

No. W-11039/11/2013/NBA
Government of India
Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation

12th Floor Paryavaran Bhawan,
CGO Complex, Lodhi Road,
New Delhi-110003 the 12th March, 2014
Ph. 011-24364427 Fax : 24364869

To

1. The Principal Secretary/Secretary Incharge of Rural Sanitation
All States and UTs
2. The NBA State Coordinators of All States and UTs.

Subj: Reinvent the toilet fair: India 2014 in New Delhi on March 21-22, 2014

Sir/Madam

The Ministry of Science and Technology, Department of Bio Technology, Govt. of India is partnering with Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and organizing the "Reinvent the Toilet Fair: India 2014" in New Delhi on March 21-22, 2014. The Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation, Govt. of India is also participating in the above fair. The purpose of the fair is to promote innovation in the field of Sanitation and extend access to sanitation to the unserved areas in India. The programme will showcase some leading global innovators in the field of sanitation and shall provide a platform to International and Indian innovators, manufacturers, Government partners and others to discuss these innovations and critical sanitation issues.

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation has requested this Ministry to extend an invitation to the Principal Secretary/Secretary Incharge of Rural Sanitation and the NBA State Coordinators of All States and UTs to participate in the two day programme. Attention is specifically drawn to the programme on 22nd March, 2014 between 2 pm to 4 pm in which there will be a thematic discussion on "Challenges in providing universal access to sanitation services in India and the role of innovation". The Secretary, Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation shall also attend the programme on 22nd March, 2014.


It is requested that States/UTs attend the Fair and send their nominations at the emails:

ReinventedToilet@GatesFoundation.org or Chaitanya.Datta@GatesFoundation.org and sujoy.m@nic.in

Travel and Accommodation expenses shall not be paid by the organizers. Invitation letters from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and a Note on the programme is enclosed for information.


Encl.: As above

Yours faithfully,


(Sujoy Mojumdar)
Director, NBA

Copy for information to :

1. Shri Hari Menon, Deputy Director- India Country Programmes, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, 3rd Floor, Left Wing, Capital Court Building, Olof Palme Marg, Munirka, New Delhi-67 Fax : 41003101, Ph. 4713 8800
2. Dr. Shailja Vaidya Gupta, Director, International Cooperation, Deptt. of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science and Technology, Block2, 6-8th Floors, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-03 Fax: 2436 2884, Ph. 2436 3748


(Sujoy Mojumdar)
Director, NBA

To.

1. State Principal Secretary/Secretary i/c of Rural Sanitation,
2. NBA Coordinator.

Dear Sir Madam.

On behalf of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, it is my pleasure to invite you to attend the **Reinvent the Toilet Fair: India 2014** in New Delhi on March 21-22, 2014. The purpose of this event is to showcase the measurable progress that the foundation's grantees and partners are making towards the goal of "reinventing the toilet", which complemented by appropriate demand-side activities, can help provide 2.5 billion people worldwide with safe and affordable access to sanitation.

As you may be aware, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation launched an important global initiative in 2011 called the Reinvent the Toilet Challenge (RTTC) to catalyze innovative and sustainable solutions for improved sanitation facilities, waste treatment, and resource recovery. The first global Reinvent the Toilet Fair (RTTF) to showcase some of these solutions was held at the foundation's headquarters in the United States in August 2012.

The Government of India's Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science and Technology, is partnering with the foundation on RTTC-India to promote innovation in the field of safe sanitation and expanding access to sanitation to under-served populations in India. As part of this, the foundation is hosting the next Reinvent the Toilet Fair in New Delhi, India to showcase some leading global innovators in the sanitation space and provide a platform for international and Indian innovators, manufacturers, government partners and others to discuss these innovations and critical sanitation issues. The fair is also supported by other key Govt of India ministries including the Ministry of Urban Development and the Ministry of Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation.

Enclosed is an overview to provide you with details about the fair. For more information, please contact our fair project manager, Olympia Trumbower, at ReinventedToilet@gatesfoundation.org. Please note that this event is by invitation-only and the invitations are non-transferable.

