<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Glimpses of Wardha Programme Area</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chairman's Message</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreword by Kushagra Nayan Bajaj</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preamble by Apoorv Nayan Bajaj</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Historical Lineage</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introduction and Programme Area Profile</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Design for Change Initiative</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water Resource Development &amp; Management</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Promoting Agro Based Livelihood</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Promoting Horticulture: Wadi</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indigenous Cow Based Natural Farming</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Promotion of Indigenous Breed of Cows</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biogas Boon for Rural Area</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Initiatives</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Changing the Life of Community: Village Shivangaon</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Progress: 2015-16</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board of Trustees</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
GLIMPSES OF WARDHA PROGRAMME AREA

700 Villages Covered  1,04,160 Families Benefitted  5,31,215 Population Covered

*Figures in bracket are achieved during the year 2015-16; rest of the figures are cumulative achievement

VILLAGE INSTITUTIONS

• 3151 Village Institutions established (899)

WATER RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT

• 135 Rivers/streams of 207 km length Rejuvenated (40)
• 91 Check Dams Constructed (14)
• 2737 Farm Ponds Constructed (337)
• 1941 Wells Recharged (207)
• 226 Group Wells Constructed (20)
• 1420 Lift Irrigation Devices Installed (64)
• 25 Percolation Tanks Constructed (4)
• 3275 Drip and Sprinkler Irrigation System Installed (749)
• 1811 Bori-bundh Installed (280)
• 1267 Acres of Land covered under Farm Bunds
• 2225 Gabion Structures Constructed (525)

37,947 families and 1,11,502 acres of land are covered under water resource development and soil conservation programme

PROMOTION OF SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

• 11153 Families covered under Convergence of Agricultural Interventions in Maharashtra’s, CAIM Projects (2656)
• 11000 Families adopted Better Cotton Initiative Programme
• 5920 Families Benefitted under WADI Project (675)
• 2763 Farmers adopted Natural Farming (1140)

30,836 farming families and 73,132 acres of land are benefitted under Sustainable Agriculture Practices
BIOGAS: A BOON FOR THE RURAL COMMUNITY

- **2332** Biogas Plants Installed (500)

PROMOTION OF INDIGENOUS COWS

- **3969** Families supported for indigenous Cows (510)

WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

- **1797** Self Help Groups formed (300)
- **23845** Families benefitted (4168)
- **3094** Families benefitted under Rural Enterprise (415)

33,240 women are benefitted under Self Help Group, Income Generation Activities, Indigenous Cow and Bio-Gas program

OUR PARTNERS

- Rural Community of Wardha District
- Navajbai Ratan Tata Trust (NRTT)
- Carnegie Mellon University (CMU)
- National Bank for Agriculture & Rural Development (NABARD)
- International Fund for Agriculture Development (IFAD)
- Government of Maharashtra
- Cotton Connect South East Asia
CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

It was the profound conviction of my grandfather Jamnalal Bajaj that the wealth of a business enterprise was bequeathed to it in sacred trust by society. With this motto we are striving from year 2009 in Wardha district.

Poor returns to cultivation and absence of non-farm opportunities are indicative of the larger socio-economic malaise in rural India. This is accentuated by the multiple risks that the farmer faces — yield, price, input, technology and credit among others. KJBF’s major focus since inception has been on Water Resource Development and Management to mitigate the major risk of availability of water for irrigation for farming. Its strategy has been through promotion of sustainable agricultural practices such as natural farming to reduce the input cost of farming and diversifying the cropping system to overcome the risk of total crop failure due to uncertain weather conditions. The livelihood of the rural population had been improved by availing them revolving fund of ₹10,000 through SHGs had developed non-farm enterprises substantially improving their livelihood. KJBF’s strong belief is that by adopting such multi-input development approach will help the farmers to increase their agriculture produce and rescue them from debt trap that has been burdening them for a long time. Upgradation of skills and capabilities with the active participation of the community is the key.

Siltation of rivers and streams is a major problem emerged due to damaging of the upper catchment area across the country. Our integrated Water Resource Development programme focusing on rejuvenation of rivers “The Wardha Model” has shown the way out in how rain-fed farms can be brought under irrigation and how cropping intensity and yield could be increased in 138 villages where 135 small rivers and rivulets were partially rejuvenated with an expanse of 207 km. There is a large scope of multiplication of this model across the state and county to accrue the larger benefits to agrarian community.

Making appropriate use of indigenous resources through sustainable agriculture will certainly restore the damaged soil heath due to excessive use of chemical fertilizers, pesticides and herbicides. This also reduced the dependency of farmer on external resources besides reduction in input cost. Adoption of natural farming had made 19,683 farmers self-reliant and reduced their credit load.

To drag the limiting factor of availability of credit to the farming community, a no interest revolving fund was made available to the community through the SHGs. This had a fruitful impact on enhancement of livelihood of 7063 families by establishing small scale enterprises and indigenous cow based farming.

Emissions from biomass combustion are a major source of indoor and outdoor air pollution and are estimated to cause millions of premature deaths worldwide annually. On the other hand LPG and fossil fuel are limiting and expensive sources of smokeless fuels. Biogas had proved a better economic unit to overcome these snags. Adoption of biogas energy source by 2332 families is not only saving their expenditure on fuel but also protecting the family from ill effects of generation of indoor smoke.

Over a period of time experience of KJBF had demonstrated that adoption of appropriate and eco-friendly technologies like multicropping, plantation of annual crops (horticulture and floriculture), creating rain water harvesting structures, adoption of natural farming, etc along with judicious use of natural resources helps in combating climate change across the globe.

-Shrishir Bajaj
Working in consent with the people is a key to sustainable and substantial development of society. We are focusing our efforts to reach out poorest of poor of rural population and bring them into the fold of benefits of KJBF. Wardha which falls in Vidarbha area of Maharashtra is one of the most backward, poor and dry districts of India. Through consistent and tireless efforts in all spheres, whether drinking water, water for livestock, water availability for growing 3 crops on your land, natural farming, proper sanitation, empowering women through SHGs, bio-mass electricity. We are trying to make the district self-sustaining, environmentally friendly and prosperous.

From last few years farmers are facing the problem of uncertain and sudden changes in weather conditions and unavailability of drought resistant indigenous varieties of seeds. Due to cultivation of single crop, the farmers are at high risk of total crop failure and financial distress due to unpredictable changes in weather. KJBF had planned interventions like promotion of straight line varieties and natural farming keeping challenges and risks of the farmers in consideration. Since beginning of the farming by humans, women were the backbone of the farming. Efforts are continually being made to empower these pillars of the society with the programme of women empowerment rooted through SHGs.

Availability of water for irrigation is the limiting factor in the promotion of cultivation of multicrops. We had rejuvenated 135 rivers in 138 villages along with various other water harvesting measures like check dams, farm ponds, recharging wells through rain water, lift irrigation etc. in consultation and with active participation of the rural community. With these integrated intervention, The Wardha Model, the water table had risen up by 6 to 8 ft, period of availability of water has been stretched over seasonal to 8-10 months and on an average cultivation is diversified from single crop to 3 crops in a season. Problem of water logging on fallow land on both sides of rivers and stream banks has been resolved. Due to increased availability of water for irrigation the average yield per acre has been raised from 4 quintals to 7 quintals per acre in case of cotton. The Wardha Model along with other rain water harvesting measures benefitted 1,11,502 acres of land and strengthened the livelihood of 37,947 farmer families. Out of total 12 Lac populations, we have benefitted 2 lac people through our efforts in water programme and another 4 Lacs through other interventions.

This eco-friendly and economic rejuvenation of rivers/streams the 'Wardha model' needs to be replicated throughout the Vidarbha region and across the country in collaboration with Government and other stakeholders through participatory approaches. It will surely create evergreen revolution for the agrarian community.

Indigenous cow breed has a fundamental contribution in cultivation by natural ways. Besides providing rich organic manure for the farming, the cow milk has raised the average annual income of a family by more than ₹. 24, 000 per annum. Thus bringing about opulence for the family. So far 3969 families have benefitted from this intervention.

Capacity building of 23845 women members of SHGs had resulted in establishment of 3094 women headed family enterprises like bangles selling, vegetable shop, Stationary shop, Grocery shop and many more. These had contributed in elevation of economic status. This has also boosted up their confidence level and they became pro-active in decision making at various levels i.e. at household level, community level, panchayat level, etc. Women have been engaging themselves in wide range of income generating activities which has fruitfully resulted in enhancing their average monthly income by ₹. 5000.

As inspired by honourable Prime Minister we are in the continuous process to accomplish “Swach Bharat Abhiyan” in Wardha district in 700 villages where we have a presence with the active involvement of the community.

I wish to thank all our villagers, team members, village volunteers and all the stakeholders for their unstinted efforts and cooperation to reach out to 700 villages with coverage of 1,04,160 families and 5,31,250 populations in Wardha district.

-Kushagra Nayan Bajaj
Trustee
Warm greetings to you all!
Please allow me to share some of my learning and reflections from the past year.

Interpersonal conflicts and misunderstandings can create havoc in any organisation. In order to arrive at a place of healing and peace, we need to create conducive environments wherein people are inspired to let go off all feelings of hostility, jealousy, envy, anger and hatred towards each other and may look forward to developing and building upon their God given virtues.

Pure motives provide a strong foundation. Spirits of competition and comparison eat away our peace but deciding to co-labour, co-operate and co-create lead to an emergence of our best selves. Faith is a necessary ingredient that dispels all fear and doubts and allows us to be bold and clear in our actions.

The father of our Nation, Mahatma Gandhiji, has famously said that our work must reach the poorest of the poor. This has been striking to me much more repeatedly and forcing me to reflect on KJBF’s actions and their impacts. We have to rededicate ourselves to have a bottom-up approach to our efforts, wherein we are learners and partners with the entire community.

