

Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA) 2.0

Background and Need:

As foreseen by Gandhiji in his seminal work, ‘Hind Swaraj’, the western developmental paradigm, based on centralized technologies and urbanization, has given rise to serious problems like increasing inequity (leading to crime and violence), and climate change due to rapid ecological degradation. To ameliorate these problems, it is necessary to promote development of rural areas in tune with Gandhian vision of self-sufficient ‘village republics’, based on local resources and using decentralized, eco-friendly technologies so that the basic needs of food, clothing, shelter, sanitation, health care, energy, livelihood, transportation, and education are locally met. This should be the vision of holistic development of villages. Presently, 70% of the population in India lives in rural areas engaged in agrarian economy with agriculture and allied sector employing 51% of the total work-force but accounting for only 17% of the country’s GDP. There are huge developmental disconnects between the rural and urban sectors such as inequity in health, education, incomes and basic amenities as well as employment opportunities - all causing great discontent and large-scale migration to urban areas. The imperatives of sustainable development which are being felt more and more acutely all over the world also demand eco-friendly development of the villages and creation of appropriate employment opportunities locally. Increasing urbanization is neither sustainable nor desirable. So far, our professional higher education institutions have largely been oriented to cater to the mainstream industrial sector and, barring a few exceptions, have hardly contributed directly to the development of the rural sector. Unnat Bhārat Abhiyān (UBA) is a much needed and highly challenging initiative in this direction.

Vision:

Unnat Bharat Abhiyan is inspired by the vision of transformational change in rural development processes by leveraging knowledge institutions to help build the architecture of an Inclusive India.

Mission:

The Mission of Unnat Bharat Abhiyan is to enable higher educational institutions to work with the people of rural India in identifying development challenges and evolving appropriate solutions for accelerating sustainable growth. It also aims to create a virtuous cycle between society and an inclusive academic system by providing knowledge and practices for emerging professions and to upgrade the capabilities of both the public and the private sectors in responding to the development needs of rural India.

Goals:

- 1.To build an understanding of the development agenda within institutes of Higher Education and an institutional capacity and training relevant to national needs, especially those of rural India.
2. To re-emphasize the need for field work, stake-holder interactions and design for societal objectives as the basis of higher education.
3. To stress on rigorous reporting and useful outputs as central to developing new professions.
- 4.To provide rural India and regional agencies with access to the professional resources of the institutes of higher education, especially those that have acquired academic excellence in the field of science, engineering and technology, and management.
5. To improve development outcomes as a consequence of this research. To develop new professions and new processes to sustain and absorb the outcomes of research.
6. To foster a new dialogue within the larger community on science, society and the environment and to develop a sense of dignity and collective destiny.

Formation:

Sr. No.	Name of Member	Designation
01	Prin.Dr. Bharat Namdev Bhosale	Chairman
02	Dr. Dattatriya Jaysing Owale	Member
03	Dr.Prassanakumar Vaynkatrao Patil	Member
04	Dr. Shivaji Uttam Chavare	Member
05	Asst. Prof. Suryakant Shamrao Adate	Member
06	Asst. Prof. Pandurang Vishnu Patil	Member
07	Dr. Sunder Sukhdev Potbhare	Member

08	Dr. Kamalsing Vikramsing Kshatriya	Member
09	Dr. Ashok Raghunath Shelar	Member Coordinator

Significant & distinctiveness of our Institute:

Ours is an upcoming college in the drought prone and hilly area of the north Koregaon Tehsil of Satara District. The college has a well-built infrastructure with all modern facilities such as ICT lab, Digital library, Digital office, digital classrooms, etc. There is also a surveillance system for the security purpose of students in the campus. The other significant credit of ours is the project of renewable energy, i.e. Wind and Solar Energy projects with its worth capacity of 10 KV generation. A large scale RO drinking water facility is made available to our students. Continuity in NAAC assessment, participation in AISHE, ISO, NIRF are our best practices. These are some of the significant things that we take as our credit; however, we take it more distinctive to have the Unnat Bharat Abhiyan Scheme to our credit being observed as a pilot project all over India. Under this scheme, the college has selected five adjoining villages namely Deur, Dahigaon, Adarki (K), Pimpode (K) and Palshi under Koregaon and Phaltan Tehsil of the district. Immediately after registration for the scheme we got selected under UBA and received a token amount of Rs.10, 000/- per village under the program. The funds are mainly meant for assistance for awareness, Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GPDP) study, need assessment, and contingency expenditure. Under this scheme we are working for providing suitable solutions which can improve the social and economic wellbeing of the rural communities. The solutions are supposed to be sustainable, innovative, implementable and scalable. We are attempting new technological solutions for the local requirements. We are also expecting additional grant under the scheme after a qualitative engagement with the rural people, local bodies, district authorities and obtaining a clear insight into the problems and requirements of the adopted villages. In the mean time we have surveyed all the adopted villages with the survey forms: Base Line Village Survey and House Hold Survey, conducted various meeting with the Heads of the

Grampanchayat's, had door to door surveys, *Beti Bachao Beti Padhao* Programme, Cattle Checkup Camp, Cleanliness Drive, Health Checkup Camp, Tobacco Free India Rally, Tree Plantation Drive, Water Checkup Campaign for Drinking Water, Checking Ph and TDS of the Drinking Water, etc. We are consistently in touch with the UBA portal giving a clear statement of the problem, proposed solutions, with proof of requirement willingness to fund the solution by the District Authorities/Central and State Government/ Corporates/ Philanthropies, cost of the solutions etc. it gets verified by the Subject Expert Group (SEG). After evaluation of the proposed solutions, assistance may be provided by SEG up to Rs.1 lakh per technology for selection of technical solutions and up to Rs. 50,000/- for customization of any existing solution in a village. This amount, we are sure, will help us and the selected villages will meet with the desired effect. The selected solutions are to be executed in the village with the assistance of the Gram Panchayat and outcomes to be recorded by the institutions.