

Minutes of Sixth Meeting of the Executive Committee of Unnat Bharat Abhiyan Cell, IIT Delhi

The sixth meeting of the Executive Committee of Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA) Cell, IIT Delhi was held on October 19, 2015 in the CRDT Committee Room, IIT Delhi.

Following were present:

1. Prof. P.M.V. Subbarao
2. Prof. Sangeeta Kohli
3. Prof. Satyawati Sharma
4. Prof. S. N. Naik
5. Prof. S. Hegde
6. Prof. Rajendra Prasad
7. Prof. V.K. Vijay
8. Dr. Hariprasad P.
9. Prof. P.L. Dhar- Special Invitee
10. Prof. R.R. Gaur- Special Invitee

Prof. V.K. Vijay, Coordinator, UBA Cell, extended a hearty welcome to all the members and special invitees.

A draft letter addressed to the ten Subject Group Coordinating Institutions for constituting working Groups and prepare Concept note and Action Plan on the subject assigned to them was prepared and provided to the members for their comments and suggestions, if any.

Prof. P.M. V. Subbarao suggested that the letter should be brief and specific referring to the minutes of the Apex Committee and the Template and format of background information. The Committee agreed to it and in fact Prof. Dhar provided an edited version.

Prof. R. R. Gaur pointed out the role of these Coordinating Institutions and stressed that there should be clarity about who will be the Coordinator from the respective Institution on the Subject.

Prof. Rajendra Prasad apprised the Committee about the Meeting held on 15th October, 2015 at MHRD for involving various Ministries in UBA. Eight Ministries had participated in the meeting. Some of the points discussed were:

- 1) MoRD is going through an intensive planning process in rural areas where Unnat Bharat Institutions can participate.

- 2) Specific applications like watershed, local solid waste management, public health, livelihood programs, village enterprises, energy audit, animal sciences, agricultural development etc. can be taken up under UBA
- 3) There is need for research and development, training, documentation, program evaluation and feedback where Institutions can participate under Unnat Bharat Abhiyan.
- 4) Adrash Gram being planned under Sansad Adrash Gram Yojana. should be linked to Unnat Bharat Abhiyan
- 5) Swatch Bharat Abhiyan should also be linked to Unnat Bharat Abhiyan.
- 6) There are 2,50,000 Gram Panchayats where MNREGA is in operation. Agricultural development activities can also be taken up under MNREGA. Krishi Vigyan Kendras can be involved in such activities.
- 7) Natural Resources Management Program should be linked to Unnat Bharat Abhiyan.
- 8) There is a need for mapping of services available under different ministries. A handbook should be available giving details of the services and the funds available. Already there is a document available listing 1803 schemes of the State Governments and 223 of Central Government.
- 9) There must be a National Resource Centre established at IIT- Delhi for Unnat Bharat Abhiyan.
- 10) There is also a program on Convergence for rural development which should be linked to Unnat Bharat Abhiyan
- 11) The academic institutions of higher learning which are the knowledge centres and have the capabilities of research, development, teaching, training of man power, skill development are taking lead in Unnat Bharat Abhiyan. To make it effective and successful, an activity of mainstream and not just a side activity in these institutions, It is a must that Unnat Bharat Abhiyan gets into the Ranking of the institutions and assessment of the faculty. This must be ensured by MHRD.
- 12) There is need to organize National workshops for all the participating institutions where the different Ministries can come and speak to them regarding their programs and schemes which can then be utilized by these institutions in the field for development work. To begin with, two such workshops can be organized, one in North and the other in South of India. The institutions can be given a choice to participate in either of them. The Northern workshop could be at Lucknow to be organized jointly by IIM- Lucknow, IIT- Kanpur, NIT Allahabad and BHU. The Southern workshop could be organized at NIRD, Hyderabad jointly by IIM- Bangaluru, IIT Madras etc. IIT- Delhi can take the lead to organize these two workshops by December 2015.
- 13) There should be frequent meetings in the Ministry, at least once a month of this kind.

14)NSS should be associated with UBA. In Kerala Village Mapping was done by NSS.

Prof. R.R. Gaur said that there are two sides - one is Educational Institutions and other is Government side. How the Educational institutions will get involved, need to be considered and how the Government will integrate their working with UBA. The activities/progress of UBA need to be reviewed. There should be a system.

Prof. P.L. Dhar said that as Coordinating Institution IIT Delhi had not prepared any document/DPR and provide to the MHRD. That is why MHRD is taking this ad-hoc decisions/working. Once the DPR is approved, there will be binding on all. IIT Delhi should prepare the DPR and put up to MHRD for approval.

Prof. S.K. Saha referred to the meeting held in August, 2015 sixteen IITs participated. There should be more meetings where IITs and MHRD sit together and discuss/prepare and finalize the strategy jointly.

Prof. P.L. Dhar made a power point presentation on the Concept of UBA before the Committee.

Prof. R.R. Gaur raised the issue of scope of intervention by the Technical Institutions. He said that we should concentrate on our technology part, see outcomes and understand the scope of our interventions. There should be 10-15 Mentor Institutions with longer experience and good practices. We should promote niche areas. He asked in what form the project will be executed. Ten Mentoring Institutions should develop resources. There should be holistic development based on Gandhian model, self-sufficient, transformation, possibilities etc.

Prof. S.K. Saha suggested thinking on pilot basis.

Prof. P.L. Dhar stressed to intervene in planning process viz to intervene in District Planning Committee. He requested each member of the Committee to apprise about his/her firm view.

The next meeting was fixed at 03:00 PM on 26th October, 2015.

Prof. V.K. Vijay
Coordinator, UBA Cell, IIT Delhi.