PRIZES FOR PARTICIPANTS

Winning teams of each category will be awarded prizes as follows:

Gold Prize: Rs 20,000 + Shield
Silver Prize: Rs 15,000 + Shield
Bronze Prize: Rs 10,000 + Shield

Two Merit Prizes each of Rs 4000

RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. Each team should consist of 4 participants working under the supervision of ONE Supervising Teacher.

2. Participants may involve their classmates while working on the project but only the FOUR team members can present the project.

3. Participants may take the help of guides/mentors/scientists/resource persons/parents. The help received should be acknowledged in the Project Report.

4. When human beings are involved, students should take their permission before publishing their names and photos in their project diaries and/or presentations.

5. Experiments with human beings or animals are not allowed.

6. Students should always conduct experiments under the supervision of an adult or their supervising teacher.

7. The project should be an original work of the team.

8. Participation in the 'Science Quest' permits reasonable use of the names and photos of the participants, releasing the RGSC from any and all claims liabilities and/or damages arising directly or indirectly out of their participation.

9. Models/posters and other visual aids displayed during the finals will be disposed of by RGSC if not collected within 30 days after the finals.

10. Projects which will use or produce hazardous chemicals gases without proper safety precautions will be disqualified.

11. Rajiv Gandhi Science Centre will not provide funding for the project.

12. Plagiarism will be penalised.

ADDRESS FOR CORRESPONDENCE

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INTRODUCTION

The Rajiv Gandhi Science Centre (RGSC) is mandated to promote Science and Technology among the population and to supplement school education using a non-formal approach. In this context, RGSC is launching the 6th edition of the Science Quest.

The Science Quest 2019 is a project-based science competition that requires students to use Science and Technology in a systematic and innovative manner to address a problem that they face at school, at home or in the community. This will ultimately empower them to develop a sense of responsibility and become pro-active citizens.

AIM

The aim of the competition is to raise awareness among students and encourage them to apply Science and Technology to make our life better.

OBJECTIVES

- Encourage students to use Science and Technology and the scientific method in constructive and innovative manner.
- Enable students to devise strategies to deal with a specific problem by working in a team.
- Give students an opportunity to develop their research, communication and problem-solving skills.
- Develop creativity and innovation among young people.

WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?

The contest is open to secondary school students of Mauritius as follows:

Category 1: Grade 7, 8 and 9
Category 2: Grade 10 and 11
Category 3: Grade 12 and 13
(or equivalent)

Participants should work in teams of FOUR Students under the guidance of ONE Supervising Teacher/Mentor.

Each school may submit a maximum of TWO projects per category.

TOPIC

Participants are free to choose any topic or theme for their projects as long as they use Science and Technology to improve their life at school, at home or in their locality.

Students are encouraged to conduct scientific investigations, experiments, conduct awareness campaigns, surveys, construct models, etc.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE?

Step 1: Online Registration

Interested teams of a Maximum of four students have to register online through the RGSC website on: rgsc.govmu.org

Deadline for online registration: Friday 15 February 2019

ASSESSMENT

The Project Report, the Oral presentations and the Display will be assessed by a panel of judges.

Projects should be:

- Creative and Innovative
- Make appropriate use of Science and Technology
- Implemented at School/community or have the potential to be implemented.
- The decision of the Jury will be FINAL

15 March 2019 - Step 2: Screening and nominations

All entries will be screened by the jury and the best projects will be retained for the next stage. The nominees will be required to go ahead with the project to be presented during the finals.

By 15 March 2019 RGSC will inform those who have been selected for the finals.

March-May 2019 - Step 3: Work on the project

Participants of selected projects have to work on their project, write their project report and prepare for the exhibition.

16 May 2019 - Step 4: Online Submission of Project Report

The project report is a brief of the project, maximum 10 pages A4 format, written in English or French. It should clearly state the problem under investigation, the purpose of the project, interpretation and conclusion.

End May 2019 - Step 5: Finals and Prize Giving

Finalists will present their projects to the Jury and to the public through an exhibition. Participants should make an oral presentation of a maximum of 5 minutes and answer to queries from the judges. Each team will be provided with a display board of 1.2m x 1.2m and a table.