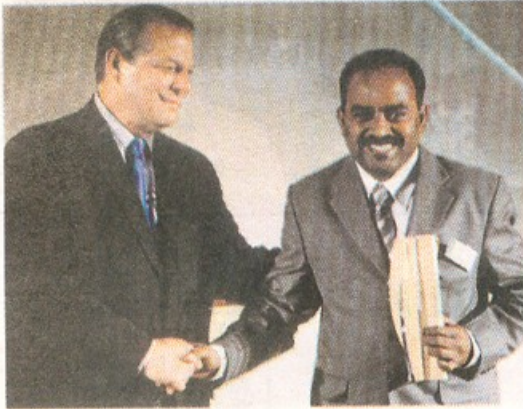


'Green Oscar' winner to promote biogas



GREEN AWARD: The former U.S. Vice-President Al Gore hands over the Ashden Award to Biotech director A. Sajidas

Staff Reporter

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: The Biotech Centre for Development of Biogas Technology and Other Non Conventional Energy Sources — an NGO that was recently awarded the Ashden Award — plans to organise road shows and awareness programmes in schools across the State to propagate the use of biogas.

This was stated at a press conference here on Tuesday by the firm's director A. Sajidas who received the award also known as the 'Green Oscar' from the former US vice-president Albert Gore. The award carries a cash component of £30,000.

"We have set up biogas

plants in 12,000 homes, 220 establishments and in 20 markets in the State. This, we estimate, has led to the prevention of the release of about 3,700 tonnes of carbon dioxide into the air," Mr. Sajidas said. Before the award was announced the Ashden award committee members visited the projects sites of Biotech and spoke to the beneficiaries.

The treatment plant set up by Biotech at the market at Kadakkal can be taken as a model, Mr. Sajidas said. This plant uses the waste generated at the market and slaughterhouse. The electricity generated by this plant is used to light 100 CFL lamps at the local children's park.

Environment award

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: The Thiruvananthapuram-based Biotech has won the Ashden Awards, considered the world's leading green energy awards. According to a release here on Friday, the award, which carries a cash prize of £30,000, was presented by the former U.S. Vice-President Al Gore to Director of the company A.Saji Das in London the other day.