

# Unnat Bharat Abhiyan

## **Record of Discussion and Major Recommendations Proposed in the Brain Storming Workshop held on 13-14, November, 2015 at IIT Delhi**

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A Brain Storming Workshop was organized at IIT Delhi on November 13<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup>, 2015. The representative from Subject Coordinating Institutes made presentation on activities undertaken/to be undertaken on the Subject as per templates sent by IIT Delhi. IIT made a presentation on Concept and Strategies of UBA including role of Subject Groups in the total picture. Tata Institute of Social Science was invited to provide their inputs in shaping up the program. Also some of the Ministries concerned with the implementation of the program at rural cluster level were invited to explain their Programs and Schemes which could be taken up by the Institutions participating in the UBA activities. Some of the Field Groups (NGOs) with long experience were also invited to advise and guide the program to take a practical and effective shape on the ground.

The record of discussion and major recommendations proposed in the Brain Storming Workshop are as given below:

### **13<sup>th</sup> November, 2015 (First Day)**

#### **Inaugural Session:**

Prof. K. Gupta, Director, IIT Delhi extended warm welcome to Shri S.M. Vijayanand, Secretary Panchayati Raj, Shri R. Subrahmanyam, Additional Secretary, Shri B.K. Pandey, Economic Advisor, Ministry of HRD and the participants. He deliberated in brief about the Institute and the role of IIT in UBA.

Dr. Vijay Bhatkar, Chairman, BOG, IIT Delhi could not physically attend the workshop but he delivered opening remarks about the UBA through the skype. He stressed the need of involvement of institutions of higher learning's in rural development. He said that UBA will ensure holistic development of rural areas and academics will be linked to the problems of the society. He suggested that UBA should focus on organic agriculture and cow based economy for a paradigm shift in the development of India. He said that UBA should be an open innovation framework /platform where any one can contribute ( even grass root innovator ) , i.e. Unix architecture for crowd sourcing. There should not be any restriction on the selection of villages. As per need and capability, no. of villages can be adopted in collaboration of Voluntary agencies, district administration. There should be no restriction on academic institution for no. of villages and their local area. He suggested that a show case on innovative rural technologies, development be prepared for MPs and state MLAs as well for voluntary agencies, PSUs etc. Any one wants to work for village development can see and learn from this kind of show case in Physical and digital form. He felt the need for modifying appraisal system for faculty members in technical / academic intuitions which can include UBA and such activities.

Prof. Rajendra Prasad, Advisor, UBA Cell, IIT Delhi presented up-to-date progress of UBA.

Prof. P.L. Dhar made a power point presentation on **Concept Note on Vision and Strategies** of UBA.

Shri R. Subrahmanyam, Additional Secretary, Ministry of HRD stressed that Higher Educational Institutions should contribute in possible rural technology interventions in the clusters, identify the areas of intervention where they can work in the rural areas through UBA. These should be suggestive and should contribute to economic growth. They should also identify the areas where all 50,000 Higher Educational Institutions can participate in UBA. It is knowledge driven age and the activities should be based on the technological growth. Nodal Institutions should visit the villages and should come up with the requirement of the villages in the next meeting which could be in third week of December, 2015 in which UBA Cells should make presentations.

Shri S.M. Vijayanand, Secretary, Panchayati Raj, Chief Guest delivered the key note. Following points were made by him:

