

Unnat Bharat Abhiyan

IIT Delhi

16.5.2016

Minutes of the First Meeting of the National Steering Committee of Unnat Bharat Abhiyan

The first meeting of the National Steering Committee (NSC) of Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA) was held on 29th April, 2016 in the Senate Room, IIT Delhi under the Chairmanship of Dr. Vijay P. Bhatkar. Smt. Smriti Zubin Irani, Hon'ble Minister, Human Resource Development (HRD) was the Chief Guest on the occasion.

Chairman stated that Dr R A Mashelkar had formally expressed his inability to attend due to his academic visit to Monash University of Australia and Prof Ved Prakash, Chairman UGC had to attend a Convocation . Leave of Absence was courteously granted to them.

The list of Participants is annexed.

The Chairman extended a hearty welcome, offered a flower bouquet to Hon'ble Minister, HRD. He also extended a warm welcome to all the members of the NSC and other participants. He stated that it was the first time when the Educational Institutions are directly being linked to rural development. At IIT Delhi more than 40 faculty members from different Departments, Centers and Schools of IIT Delhi were involved in the activities of UBA. Regular meetings of various Committees of UBA were being held. More than eighty districts have been identified in first stage for taking up the UBA activities in the Year 2016-17. About 40 Institutions have identified rural clusters and are in process of formulating Action Plans in consultation with respective Gram Sabha/Gram Panchayat, District Collector and local Grass-root Organization. IIT Delhi has also identified eight clusters where UBA activities are being taken up involving faculty members and students of IIT Delhi, Panchayats, District Collectors and local people. The technology is being showcased. The programmes and schemes of various ministries are being linked with.

Smt. Smriti Zubin Irani, Hon'ble Minister, Human Resource Development (HRD) addressing the Committee said that the Concept of UBA is unique. It is a National Programme with lot of challenges. AICTE could link Private Institutions to take UBA activities. Development of prototypes should be taken up. Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRI) system should be involved. Agriculture, water, education, skill development, entrepreneurship development etc. are the key areas of work. An example is areas around BHU, Varanasi where 30% are illiterate, adult education

and literacy programmes can be taken up there. Everyone can educate at least one person. IITs, NITs and other institutions can adopt dropout children of the villages. UBA should look at the schools, see various aspects like why children are not coming to school, may be due to health conditions, malnutrition etc. Gram Sabhas and Gram Panchayats can collaborate with UBA to involve school education. Similarly toilets should be constructed in the villages to stop open defecation.

She stressed on the following issues:

- UBA should be open to all. Anybody wants to participate in UBA is welcome
- Adult Education to be given priority
- Digital literacy may be taken up
- Rashtriya Aviskar Abhiyan should be linked to UBA
- UBA should provide training to Gram Panchayats
- Communication should be established through website with common citizens
- In Gram Sabha women are not aware of their rights, UBA could take up women empowerment
- Ideas coming from people should be considered and uploaded on website
- There should be milestones and time lines for achieving goals/targets set.

Prof. Rajendra Prasad presented the agenda wise details, various Committees of UBA formed at IIT Delhi and MHRD and out-come of meetings of these Committee held so far.

The Committee discussed the agenda and decided as given below:

- 1. Expansion of NSC:** The Committee discussed and recommended the expansion of NSC of UBA to include Director, IIT Delhi as Co-Chairman of NSC; DG, CSIR; DG, ICAR; DG, ICMR; DG, CAPART, Secretary AYUSH; Advisor, UBA Cell, IIT Delhi; Coordinator, UBA Cell, IIT Delhi and Additional Secretary/Joint Secretary of Key Ministries as Member of NSC.
- 2. Mode of Funding:** The Committee decided that the funds to be received by UBA may be directly released to IIT Delhi and UBA operated as an Institutional programme.
- 3. Operational issues and strategies:**

- (a) The Committee decided that two workshops may be conducted one at IIT Delhi and other at NIRD, Hyderabad for the Districts Collectors of the identified districts, Mentoring Institutions and Voluntary Organizations involved in the UBA.
- (b) The current functioning, status of the various activities of UBA and Terms of Reference of the NSC of UBA were discussed in the meeting in detail.
- (c) The Terms of reference and Powers of the Chairman, NSC were also discussed. It was decided that MHRD may be requested to consider the followings:
- i. Chairman, NSC may be provided a vehicle/Taxi by IIT Delhi whenever he is in Delhi.
 - ii. Chairman, NSC may be provided Sitting fee of Rs. 10,000/-per day for attending meetings of UBA and field visits.
 - iii. Chairman, NSC may be eligible for Executive class Air fare for attending UBA meetings and field work.
 - iv. Chairman, NSC may be eligible for the payment of TA/DA for attending meetings and field work as admissible to the Chairman, NSC in Government of India.
- (d) The functioning of UBA Cell, IIT Delhi was deliberated upon. The various Committees involving faculty members of Departments, Centres and Schools of IIT Delhi as well as some experts from outside Organizations e.g., Core Committee, Executive Committee and Advisory Committee to become examples and models for other institutions in the programme.
- (e) The Committee also decided to open up UBA for all academic institutions public and private. There are about 10000 institutions under AICTE and 28000 under UGC. All these are desired to be linked and networked to spread this program in a big way.
- (f) In order to facilitate, guide and monitor the activities of newer participating institutions, a few mentoring institutions may be identified on the basis of their earlier experience and infrastructural competence etc. these institutions will act as nodal centre for promoting UBA network in their region. These will be responsible for grooming the participating institutions in their neighbouring region in addition to carrying out their own activities. To begin with

there may be 15 to 20 mentoring institutions which may grow over time to about 100 such institutions in the country. Each mentoring institution may to begin with network with 10 to 15 local participating institutions in their area, growing to 100 such participating institutions each over time.

The Committee discussed about the Mentoring Institutions and their role in furthering the activities of UBA activities. The Committee decided that UBA Cell, IIT Delhi should get them in action. IIT Delhi will write to all the Mentoring Institutions to play the coordination role regionally and networking with local institutions in the area and to seek their consent to act as mentoring institution for UBA.

- (g)The Committee suggested for integrated programme planning and to prepare a manual for UBA on the model of Sansad Adarsh Gram Yojna (SAGY)
- (h)The website of Unnat Bharat Abhiyan should reflect all the dimensions of Unnat Bharat Abhiyan.
- (i) UBA should evolve indicators of success for UBA.
- (j)There should be convergence with all the Departments/Divisions and Institutions of the Ministries involved in the activities of rural development.

While summarizing the discussion of the meeting, Prof K. Gupta, Co-Chairman of NSC mentioned that it is time to act, clusters have been identified, Panchayats may be involved. Training Manual should be prepared and that private and public large number of institutions need to be involved in UBA.

The Chairman in his concluding remarks indicated that New Director, IIT Delhi will be Co-Chairman of UBA. There will be an Anchor. Expanded NSC will have to be structured, key Ministries to be members. Workshops will have to be conducted to discuss and finalize the strategy of UBA functioning. Real action in the field be started. Success examples may be identified and those should be uploaded on website. Role of Voluntary organizations who will work in clusters need to be specified.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks.

List of Participants

1st Meeting of National Steering Committee of Unnat Bharat Abhiyan

Date: 29th April, 2016

Venue: Senate Room, IIT Delhi

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