Over the years, many village development committees (VDCs) have been formed under CAIM project to create platforms for the local communities to relate to each other and work on their problems and dreams. During this process, the community is healed, strengthened and encouraged to take ownership and responsibility towards its life work. We are seeing potential of a great change and transformation in the villages and people of Wardha district of our great Nation of India. Our efforts will be focussed towards the same.

PREAMBLE

Food security for a village is an exciting proposition whereby farmers of a village can come to a mutual understanding of what and how much to grow collectively to first feed all households within the village and then sell the surplus in the market. This would mean that the entire village would be self-sufficient in cereals, pulses, fruits, vegetables and milk. This would be a significant step for any village to move towards Gram Swavalamban and Gram Swaraj.

The traditional system of twelve trades in the villages (Carpenter, Blacksmith, Potter, Cobblers, Barber, Washers, etc.) can also be revived, if due attention is given to the same as their need is still highly relevant. In the years to come, the local community has to be encouraged to support and strengthen these traditional ancillary trades in order that the rural life may become rich and complete. We hope that in the coming years people would appreciate the value of all the diverse trades in their community which serve varied but specific purposes. We have to believe that in the progress of our neighbour lies in our own welfare.

KJBF has been practicing Zero Budget Natural Farming as promoted by Padmashri Shri. Subhash Palekarji in the last five years. In September 2015, KJBF represented Shri. Palekarji at a National seminar hosted by the Government of Mauritius.

In the recent years, farmers have been dealing with a challenge of erratic behaviour of monsoon manifested in the form of frequent dry spells and heavy rains. These unpredictable changes are resulting in total crop failure as a result of the farmers’ total dependence on one crop alone. One of the major constraints of adopting multi-cropping pattern is unavailability of straight line indigenous seed varieties which were resistant to the adverse climatic conditions. KJBF has taken a lead in this direction. Straight line varieties of 10 crops and vegetables have been promoted among 3106 farmers on half an acre of their lands. These include sesame, linseed, green gram, black gram, sorghum, maize, vegetable seeds, etc.

In this journey towards peace and prosperity, I wish to thank all the individuals, families, people’s groups, communities, resource persons, institutions, Govt. Departments, etc. who are working with us with the same shared spirit and vision.

- Apoorv Nayan Bajaj
Trustee
आवश्यकता केवल हमारे हदों में सत्यता, 
श्रद्धा और प्रेम के बल की है।

सच्चा बल भीतर से ही बढ़ता है।

सफलता का ही विचार करो, उसी की बातें करो
और तुम देखों कि तुम सफल होते हो।

जनजाति : जमनलाल बजाज जन्म शताब्दी - १९८९ पर प्रकाशित, जिसमें श्री जमनालालजी के आदर्शों का उल्लेख:

महात्मा गांधी ने गोपुरी के लिए एक समारोह पर अपनी आवाज़ उठायी, जिसका आयोजन उनकी अंतःसत्र के बाद किया गया था। इसमें, उन्होंने कहा कि समाज के लिए सत्य, ठीक सच्चाई और प्रेम की आवश्यकता है। उन्होंने यह भी कहा कि सच्चा बल भीतर से ही बढ़ता है।

गांधीजी के सपोर्ट में अन्य लोग भी उनकी कथा का यादगार उत्सव में शामिल थे, जिनमें अशोक मुखर्जी, श्री मनोज अशोक, एंड्र्यू बेल्मल, बाबू केमलनाथ, जोशी और अन्य शहीद हरमन अज्जिलाल के नाम शामिल थे। उन्हें उनकी अंतिम साँझ के दौरान अपनी दिलचस्पी और आदर के साथ सम्मानित किया गया।

संदर्भ:
- महात्मा गांधी जी का जन्म १२०९ के दौरान।
- उनकी आदर्शों का उल्लेख जमनालाल बजाज के जन्म शताब्दी पर प्रकाशित उपन्यास में किया गया।
- गांधीजी के समारोह के इस उद्घाटन में अन्य लोग भी उनकी कथा का यादगार उत्सव में शामिल थे।
INTRODUCTION AND PROGRAMME
AREA PROFILE

Shishir Bajaj encouraging women to enhance their livelihood through upgrading their skills in various Small Scale Enterprises

Wardha district has 1006 villages located in its eight blocks. The total population of Wardha district is 1.29 million (12,96,157); out of this, 4,20,873 population (32.47%) lives in urban area, whereas 8,75,284 of its population (67.52 %) is inhabitant of rural areas. The total geographical area of Wardha district is 6309 sq. km. or 6,29,000 ha of land, out of which 4,26,200 ha area is under cultivation. Around 3, 83,300 ha area is covered under Kharif season, while only 43,600 ha area is cultivated under Rabi season. The important crops like cotton, Soyabean and pigeon pea (Tur) are raised during Kharif season, wheat and green gram during Rabi season and ground nut during the summer season.

Average rainfall of Wardha district is 1062 mm. The run off takes away the fertile top soil which leads to severe soil erosion. Soil erosion adversely affects the fertility status and land use. About 10 percent of the eroded soil material usually gets deposited in streams and rivers resulting in sitting up of river beds and reservoirs, there by reducing water flow, ground water recharge and water retention capacity. This in turn reduces the crop productivity leading to lower income to the farmers.

To resolve above problems, Kamlnayan Jamnalal Bajaj Foundation (KJBF), in consultation with local community and collaboration with development stakeholders, has implemented various programmes like installation of various need based innovative water harvesting structures, efficient and judicious use of water through adoption of less water intensive crops and use of micro-irrigation, moving towards holistic cropping pattern, promotion of indigenous cows and natural farming, women empowerment through self-help groups and need based income generating activities, popularization of biogas plants, etc. These programmes were aimed at strengthening the livelihoods of distressed agrarian community of Wardha district.

Empowering Rural Women through Self Help Groups
Self-Help Groups formed, supported and revived by Kamlnayan Jamnalal Bajaj Foundation act as the

Achievements & Coverage
- 1797 SHGs formed - 642 Male and 1155 female SHGs
- 23,845 families benefitted • 394 villages covered
- ₹ 4,54,41,714 of total savings of the members
- ₹ 13,45,33,358 credit availed from internal source, KJBF & banks • 34,439 members availed credit
- 1000 families grown chemical free vegetables under kitchen garden. This year, these families saved ₹ 25,00,00 on chemical fertilizers and insecticides and registered a notional gain of ₹ 31,90,000
Regular monthly discussions provide members a platform for sharing their views to overcome difficulties. This empowers them with confidence building and developing leadership qualities.

platform for members to provide space and support to each other for closer interaction. These SHGs enable their members to learn to cooperate and work in a group environment. SHGs confer many benefits at personal, economic and social levels. The group members use collective wisdom and peer pressure to ensure proper end-use of credit and timely repayment.

Women from Wardha district increased their confidence through Self Help Groups and they are now taking leadership in solving some social issues such as eradication of liquor production and harassment of women in their villages.

Also, rural women are getting acquainted with their unexplored skills and talents which they left behind after marriage. SHG women workshops conducted by KJBF proved useful in sharing of knowledge, creating awareness about importance of health and nutrition, raising marketing skills and enhancing self-protection, etc.

Our Self Help Groups work like mini-banks and they are revolving their internal savings many times. After 5 years’ of operation, these SHGs are now getting 50% interest on their small savings which is not possible in any investment.

**Rural Enterprises:**

Women participation in income generation activity through Self Help Groups has obviously created a tremendous impact on the life pattern and lifestyle of poor women and that has empowered them at various levels not only as individuals but also as members of the community and the society as whole. The profits drawn from their rural enterprises are now being used for their household needs, essential family requirement and education of their children.

We wish to see all our SHG members empowered & entrepreneurs treading this path to inspire other women for self-reliance.

**Achievements & Coverage**

- **3092** families supported under Rural Enterprises Development Programme
- **₹ 3000** to **₹ 6000** additional monthly income • **262** Villages Covered
- Access and affordability to nutritious food, better medical health care and improved education standard.
- **131** different types of need based rural enterprises have been initiated with KJBF’s interest free revolving fund support
- **3092** families have become completely self reliant with such a small help of **₹ 10000**, their livelihood has strengthened and no need to go outside for wage employment
Women ventures in men's business

Unnati Mahila Bachat Gat, a Self Help Group of village Dhanoli (G) of Seloo block, has purchased a ‘Crane for Digging of Open Wells’ from Akola with a cost of ₹ 1,12,000 with the support received through KJBF revolving fund for establishing Income Generation Activity in the year 2012. The crane machine was rented to other contractor for a period of 16 months @ ₹ 12,000 month. In turn, they earned a profit of ₹ 2,00,000 from this enterprise. They are now expanding their business by purchasing of diesel engine to be rented to the farmers and iron plates required during well construction as centering.

The confidence of these SHG members has substantially boosted through this successful income generating activity and now they want to start another business at individual levels. Unity of group is now more intense and they have shown that women can also manage men’s business quite successfully, if they make up their mind to do so.

Crane enterprise on rental basis run by women SHG sets an inspiring example that women can handle all kinds of business.

Shahista emerged as a social reformist through SHG membership

Mrs. Shahista Shabbir Sheikh from village Dahegoan (M) was an agriculture labour and her husband was a fruit vendor. After some very bad incident, she was abandoned from the society. Shahista found a ray of light in her dark phase of life by becoming SHG member. From SHG, she took a loan of ₹ 1000 and started a small business of selling of bangles. Through this small step, her hopes revived again and she started stationary shop at her home with ₹ 10,000 awaited through revolving funds. From the profit earned through stationery shop business, she initiated a cloth selling enterprise for her husband as well as she opened a small shop for her son to sell wafers and biscuits, etc.

Now, her villagers respect her for her courage and felicitated her with a special prize in honour of her successful endeavour in the life. She has been elected as member of ‘Tanta Mukti Samiti’ of her village, under which she settled 3 Talaq disputes of the village.

