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The Prime Minister's Awards for Scientific Ingenuity, administered by NIHERST, recognises and celebrates the innovative side in each of us. Since its inception in 2000, the scheme has challenged citizens to use science and technology to fuel local innovation, focussing on solving problems and improving quality of life.

As a competition that is accessible to all, these awards are about what Trinidad and Tobago nationals can offer to both the local and international community. Any person with the spirit of curiosity and dedication can be the source of a world-changing idea. The scheme rewards the creativity and inventiveness that drives sustainable growth, competitiveness and economic diversification - end goals that foster greater security, stability and prosperity for all the people of Trinidad and Tobago.

Awards are offered in two categories. **The Scientific Creative Solutions Competition** requires no prototype and is for persons who have not yet reached or cannot reach the prototype phase for any number of reasons, such as lack of funds, lack of facilities or even lack of practical knowledge. The **Scientific Innovation and Invention Competition** is for persons who have reached the functioning prototype phase of their tangible or intangible innovation or invention.

Both competitions are open to citizens from all walks of life in two categories: juniors from 13-17 and persons over 18. Individuals and groups can enter as many ideas as they have, in either of the competitions or both.

For the 2015 competition, prizes totalling TT\$1,500,000 are up for grabs by the 101 hopeful entrants who have been shortlisted from over 500 people. The prize winners will be announced at an awards ceremony on Monday 24 August, 2015.



