



- Indian Science & Engineering Fair (INSEF)
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What is INSEF?

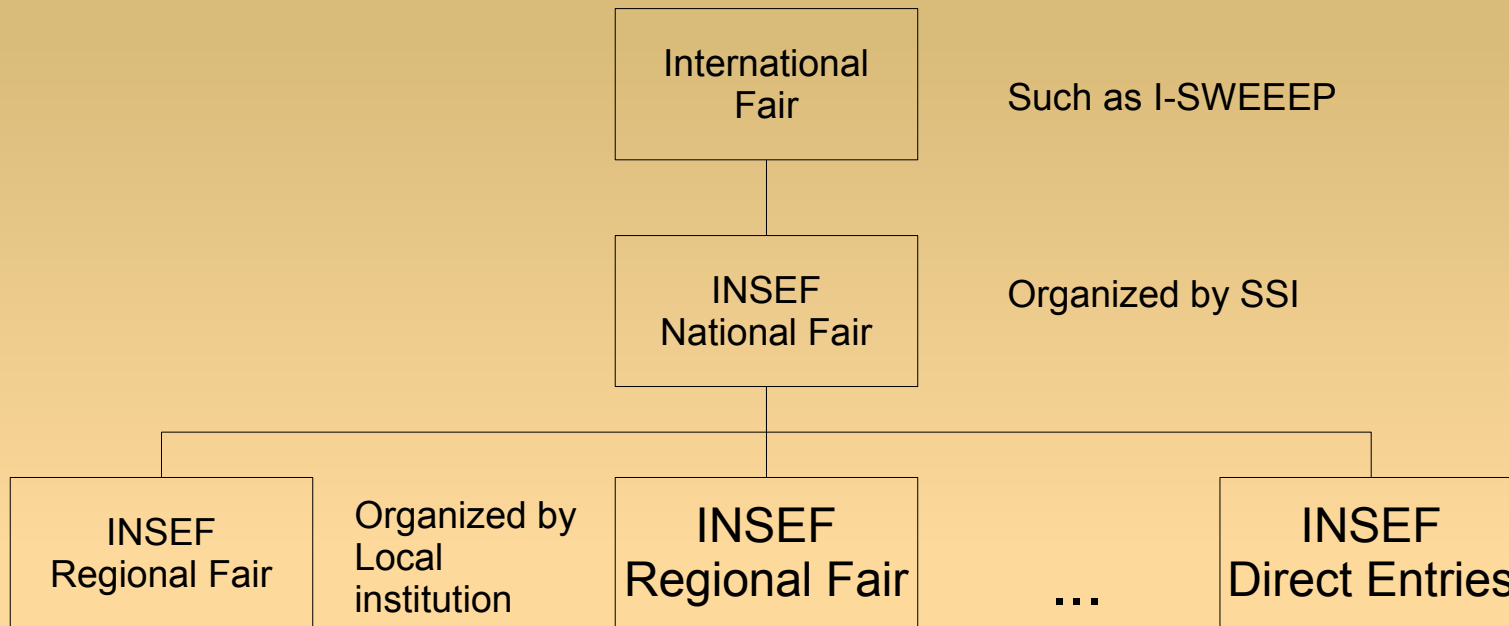
- INSEF stands for Indian Science & Engineering Fair
- It is a program conceptualized by Science Society of India
- It provides a platform for students from class 6th std to 12th std to demonstrate their project
- The project topics can be from any of the following

1. Energy
2. Engineering
3. Environment
4. Physics
5. Chemistry
6. Biology
7. Maths
8. Behavioural Science
9. Computer Engineering & Science

- 6th to 8th std are junior category; 9th to 12th std are senior category
- Students pursuing diploma course are also eligible
- The project can be done by a Team (of 2) or Individual
- The team members can be from different school / class



INSEF Model



- INSEF Regional fairs are organized by local institution at their expense
- SSI chairs the judging session for INSEF Regional Fair using local judges (for independent evaluation & consistent judging criteria)
- INSEF National fair is organized by SSI
- SSI manages the online submission for all Regional & National Fairs



What is INSEF Regional Fair?

- INSEF Regional Fair is local regional fair conducted by the school/institution
- All the nearby schools within the region are invited to participate
- There should be no fee charged for participation to this fair
- All submission must be done online through SSI website
- SSI will select the projects for participation to the fair
- Students from the same school which is hosting the fair are allowed to participate
- Judging is chaired by SSI representative
- The top winners from regional fair automatically qualifies for INSEF National Fair which is conducted by SSI



Does SSI provide funds for hosting INSEF Regional Fair?

- No – SSI does not provide any funds for hosting INSEF Regional Fair
- The hosting institution is the chief organizer – it must bear all the cost of hosting INSEF Regional Fair. They may choose to get external sponsorship



What is the general schedule of INSEF Regional Fair?

- SSI recommends following schedule
- Day - 1
 - Project Setup, Inauguration, Judging, Science Show
- Day - 2*
 - Public Viewing, Science Show & Closing ceremony
- Note: it is also possible to have a one day INSEF Regional fair



What are the benefits of hosting INSEF Regional Fair?

- The students get a platform to demonstrate their project
- Your institution will be regarded as a leader in the local region for taking up such an initiative
- You do not have the administrative overhead to manage project submissions
- Your own students can participate – since the judging chair is from an independent body (SSI)



Why do i need to involve SSI? i can do my own science fair.