- o Sufficient funds are available, Rs.2.5 lakh crores for Gram Panchayats and 2 lakh crores in MGNREGA. These funds can be utilized for UBA activities.
- o Reaching out to colleges: UBA activities should not be restricted among Higher Educational Institutes but it should involve junior colleges too.
- o Service area concept: UBA's contribution will be towards service areas, technology service areas and knowledge service areas.
- o SansadAdarsh Gram Yojna can also be linked with UBA.
- o Gram Panchayat Development Plan (Voluntary) should be prepared.
- o Sanitation: Solid and liquid waste management. All the institutes should give special attention to this.
- o Menu of options: Guidelines, handbook should be prepared
- o Community based organization partners may be associated with UBA
- o Delivery should be ensured
- o Action plan to be worked out
- o District level (Collectors/CEO), Ministry of HRD will communicate to District authorities
- o 5 million hectares of Organic farming
- o Formal capacity building of UBA partners should be done (From top to bottom staff) in Cascading manner,
- o TISS should be involved
- o Identify 40-50 districts in the beginning.
- o Convergence with Line Ministries
- o There should be Help Desk of UBA in PMO

Prof. V.K. Vijay, Coordinator, UBA Cell, IIT Delhi delivered vote of thanks and said that there was a very good response from the Institutions and voluntary agencies. All the stake holders have gathered for the work shop on a very short notice and during the festivals.

### **Concept Note on Vision and Strategies:**

The draft of **Concept Note on Vision and Strategies** prepared and presented by Prof. P.L.Dhar was thoroughly discussed in the workshop. Broadly the concept presented was appreciated by the participants. Some salient suggestions were made which are to be incorporated in the draft.

### **Subject Group Presentation:**

Participants and experts deliberated on the subject themes. Some of the subject theme should be appropriately modified fitting for rural requirement. It was suggested to add three more subject areas and some of the subject theme should be reworded.

#### **IIT Delhi – (Rural Energy)**

Prof. P.M.V. Subbarao, Coordinator, Renewable Energy, IIT Delhi made a power point presentation on the Subject. Discussions on the issues raised by the participants. Shri Jaikumar of Vijnana Bharti (VIBHA) suggested that student community should be involved and Energy security and self-sufficiency should be taken care. Dr. Seema Sharma, Deptt. of Management Studies, IIT Delhi indicated that for economic prospective an Economic advisor is required in all the Subject Groups. She mentioned about the services of Shakti Foundation which can be involved in UBA activities.

#### **IIT Madras - (Medicines / Health)**

Dr. DevendraJalihai from IIT Madras made a presentation followed by a thorough discussion. Since IIT Madras was not in a position to deal with overall health of the people, Disability, etc., Dr. Jalihai discussed with Prof. Debasis Roy and decided that IIT Kharagpur will be the Co-ordinating Institute with IIT Madras in the Subject since IIT Kharagpur has a course on MBBS. After that they will constitute the Experts Group. It was also discussed that Bio-herbal division of MGIRI, Wardha may be included in the Group of Health & Medicines

#### **IIT Kanpur - (Artisans)**

Prof. KoumudiPatil from IIT Kanpur made a presentation followed by a thorough discussion. She was of the opinion that there should be Supporting price of handmade products. There should be e-graminhaat. Facilities available with SIDBI may be tied up.

#### **IIM Bangalore - (Education & Networking of Institutions)**

Prof.GopalNaik from IIM Bangalore made a presentation followed by a thorough discussion.The title of Education and Networking of Institutions was changed to Application of IT for Rural Education.

Prof. M.P. Gupta, Department of Management Studies, IIT Delhi could be a member of the Subject Group with IIM Bangalore.

### **IIT Guwahti – (Industry)**

Prof. S.K. Kakoti of IIT Guwahati made a presentation followed by a thorough discussion. It was suggested that IICO, CII, ASSOCHAM should be involved in UBA. Social aspects and good practices should be incorporated.

The title of Industry was changed to Corporate in Rural Development.

### **IIT Kharagpur – (Water Resources)**

Prof. Debasis Roy of IIT Kharagpur made a presentation followed by a thorough discussion. It was suggested that besides Rain water harvesting, water conservation, water management, providing potable drinking water to the people, Watershed Development and Management of Rural Water Resources should be incorporated in the Subject.

### **IIT Gandhinagar – (Low Cost Housing)**

Dr. Pranab Mohapatra from IIT Gandhinagar made a presentation followed by a thorough discussion.

