

ANNUAL REPORT

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ACADEMIC SESSION 2018-19

I. GRAM SABHA AT AMRENDRAPUR

The student team of Unnat Bharat Abhiyan has identified various problems that persist in rural India that require urgent attention. Inadequate hygiene and sanitation facilities, inequitable access to education especially digital literacy and need for skill development to instill entrepreneurial spirit are some of the most grave issues plaguing villages.

The field research revealed some distressing aspects about the socio-economic fabric of the village. It was revealed that the education system is grossly inadequate due to poor student-teacher ratio leading to shallow understanding of concepts among children. Caste discrimination is rife as lower-caste students are prevented from sitting in the same class. There is gross inadequacy of WASH (water, sanitation and hygiene) facilities in Amrendrapur including lack of access to sanitary napkins. There is no hospital or pharmacy within a 15km radius of the village as well. Employment opportunities are scarce and the low-level of skills along with lack of self-help groups has aggravated the situation.

These problems motivated the student team to identify and adopt a village in Odisha named Amrendrapur under the Gram Sabha programme. A detailed interactive session was conducted along with a field research. The research was aimed at identifying the problems faced by villagers in order to better equip NLUO's UBA Cell to address these problems. In the interactive session held, students spoke to the villagers about the vision and mission of UBA and how they intended to work in areas of women empowerment, education, health and sanitation, modern agricultural methods and access to government schemes.

Various solutions were posed to the villagers including setting up self-help groups for generating self-employment opportunities for the rural unemployed youth. Moreover, women were given suggestions as to how they could develop their skills alongside setting up self-help groups to increase household income. There is a persistent drainage problem in the village as well. The experience has painfully revealed the urgent need to address the prevailing inequality and marginalisation. It has given a roadmap for the student team for the problems that need to be addressed and the solutions that need to be implemented. It is our goal to continue working in these areas to improve the overall socio-economic conditions of Amrendrapur.

II. PLANTATION DRIVE IN A SCHOOL OF NARAJ VILLAGE

The plants for the plantation drive were arranged from nursery in the Cuttack and the equipment for gardening was adequately arranged from the gardeners of the university thus making the activity more economical. Thereafter, the members of UBA, NLUO took permission from the school staff and performed the plantation. This was undoubtedly a memorable experience for all the members. The school staff and the school children also supported and cheered the efforts of the UBA, NLUO. Thereafter, an interactive session was conducted by the members of UBA, NLUO with the students and school staff in which the importance of plants in our lives was explained.

While performing the plantation drive, the members of UBA, NLUO realised that medicinal plants and their various products can be viewed as an important commodity items for sustainable economic development of the rural region. Therefore, a plantation activity of the medicinal plants was proposed by the members of UBA, NLUO, in which the villagers can be explained about the economic importance of the medicinal plants.

III. FACT FINDING AND SURVEY

UBA cell NLUO did a survey on livelihood of people at Amrendrapur village which is in Cuttack district. The main reason behind this survey was to identifying and understanding of challenges faced by the villagers and to facilitate challenging resources towards the problems of village. We the committee want transformational change in rural areas. We did the survey among the villagers. These surveys were made with to analyse sanitation, electricity, ration, and access to public welfare schemes, education and various other basic amenities in the village and measures that can be taken to improve. We went their houses and saw the reality of their life. They co-operate us in this survey and gave all the information which we wanted.

Enthusiasm of villagers encouraged us to do the survey. We will continue this survey yearly so that we can know how our survey helps them to change their livelihood. For the Covid situation it's not easy to conduct an offline survey so our plan is to conduct an online survey. After knowing the availability of internet and technology then we will proceed with our survey.

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IV. MEDICAL CAMP

The cell prioritizes health and well-being of the villagers and in furtherance of which it organized a medical camp at Amrendrapur village which is in Cuttack district. It also facilitated cell's aim to make people aware of their unhealthy food practices and guide them towards healthy diet. Our vision was to know them that how much health is important. This camp provided villagers with free of cost basic health check-ups and diabetes tests. We went there with a medical team. Doctors and nurses are from SCB Medical hospital. We collect the details of their health problems. Furthermore, medicines were prescribed from case to case basis.

Although health condition of villagers was satisfactory at that time but we will organize a medical camp again. This time we will focus on Corona. How people are taking precautions for Corona and how much oxygen levels on their body. This time we will start a Telemedicine service so that they can get their query easily.

V. SENSITIZATION THROUGH SKIT

Expressions and emotions bind us together across different languages. Understanding the importance of drama and theatre as a way of communication, the Unnat Bharat Abhiyan cell conducted a skit in school to spread awareness about the environmental changes.

Climate change is one of the core problems that the current world is facing but ignoring to accept; to curb such problem, awareness is vital for which the skit was conducted. The main idea behind this activity was to sensitize the children of school about the detrimental effects of pollution and deforestation on the environment and human beings. They were also introduced to different techniques by which they can contribute to conserving the environment.

The cell is looking forward to more such activities to spread awareness about the environment. As we are witnessing, things are folded as per their needs in this everyday growing society, and many essential resources are sacrificed. We will try to put a pause on such activity and make our future more liveable.

