



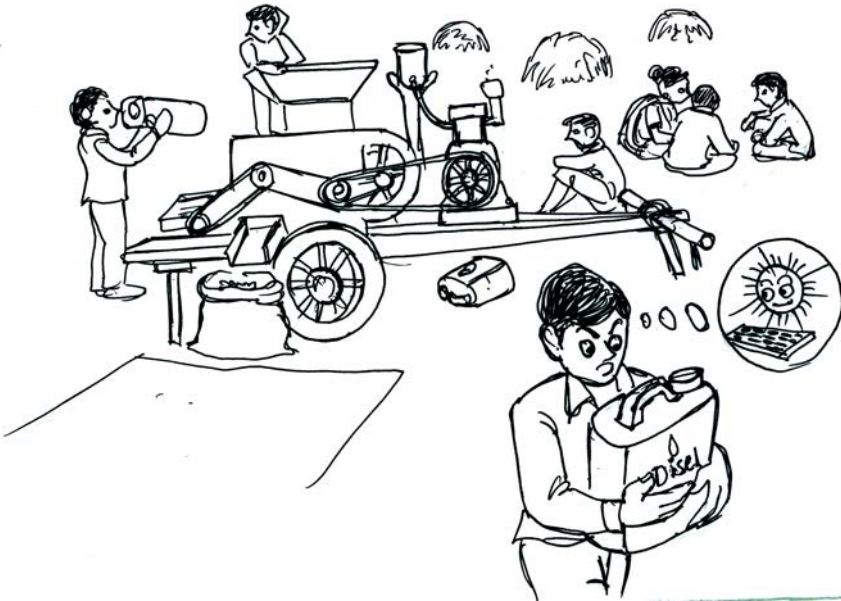
Dipankar Das, class 12, Government Senior Secondary School, Diglipur, Andaman & Nicobar Islands

Dipankar's main subject in school is Physical Education. When he is not studying, he helps his parents in the farm or prefers making different science models. "One thing that I fondly remember during making the machine was when my mother used to wake up at around 3 am and find me working on the model. She would insist that I should eat something and get some sleep. Today, she is extremely happy that all my hard work paid off," says Dipankar, who wants to become a mechanical engineer or a designer of low cost machines.

A solar thresher to end harvesting woes

Dipankar Das, class 12, Government Senior Secondary
School, Diglipur, Andaman & Nicobar Islands

Dipankar used to watch
his parents, who are
farmers, struggle while
harvesting the pulses
manually



They could not afford a threshing machine or channel electricity to the fields for a rented one. This inspired him to create a solar thresher for efficiently threshing pulses and grains such as green gram, black gram, pigeon pea and horse gram, without using electricity or fossil fuels.

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In 2013, he had developed a low cost paddy dryer, which was selected for a state level exhibition. "I have been working on the prototype for the solar thresher for a year. I want to make more farming equipment for my family to make their life easier. We must learn how to channelise our knowledge to real life application," says the 18-year-old who used to study from 7 pm to 11 pm and then work on his prototype till early in the morning.