Sahista turn out to be a successful woman entrepreneur and elevated social and economic status of her family.
Exposure visit to income generation activity motivated Madhuri Tai who become entrepreneur

Madhuri Sanjay Khapre of village Charmandal of Seloo block got motivated during an exposure visit to initiate a business of production of incense sticks at home. She is now getting ₹ 300 as a daily profit through this small business.

Charulata stitches various types of bags to strengthen family livelihood

Charulata Rajesh Belkhode lost her husband leaving behind a small daughter. Charulatatai was endowed with a skill of bag making. She was motivated to initiate her own business which involved stitching of school bags, air bags, travel bags, vanity bags and various types of small and big purses. She takes big orders, too. She earns a profit of ₹ 10,000 per month.
Seasonable traditional summer business by SHGs

Under KJBF guidance and motivation programme, our village SHG members started making these foodstuff like Sevaiyya, Kurdaya, Sargunde, Dhapode, Aloo Chips, Moong Vadi, Sabudana Papad, Sandaya, etc. in hygienic condition, maintaining good quality and good taste with attractive packaging and they also received proper marketing support. Over 38 members from 15 SHGs located in 11 villages invested ₹ 28,900 for making above food items and sold them for ₹ 70,450. Hence, they received a net profit of ₹ 41,550 from this seasonal enterprise.
Shobhatai becomes Swavalambi (self-reliant) in her old age

Shobha Shamsunder Choudhari from village Nachangoan, of Deoli block, started selling of breads in her village during morning hours. From the profits she earned, she had set a small confectionary shop at home to help her old husband. Both together now earned a profit of ₹ 200 per day. Shobhatai says, “The revolving fund of ₹ 10,000 received from KJBF had been very instrumental in supporting old age people like us rendering a great hope to live with self-esteem.

Setting up an enterprise of confectionery shop gathered courage for Shobha and her husband to live self esteemed in their old age
'Design for change' is a global movement started by Ms. Kiran Bir Sethi, Riverside School, Ahmedabad (www.dfcworld.com). DFC is designed to give children an opportunity to express their own ideas for a better world and put them into action. Students are encouraged to identify dreams upon which they would like to work or meet the problems they would like to solve. Children and adults learn through the 'Design for Change' that “I CAN” are the two most powerful words a person can believe. Children who have discovered this are changing their world. A four stepped process of Feel, Imagine, Do and Share helps students reach their desired goal. In many cases, we have seen DFC to be a confidence building and character building experience for children bringing smiles and happiness to them. DFC improves the life skills among children and draws out their hidden potential. Based on our experience, we recommend that all schools must participate in the DFC movement.

The challenge asks students to get engaged in four very simple things: Feel, Imagine, Do and Share. Children are dreaming up and leading brilliant ideas all over the district of Wardha, from challenging age-old superstitions, to earning their own money to finance school compound for solving the problem of child protection. The children are proving that they have what it takes to be able to ‘design’ a future that is desired. DFC is a movement bringing rays of hope and instilling courage and strength in our young students. DFC is a process where we realize that we have all that it takes to fulfil our dreams. Everyone is invited to participate and to be the change they are looking for.

Note: For more information on DFC visit: www.dfcworld.com/india & www.bajajfoundation.org
Diverse problems being solved:
KJBF have been implementing DFC projects in all the eight blocks of Wardha district since 2013 and 111 schools have, so far, been covered, thus, inspiring hundreds of children, their teachers and parents to celebrate the fact that the change is possible and that they can lead that change. Cumulatively, 3850 Students took part directly and 1590 indirectly in this movement. During project work carried out by people, a cumulative contribution amounting Rs. 20.45 lakh in cash & kind during “Do” stage was made by the community at the initiative taken up by the children. Diverse problems and issues like
(i) Food pollution
(ii) Social issues
(iii) Developing life skills
(iv) Health & hygiene
(v) Addiction
(vi) Infrastructure development
(vii) Sexual & mental harassments
(viii) Environmental degradation, were solved which they didn't realize before the initiation of this programme. This programme actively got involved 207 teachers and head masters and covered 110 villages.

As depicted the above graph, positive changes have been observed in the qualities attributing to personalities of the students.

It has been observed that there have been positive changes in the personality of the students as shown in the above graph.
In the village of Borgaon (M) of Wardha block, school students felt a deep concern about the pathetic condition of rag picking children. The students realized that these children neither can attend schools as they had to collect rags during day time so as provide economic support to their families nor they had any sense of good hygiene; that was the reason that many of these children were noted to be suffering from skin diseases.

The students of this school got seriously involved in this problem and decided to do something concrete on their own. After thorough discussion, they decided to start a 'Sunday School' for these rag picking children. As a first step, they conducted a survey of these children to know about their socio-economic background. They also met their parents and discussed the idea of running a 'Sunday School' for their children. This idea was quite appreciated by the parents, as they could see in it a good opportunity for their children to have joyful events which were lost due to hardship of the daily life. The students then approached the headmaster of the school and sought permission of running this special school which was gladly given. The students collected old toys and cloth that were in good condition. They also collected money as a voluntary contribution and purchased some valuables items to be presented to the rag picking children.

Finally, the 'Sunday School' started. The students distributed the presents to these rag picking children who attended the school, taught them some nice songs, gave them tips about good habits hygiene, played with them and made them aware of different games. The 'Sunday School' has now become a regular feature of this school; students enjoy intermingling with the children and have a great satisfaction of bringing some joy in the life of these poor social sufferers. The number of rag picking children is this 'Sunday School' has now grown upto 18.
School students of ‘Shrimati Sakhubai Khadatkar Vidyalaya’ located at village Giroli (Ingale) of Deoli taluk bothered about suicides committed by farmers in their village and neighbouring villages. They decided to do something to address this critical condition which demands serious social attention. With the thorough discussions children concluded that the reason behind distressful condition of farmers is due to increased cost of cultivation as a result of purchases of costly chemical fertilizers and pesticides. So they decided to focus on reduction of cost of cultivation. They interacted with various persons and NGOs working in the village and came to know that adoption of Natural Farming Practices can reduce the input cost of farming. They organized a workshop on “Natural Farming Practices” in their school with the help of teachers and invited their parents and neighbours. There was comprehensive discussion on present problems in farming and benefits of natural farming in the workshop.

Children created awareness on benefits of adoption of techniques of natural farming in terms of reduction of input cost of farming with the help of video documentaries. They sensitized the community on the reasons behind the farmers’ suicide and sufferings of the suicide affected family with the help of street play. They organized demonstration of key practices of natural farming like preparation of Jeevamrut, Beejamrut, Agniastha, etc under the guidance of KJBU ensuring the participation of small and marginal farmers. Most of them developed their interest in adoption of natural farming techniques to improve soil health and to reduce input cost of purchase of costly chemical fertilizers and pesticides. They conceived that use of natural resources like cow dung, cow using and biological pesticides can definitely reduce the input cost of farming without compromising the yields and decided to adopt these techniques on part of their land holdings. With the tears in the eyes and smile on the face farmers thanked children with the words, “Thank you Little Angel for caring us!”
This story relates the efforts of children of Mahesh Dnyandip Convent of Hinganghat Taluk. The students struck by the issue of Child Protection and Child Sexual Abuse as they regularly came across a disturbing incidence on their way to school. In the Nandori square of Hinganghat children were watching a distress family of Ms Sandhya Gautam and her daughters Nilima and Nisha. Sandhya had a psychological disorder and so was helpless. She was unable to manage food and shelter for her daughter. The family was wandering at the square and was teased by trans passengers. Students decided to help this family.

To get detailed information about Child protection and Sexual Abuse Act, they organized a interactive meeting with the officials of Woman and Child Welfare Department with the help of teachers. Children took active part in the discussion and noted down the child help line number 1098 and the address of the supporting organization.

Children contacted the resource organization on help line number and narrated the sad story of Sandhya and her daughters. They advised the children to take the family to police custody at Samudrapur police station. Children followed their advice. Soon Sandhya was referred to the hospital for proper medical treatment and her daughters were sent to Child Care Homes supported by Government.

Children also decided to make a focused effort to create awareness among students of other schools and share the information. They contacted 7 other schools in the town and created awareness among the students. They organized rally in the town involving students of all these school to sensitize the citizens on this issue. The rally went through all main public places of the town where children played a street show for creating awareness.

This small desire of the children not only rescued the family from sufferings but also lead to social awareness to protect child from sexual abuse.
The efforts of students and Principal of Krushak Kanya Vidhyalaya, Arvi, made under the project "Home for abandoned old age parent" acknowledged. Shishir Bajaj (2nd from right), Apoorv Bajaj (1st from right)

Students from 3 blocks of Wardha viz, Arvi, Seloo and Samudrapur planted 6,350 saplings of Mango trees in their homestead garden during the year 2015-16.
Rejuvenation of rivers and stream “The Wardha Model” developed has now been widely accepted and proved extremely useful to convert rain-fed farming in to irrigated farming there by eradicates rural poverty

Water Resource Development:
Wardha district received an annual rainfall of 1060 mm. The area under irrigation is only 8% while rest of the land is tended under rain-fed condition. Major crops cultivated during Kharif season are cotton, Soyabean and pigeon pea and the average yield of cotton, which is a major cash crop, is 4-5 quintal per acre. Unavailability of water for irrigation the major problem that resulted in agrarian distress.

Measures like rejuvenation of rivers/streams, construction of check dams, percolation tanks, farm ponds, recharging of existing wells, promotion of group lift irrigation, group water lifting device, group wells, etc. along with soil & water conservation measures such as Nala plugging, construction of Gabion structures, farm bunding and contour bunding were initiated by KJBF with active participation of the local community. For efficient and judicious use of available water, drip and sprinkler irrigation systems were also promoted along with less water intensive and short duration cash crops. Looking at the impact of above programmes, Navajbai Ratan Tata Trust continued collaboration in 119 villages in Wardha district.

