

The National Innovation Foundation - India (NIF) team conducted a field visit to the villages of Dhauntri, Chaurangikhaal, Bhetiyara, Bheintgaon, and Lamgaon as part of its grassroots innovation and capacity-building initiatives.

At Government Adarsh Inter College, Dhauntri, the team engaged with students through a capacity-building programme focused on fostering innovation and creativity. An idea competition was organised, encouraging students to identify local challenges and propose innovative solutions. The team also conducted a training session on scouting grassroots innovations and documenting new practices from their surroundings. The school principal and staff actively participated and expressed keen interest in promoting innovation-driven learning.

In Bhetiyara village, a Farmers' Field School was organised, where discussions focused on the effective utilisation of locally available resources for animal husbandry and sustainable agriculture. Farmers shared their experiences and highlighted key challenges, including the continued reliance on manual paddy transplantation, which is time-consuming, labour-intensive, and causes significant drudgery, particularly for women. These interactions provided valuable insights into field-level challenges and potential areas for technological intervention.

The visit also included scouting activities in Chaurangikhaal, where the team interacted with local fabricators to understand their innovative capabilities, traditional techniques, and locally developed tools.

Overall, the field visit served as an effective platform for knowledge exchange, identification of grassroots innovations, and strengthening community participation in innovation-led rural development initiatives.