- Yes - you can do your own science fair & no need to involve SSI
- The benefit of involving SSI is:
 - You get passionate volunteers having immense experience in hosting science fairs including judging at National & International level.
 - Free online submission of projece entries – no paperwork to manage
 - SSI has created their own judging software scheduling and normalized scoring that simplifies the whole process
 - SSI does not charge any fees – you may have to reimburse travel and provide stay for SSI representatives.
 - The top winners from INSEF Regional fair automatically qualifies for National fair
 - From the National fair SSI selects for international participation such as I-SWEEEP science fair
 - SSI has MoU with I-SWEEEP that allows direct qualification of SSI recommended projects



Why SSI is doing this?

- SSI is a non profit trust created to promote scientific acumen among the people of India.
- SSI believes that with the existing curriculum there is a need for students to think about innovation by doing projects
- Project based learning allows the student to apply the existing knowledge and also enables to extend the knowledge beyond the text-books.
- It automatically inculcates scientific thought & innovative thinking within the students
- SSI believes in providing platform for students to demonstrate their research & innovation at all levels - regional, national level and international level.
- SSI does not believe in projects that are thermocol based static models or essays with a pre-defined theme
- SSI wants to motivate & recognize young researchers and innovators of our country



How does SSI make money?

- SSI is a non profit trust - does not intent to work for monitory gains
- Currently it is working with volunteers (having some or other full-time/part-time occupation) but who are passionate about project based learning
- For covering the expense, SSI seeks sponsorship
- Donations to SSI are tax exempted under section 80G of Income Tax Act, 1961.
- With existing funds, SSI has sponsored international travel tickets for needy students for I-SWEEEP participation



What has been the performance at International Fairs?

Projects sent by SSI has done well at I-SWEEEP, USA Fair

Year	No of Projects Sent	Awards Won
2010	3	1 Silver, 1 Bronze 1 Hon. Mention
2011	3	2 Bronze 1 Hon. Mention
2012	2	1 Gold 1 Bronze
2013	4	1 Gold 2 Silver 1 Bronze



What is the cost of holding INSEF Regional Fair?

- Cost may vary from Rs. 5000/- (barebone, very low budget) to Rs 100000/-
- It is purely based on the budget available with hosting institution
- You are free to select sponsors
- SSI has prepared an excel sheet for playing around with cost breakup
- <http://sciencesociety.in/costbreakup.xls>
- This is just a general guideline on cost breakup
- SSI will not be able to provide any monetary support



What i have to do to host INSEF Regional Fair?

- Select a date for hosting the fair – inform SSI; SSI will open-up the submission for your fair
- SSI will share all the submission details with one institution representative
- Decide on the medals, badges, certificates formats, awards & program schedule
- You will have to invite local judges for your fair
- SSI will chair and provide orientation to the judges prior to judging session
- Do publicity; send invite all the schools within your network
- Minimum of 20 projects are required for the fair



How many regional Fairs conducted so far?

- Last year (2012), three INSEF Regional fairs were conducted – Puttur (Karnataka), Rajkot (Gujarat) and at Mumbai
- This year SSI wants to encourage more fairs
- SSI does not want to put limit to number of fairs within a particular region. For e.g. Mangalore can have multiple INSEF regional fairs
- Again - the idea is to provide a platform for students to showcase their innovation. Same project cannot participate in multiple INSEF Regional Fair.



Photos of INSEF Regional Fair (Puttur)



Note: Earlier Regional Fairs were called Microfair



Photos of INSEF Regional Fair (Mumbai)



Note: Earlier Regional Fairs were called Microfair



Photos of INSEF Regional Fair (Rajkot)



Note: Earlier Regional Fairs were called Microfair



Who are the people involved with INSEF?

Following people are involved with INSEF



<http://www.tifr.res.in/~arnab/>

Dr. Arnab Bhattacharya is a Professor at the department of condensed matter physics in Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR) Mumbai, is the chair person of science popularization and public outreach committee, TIFR Mumbai and is one of the key organizer of Chai and Why, which provides a forum for informal discussions of interesting scientific issues outside a traditional academic setting. Arnab has been involved with the national level science fair for more than 5 years, as judge, mentor and scientific review committee member, and has also participated at international science fairs in Europe and the USA.

Dr. Arnab Bhattacharya, TIFR - INSEF Chief Mentor



<http://www.hbcse.tifr.res.in/people/academic/p.-k.-joshi>

Dr. Paresh Joshi is an Academic Program coordinator Junior Science Olympiad. He is involved in designing experiments for School children. He has been involved in National science fair as judge and mentor. At HBCSE he also conducts workshops for Science teachers & nurture program for students. He is a chairman of Bombay Association for Science Education (BASE). He is also the Vice President, Asia region on the Executive Committee of the International Junior Science Olympiad

Dr. Paresh Joshi, HBCSE, TIFR; INSEF Chief Advisor



<http://i2innovate.com/aboutus.html>

Narayan Iyer is an entrepreneur & freelance trainer in computer technology field. He has worked for Intel as a staff researcher for over eight years. He has been involved in chairing and co-chairing National Science Fairs. He is passionate about promoting project based learning to schools. He has been a judge for national and international science fairs. He is also the managing trustee & president Science Society of India.

Mr. Narayan Iyer, I2 Innovate; President, Science Society of India



Dr Harish Bhat is Research Scientist at the Centre for Ecological Sciences, IISc, Bangalore. He is passionate about inspiring students to take up projects. He has been associated with various governmental and non governmental programs for promotion of science to students. He has conducted various science workshops for students & has been the member of jury team. He is also the managing trustee & chairman of Science Society of India.

Dr. Harish Bhat, IISc, Bangalore; Chairman, Science Society of India



Whom should i contact for INSEF?

- Contact

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