The title of Low Cost Housing was changed to Rural Housing.

### **NIT Surathkal- (Sanitation)**

Prof.S. Shrihari, Subject Group Coordinator of Sanitation could not attend the workshop due to medical reasons.

### **ICAR – (Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Forestry)**

Dr. S.P. Kimothi, ADG, ICAR deliberated about taking the technologies to ground level through ICAR Institutions, KVKs etc. and make use of available infrastructure, synergizing and coordinating with ICAR. He also indicated about involving Jain Irrigation System in UBA.

A guide manual of each subject should be prepared by the concerned Subject Group which should be accessible to everyone.

Prof. Rajendra Prasad, Adviser, UBA Cell, IIT Delhi suggested that the Model village should be identified/made and on the basis of that training should be given to the trainers for imparting training to the people of other villages.

A Committee on each Subject Group should be formed to guide and access in the subject.

## 14<sup>th</sup> November, 2015 (Second day):

### **Brainstorming on Finalization of Concept note on Vision & Strategies of UBA:**

The day started with a discussion on the Concept Note regarding Vision & Strategies of UBA presented by Prof. P.L. Dhar in the Inaugural session. The discussion was chaired by Prof. K. Gupta, Director, IIT Delhi and conducted by Shri B.K. Pandey, Economic Advisor, HRD.

Prof. P.L. Dhar suggested that UBA Cells should identify clusters of villages in consultation with the concerned District Collector, preferably in the backward regions. UBA Cells should try to meet local people and understand about the Social organizations working in those areas. It should be tried to find out honest and dedicated Social organizations in the area. However, one cannot bypass Government agencies. UBA Cell should find out the requirements of the cluster and improve the existing facilities available in the area.

It is desirable to identify at least one Field/ voluntary agency in the area which has a continuous presence in the area. They can also facilitate the discussion and interaction with District Collector for identifying the Cluster of Villages. The Local Technical Institution and the Field agency should be included in the District Planning Committee. The programmes of the cluster be got approved by the Zilla Parishad. Funds be released/made available for implementation of the activities planned under the cluster. There should be trusting relationship at rural level, collective vision, micro-planning, proper communication, resource planning, need finding, local facilitators consultation with Expert Groups with technological background etc. Cluster identifications should be completed by the end of December, 2015.

Prof. R.R. Gaur stressed that the prospective Mentor Institutions be identified. These should be outstanding and experienced Institutions to guide the UBA Cells in efficient working. Hybrid System may be evolved involving Government institutions and Social organizations. Coordinating and Mentoring Institutions should monitor the activities in the field.

Vijnana Bharti (VIBHA) can coordinate with Expert Groups, mapping can be done, particularly resource mapping can be carried out and entire information could be made available on a portal. Facebook and Google groups could be developed on different aspects. There must be a time line for each activity. Technology should reach directly at grass-root level.

Shri Basant Singh suggested that Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) should also be made use of. Shri Sanjay Ganjoo could help in the same. The Skill Council of India has a concept of Sectorial Council which can also be utilized particularly in the artisanal sector in rural area. This responsibility could be given to Rambhau Mhalgi Prabodhini, Mumbai.

Prof. Rajendra Prasad suggested that the Technical Institutions and Social organization should formulate proposals based on the needs of the area and send to Mentor Institutions/Committee/National Executive Council.

It was suggested in the meeting that there should be a time line for setting up of Nodal Centres, UBA Cells and Mentoring Institutions. It was also suggested that Ministry of HRD should provide funds for these activities. However, for the time being respective institutions could provide funds

required for the immediate actions to be taken in this regard. Funds available with local Members of Parliament (MPs) and Members of Legislative Assemblies (MLAs) may be used.

Each UBA Cell will formulate its Budget and will send to IIT Delhi. IIT Delhi will consolidate the Budget of all UBA Cells and forward the consolidated Budget to the Ministry of HRD tentatively by second week of December, 2015. Funds will be directly released to the respective Institutes.