Rejuvenation of rivers / streams:
Rivers and streams have been silted up and almost lost their existence due to damage caused to upper catchment areas. The diminished water carrying capacity of rivers/streams had reduced the water flows, enhanced water logging, depleted ground water recharge and resulted in lesser availability of surface water. This alarming situation was reversed in some of the villages through efforts undertaken by KJBF especially in the form of rejuvenation of rivers/streams through measures like de-silting, deepening and widening of a river or a stream.

Bringing in the Innovations:
As the work progressed and picked up, KJBF also pinpointed certain changes that ought to be made in the design in order to optimize results. This realization led to three broad innovations.

- **Excavation of dug ponds** to increase the storage of water and to increase the rate of recharge
- **Erecting two steps on bund to minimize raincuts and prevent the boxes from siltation**
- **Drainage pipes from the field** into the river to prevent the farm land from water logging due excess rain water
Rejuvenation of 135 rivers and streams has helped to raise the ground water by 8 feet and ensured the water availability for irrigation from seasonal to 8-10 months

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Achievements &amp; Impact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>135</strong> Rivers/streams rejuvenated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>207</strong> Km of length of Rivers/streams rejuvenated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>38,031</strong> acres of land benefited from rivers / streams rejuvenation programme</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>13,338</strong> acres land protected from water logging</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>8315</strong> families benefitted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>138</strong> villages benefitted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2371</strong> Nos. of wells benefitted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>River flow increased from seasonal to 8-10 months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water table increased upto <strong>8</strong>'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cropping intensity increased from <strong>1 to 3</strong> crops</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Rivers/streams rejuvenation : High Returns on investments:

A back-of-the-envelope calculation would reveal that the return on the investment comes back in the first year itself. The farmers have registered yields enhanced from 3 to 7 qt per acre for cotton, from 2 to 6 qt per acre for soya bean and from 3 to 5qt per acre for pigeon pea crops. Through only 8 river rejuvenation sites, a net income of 44 farmers over 230 acres of land increased upto ₹ 39 lakh. These farmers are now able to use the money, so earned, for various economy generating purposes. Many have been able to come out of debt, while others have built up their asset base. Many farmers have improved their housing conditions. They have also invested the additional income in their children’s education. In short, the investments are fueling other investments and together they will reap better returns in days to come.

Sudhakar Sharwan Nayse, is a farmer of village Bothli (P) of Arvi block. He owns 4 acres of land which was brought under irrigation through river rejuvenation. River revival helped to increase his crop yield from 3 to 5 qt per acre for cotton and from 1 to 1.5 qt yield in case of pigeon pea. Now, he has turned towards Rabi crop also. He cultivated wheat in 2 acres of land. Due to river revival, he got a net profit upto ₹ 38000 from his 4 acres of land which earlier used to get water logged every year due to siltation in stream/river.
Construction of Check Dams:
Surface storage, ground water recharge, area under irrigation and cropping intensity has been increased due to construction of series of check dams.

Achievements & Impact
- 91 check dams constructed
- 3224 families from 50 villages benefitted
- 10039 acre of rainfed land covered under irrigation
- 583 Nos. of wells benefitted and water table increased upto 8'
- 60 villages covered
- Crop yields increased from 4 to 7 quintal per acre (cotton)
- 3 to 4 fold increase in net income due to increased cropping intensity

Yield in Quintals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Cotton</th>
<th>Tur</th>
<th>Soyabean</th>
<th>Wheat</th>
<th>Gram</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>R/acre</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yield Pre</td>
<td>4.56</td>
<td>1.40</td>
<td>5.23</td>
<td>8.41</td>
<td>3.63</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yield Post</td>
<td>10.08</td>
<td>3.24</td>
<td>7.28</td>
<td>10.12</td>
<td>6.66</td>
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</table>

Area in Acres

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Cotton</th>
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<th>Wheat</th>
<th>Gram</th>
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<td>R/acre</td>
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<tr>
<td>Area Pre</td>
<td>1500</td>
<td>228.5</td>
<td>1034</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>208</td>
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<tr>
<td>Area Post</td>
<td>1540</td>
<td>218.5</td>
<td>1100</td>
<td>499</td>
<td>637</td>
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</table>

NET PROFITS

<table>
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<th>Cotton</th>
<th>Tur</th>
<th>Soyabean</th>
<th>Wheat</th>
<th>Gram</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>R/acre</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Profit Pre</td>
<td>4891.8</td>
<td>1431.1</td>
<td>4899.2</td>
<td>3867.8</td>
<td>2168.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net Profit Post</td>
<td>3541.4</td>
<td>8833</td>
<td>19560</td>
<td>8964</td>
<td>8569</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Percolation Tanks:

Looking to the need assessment in consultation with local people, KJBF has constructed reservoirs/percolation tanks in wasteland areas, where there is an adequate surface runoff in the catchment area to harvest rain water for surface storage and ground water recharge. Harvested surface stored water is directly used for irrigation while ground water table is elevated in the vicinity of percolation tanks has resulted in increased area under irrigation.

Babaraoji Yewle is using water from the percolation tank constructed in Amgaon village and augmented cotton yield from 3 qt per acre to 8 qt per acre. From 2 acres of his land, he received Soya bean yield of 12 qt and wheat yield of 18 qt. He also grew vegetables over 0.5 acre of area. He earned a net profit of ₹. 1.00 lakh from his total 5 acres of land.

Achievements & Impact

- 25 Percolation tank constructed
- 1809 acres of land received benefit
- 398 Families directly benefitted
- 18 villages covered
- 142 wells recharged

Achievements & Impact

- 1811 Boribundh installed
- 234569 acres of land received benefit
- 7369 Families benefitted
- 268 villages benefitted
- Average yield increased from 4-5 quintal to 8-12 quintal per acre
- One Boribundh benefitted 12 acre of land
- Average investment in Boribundh : ₹. 8,000 and average return ₹. 35,000 Lac from 1 acre of land

Boribundh (Seasonal Water Harvesting Structure):

Boribundh is a seasonal cost-effective temporary water harvesting structure which is established by filling empty cement bags with sand/soil and stacked across the river/stream to harvest rain water running through stream during rainy season. The stacked cement bags are also covered with plastic sheets to minimize leakage of water. After realizing the benefits of Boribundh, many farmers are now motivated to use the technique in their villages at suitable locations. KJBF has been attempting to train the beneficiaries to construct Boribundhs at their own in future.

Construction of boribundh on check dam increased the water storage capacity which in turn increased area under irrigation and ground water recharge
Farm Ponds:
Construction of farm ponds has minimized soil erosion and rain water runoff as well as conserved rain water (450/75 cubic meters size) and maximized ground water recharge. It ensured protective and support irrigation during dry spells. Realizing the benefits of farm ponds, farmers are now converting farm ponds into open dug wells.

Farm pond – Another Source of Irrigation:
Anil Chintaman Itware is from Sujatpur village of Samudrapur block. Before construction of a farm pond, his 2.5 acres of land, out of a total land holding of 5 acres, was used to get water logged and become almost a waste land. The problem no longer exists with a construction of farm pond. Earlier, yield of cotton from this waterlogged land used to be only 2 qt per acre. Now, he is harvesting 15 qt from the same area and has been earning a net profit of about ₹ 99,000.

Water lifting devices (Diesel engine)
Distressed rain-fed farmers are neither able to dig wells nor purchase water lifting devices like diesel engines. A diesel engine costs about ₹ 25,000 which can irrigate about 20 acres of land of 6-7 farmers. With KJBF’s ₹ 5,000 support for diesel engine, all the above rain-fed farmers' land is covered under irrigation.
Lift irrigation boon to small and marginal farmers ensuring irrigation and augmenting productivity

Achievements & Impact
- 84 Group Lift Irrigation Systems installed
- 2786 acres of land benefitted
- 572 families reaped benefits
- 45 villages covered
- Cropping intensity is increased from 1 to 3 crops

Diversifying cropping pattern and improved income through lift irrigation:

Lift Irrigation Schemes changed the fortune of the farmers in Digrash village, Wardha.

Some of the KJBF project villages are located on the banks of the perennial rivers in the wardha districts e.g. Wardha river, Wana river, Bor river, Dham, river, etc. Since the area experiences shortage of water for irrigation, some farmers suggested that they would like to ‘lift’ water from the rivers for irrigating their fields. Distressed rain-fed farmers are neither able to dig wells nor purchase water lifting devices like diesel engines. A diesel engine costs about ₹ 25,000, which irrigates approximately 20 acres of land of 6-7 farmers. With KJBF’s support of ₹ 5000 for purchase of diesel engine, all the above rain-fed farmers’ land is now covered under irrigation.

Lift Irrigation Schemes changed the fortune of the farmers in Digras village, Wardha:

With successful implementation of ‘Jay Bajarang Upsa Sinchan Yojana’ in Digras village which is located in Wardha block, yield of cotton, which was earlier 131 qt over 19 acres of land, has now increased to 189 qt, while net profit has shown an increase from ₹ 1.88 lakh to 4.35 lakh for a group of 7 farmers; 4 farmers have cultivated pigeon pea as a mixed crop over 5 acres of land and yield of this crop has increased from 24 qt to 28 qt, while net profit got enhanced from ₹ 84000 to ₹ 98,000; 3 farmers have cultivated Soyabean over 4 acres of land and its yield has increased from 27 qt to 36 qt, while net profit registered an increase from ₹ 91800 to ₹ 1.22 lakh. After installation of lift irrigation system, this group has raised wheat as a Rabi crop over 7 acres land and achieved yield @ 9.5 qt per acre and a net profit of ₹ 53000.
The bund created under rejuvenation of rivers and streams are being used for cultivation of various crops

**Water management:**
Just as it is important to replenish ground water, it is also important to manage conservation of water through its judicious & efficient utilization. KJBF encourages farmers to use micro-irrigation systems which improve yield while conserving water.

