

Minutes of the Meeting on Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA)
(held at 2.30 PM on 27-08-2016)

Chief Secretary chaired the meeting and the list of other participants is appended.

2. Welcoming the participants, the Chair explained that the objective of UBA was to bring transformational changes in rural development processes by leveraging the technological strengths of Higher Education Institutes to help build the architecture of an Inclusive India. The concept is to connect Higher Education Institutes with local communities through Grama Panchayats so as to address the development challenges of rural areas through appropriate technological interventions. The Chair explained the modalities for the implementation of the scheme as follows:

(a) **Identification:** Every Higher Education Institute shall formally adopt a service area consisting of a backward Grama Panchayat or a cluster of backward Grama Panchayats in the vicinity in consultation with the District Collector concerned.

(b) **Areas:** Specific emphasis may be given to the following areas:-

"Village sanitation, drinking water supply, energy (including renewable energy), agriculture and allied activities, irrigation, improving technology of handicrafts, affordable housing, improving educational standards, improving Health, appropriate use of IT applications, enterprise suite for the governance of Gram Panchayats covering a host of applications, bridging of digital divide etc."

(c) **Planning:** The faculty and students of Higher Education Institutes shall interact with the village communities through adopted Grama Panchayats so as to identify the pressing problems being faced by them, and find innovative and cost-effective solutions through application of appropriate technological inputs for their resolution. A perspective plan as well as annual action plan shall be prepared for each village covering these aspects. Special focus should be laid on the problems of

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SC/ST/Persons with Disabilities (PWDs)/Senior Citizens in the plans. The plans so prepared shall be submitted to the District Collector concerned for dovetailing with the annual action plans of the stakeholder departments.

(d) **Coordination:** A District Coordination Committee for UBA shall be constituted. In order to effectively implement the UBA, the Higher Educational Institutes shall also work in close conjunction with Centre/State Government departments covering the areas of Rural Development and should collaborate with Individuals/organizations/ Foundations/NGOs, who are working in the field of rural development. Involving Kudumbasree units will help to strengthen the UBA. Guidance of IITs/IIMs should be sought while dealing with mega problems pertaining to Municipalities/Corporations.

(e) **Funding:** Funds for activities under UBA should be found from within the overall plan funds available with the local bodies. However, CSR funding may be explored for specific projects. The institutions may focus on proper utilization of these resources with support for participatory local level planning, use of appropriate technologies and proper extension to the households.

(f) **Nodal officer:** Each Higher Education Institute should designate one of the faculty members as Nodal Officer for UBA activities. She/he is expected to lead the UBA effort of the institution under the overall supervision of the principal with the active participation of faculty and students. A UBA Cell, functioning directly under the supervision of the Head of the Institution, shall be constituted for monitoring the progress at the institutional level and to address the coordination issues. While evaluating the performance of the participants, suitable recognition may be given for their contributions under the UBA. The NSS units in these institutes shall be necessarily involved in all the UBA activities.

(g) **Monitoring:** The progress in implementing these plans may be monitored at the Institution/District/State Government levels.

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3. A preliminary plan of action has been evolved for the implementation of UBA with the below-mentioned components:

(a) A District Coordination Committee in each district, headed by respective District Collectors with the NSS Coordinator as convenor, shall be constituted. The Heads of participating Higher Education Institutions and Local Body representatives shall be the members. (Action: District Collectors)

(b) The Directors of Collegiate Education & Technical Education and the Registrars of Universities shall take lead in ensuring that meetings of Principals are convened region-wise to motivate them to undertake UBA activities. (Action: DCE, DTE and Registrars of Universities)

(c) It was also decided to constitute a small Committee of Experts from different disciplines in order to identify the various focus/problematic areas relevant to the communities of Grama Panchayaths/Municipalities/Corporations to be pursued by the faculty and the students of Colleges & Universities as a part of UBA. This ideation exercise has to be completed before Onam vacation. (Action: Principal Secretary, Higher Education Department)

(d) Government Letters in this regard will be forwarded to Central Government/IITs/IISER/IIMs/NIITs according to protocol.

(e) The developments on UBA are to be discussed in the NSS Advisory Body headed by Hon'ble Minister for Education. (Action: Principal Secretary, Higher Education Department)

(f) A help desk mechanism for trouble shooting may be put in place in due course at district and state level. (Action: Principal Secretary, Higher Education in consultation with SIO, NIC)

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(g) The feasibility of including Higher Secondary & VHSE Institutions, ITIs/Universities under UBA may be explored. The Law University (NUALS) may also participate in UBA activities so as to strengthen the alternate dispute resolution mechanism. (Action: Secretaries of Higher Education and General Education)

(h) A High level Meeting in this regard chaired by Hon'ble CM with the participation of Hon'ble Minister for Education, Hon'ble Minister for SC/ST, Hon'ble Minister for Local Self Government, Hon'ble Minister for Health, Senior Officers of MHRD, GoI, Vice Chancellors of the State Universities and Secretaries of relevant departments in GoK will be planned in due course. (Action: Office of the Chief Secretary)

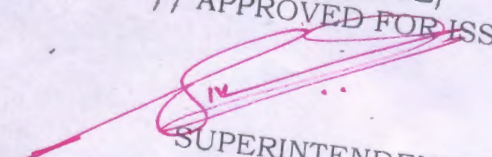
The meeting came to an end at 4.00 PM with mutual thanks.

Endt.No.G4/24078/2016/Coll.Edn. Dated : 19.10.2016.

The minutes of the meeting of Unnat Bharath Abhiyan is conveyed to all college Principals for implementing and further follow-up action.

Sd/-
DR.A.N.PADAMAKUMARY,
ADDL.DIRECTOR OF COLLEGIATE EDUCATION,
(IN CHARGE)

// APPROVED FOR ISSUE //


SUPERINTENDENT.