



1. How did your activity evolve since you won the award?

The work on reviving the river systems at Wardha has been something which had moved from being a supply driven to that of demand driven. Today after almost 3 years of intervention, a total of 438 Km of rivers have been revived. The work has reached out to over 120 villages, area 108715 acres of land benefited and more than 13915 farmer's benefited.

2. Number of employees in 2018? Number of employees 2020?

In the year 2018-19 there are 60 employees and now in year 2019-20 the number of Employees are the same

3. Turnover of your NGO/company?

Last three-Year Budget Details			
Year	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Total Expenditure In Rupees Crore	23.21	29.89	30.31

4. Number of people touched/impacted?

Rejuvenation of 224 rivers/streams over a length of 586 Km benefited 53,969 families and 2,34,211 acres of land was brought under irrigation in Wardha district.

5. Regional expansion of the project?

Looking to the impact of above programmes, KJBF designed a project on Rejuvenation of Yashoda River Basin in collaboration with Government of Maharashtra and Tata Trust. The Yashoda River basin project covering 153 villages spanning 630 Km of river. The project would benefit 217000 Acres of land and 24,000 families. Potential of 2700 Km. Rejuvenation of Rivers and streams have been identified in Wardha district to make the district irrigation water sufficient with the support from GoM and partners organisations. The total outlay of Project was Rs. 100 crores.

6. Was the project duplicated to other communities?

The government has undertaken similar initiative in all over Maharashtra in the last 3 years under their flagship programme "Jalayuta Shivar"

7. What were the social benefits?

Water resource development has helped in the conservation of the top fertile layer of soil. The direct benefit from such an intervention is an increased area under cultivation and therefore, an increased income to the farmers.

The major changes we observed were that the villagers have come together for implementation of various group-based activities aimed at social welfare and community development.

Village level institutions began to work independently. This trust building, change in attitude and behaviour among the community had been developed with KJBF interventions. The energetic surrounding inspired youths who themselves got organized into SHGS as they understood the importance of small savings. The farmers have come forward for collective purchasing of farm inputs through 'Farmers Producer Company'.

They are now well aware of government schemes and drawing benefits. 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 in arresting the farmers' suicides in the village.

8. How did the Award help? Local contacts, financing

The Award helped in spreading the importance of work and efforts of Bajaj Foundation with the appearance of news in newspapers. The farming community became aware and came forward and comfortably joined as financial partner.

9. What impact did it have on your personal motivation/inspiration?

Recognition at International level and interaction with the Award team during their visit to programme area boosted enthusiasm and confidence among the team of Bajaj Foundation. They got themselves more attached and involved in the intervention by heart as they could feel the contribution of their work towards humanity and conserving nature.

10. What's next? What are your future prospects?

Bajaj Foundation intends to create a positive impact in the area of its operation through focussed innovative interventions in the form of Water Resources Development, especially rejuvenation of Rivers/Streams. With the availability of water we are focused on Water Management and Sustainable Agriculture Development with special efforts on natural farming, animal husbandry and agro-based livelihood support through village level institutions.

11. What are the challenges you are facing to develop and to promote your innovation to other communities?

Since, the cost involved in rejuvenation of rivers and streams are quite high the programme needs to be implemented in partnership with other development stake holders. Looking to the long term and sustainable benefit of the interventions we are in search of partners who help us in replicating the programmes on larger scale in the state of Maharashtra.

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