**Sprinkler irrigation:**
Sprinkler irrigation systems are capable of saving up to 60 to 70% of water required for seasonal crops. KJBF has motivated farmers in this region to use sprinklers for cultivation of Rabi crops.

**Drip Irrigation:**
Drip irrigation saves up to 80% water & also enhances the crop yields. As a result of KJBF’s efforts, farmers in this region have begun to use drip irrigation system for water intensive and high yielding of crops such as cotton & Soya bean. Some of the farmers have also used drip systems for horticultural crops like mango, citrus as well as spices and also for cultivation of vegetables like tomato, brinjal & cabbage. Besides maintaining high level of moisture in root zone of crops, drip irrigation also reduces labour cost involved in weeding.

**Achievements & Impact**
- **3018** drip/sprinkler irrigation units installed
- **5648** acres of land received benefit of these systems
- **3018** families benefitted
- **308** villages covered
Well Recharge:

Over extraction of water through open dug wells/bore wells has resulted in depletion of ground water which is limited and has become very scarce. To balance the mismatch of the withdrawal and recharge, Rain water that falls in the farms during rainy season is diverted into existing wells through filtration mechanism to maximize ground water recharge at a faster rate. Through this measure, it has been noted that water table increases up to ground level during rainy season, whereas through other rain water harvesting measures, the percolation rate of rain water is much less. One pit of size 8’ X 6’ X 5’ is excavated adjacent to the existing well and filled up with filtering materials like gravels, pebbles and sand with layer of 1.25 ft, each. This pit is covered with a net to arrest the silt and allow the clean water to get into filtration pit. The filtration pit is fixed with 3 perforated pipes of size 12.5 cm diameter and 1 meter length; these pipes from the filtration pit lead to the well and pour clean filtered water in the well during rainy season.

Achievements & Impact:

- **1941** wells recharged and the same number of families benefitted
- **2913** acres of land received benefit of this surplus water
- **183** villages covered

Reaping the benefit from small water recharging structure:

Anil Laxmanrao Lamsonge from village Dahegaon (G) received a benefit of a well recharge programme. The cotton yield from his 3 acres of land prior to installation of rainwater recharge unit was only 12 qt, which as a result of this intervention, has now increased to 21 qt. He has now earned a net profit of ₹ 33,000 due to availability of water of irrigation during a critical period of dry spell and noticed an increase in the water table by 5 ft.
Cucumber as an intercrop along with cotton crop:

“I was growing only one crop in every season on my farm. I began to cultivate cucumber in between the cotton rows on 0.5 acres of land underwent the training organized by KJBF under the CAIM project. I harvested 5qt of cucumber with a cultivation cost ₹ 1100 and 8 qt of cotton with a cultivation of ₹ 15000. I earn net profit of ₹ 13,900 from cucumber and ₹ 29,100 from cotton. I am happy that intercropping raised my profits to a considerably with minimum inputs and efforts.”

Experience shared by Vinod Mahakalkar, a farmer from Dhumankheda village.
The Convergence of Agricultural Interventions in Maharashtra (CAIM):

In collaboration with IFAD (International Fund for Agriculture Development), Maharashtra Govt. and local communities, we worked in 51 villages of Seloo and Samudrapur clusters and successfully elevated the livelihood of the deprived community members. The overall goal of the project is to contribute to the development of resilient, sustainable and diversified agricultural production, on-farm and off-farm livelihoods, to equip the beneficiary households with skills to face production and market risks without falling back into poverty and distress. KJBF has been continuously engaged in implementing water harvesting interventions and integrated agriculture practices like raising crops in combination with horticulture and forest trees, natural farming and soil conservation. Under this project SHGs had been formed to undertake the processing and marketing of agriculture produce with an assent of farmers.

Impact of CAIM Project:

- **11,153** beneficiary families covered.
- **79** Small Micro-Enterprises were established (including **4973** HHs) in **32** cluster villages through SHGs and Farmers’ Producers’ Groups. The enterprises include 5 Dal mills, **58** BFB planter units, **2** cleaning and grading machines, **3** tractor units and **11** SPARCs.
- Constructed **30** group wells to benefit **157** farmers. As a result **684** acres of rainfed land brought under irrigation.
- Skill training was provided to **89** village youths, out of which **12** started earning **4500** per month and 6 youth are in the initial stage of their enterprises.
- ‘Gramonnati Shetkari Producer Company Ltd.’ (GSPC), Seloo, (GSPC), which was formed with **779** shareholders farmers from **32** villages, recorded a total business of **9,10,043** with a net profit of **34,200** and share amount of **90,000** contributed by **209** farmers.
- GSPC undertook a contract with CAIM project for all the **8** blocks of Wardha district and established a business of making and sale of cotton bales cotton and seeds of cotton to private (traders) players collaborated under CAIM-BCI project.
- By processing of raw cotton into bales and cotton seeds, **52** farmers received an extra benefit of **400-500** per qt.
- Introduced enterprise of the production of Lac on **440** Butea monosperma (Palash) trees by providing **2060** broods to **44** farmers in **7** villages.
- **51** “Village Development Committees” had been formed, actively involved in convergence activity with government line departments even after the withdrawal of the project.
- **2653** landless beneficiaries (or entrepreneurs) had been supporting their livelihoods with an additional average income of **36,000** per annum generated through enterprises and **8500** farmers had increased their net income by **84,000** per annum.
- **1601** farmers have reduced the use of chemical fertilisers, pesticides and insecticides by **13.76 %**.
- **1366** farmers adopted natural farming practices with the reduction in the application of chemical fertilisers, pesticides and insecticides effectively making use of friendly insects, improved the soil health and indirectly contributed in reduction of water and air pollution.

Reflections and Learnings:

- Collective purchase of agricultural inputs reduced the cost of purchase.
- Farmers were motivated to cultivate high valued crops and crops which required minimum processing.
- Farmers are motivated and facilitated to form “Farmers’ Producer Company” to derive the benefits of group which works to create a peer pressure.
Active involvement of village development committee (VDC): With the active involvement of villagers 51 VDCs were formed in Seloo (22) and Samudrapur (29) block. Each VDC comprises 12 members, out of which 6 are male and 6 are female representing all communities and sections of society. In 41 VDCs women has a leadership role as Presidents. VDCs are in leading role in watershed management activities, collective purchase of inputs & sale of agricultural produce, sustainable agriculture interventions promoted by KJBF and convergence with government departments. Capabilities of VDCs are built in a way that they will continue their functioning even after completion of the project.

Broad Bed Furrow (BBF) method saved seeds and money: Deepak Mahadeorao Budhabavare, is a farmer of village Hiwara. He owns 4 acres of land and lives with his wife and two children. Last year he could harvest only 12 qt of soyabean from 4 acres of his farm due to erratic rain falls. This year he changed his cropping system and cultivated the crop on broad bed furrows (BBF) along with adoption of practices of ‘Low External Input Sustainable Agriculture’ (LEISA) under the guidance of KJBF. As a result his production of soyabean was raised to 20 qt over a same acreage of land. BBF model also reduced the seed requirement by 8 kg. Consequently his net earnings were up stretched by ₹ 10,650.

Processing solution by Dal Mill:
‘Sambodhi Swayam Sahayta Mahila Bachat Gat’ established an enterprise by installing dal mill. Total cost of unit was ₹ 4, 60,935. The enterprise was supported by financial contribution of ₹ 1,62,000 by KJBF and ₹ 1,00,000 through CAIM project. Enterprise leased in land for 5 years at the rent of Rs 5000 per year for setting up a unit. In the year 2015-16 the enterprise had a business of ₹ 84, 000 by providing service of processing of 210 qt of red gram. The SHG also purchased 2.75 qt of whole red gram at the rate of Rs. 6500 / qt and sold the processed dal at the rate of ₹ 90 per kg in the local market. Through this processing and selling business the enterprise gained profit of ₹ 21, 240. The total profit of ₹ 1,05,240 gained by SHG through seasonal enterprise built the confidence of member of SHGs and empowered them in business management.
Better Cotton Initiative (BCI):

This Project stretched over 106 villages involving 11000 farmers of Seloo, Deoli, Wardha, Ashti & Samudrapur cluster of Wardha District. The main objective of the project is to demonstrate the inherent benefits of better cotton production, particularly by promoting innovative cotton production techniques & decent Work for farming communities and facilitates global knowledge exchange on more sustainable cotton production.

Shri. Sandip Uttamrao Mankar is farmer of village Isapur of Deoli taluk cultivating cotton as per guidance provided under BCI project from last three years. He have 11 acre of irrigated land and his main source of livelihood is agriculture. He replaced the cultivation of cotton as mono crop with cotton and soyabean as intercrops on 10 acres of land. This minimized risk of total crop failure and resisted the spread of pest. Availability of nitrogen to the cotton crop had increased in a natural way due to cultivation of nitrogen fixing crop i.e. soyabean as intercrop. He harvested 79 quintal of cotton and 21 quintals of Soybean by following the guidelines of BCI. He earned net profit of ₹. 236000 with an input cost of ₹. 193000. He followed all natural farming practices as he became aware of its benefits in terms of integrated nutrient and pest management. He recovered the attack of cotton sucking pest with the effective use of Dashaparni Ark. He happily shared his satisfaction and appreciative to KJBF team for their timely guidance.

