



Bansidhar & Ila Panda Foundation (BIPF)

Bansidhar & Ila Panda Foundation (BIPF) was established in 2011 as the social development arm of [Indian Metals and Ferro Alloys Limited \(IMFA\)](#). BIPF believes that transforming individual lives, amongst the most marginalized communities in Odisha, will have a cascading impact on the regional development of the state. Working closely in collaboration with the central and state government, local and international organizations, and other strategic partners, BIPF drives results in five core areas of transformation: healthcare, livelihood, education, water & sanitation, and advocacy and appreciation. The foundation's approach is built on collaborating with partners, embedding community ownership in all programs, focusing on women and youth, changing mindsets by driving behavioral change communication. This approach is integrated into all the projects. Currently, the foundation's geographic focus spans five districts in Odisha, which cover nearly 200 villages.

Founded in 2011, BIPF, and has its origins in the decades-long community service carried out by the founders of Indian Metals and Ferro Alloys Limited (IMFA). Late Dr. Bansidhar Panda, research scientist, returned from the United States and chose Therubali, a remote outpost in the erstwhile undivided Koraput district of Odisha, to embark upon his dream and IMFA came into being in 1961. Today, IMFA is a world of enterprise and innovation inspired by its founders - Late Dr. Bansidhar Panda and Late Mrs. Ila Panda.

Situated in the eastern state of Odisha, IMFA's founders' motto, "Touching Lives beyond Business", set the tone for working closely with local communities to empower them with initiatives in Education, Health, Women Empowerment, Skill Development, and Water & Sanitation. Today, BIPF continues to build on this legacy to carry out the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiatives in a more scalable and sustainable manner, targeting mostly marginalized communities.

While it was only in 2013 that the Company Act mandated the CSR programs by corporates, IMFA and BIPF had already deployed significant resources to their focus areas. BIPF is currently working in the five districts of Odisha namely Keonjhar, Jajpur, Rayagada, Angul, and Cuttack. These are remote districts which are difficult to access, lack basic facilities, and have very limited livelihood opportunities. They are also susceptible to the natural calamities such as cyclones and floods. As IMFA runs its operations from these districts, it was a natural step for BIPF to focus its developmental work in these areas.