

BAIF PUNJAB

Punjab is a progressive state rich in agriculture and milk production. While many elite farmers are engaged in hi-tech medium-to-large size dairy farms, there is a need for promoting genetic improvement of buffaloes to improve the productivity further. To ensure door-to-door services for small farmers, particularly in interior areas, the Punjab State Cooperative Milk Producers' Federation

invited BAIF to provide services in dairy livestock breeding particularly to cover buffaloes, feeding and minor health care in Patiala, Sangrur, Ropar, Hoshiarpur and Gurdaspur districts.

The operational areas spread over Bet, Kandi and Trans-Ghaggar regions, were surveyed to identify the present status of the bovine livestock and the problems

faced by the farmers. Presently, 100 buffalo development centres are in operation by well trained Self-Employed Technicians who provided services in 806 villages. 38630 AIs have been carried out during the year, by recovering the cost. The services of BAIF have been very well appreciated by the farmers and the sponsoring agency. ◆