



**Bharat, class 11, Government  
Higher Secondary School,  
Bachel Dantewada, Chhattis-  
garh**

Bharat takes a keen interest in studying biology and wants to become a doctor. "I feel that there is a lack of medical facility in the area where I stay. I want to become a doctor and serve the people in my area and other tribal regions," says Bharat, who likes to paint in his free time and has won appreciation and certificates

from his school for the same.

His principal, teachers and school mates have named him 'junior scientist' since the IGNITE awards were announced. "A lot of the credit for the award goes to my teachers, who encouraged me to participate," says the 17-year-old.

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# Machine to pluck Tendu leaves

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Bacheli, Dantewada, Chhattisgarh

Plucking or collecting the leaves of Tendu tree is one of the important sources of income for people living in the tribal regions of India. This is done manually and is a tedious procedure



Bharat's idea is to develop a Tendu leaf plucking machine, which can cut the leaves and collect them in a container. He also suggests a sorter, which can separate leaves according to their sizes.

67

Bharat belongs to a farming family and has three brothers and a sister. Since childhood, Bharat has been watching the locals pluck and store Tendu leaves, which have many anti-microbial properties. While the work was laborious, it did not fetch enough money.

