**Technology Description**

Central core is a by-product obtained from banana pseudostem during the process of fibre extraction. It is rich in digestible fibres, iron, vitamins B3 and B5. After processing of central core into candy, it becomes delicious and palatable and liked by people and especially children. This is a unique product for the consumers as well as for processor. At present, no such product made from banana pseudostem central core exists in India.

**Benefits / Utility**

- From the entrepreneur’s point of view, it will open doors for institutional supplies like Govt’s midday meal schemes and nutrition improvement programs of UNDP and WHO. If adopted by SHGs, Mahila Mandals, it will uplift rural women and boost women empowerment.
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**Country Context**

India

**Scalability**

Projections for production of banana pseudostem central core candy (1000 kg/month) - Ten lots each of 100 kg central core candy per month can be produced (7000 kg/year). Cost of production Rs. 47.63 lakhs; Market price = Rs. 500/kg for candy and 100 Rs./litre for dehydrated products.

**Potential investors to this technical innovation**

- Small scale food industries or SHG Groups
- Mahila Mandals
- Dehydrated product makers
- Farmers’ cooperative
- Confectionary

**Target Market / Customer**

- Dealers of selling confectionary products, farmers’ cooperatives
- SHG Groups, Mahila Mandals
- All consumers—general nutrition status will improve
- Children—Health improvement
- Dehydrated product

**Financials**

The cost and profit of candy preparation is given below

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UNIT PARAMETER</th>
<th>COST (Rs. in Lakhs)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Land &amp; Site</td>
<td>27.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Working days/year</td>
<td>210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infrastructure</td>
<td>5.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MANPOWER</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skilled</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unskilled</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UTILITIES</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electrical power</td>
<td>25 KVA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Limiting factors for large scale commercialization**

- Mass marketing strategies are at initial stage
- Need for Government support (subsidy on starting this project by new entrepreneurs)

**Social impact of the technology**

- If adopted by SHGs, Mahila Mandals, it will improve the income of rural women.
- Improvement in the nutritional and health status of consuming population.
- Creation of employment opportunities &

**Any other relevant information**

- Name of inventors: Er. Parag Pandit, Dr. S. K. Desai, Dr. C. S. Desai, Dr. B. N. Kolambe, Mr. K. K. Patel and Dr. R. G. Patil.