

Organic Farmers and Farms of Jharkhand

BADLAO FOUNDATION

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Santhal Parganas, now Jamtara is a composite landmass where natural resources have been under gross neglect by both the state and local community. Large tracts of land are lying waste due to improper practices and despite heavy rainfall, drought continues. This has led to gross deficit of food and fodder. Badlao Foundation has intervened to successfully regenerate resources, through community agriculture to produce adequate food. Some of its endeavors have resulted in trend setting and rather eye-catching results in remote areas of its operation.

Badlao Foundation's farmers' training include vegetable cultivation, techniques of sustainable agriculture, compost making, vermicomposting, natural resource management, repairing of wells, renovation of ponds, land management, rainwater harvesting, rejuvenation of irrigation sources etc.

(Source: Website)

VIKAS MAITRI

PO. Box 182, P.N. Bose Compound, Purulia Road, Ranchi – 834 001, Jharkhand. Ph: 2311749/ 2200527, Email: rch_vimaitri@sancharnet.in, Website: www.vikasmaitri.org

(Contact: Dominic Bara)

Vikas Maitri's work concerns integrated development of the adivasi groups in Jharkhand. They have an organic farm that plays host to several training programmes in skill development, entrepreneurship and organic farming techniques.

Their main focus is the revival of the Kalamdani variety of indigenous rice. Farmers have committed to growing the rice variety on 500 acres in 2008 as compared to 100 acres in 2007. Going by these figures, reestablishment of the variety looks very promising.

Kalamdani Rice is a traditional variety of rice known for its nutritious value and taste. Traditionally it was so famous that it found a place in the cultural songs of Jharkhand. It was phased out almost completely with the introduction of HVY strains in the 1970s and 1980s.

Bara has also supervised the establishment of organic farms in different localities for the purpose of experimentation and demonstration. He has published articles on sustainable agriculture and a popular booklet titled, *Compost Making*.

(Source: Website)

SOCIETY FOR RURAL INDUSTRIALISATION

P.O Bairatu, Ranchi – 834 009, Jharkhand. Phone: 0651-313668

Society for Rural Industrialisation (SRI) has a project called ASVIN programme which aims to develop suitable land use and production systems for small farmers, particularly tribals, so as to evolve a replicable system of ecological agriculture. Starting from sheer barren land SRI now has developed the infrastructure to start production in an integrated and sustainable way. It has set up its ecological agriculture farm at Boreya, Ranchi with the assistance of Ms. Fabienne Tingry a volunteer who is involved in activities like education and research in the field of ecological agriculture.

(Source: Communication with OIP)

SHRI PRANAB CHOWDHARY,

Shramjivi Unnayan, Village and P.O. Gober Ghusi (Via-Patmada), Dist. East Singhbhum-832105, Jharkhand

(Source : Bharathendu Prakash)

LOK JAGRITI KENDRA,

52 Bigha, Madhupur, Dist. Deoghar-815353, Jharkhand

(Source: Bharathendu Prakash)