Achievements & Impact

- **45106** acres of land had been covered
- **612** farmers adopting the natural farming practices over **600** acres.
- **50** farmers cultivated indigenous Non Bt cotton variety (Suraj) by High Density Planting System method over **50** acres.
- Most of the farmers adopted the practices envisaged in the project like intercropping, growing mixed crop on farm border, growing trap crops, construction of farm bunds, irrigating at alternate furrow, green manuring etc.
- **13.5%** reduction in per acre cost of cultivation and **6%** increase in the per acre profits in comparison with conventional farming.
PROMOTING HORTICULTURE: WADI

Developing sustainable livelihood for tribal community and pro nature activity through WADI Programme
The “Wadi” model of tribal development is holistic in approach addressing production, processing and marketing of the horticulture produce and sustainable, supporting their livelihood. Wadi is a small orchard of 1 acre which is actually a tree based farming system that consists of fruit trees suitable to the agro-climatic conditions of the region or a combination of orchards with forest tree species on the periphery of the land holdings. Wadi is an efficient combination of ‘Agri-horti-forestry system’.

Out of 5920 families covered under this programme, 3160 and 2760 are tribal and non-tribal families, respectively. Besides, 343 tribal landless families were benefitted (provided with 41 grocery shops and 302 indigenous cows).

Achievements & Impact

- 5920 families and acres of land covered under Wadi project
- Migration of tribal families reduced
- Socio-economic status improved because of sustainable agriculture model
- Now basic necessities such as food, fruit, fuel wood, timber, fodder and regular income can be generated by Wadi model
- Because of tree cultivation, concern for nature has been taken care of.
- Created strong belief in Wadi farmers that natural farming can be efficiently used in Wadi model
- One acre of land covered under Wadi provides an annual income of ₹. 45,000 to ₹. 1,50,000 spread all over the year to each family which is accrued from selling fruits, inter cropping and vegetable cultivation
Before 2013-14, I was cultivating routine crops like cotton, soyabean, red gram and sorghum. My annual net income was around ₹ 14,000. It was a blessed day when KJB Foundation held my hands and helped me to improve my livelihood through the Wadi programme. They helped me for desiltation of well to increase the water storage capacity. Along with the fruit samplings, KJB Foundation also provided the seed of vegetables like chilli, brinjal, onion, spinach, coriander and tomato for intercrop cultivation between the fruit trees on one acre of land. They also guided me to adopt natural farming techniques to improve the production to a sustainable level. With an input cost of ₹ 29000 on one acre, I had a total income of ₹ 125000. Thus I gained a net profit of ₹ 96000 from this one acre of land. From the next year I expanded area under vegetable and pulse cultivation to 4 acres. I began to sell vegetables on my tricycle Rickshaw in the nearby villages. This again added to my net income as I excluded the chain of traders. This year I purchased Auto Rickshaw for marketing. I can confidently say that adoption of Natural Farming can transform the livelihood.

Shankar Gangaram Dhudhkavre, village-Panchala, Block - Asthi
I was cultivating soyabean, cotton, wheat and chick pea till last year. My net annual income per acre was around ₹ 9000. KJBF suggested me to grow vegetable as intercrop in the main crops along with adoption of natural farming practices to enhance my net profits. They helped me to get convinced about cost benefits of cultivating vegetables as intercrops. I conceived their suggestion and decided to cultivate brinjal as intercrop. KJBF supported my decision by providing good quality seeds of brinjal crop through Wadi programme. This year i.e. in 2015-16 my net profits per acre were raised to ₹ 39000 with an input cost of ₹ 13500 only. I also harvested spinach, fenugreek and coriander for household consumption.

Dashrath Laxmanrao Thombare, Village Wagheda

NABARD Officials Dr. Divakar Hegde and Dr. Snehal Bansode: visited Wadi of Sarjerao Kumare of village Borgaon (Gondi)
Disastrous effect of chemical farming has led us to put all our energies in the learning, application and dissemination of natural farming practices and techniques.

Natural farming means nothing has to be purchased from market for farming of all types of crops. All ingredients required for the growth of the plants made available around the root zone of plants naturally. There is no need to add anything from outside. The dung of indigenous cow is a miraculous microbial culture; one gram of cow dung contains 300 to 500 crore of beneficial microbes. These microbes convert nutrients in soil from unavailable form to available form which are used by the crops.

Natural farming is based on the concept of use of Bijamrit, Jiwanmit, Mulching and Waaphasa. Bijamrit, plays an important role in germination of seeds as well as it protect seed from infection. Jiwanmit improves
Revival of traditional cropping pattern and cultivation of indigenous variety of seeds helped farmers in the adverse climatic condition

physical and chemical properties of soil by increasing number of beneficial microbes. Mulching create suitable micro-climate for growth of microbes and Waaphasa helps in the uptake of required soil moisture for better growth of plants. Natural formulation is prepared by using dung and urine of indigenous cow, jaggery, pulses flour and bitter leaves available in vicinity of farm. Dashparni Ark, Agniattra, and Bramhstraare used for insect and pest management. The ancient system of natural farming is more suited for the land and farming community because of its simplicity, adaptability and cost effectiveness. Natural farming helps to maintain, prosper and conserve farm ecosystem.

We distinguish the practice of natural farming from organic farming as explained by Rushikrushi Padmarshri Subhashji Palekar (www.palekarzerobudgetspiritualfarming.org).
Intercropping minimized risk of crop failure:

Earlier, Maroti Sayam of village Sindivihiri used to cultivate Soya bean and cotton as mono-crops using chemical inputs in his one acre of land. Since, last two years, he had faced crop failure due to adverse climatic condition. After attending village meeting on natural farming, he got inspired to cultivate intercrops of green gram, black gram, red gram and sorghum using natural farming techniques on a same piece of land. This year, due to adverse climatic condition again, he had no harvest of black gram. However, he has received good yields from remaining three crops and earned ₹. 64,000 with an expenditure of ₹. 15,700. His earning doubled with intercropping in comparison with mono cropping of Soybean and Cotton. He sold all his produce in his own village. He experienced that this intercropping cultivation needed to be replicated throughout Wardha district in the years to come.

“Intercropping model is best suited for rain-fed farmer”- Maroti Sayam

Floriculture supported livelihood of Ravindra:

Ravindra Bhondve of Pachod village is a tribal farmer and he was practicing conventional chemical farming of cotton and soybean. He was inspired to cultivate floriculture and he began cultivation of Gaillardia flowers over 0.2 acre of land with the application of Jiwanrit and Dashparni ark. At the end of season, he earned ₹. 30,000 as a net profit. He experienced that Jiwanrit increased the shelf life and glow of flowers which resulted in enhancing the demand of vendors. Now, he has increased area under floriculture to 1 acre and has been getting an income of ₹. 15,000 per month.
Achievements & Impact

- **13,500** farmers trained in Natural Farming practices
- **9,737** farmers partially adopted Natural Farming techniques
- **2,763** totally adopted Natural farming techniques
- **217** villages covered
- **9,375** acres of land benefitted
- **40 to 45%** reduction in cost of cultivation
- **1,000** families are harvesting chemical free vegetables through kitchen gardens
- Revived local traditional crops like sorghum (Jowar), green gram, black gram, linseed and sesame
- By adopting locally marketable traditional crops, farmers are getting premium price for their produce
- Decreased market dependency of farmers for procurement of seeds and chemical inputs
- Introduction of intercropping of short duration crops minimized risk of crop failure due to adverse climatic conditions
- Natural farming minimized hazardous effect of chemicals on soil
- Improved physical properties of soil like porosity, water holding capacity, organic carbon and reduced bulk density

Experience and Observations:
- Different crop demonstrations boosted confidence of farmers
- Those farmers, who adopted zero-budget natural farming techniques in an integrated manner and have been diligent in their application, have enjoyed enhanced production success.
- All farmers are recommended to adopt all the practices so as to get involved in ZBNF whole heartedly and they would surely get the results
- Intercropping minimizes risk of crop failure
- Traditional crops have more scope of value addition & marketing

Vision:
- To divert farmers toward cultivation of traditional cereals (sorghum, wheat), pulses (green gram, black gram, red gram) & oilseeds (flax seeds, sesame and ground nut)
- To divert farmers for crop diversification by shifting to floriculture, vegetables, spices & horticulture
- To promote local level processing of agriculture produce for value addition & marketing
- To increase people's participation in programme through exposure visits and learning through experience.

Natural farming increases profit:

Mahadev Mane of village Takli started cultivating vegetables like cowpea, brinjal, chili, onion, carrot and lady’s finger over 0.5 acre of land by using natural farming techniques. He applied Jiwanrit twice a month for improvement of soil health and used Dashpami ark and Agnestra for plant protection. With the initiation of harvest, he started getting daily earning by selling all vegetables in nearby villages. At the end of season, his net profit was ₹ 47,060. Moreover he reduced market dependency for agriculture inputs and also increased profit margin by personally selling his vegetables at local weekly market (Hat), escaping the chain of traders.
PROMOTION OF INDIGENOUS BREED OF COWS

Rearing indigenous cow brought prosperity and happiness in my family - Surekha Devi Dhurvey
The "Gawalalu" is an indigenous breed of cow localized in Wardha District only. It does not demand much attention from the family. With very little care, it adequately meets the needs of the family. It is an integral part of the community giving good quality sturdy bulls for agriculture purpose; besides, its milk quantity is also more than the other local breeds of cow. This breed is well adapted to the extreme weather conditions of the region. In recent years, however, exotic breeds like Jersey, Holstein-Fritzein have gained great popularity because of their capacity to give larger quantities of milk. Research, however, points out that the milk of Jersey and HF is harmful for human intake.

The milk of indigenous breed of cow is the only milk which contains A2 type of proteins which is beneficial to the human being.

Indigenous breed of cow is also imperative to practice natural farming based agriculture. The dung and urine of only indigenous breed of cow contain the beneficial microbes which are necessary to convert unavailable form of nutrients into available form. This eliminates the need to use any kind of chemical fertilizers in the farm.

Promotion of indigenous breed of cows has provided alternate livelihood to the rural community, bringing peace, prosperity and harmony in the house. Families’ requirement of pure milk is fulfilled; surplus milk generates revenue in addition. Besides, this breed provides pure farm yard manure, cow urine for natural farming and bullock for agriculture purpose.

