

BAIF INSTITUTE FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT – BIHAR

BAIF Development Research Foundation is a Gandhian organisation committed to socio-economic development of the rural poor. BAIF was founded by Late Dr. Manibhai Desai who came to Urulikanchan with Mahatma Gandhi in 1946. The objective of BAIF is to provide sustainable livelihood to rural poor through promotion of agro-based development activities. Among various activities, promotion of dairy husbandry is the major activity which is spread over 47,000 villages in 12 states of India benefiting over 30 lakh families.

BAIF is promoting the cattle development programme in Bihar since the last 4 years. Presently, our programme is spread over 3500 villages benefitting 52,000 poor and marginal families, through 113 centres in 13 districts. The list of centres is presented in the Table. This programme has the potential to expand across the State by establishing additional 150-200 centres.

Apart from cattle development, BAIF is also involved in goat development, watershed development, silvipasture development and establishment of orchards for the benefit of tribal families. BAIF is presently operating watershed development in 8 micro watersheds covering 24 villages benefitting over 800 families. As a result of this programme, the farmers are able to increase their crop yield by 30-40%.

BAIF has also introduced a unique approach of cluster-based development under the ICAR sponsored project in two village clusters of Munger district, wherein the BPL families are formed into self help groups and various livelihood programmes are promoted, based on the local needs. With this approach, it should be possible to help atleast 85-90% of the poor rural families to come out of poverty.

BAIF's representatives will be happy to call on the Honourable Chief Minister and Deputy Chief Minister and make a presentation on the impact of the on-going programmes and scope for further expansion.