For Registration and Travel

Please visit the event registration website **no later than March 15, 2014** to confirm your attendance. You can also email ReinventedToilet@GatesFoundation.org or Chaitanya.Datta@GatesFoundation.org to register. Registered guests are requested to plan for their own travel and accommodation arrangements. Upon registration, you will receive a confirmation email with instructions to access an extranet site for all fair details.

Please direct all questions to ReinventedToilet@gatesfoundation.org.

Kindest regards.

-sd-

Hari Menon
Deputy Director – India Country Programs, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

Reinvent the Toilet Fair: India 2014, New Delhi, India

March 21-22, 2014, Taj Palace Hotel
Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
www.gatesfoundation.org

Reinvent the Toilet Fair: India 2014 General Information

Date: March 21-22, 2014 (March 22 is World Water Day)

Location: Taj Palace Hotel, New Delhi, India

Participants: More than 600 participants, including 50 exhibitor teams, foundation grantees, industry leaders, government representatives, and other local and international partners

Background

What is the Reinvent the Toilet Challenge?

In 2011, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation's Water, Sanitation & Hygiene program initiated the Reinvent the Toilet Challenge to bring sustainable sanitation solutions to the 2.5 billion people worldwide who don't have access to safe, affordable sanitation.

To date, the foundation has awarded 16 Reinvent the Toilet Challenge grants to researchers around the world who are using innovative approaches—based on fundamental engineering processes—to develop affordable, environmentally safe and sustainable sanitation solutions for large scale production and utilization in developing and developed countries.

What is a "reinvented toilet?"

It's a toilet that:

- Removes pathogens from human waste and recovers valuable resources such as energy and nutrients that can be used as fertilizer.
- Operates "off the grid" without connections to water, sewer, or electrical lines.
- Costs about 3 rupees (5 US cents) per user per day.
- Is a truly aspirational next generation product that everyone will want to use.

What is the Reinvent the Toilet Fair?

The Reinvent the Toilet Fair is an opportunity for foundation partners and other innovators to showcase their prototypes and approaches for the supply-side and demand-side to industry leaders, government officials, members of civil society and other partners from around the world, and to share knowledge in this field and learn from one another. Attendees will include sanitation technology exhibitors, researchers, investors, demand generation and behavior change experts, advocates, design experts, and members of the private sector. The fair will also include representatives from sanitation implementing agencies such as municipal, state, and national governments. The prototypes will feature innovative, non-networked alternatives to sanitation, motivate potential partners, and stimulate discussion among a diverse group of stakeholders working to improve global sanitation.

The fair also features a range of other exhibitors, whose work is aligned with efforts to reinvent the toilet, including approaches to improve the collection, treatment, and disposal of human waste.

Why hold a Reinvent the Toilet Fair in India now?

Since the launch of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation's sanitation-focused strategy in 2011, extraordinary efforts to reinvent the toilet have been made. The 2014 fair in India builds on the success of the 2012 Reinvent the Toilet Fair held at the foundation's headquarters in the United States.

Improved sanitation is critical to reducing child mortality and improving child health. It can dramatically reduce diarrheal disease, which is the leading cause of under-5 child deaths and a major

factor in the development of a child's mind, body, and immune system.

Reducing the incidence of diarrheal diseases increases the absorption of essential nutrients and therefore the effectiveness of life-saving vaccines. For women and girls, improved sanitation provides greater privacy, and personal safety. We believe that reinventing the toilet supplemented by appropriate demand generation and social norm shifts to promote safe, sustainable sanitation are critical steps to help people around the world lead healthy, productive lives and realize their full potential.

The fair will take place in New Delhi in recognition of India's leadership in improving child health and commitment to investing in innovative solutions to reduce poverty around the globe. At the same time, it is also an area that needs greater attention in the country and in the region, which is struggling to provide adequate sanitation services to large sections of its population. The fair will also be an opportunity to highlight the work of in-country innovators working in this critical area of public health.

What will the fair program include?

The objective of the fair is to highlight progress in innovation in the field of non-networked sanitation. There will be formal sessions, but the majority of the time will be reserved as unstructured time for participants and invitees to engage with researchers and collaborate with one another