

BIODATA

NAME : ANIL K. RAJVANSHI

PLACE/date of birth : Lucknow (1 September 1950)

PRESENT POSITION : Director, **Nimbkar Agricultural Research Institute (NARI)**

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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, (IIT) Kanpur** in 1972 and 1974, respectively. Schooling in Lucknow. Passed Indian School Certificate in 1966 from St. Francis School.

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

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- **Director**, [Nimbkar Agricultural Research Institute](http://www.nariphaltan.org), Phaltan, Maharashtra (1981-).
- Trustee and Hon. Secretary, Nimbkar Agricultural Research Institute, Phaltan .
- Member, State Advisory Committee, **Maharashtra Electricity Regulatory Commission (MERC)** (2000-)
- Member, Awards Committee, **Jamnalal Bajaj Foundation**, Mumbai (2003-).
- Member, Core Advisory Group for Rural Technologies, **Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India**, New Delhi (2003-).
- Member, Sub Group on Rural technology Transfer, **Planning Commission**, GOI (2003-2004).
- 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 10th Five-year National Plan in Non conventional energy sources.

- Member, Sub group on Energy and Environment, **State Planning Commission, Government of Maharashtra, (1990-96)**.
- 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 was a \$10 million fund for which an MOU was signed between Winrock International, NARI and United Western Bank Ltd. in 2000. Unfortunately, Winrock could not raise the corpus.
- Consultant to **Winrock International**, a USA based organization (1999-2000)
- Visiting Professor, Department of Mechanical Engineering, **Indian Institute of Technology, Powai, Bombay**, (1982-). I occasionally teach courses on alternative energy to graduate students.
- Permanent **Ph.D. guide**, 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, Ahmedabad (2002-2005).
- Technical Advisor on Solar Energy Projects to National Chemical Laboratory, Pune, India, (1981-83).

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).
- 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.
- 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 S&T for rural areas (2001).
- **FICCI Annual Award** for Rural Development (2001-02)
- **Energy Globe Award** for motor assisted cycle rickshaw (MAPRA) (2004).
- **Globe Forum Award** for ethanol lanstove (2009)
- Invited as a lecturer in the “Distinguished Lecturer Series” at Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore. (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).
- Invited by Department of Mechanical Engineering, **University of Florida, Gainesville, USA** to deliver the inaugural lecture of Charles V. and Bertha C. Perrill lecture series on Sustainable development,(July 2002)
- Invited by the **Principal Scientific Advisor to the Government of India** to address scientists at Bhabha Atomic Research Center (BARC), Mumbai on rural technology, September 2003.
- Invited by School of Engineering at University of Florida, Gainesville in September 2004 to give a **Distinguished Lecture** to the faculty and staff.
- Invited to give an **Institute lecture at IIT, Bombay** in August 2006.

- Invited to [lecture in the prestigious Globalization Series](#) at Patel Center, University of South Florida, Tampa, USA. March 2007.
- Invited by UNDP and Chinese Government in November 2007 to advise them on rural energy programs.
- Invited to give Technology Day and Prof. [B.D.Tilak Memorial Lecture](#) at [NCL](#) on 22 May 2009.
- [Plenary address](#) at [International Conference on Environment 2010](#), 13-15 December 2010, Penang, Malaysia.
- Invited to give an [Institute lecture at IIT Kharagpur](#), 28 February 2011.
- [Issues in Food and Energy security](#). A guest of honor lecture at International Conference on Food Security and Hunger Management, Organized by Vishwa Yuwak Kendra, New Delhi. 28-30 July, 2011.
- Invited to deliver 9th IndSearch Public Awareness lecture in Pune on [Corruption and Corporate Sustainability](#), 9th August 2011.
- [Keynote address at North India HR Conference in Lucknow](#), 25 February 2012.
- [Keynote address at Indian National Academy of Engineering](#), New Delhi. September 2012.
- Invited to give keynote lectures and speeches at many national and international seminars including CII (India), NCIIA (USA), etc.
- Principal Investigator of 32 projects (1982-2005) funded by various Govt. of India and international agencies with grants totaling Rs. 29 million.
- Our work on alternative energy has been featured many times in National mass media including T.V. and radio. Thus **BBC World service, STAR News, ZEE News, Surabhi, NDTV** and Doordarshan have carried our work on electric rickshaws and other inventions. A [half hour video clips](#) on our work was shot by Cornell University, USA in March 2007.

PUBLICATIONS (list of [complete publications](#))

Papers, blogs, etc.

More than 160 in various national, international journals, conferences proceedings and technical reports, including 30 editorial articles on **energy, spirituality and sustainability** in some of the leading newspapers and magazines of India; [Blog in Speaking Tree](#)

Books and chapters in Books

- Book entitled "[Nature of Human Thought](#) - Essays on Mind, matter, Spirituality and Technology". Second edition. Published by NARI, India. (October 2010).
- "[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).
- Book entitled "[1970s America – An Indian student’s journey](#)". Published by NARI, India (November 2007).
- An article entitled "[Sustainable Development – the Gandhian Way](#)" in a book [Timeless Inspirator – Reliving Gandhi](#), (Ed. R.M. Mashelkar). Published by Gandhi Memorial Society, Pune (October 2010).

Patents: Seven (7) on gasification, effluent treatment, lanterns, ethanol stove and efficient rickshaws.

INVITED LECTURES

Given at large number of organizations and institutes in **INDIA** like [PAN IIT](#); [I.I.T., Bombay](#); IIM, Lucknow; Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research (IGIDR), Bombay; **TERI**, New Delhi; **I.I.Sc.**, Bangalore; Staff College, Hyderabad; Centre of Cellular & Molecular Biology (CCMB), Hyderabad; [BARC](#), Mumbai; **R&D (E) -a DRDO Lab**, Pune; [TIFR](#); [ORF](#); **Indian Institute of Mines**, Dhanbad, [SKDU, Gujarat](#); [Railway Staff College](#), Vadodara; etc.

In **U.S.A.** invited lectures given at **University of California**, Berkeley; **MIT**, Boston; **University of California**, Davis; **University of Florida**, Gainesville; **Carleton College**, Minnesota; **N.C. State A &M**, Greensboro, etc. Chaired various sessions in National and International conferences.

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