The program should be implemented in phases. In the first phase, at least 25 Institutions may start working in 5 villages each.

There should be at least one Mentoring Institution in each State which can help in technical as well as social aspects. For the largest States two mentoring institutions could be identified.

IIT Delhi should send the final Concept Note to all the UBA Cells.

All scientific, technological, management, institutions under the various Councils/ Commissions/ Ministries like ICAR, CSIR, IRMA, IITs, Research, Science, Technology and Management Institutions should be involved in the program.

## **Recommendations:**

### **(A) Finalization of concept note on Vision, Mission, Strategies, and Plan of Action:**

- ❖ The draft prepared by Prof. P.L Dhar was thoroughly discussed in the workshop broadly the conceptualization presented was appreciated. Some salient suggestions were made which should be duly incorporated and the draft may thus be finalized at the earliest.
- ❖ Two salient suggestions were:
  - (a) While the normal mode of interaction with the clusters will continue to be through PRIs, in certain situations directly interacting through well-chosen Social organizations may be more beneficial and, hence, could be adopted.
  - (b) The mode of professional interaction by the UBA teams from Technical Institutions could consist of assisting in the Cluster/Block/District Planning Process; collaborating with the implementation of the various ongoing schemes of the Govt. or through the formulation of suitable projects by the Social organizations at the grass root level in collaboration with respective Technical Institutions which can be processed for funding through appropriate funding agencies (respective Ministries)

**For achieving convergence or obtaining 'single-window' clearance in this process, a suitable mechanism needs to be created in the Govt. system.**

❖ Innovation and technology based practices may be provided to Sansad Adarsh Gram Yojna under Unnat Bharat Abhiyan as well as any such programme of the states.

❖ Other minor suggestions, if any, may be incorporated after detailed perusal of the present draft.

❖ On the basis of above, IIT Delhi will finalize the Concept Note and submit to MHRD by first week of December, 2015.

### **(B) Subject Expert Groups:**

- ❖ 12 Subject Groups have been finalized in the brainstorming for UBA. They will now form the Subject Expert Groups drawing appropriate Experts from Academia, Social Organizations and from Government Departments. This should be completed by the end of December, 2015.
- ❖ The Subject Expert Groups shall develop the resource material in interaction with UBA Teams by May, 2016.

The list of Subject Expert Groups and coordinators is as follows:

- (i) Organic agriculture, cow-centric bio-economy development - ICAR  
Coordinator ...Dr. N.S. Rathore, Deputy Director General (Education)
- (ii) Rural Craft and Artisans Development - IIT, Kanpur  
Coordinator ...Prof. Koumudi Patil & Prof. Sandeep Sangal
- (iii) Rural Industrialization and Entrepreneurship Development – MGIRI, Wardha  
Coordinator ...Dr. P.B. Kale, Director, MGIRI
- (iv) Rural Energy Systems Development – IIT, Delhi  
Coordinator ....Prof. P M V Subbarao, Mechanical Engg.
- (v) Watershed Development and Management of Rural Water Resources – IIT Kharagpur  
Coordinator....Prof. Debasis Roy, Civil Engg.
- (vi) Rural Sanitation Systems Development – NIT, Suratkal,  
Coordinator ...Prof. S. Shrihari,Civil Engg.