Indigenous cow milk enjoys high nutritive value which is capable of fighting diseases and disorders of the human body such as obesity, joint pain, asthma, mental problems, etc. Cow urine is used in many natural formulations and Ayurvedic medicines. KJBF has been promoting indigenous cows through SHGs by providing ₹. 10,000 to each needy family from its interest free revolving fund.

The cow becomes a member of the family and must be looked after in her old age even after she stops giving any more benefit to the family. The community needs to give importance in coming years to breed improvement and provision of relevant fodder to our cattle to ensure their health and soundness.
Prospering with Indigenous Cow

Savitatai of Sindivihiri village is a rain-fed marginal farmer and holds 4.5 acres of land. She has four family members in her house. Her source of income mostly depends on labour work she is has to engaged in. After joining SHG, she got a support of ₹. 10,000 through revolving fund of KJBF &she purchased an indigenous cow. Now, she gets 3.5 lit milk daily of which she keeps 0.5 lit milk for home consumption; rest 3 lit she sells in the village which fetches her a daily income of ₹. 90. From this earning, she started making a saving of ₹. 500 per month which is placed in the local post office.

She also uses in her farm a natural formulation (Jiwmrit, Dashparni ark, Agniusatra) prepared from the use of cow dung & urine & saves about ₹. 9,500 which otherwise have been spent over purchase of chemical inputs. Hence, we can witness a tremendous benefit accrued from rearing indigenous cow in providing milk as well as dung and urine required for preparation of Jiwmrit and other natural farming formulations that are needed for cultivation of crops.

Our future endeavors will also include connecting other farmers who desire to practice natural farming and require cow dung and urine to prepare Jiwmrit and other formulations.
Rearing of Indigenous Cow - A Sustainable Support to Livelihood

Shobhatai is a member of ‘Unnati Bachat Gat’ of village Kannammwar gram. She is landless & goes for the labour work for her livelihood. Last year, she purchased an indigenous cow through revolving fund provided by KJBF. This cow gave birth to a female calf and started giving 3 lit milk. By selling this milk Shobhatai earned ₹. 2500 per month. From this earning, she started saving some part of earning & purchased another cow worth of ₹. 12,000.

Achievements & Impact

- 3979 families benefitted
- 1175 families adopted indigenous cow based natural farming
- 273 villages covered
- ₹. 24,450 Additional income generated per family per annum
- 3 MT of Farm Yard Manure produced per annum per cow applied in the farm to improve soil health
- Small financial support resulted in improving socio-economic as well as health status of the families covered

Rekhatai gets her cow

Rekha Hiridas Uiye of village Maraksur village is a landless daily wage earner. She has two children in her family. She kept one cow for milk for family consumption, but a year ago, she lost her cow in forest during grazing and that stopped her daily income which she used to get through sale of milk. After getting such information about her distressed condition, we supported her to purchase a cow from our revolving fund. One month after the purchase, the cow gave birth to a female calf and started giving 3 lit milk a day. Rekhatai started keeping 0.5 lit milk for home consumption and selling remaining 2.5 liter locally @ ₹. 90 per day.

Rekhatai is now very happy with her cow that has proved to be not just a sound investment but a friend and thanks KJBF for this timely support.

Smt. Minakshi Bajaj interacting with beneficiary of indigenous cow rearer in village Shivangaon along with Shishir Bajaj
Biogas reduced the drudgery involved in cooking and make my family happy and fuel sufficient: Ladke family of village Krushnapur
Biogas is a clean, non-polluting and low-cost fuel. It contains about 55 to 75 per cent methane, which is inflammable. Biogas can be produced from cattle dung, human waste and other organic matter by a process called ‘anaerobic digestion’ which takes place in a biogas plant. The digested effluent, which comes out of the plant, is enriched manure.

The multiple benefits of the biogas have changed many lives in the rural areas of Wardha district. During the year, 500 biogas plants have been constructed. Women have now easy access to low cost energy at the turn of a knob.

Women use the time, saved from cooking and fuelwood collection, to take up additional economic activities.

**Benefits of Biogas:**

1. Life pattern of the poor/medium farmers and landless has been changed
2. The cultural and social environment in the village has improved due to time saving and drudgery reduction
3. The cleanliness of the environment is maintained which minimizes contagious diseases
4. While converting dung to slurry, a large number of pathogenic bacteria are destroyed due to biochemical reactions that take place inside the biogas digester and, thus, pathogenic load in the outgoing slurry is reduced
5. Biogas use has reduced consumption of fuel wood by 80%, conserving forests and resulting in less soil erosion, thus strengthening the ecosystem.
6. The negative effect of Methane on climate change is 20 times more than CO₂. Therefore, release of about 100 Kg Methane per year from each cow is equivalent to about 2,100 kg CO₂ per year. Combustion of biogas converts methane into CO₂ and reduce the GHG impact by 20 times. Hence, 2,332 biogas plants installed enabled to reduce 6.02 million kg CO₂ per year.
7. The production of energy with locally available material saves Rs. 4,500 per family per annum on fuel-wood.
8. Biogas slurry manure is far superior to farm yard manure when compared with NPK contents. It reduces the use of chemical fertilizers by 5 bags per family per annum and increases crop production.
9. Provision of skill enhancement and employment for rural areas in terms of mason training and labour during construction; a trained rural mason gets Rs. 600 per day.
Rajniti is contributing in the nature conservation

Rajni Vishnu Borle from Sevagram has 9 cattle for milk selling to support her livelihood along with farming. After construction of biogas plant in 2014, she saves ₹ 11,400 per annum which is equivalent to 12 LPG cylinders and 2 carts of fuel wood.

Biogas slurry is used over 3 acres of her land which saves an amount of ₹ 7,200, that otherwise would have been required to purchase 6 bags of fertilizers.

Rajniti says proudly “we are conserving nature and our lives have become healthy with smoke free and tension free environment”.

Eco-friendly source of fuel and manure brings peace and prosperity in life
Eco friendly source of fuel and manure brings peace and prosperity in life

Aruna Chandrashekhar Datey, of village Pandharkawada of Wardha block has 3 members in her family. The family owns 3 acres of irrigated land and has 7 cattle to support its livelihood. Prior to construction of biogas plant in the house, the family needed 5 LPG cylinders for cooking and 5 carts of fuel wood for water heating. Arunatai was facing lot of problems of lighting Chulha during rainy season with dripping wood and dense smoke in the house. Now, she saves about ₹ 7,000 which is equivalent to purchase of 5 bullock cartloads of fuel wood and 5 LPG cylinders. Her house has now become neat and clean and the time she saves for cooking is now being used to look after her cattle and farm. Mr. Date has saved ₹ 3,681 which is usually required for purchase of 3 chemical fertilizer bags and he has seen improvement in his farm soil. Date couple says, “Everyone who has 4 adult cattle and a small piece of land must construct biogas plant in her/his house which is very valuable and clean source of fuel for cooking and that provides very essential manure for farmland”.
A) Umbrella Programme for Natural Resource Management” (UPNRM)

Small and marginal farmers are supported to enhance farm productivity through use of micro irrigation technique and solar pump is the main objective of “Umbrella Programme for Natural Resource Management (UPNRM). This project is financially supported by National Agriculture Bank for Rural Development (NABARD) channelized through Vidharbhaft Kokan Gramin Bank (VKGB).

Objectives of the project:
1) To promote Drip Irrigation for cotton crop benefitting small and marginal farmers
2) To promote Sprinkler Irrigation for any crop benefitting small and marginal farmers.
3) To promote solar pump system on one hectare of land benefiting one farmer as a demonstration.
4) To improve soil health, increase productivity and net income.

Impact of Project:
Supported 50 farmers for purchase of drip irrigation system covering 200 acres of land under drip irrigation and 210 farmers for purchase of sprinkler irrigation system covering 446.6 acres of land under sprinkler irrigation in Samudrapur and Hinganghat blocks.

Diversifying Cropping System and Augmenting Productivity of land with the Establishment of Drip Irrigation System

Sachin Banduji Thute lives in a Dhondgaon village of Samudrapur taluk with his family. Twenty seven year old Sachin owns 7 acres of land. In September, 2015 he requested for financial support for purchase of drip irrigation system for his 7 acres of land. KJBF helped him by mobilizing loan of ₹ 359667 from VKGB for purchase of drip irrigation system. After establishing drip irrigation system Sachin began cultivating...
vegetables like tomato and cucumber on 7 acres of land and established fruit crops on 2 acres of land along with the cultivation of vegetables as intercrop. He shared that last year his profits suffered as he was unable to support irrigation to all 9 acres. But this year he was able to irrigate all 9 acres of land as drip irrigation saved the water and he could support irrigation to all crops with the same quantity of water available with him. Moreover he could diversify his cropping pattern and reduced the risk of total crop failure. This in turn enhanced his net income. Till last year he was cultivating cotton only. He had a production of 50 qt of cotton in the previous year which he sold for ₹ 2, 00,000. This year he harvested 700 carets of vegetables which he sold for ₹ 3,50,000. The increase in net income over previous year is around ₹ 1, 50,000. Sachin shares the credit of success with KJBF for their support and guidance to enhance the productivity of his farm by establishing drip irrigation system.

**B) Computer Skill Training:**

50 students from villages of age group **12 to 30** have been trained in basic computer skill

**C) Participatory Sanitation Programme:**

71 villages covered under sanitation programme. KJBF team, school students, SHGs, community and volunteers have actively participated in Gram Swachta Karyakram also arranged Bhajan kirtans, road plays, essay and drawing competition to keep the villages clean.

**D) Farm Forestry Plantation:**

97,175 forestry plants (Teak, Bamboo, Custard Apple and Karvand) were planted on farm bunds by **519** beneficiaries in **134** villages. It helps in creating natural fencing/borders around the farm.

