /20945 (O)

( International: 91-2166-22396/20945)

Fax : 02166-21328 (International : 91-2166-21328)

E-mail: [anilrajvanshi@vsnl.com](mailto:anilrajvanshi@vsnl.com)

<http://nariphaltan.virtualave.net>

**EDUCATION** : Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering, **University of Florida**,  
Gainesville, Florida, U.S.A. 1979; B.Tech. and M.Tech. in  
Mechanical Engineering from **Indian Institute of Technology**,  
Kanpur in 1972 and 1974, respectively.

**AREA OF SPECIALIZATION** : Solar Distillation; Heat Transfer; Solar Energy Thermal Processes;  
Biomass Gasification and Combustion; Electric Vehicles ; Rural  
Energy R&D and Policy ; and Sustainable Development.

### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

- **Director**, Nimbkar Agricultural Research Institute, Phaltan, Maharashtra (1981- ).
- Trustee and Hon. Secretary, Nimbkar Agricultural Research Institute, Phaltan .
- Member, Expert Committee, **Maharashtra Electricity Regulatory Commission (MERC)** ( **2000-2002**)

- Member, Sub Group on Resource Mobilization for NRSE, **Planning Commission, Government of India (2001)**. The mandate of this group was to assist in making the 10<sup>th</sup> Five-year National Plan in Non conventional energy sources.
- Member, Sub group on Energy and Environment, **State Planing Commission, Government of Maharashtra, (1990-96)**.
- Advisor, **International Foundation of Science (IFS)**, Stockholm, Sweden on Energy Projects, (1987- ).
- India Representative of **E & Co.**, a U.S.-based and **Rockefeller Foundation**, N.Y. sponsored energy investment company (1995-2000)
- Creator of the **first venture fund for renewable energy in India**. This is a \$10 million fund for which an MOU has been signed between Winrock International, NARI and United Western Bank Ltd.
- Consultant to **Winrock International**, a USA based organization
- Visiting Professor, Department of Mechanical Engineering, **Indian Institute of Technology, Powai, Bombay**, (1982-). I teach courses on alternative energy to graduate students.
- Consultant to some leading companies in Pune and Bombay on Energy Conservation, Solar Energy, etc.
- Recognized as **Ph.D. guide** in Mechanical Engineering by Shivaji University, Kolhapur, (1985- ).
- Member, Task Force on Biomass based Power plants at Taluka level, **Ministry of Non-conventional Energy Sources**, Govt. of India, New Delhi (1994). As a **principal author** of this concept, I was asked to help formulate the national policy for energy self-sufficient Talukas.
- Member, Publications Committee, **International Solar Energy Society (ISES)**, (1989-1991).
- Member, working Group on Rural Cooking Energy Needs, **Planning Commission, Govt. of India**, New Delhi, (1988-89). The mandate of this group was to prepare the Eighth, 5-year plan for the nation.
- Member, Expert Panel on Rural Domestic Energy, **Advisory Board on Energy, Govt. of India**. This was the highest energy policy body in the country set up to advise the Prime Minister on energy matters, (1983-1988).
- Member, Working Group on Biomass Gasification, Department of Non-conventional Energy Sources, **Ministry of Energy**, Govt. of India, New Delhi, (1985-87). The mandate of this group was to develop a national plan for biomass gasification for India.

- Advisor, Nirma Institute of Technology (2002-2005).
- Technical Advisor on Solar Energy Projects to National Chemical Laboratory, Pune, India, (1981-83).
- IREDA nominee on the board of Kay Pulp and Papers Ltd., Satara, Maharashtra (2001-).
- IREDA nominee on the board of Rajaram Solvex Pvt. Ltd., Sangli, Maharashtra (2002-).

#### **U.S.A. EXPERIENCE:**

- Instructor in the Center for Training in Alternative Energy Technologies (TAET), Department of Mechanical Engineering, **University of Florida, Gainesville, U.S.A.** This center was set up to train scientists and energy planners from developing countries, in solar energy and other renewable energy technologies. I was instrumental in setting up this center (1979-1981).
- Consultant to Volunteers in Technical Assistance (VITA), Maryland, U.S.A. Was invited by **Egyptian Government** to visit Cairo to advise them on kerosene stove improvement and development program.( June 1981).
- Provided consultancy in the area of Solar Energy to a couple of companies in U.S.A.
- Taught post-graduate and undergraduate courses on heat transfer, energy conversion and solar energy utilization at Dept. of Mech. Engg., **University of Florida, Gainesville, U.S.A.**
- Graduate student in the Department of Mech. Engg., University of Florida, Gainesville, U.S.A. (1975-1979).

#### **AWARDS/GRANTS**

- Recipient of Government of India **National Scholarship** for study abroad for study of solar energy at the University of Florida, (1974-1979). About 50 scholars are chosen from whole country every year by the Govt. for this scholarship.
- Listed in **Marquis Who's Who in the World (10th Edition) 1990.**
- Inducted in prestigious U.S. based **Solar Hall of Fame ( 1998).** I am the second Indian to be chosen for this prestigious award.
- **Jamnalal Bajaj Award** for Application of Science and Technology for rural areas (2001).
- Was invited as a lecturer in the "Distinguished Lecturer Series" at Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore. This series was funded by **University Grants Commission (UGC), Govt. of India, (1988).**

- Was sent as a part of two member study team by Govt. of India ( Ministry of Energy) and sponsored by **FAO** to Philippines and Thailand to look at their biomass energy program, (1986).
- Principal Investigator of 28 projects (1982-2001) funded by various Govt. of India and international agencies with grants totaling Rs. 23 million.
- Our work on alternative energy has been featured many times in National mass media including T.V. and radio. A 35 minute video film entitled “Energy for Rural Development” has been made by EMRC, Pune on our Energy R & D activities and was shown on National T.V. Recently **BBC World service, STAR News, ZEE News** and **Doordarshan** carried our work on electric rickshaws.

### **MEMBERSHIP OF SOCIETIES**

Member of International Solar Energy Society, Indian Solar Energy Society, Bio Energy Society of India, American Society of Mechanical Engineers.

### **PUBLICATIONS (list available on request)**

92, in various national, international journals and conferences; 21 editorial articles in some of the leading newspapers and magazines of India; **5 patents**; one chapter entitled “Biomass Gasification” in a book **Alternative Energy in Agriculture**”, published by CRC Press, U.S.A. (1987); A Chapter entitled " **Sustainable Energy Development -- A Gandhian Approach** " in a book **Gandhi in 21st Century**, published by Prachee Publications, Hyderabad (1999); Chaired **various sessions in National and International conferences.**

### **INVITED LECTURES**

Given at large number of organizations and institutes in **India** like I.I.T., Bombay; Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research (IGIDR), Bombay; I.I.Sc., Bangalore; Staff College, Hyderabad; Centre of Cellular & Molecular Biology (CCMB), Hyderabad etc. In **U.S.A.** invited lectures given at University of California, Berkeley; University of California, Davis; University of Florida, Gainesville; Carleton College, Minnesota; N.C. State A &M, Greensboro etc.

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