

## **GUJARAT RURAL INSTITUTE FOR SOCIO-ECONOMIC RECONSTRUCTION, VADODARA**

Gujarat Rural Institute for Socio-Economic Reconstruction, Vadodara (Griserv), was formally established in 1985 with its headquarters in Vadodara. GRISERV is implementing a multidisciplinary programme covering cattle development, watershed development, tribal rehabilitation through wadi, community health and empowerment of women through the formation of self help groups in 19 districts, benefitting more than three lakh families spread over 3200 villages.

The livestock development programme is being implemented in 17 districts through 239 cattle development centres and serving 247126 families from 2831 villages with active participation of women. The disease investigation laboratory at Mehsana provides essential diagnostic services to farmers in Mehsana, Patan and Gandhinagar and the multi-activity technology transfer centre at Chikhli, is ensuring clean milk production in tribal regions of Navsari, Valsad and Dangs districts.

The integrated watershed development programme covering 139384 ha, is benefitting 28400 families from 284 villages through 289 micro watersheds. The watershed development programmes in Saurashtra and Kutch have made significant impact on agricultural productivity and livestock production even after completion of the project due to keen initiative by the community and presence of BAIF in the cluster through livestock development services.

The tribal development programme, benefiting 27,363 families from 564 villages is being implemented on 10,997 ha through mango, sapota, amla, lemon, cashewnut, custard apple, drumstick and date palm orchards. Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam visited the wadi programme at Karjun, Dharampur taluka of Valsad district and Chonda in Vansda taluka of Navsari district in March 2003. The Vasundhara Cooperative has marketed 421 tons of mango pickle, 36 tons of mango pulp, 75 tons of cashew and 130 tons of fresh mangoes. Revival of indigenous tribal cuisine *Nahari* through the establishment of food counters has received an encouraging response while providing remunerative employment to tribal women. Promotion of eco tourism at Silvassa and revitalisation of traditional health practices through documentation and propagation in Dangs, Valsad and Navsari districts, are new initiatives which are generating keen interest in indigenous systems.

The community health with special focus on safe drinking water, hygiene and sanitation, nutritious diet, immunisation, mother and child health care, family welfare and health education has also undertaken a study on the mental health status of the rural community in Surat and Bharuch districts.

Industrial greenbelt development has been established at the Nuclear Power Corporation of India's establishment at Kakrapara and at the Navin Fluorine Industries at Bhestan in Surat.