**E) Pomegranate plantation:**

150 farmers planted pomegranate on 99 acre of land in 67 villages in eight blocks.
Background: Shivangaon village of Seloo block is located 31 km away from Wardha city in the east direction. It is about 15 km far from Seloo block. The total area of cultivable land is 337.77 ha, out of which 102.20 ha is under irrigation. Major crops cultivated in this village are cotton, Soyabean, pigeon pea, wheat and gram. The village has 144 houses with a population of 555 people (284 men and 271 women). Out of these, 28 families come under landless category and 112 families have their own land, out of which 7 come under the category of medium farmers (< 5 acre) and 105 belong to a category of small farmers (> 2.5 acre).

Interventions: In May 2011, KJBF started implementation of CAIM project in this village. A Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) was undertaken to understand the ground reality of stake holder farmers and landless families prior to intervention. It was observed that agriculture was the only livelihood for all categories of farmers, the village had no community centre, and there was no processing or value addition unit to generate more profit, no farmer was engaged in sustainable agricultural practices like tree based farming system, etc. The awareness about alternative agriculture technology was low. Hence, the income generated from agriculture was very limited. KJBF started the awareness activity under KJBF-CAIM project through street plays, formation of VDC, SHGs and PG sand capacity building of their members. The problems as highlighted below were observed during PRA:

1. Most of the wells and Nalas used to get dried up during the summer season
2. Farmers were using chemical fertilisers and pesticides at large scale
3. Farmers were growing mainly traditional crops
4. Farmers were not using sustainable agriculture practices and suitable technology
Achievements and Impact under KJBF - CAIM interventions in Shivangaon

i. 4 ‘ Farmers’ Producer Groups’ were formed covering 83 farmers

ii. 3 SHGs were formed covering 32 women that accrued savings of ₹. 35,200

iii. 1 Check dam and 650 Mt of Nala widening and deepening work carried out which benefitted 32 farmers and covered 123 acres of land

iv. 28 recharge pits, 18 farm ponds and 14 Boribandhs were constructed to conserve and recharge the rain water that provided additional support of irrigation during Rabi season to 106 farmers covering 218 acres of their land

v. 14 Sprinkler irrigation systems and 3 diesel engine sets provided which covered 27 farmers and 98 acres of land

vi. 52 Soyabean demo plots, 10 vegetable demo plots, 1 chilli demo plot, 1 turmeric demo plot, 9 fodder demo plots were developed that covered 88 farmers which gave them a total income of ₹. 15,35 lakh per annum

vii. Collective input purchasing of 45 wheat seed bags, 35 gram seed bags, 300 SSP bags by 78 farmers saved them ₹. 34,000

viii. 6 Pomegranate plots, 31 KJBF- WADI plots and 8 Bansl wheat plots covered 45 farmers which brought 45 acres of their land under ZBNF natural farming
Keshav Kothari cultivated Bansi variety of wheat using natural farming and inspired many farmers by the technique use in wheat cultivation.
ix. 1 Biogas unit saved wood expense of ₹ 8,500 annum
x. Started up Lac cultivation with 5 farmers which gave them sustainable additional income over bund land
xi. 5 families raised fresh vegetables through use of drum kit and they saved ₹ 44,000 annum
xii. 14 beneficiaries covered under income generation activity and they earned ₹ 3 lakh per annual together.

xiii. 15 indigenous cows promoted under breed conservation and natural farming
xiv. 3 ‘Small Producer Agri—Business Resource Centres’ made operational to initiate agri- practices on time which covered 134 farmers
xv. 52 farmers used ‘Broad Bed Furrow’ soil and water conservation technique over 276 acres of land which provided additional income of ₹ 56,000 per annum
xvi. KJBF has touched the lives of all the 144 households through various activities implemented in the villages

Intervention of all activity farmers adopted sustainable agri-system and VDC will continue to implement all activities through line departments of state government and KJBF through convergence.

Social impact in village Shiwangaon:

The major changes observed that the villagers were come together for implementation of various group-based activities aimed at community development and village level institutions began to work independently. This trust building, change in attitude and behavior among the community had been developed with interventions. The energetic surrounding inspired youths who themselves got organized into SHGs as they understood the importance of small savings. SHG members are utilizing SHG savings for improving their livelihoods. The farmers have come forward for collective purchasing of farm inputs through ‘Farmers Producer Company’. The villagers have initiated thinking on processing, packaging and marketing of agri-commodities to elevate profits. They are now well aware of government schemes and drawing benefits with effective interaction with the government officials. The friendly and co-operative environment thus created resulted in decreasing the percentage of liquor addiction.

The efforts enlightened the community and inspired them to stand beside each other in socio-economic needs thus reducing the pressure on the minds of farmers resulting cooperative environment in the village.
Source of Fund:
The total utilization of fund for various activities in 2015-16 was ₹199.88 million out of which ₹81.06 million was contributed by KJBF, ₹67.57 million by Nawajibhai Ratan Tata Trust (NRTT), National Bank of Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD).
Government of Maharashtra and International Fund for Agriculture Development (IFAD), ₹41.20 million was a Community Contribution and ₹10.06 Million was revolving fund through KJBF.

Fund Utilization:
KJBF expenditure for 2015-16 was ₹199.88 million, out of which programme expenditure was ₹173.01 million, administrative expenditure was ₹15.17 million, capital cost was ₹0.83 million and outreach (Training and Capacity Building) expenditure was ₹10.86 million.

Programme expenditure:
Programme expenditure in 2015-16 was ₹173.01 million out of which expenditure for Water Resource Development was ₹60.08 million. Convergence of Agriculture Initiative in Maharashtra project (CAIM) was ₹21.49 million, Wadi development programme was ₹31.41 million, Biogas programme was ₹11.92 million, Promotion of Indigenous Cow was ₹5.10 million, Rural Enterprise was ₹6.37 million, Better cotton initiative was ₹4.38 million, Promotion of Micro Irrigation System was ₹13.78 million, Umbrella project on natural resource management (UPNRM) was ₹16.41 million, Zero budget natural farming was ₹1.97 million, Promotion of SHGs was ₹0.09 million.
Continuous training and exposure visits of beneficiaries of various programmes helped them to build their confidence and understand new technology application in farming.

Mr. Kushal Goburdhan (4th from left) from Mauritius visited KJBF field and got acquainted with the various programmes being implemented.
SHISHIR BAJAJ is a founder member and Chairman of the Trust. After completing his MBA from New York University in 1974 with major subject in Finance, he is joined the Bajaj Group of companies in 1974 and has been shouldering the responsibility of Chairman of Bajaj Group from 1999. He also did his Owner President Management Program from Harvard Business School in 2000. Bajaj Hindustan Ltd. is today the number one sugar producer in India and 5th largest in world and largest produce of Ethanol in India. Bajaj Corp’s Bajaj Almond Drops is second largest Hair Oil Brand in India.

SMT. MINAKSHI BAJAJ, a co-founder member of the trust, has obtained her bachelor of Arts degree from Calcutta University and is a director of Bajaj Trustee Company Private Limited and Roop Sugars Private Ltd.

KUSHAGRA NAYAN BAJAJ, is a Trustee and has also been shouldering responsibility as Chairman of Bajaj Group. He is a Chairman-cum-Managing Director of Bajaj Hindustan Ltd., Chairman of Bajaj Energy and Bajaj Corp. Kushagra Nayan Bajaj is a Bachelor of Science in Economics, Political Philosophy and Finance from the Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, USA. He earned his Master of Science in Marketing from North Western University, Chicago, USA. He is the moving force behind the social responsibility initiatives of the Trust.

APOORV NAYAN BAJAJ, the Executive President of Bajaj Corp Ltd., is also a Trustee. He has a Bachelors degree in Commerce from University of Mumbai. He regularly travels to Wardha Programme area to help and guides the programmes of the Trust. Socio-economic and spiritual development of the community is his passion.

A DEDICATED TEAM OF KJBF

- Mahendra V. Phate
- Chetan K. Nandha
- Prashant T. Borkute
- Vijaya M. Thakare
- Anand A. Joshi
- Guneshwar S. Patle
- Raju B. Pawar
- Sachin R. Zadey
- Surendra T. Fasge
- Sushant P. Borkar
- Suhas P. Hajare
- Hrushikesh S. Hardas
- Karsahan D. Sarikhda
- Ashwini S. Shende
- Mahendra M. Jalgonkar
- Rajendra B. Petkar
- Jiwan M. Kalbande
- Tushar U. Fasge
- Sidhartha M. Gaikwad
- Gaurav W. Wadode
- Ravindra N. Nagdeve
- Mayur B. Pojage
- Dhiraj N. Wankhade
- Nitin R. Gaikwad
- Ravindra B. Ulikey
- Lileshwar V. Naxine
- Sumit M. Jiwtode
- Sachin S. Chatur
- Sachin S. Nilaskar
- Jayesh H. Jadav
- Sachin C. R. Sonane
- Pravin H. Chivane
- Sandip S. Telrandhe
- Vishal S. Thakare
- Mangesh N. Talwekar
- Vijay S. Chambhare
- Umesh P. Timande
- Nitin P. Ubhale
- Vinod B. Paris
Better than mechanical practice is knowledge; better than knowledge is meditation. Better than meditation is renunciation of the fruits of actions, for peace immediately follows such renunciation.

Those who are not a source of annoyance to anyone and who in turn are not agitated by anyone, who are equal in pleasure and pain, and free from fear and anxiety, such devotees of mine are very dear to me.

Those who are indifferent to worldly gain, externally and internally pure, skilful, without cares, untroubled, and free from selfishness in all undertakings, such devotees of mine are very dear to me.
Om, May All become Happy.
May All be Free from Illness.
May All See what is Auspicious,
May no one Suffer.
Om Peace, Peace, Peace.

ॐ सर्वेभवन्तु सूक्ष्मानः
सर्वेभवन्तु निरामायः
सर्वेभवणि पर्यन्तः
ना कः प्रदायुक्तवं
ॐ सर्वाः समाः सर्वाः
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