



# TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT BOARD

( A Statutory body of Department of Science & Technology, Govt. of India )

## CALL FOR PROPOSALS

### **Innovative technological solutions for agro-waste management and prevention of stubble burning**

The Delhi-NCR region has recently witnessed unprecedented levels of air pollution with the particulate matter exceeding hazardous limits (nearly 10 times of prescribed standards). The smoke from burning of crop stubble (amounting to approximately 32 million tonnes annually) accounts for about one-quarter of the most dangerous air pollution in the winter months. It not only impacts the health of the people, leading to severe respiratory problems, but also damages soil quality. Sustainable long-term solutions are the need of the hour to combat this issue that has assumed alarming proportions.

**Scope:** The Technology Development Board invites proposals from Indian companies and enterprises, to help address the formidable challenge of tackling the agricultural waste crisis. The proposal may include technological ideas for management of crop residue such as :

- Suitable machinery for collection, chopping and in situ incorporation of straw to improve soil moisture and help activate the growth of soil micro-organisms
- Initiatives for converting the removed residues into enriched organic manure through composting
- Initiatives to set up biomass based power generation plants
- Production of ethanol, paper and packaging material from the crop residue

The Board provides financial assistance by means of soft loans (up to 50% of project cost @5% simple interest per annum), equity participation (up to a maximum of 25% of the project cost), or grants in exceptional cases. The proposal may clearly indicate the desired mode of funding.



**How to Apply :** Proposals may be submitted on or before 31<sup>st</sup> January, 2017 in the prescribed format (Form-A and Project Funding Guidelines are available on [www.tdb.gov.in](http://www.tdb.gov.in)). One hard copy and one soft copy of the completed application along with all necessary supporting documents to be sent to: Secretary, Technology Development Board, Department of Science & Technology, A-Wing, Ground Floor, Vishwakarma Bhawan, Shaheed Jeet Singh Marg, New Delhi-110016. Email:[agri.tdb@gmail.com](mailto:agri.tdb@gmail.com). Queries may also be sent to the given email address.