- (vii) Rural Housing Development – IIT, Gandhinagar  
Coordinator ...Dr. Pranab Mohapatra, Asstt. Professor
- (viii) Involving Corporates in Rural Development - IIT, Guwahati (i.c.w. CII & FICCI)  
Coordinator ...Prof. S. K. Kakoti, S.K. Kakoti, Deptt. Of Mechanical Engg,
- (ix) Application of IT in Rural Education, Healthcare & Other Activities – IIM Bangalore  
Coordinator ...Prof..Gopal Naik, Coordinator, UBA
- (x) Rural Medicine and Health Care – IIT, Madras & IIT Kharagpur  
Coordinators...Dr.Devendra Jalihal, Electrical Engg. & Prof.Debasis Roy, Civil Engg.
- (xi) Capacity Building & Change of Ethos in Technical Institutions – **IIT, Mumbai and TISS, Mumbai**  
Coordinator.....Prof. Millind Sohoni. CTARA and Director, TISS Mumbai
- (xii) National Coordination and Liaison with Experts and field Community - **IIT Delhi and Vijnana Bharti**  
Coordinators .....Coordinator, UBA Cell, IIT Delhi and Secretary General, Vijnana Bharti.

**(C)Mentoring Institutions:** Identification of Mentoring Institutes by IIT Delhi will be completed by 10<sup>th</sup> of December, 2015. Their orientation will be carried out at NIRD, Hyderabad preferably by end of December, 2015. Action Plan shall be prepared by them at the earliest possible.

**(D)Budgets:** Budgets will be prepared by all the Mentoring Institutions for providing running expenditure and submitted to IIT Delhi. Similarly the Subject Groups shall also prepare their budgets based on an Action Plan for their tasks to be undertaken and send it to IIT Delhi. The Budget should be based on their respective Action Plan.IIT Delhi will consolidate and submit the same to MHRD by January, 2016 end. However, funds shall be released by MHRD directly to the concerned Institute.

**(E)Submission of Project Proposals:** Whereever it is desirable to work in the Project mode for funding the grass-root social organization in collaboration with the local Technical Institution will formulate the Project proposals and will submit it to their respective Mentor Institutions for initial vetting and guidance. Then the Mentoring Institution will forward it to the channel of funding.

**(F) Open innovation framework :** It was recommended that UBA should be an open innovation framework /platform where anyone can contribute ( even grass root innovator can contribute ) like Unix architecture for crowd sourcing.

**(G) Show case of innovative technologies and models :** It was decided that a show case on innovative rural technologies and models be prepared for *adarsh gram adopted by law makers* as well as for voluntary agencies, PSUs etc. Any one wants to work for village development can visit and learn from this kind of show case in physical and digital form. The first



such show case can be started from IIT Delhi as it has around 7 acres land available with the Centre for Rural Development and technology.

**(H) Recognition of contribution of the faculty, staff and student:** activities : It was recommended that there is need for modifying appraisal system in technical / academic intuitions which can include contribution of faculty, staff and students for UBA and such activities.

**(I) Locating and Learning from good practices:** In order to orient persons from technical Institutions towards the really effective ways of bringing about transformation in the rural areas, it will be essential to locate, document and intimately interact with such models.

**(J) Mechanism of regular Mentoring and Monitoring at various levels:** In order to carry out regular Mentoring and Monitoring of the activities, it will be desirable that members of the Coordinating Institution, Mentoring institutions along with some stalwarts in the area of rural technology/development should meet quarterly and provide their guidance and advice.

**(K) Timeline:**

Activity		Time Period
(a) Finalization of Concept note	--	by 10 <sup>th</sup> of December, 2015
(b) Formation of Subject Expert Groups	--	by end of December, 2015
(c) Development of Resource material	--	by end of May, 2016
(d) Identification of prospective Mentoring Institutions	--	by 20 <sup>th</sup> of December, 2015
(e) Workshop for prospective Mentoring Institutions	--	by 15 <sup>th</sup> of January, 2016
(f) Preparation of ACTION Plans by the Mentoring Institutions-		by end of January, 2016
(g) Submission of Budgets by Mentoring Institutions	--	by end of January, 2016
(h) Submission of Budgets by Subject Group Institutions	--	by end of January, 2016
(i) Selection of 50 Districts for Field work	--	by end of January, 2016

Next year, 2016-17, another 150 districts, and all districts will be covered by the year 2017-18.

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