VI. SOCIAL AWARENESS QUIZ

Fundamental Rights protect the liberties and freedom of the citizens against any invasion by the state; prevent the establishment of the authoritarian and dictatorial rule in the country. They are essential for the overall development of individuals and the nation. Keeping in mind the idea of spreading awareness, the Unnat Bharat Abhiyan cell conducted a quiz to promote awareness about various fundamental rights and duties, general polity and geography.

A quiz is an interactive medium of engagement with the audience; people actively participated in assimilating the information. Post-quiz conversations helped us build a deeper connection with villagers and provide an insight into their problems, and this activity answered many of their problems. They were told about different authorities to approach for their query redressed and also after this activity they have some better clarity about working of our political system.

In our future activity, we will be focusing on more such activities as many people are unaware of their basic rights and remedy. The cell believes that knowledge should not be sacrificed due to a lack of resources. Keeping this spirit, we are moving forward, and we will try to spread awareness to the fullest.



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VII. LECTURE VIDEOS ON ENGLISH AND ODIA GRAMMAR ON UBA OFFICIAL YOUTUBE CHANNEL

The Covid-19 pandemic has affected each and every class of the society including the vulnerable sections. Food, shelter, health, education etc. has been a challenge for the rural people to adjust with less resources and increasing needs. Since March 2020, schools and other educational institutions are closed due to the pandemic, the UBA Cell had decided to reach out our adopted villages and help them to cope up with the existing situation.

An Official UBA YouTube Channel has been created to share worthy and useful video lectures prepared by members of UBA Cell. These lectures cover significant topics related to English and Odia Grammar (language paper) and succinctly explained the basic concepts in the simplest way. The target group was the students appearing for their 10th Board examinations to provide them easy access to learning without any barriers.

Since there were some virtual constraints this time, the UBA Cell tried to reach to the adopted villages crossing each digital obstacle. As Albert Einstein said- Education is what remains after one has forgotten what one has learned in school, UBA Cell step up to foster the same and give doorstep learning to these curious minds.

VIII. VOLUNTEERS SENSITIZATION ON VDMED TELE-CONSULTATION PROGRAM TO HELP VILLAGES AVAIL FREE ONLINE ALLOPATHY SERVICES

IIT Delhi and *Dhanush Infotech* in collaboration conducted a sensitization programme for volunteers of all participating institutions under the UBA initiative. It threw light on role of Participating Institution as a bridge to connect free quality health services and remote villages. These health services include *Aarogya Mitra Webinars* in four languages, vaccination awareness and VDMED Tele-consultation program, an application. Volunteers were sensitized to identify doctors in their assigned villages, support State Coordinators, and create distributional programs and aid implementation of the program.

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IX. PRAKRITI PLANTATION DRIVE AT NLUO CAMPUS

The initiative named PRAKRITI, focused on the idea to conserve the Nature that we are living in. It upholds the idea to take out significant time to preserve the positive power that Nature shares with us. The initiative aims to build a good, fresh and healthier environment at the NLUO Campus.

Facilitated by the Horticulture Sub-Committee under UBA-NLUO cell, the Drive was inaugurated by Hon'ble Chancellor and Chief Justice of Odisha High Court, Dr Justice S. Muralidhar in the presence of Prof Ved Kumari, Vice -Chancellor, NLUO, Prof. (Dr.) Yogesh Pratap Singh, Registrar, Dr Kuntirani Padhan, Faculty Co-ordinator, UBA-NLUO cell and other faculties with administrative staff at the campus. The students witnessed the initiative through live-streaming via virtual platform. The presence of Hon'ble Chancellor sir encouraged the students to look after the planted saplings, plant more and more trees and encourage their peer and community to follow the same. Phase II of the drive would be done soon.

Various saplings of Gulmohar, Neelmohar, Golden Shower, Neem Kapok, and other shaded and flowering trees were planted by the dignitaries at different places on the campus. Presence of these trees will add to beautification of the campus and a better connection with the environment would be promoted. It would help in fostering strong mental and social health amongst students.

X. LEGAL AWARENESS LECTURES ON YOUTUBE CHANNEL

The Unnat Bharat Abhiyan Cell of National Law University Cuttack, Odisha has started their own YouTube channel where we regularly upload awareness lectures and videos about diverse subjects catering to different audiences. In the recent past, we have uploaded a lecture series primarily focusing upon English and Odia grammar for the secondary school students appearing for their upcoming matriculation examinations. Few of the topics of the legal awareness videos include *Pre-Natal Sex Determination, Child Marriages, Odisha Govt. Schemes and Legal Aid* etc. which have been explained by the members of the UBA Cell in a very simple and comprehensible manner.

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With the primary purpose of making topics easily understandable and accessible during this time of pandemic where almost everything is being conducted virtually, the UBA cell aims to upload more legal awareness lectures for primary school students, rural development, and women empowerment in the near future.

XI. POSTER AND VIDEO MAKING COMPETITION BY NCI - IIT DELHI

National Coordinating Institute, IIT Delhi had organized Video and Poster making competition for UBA participating Institutions in month of July 2021. The theme for the competition was on **Awareness on COVID-19**. Members from UBA, NLUO team and many other students have participated in the competition and results were declared by RCI, NIT- Rourkela on 15th August 2021.

Anuj Shukla (4th Year) secured the First Position in Poster Making Competition and Vaishnavi Gawshinde (4th Year) secured Second Position in Video Making Competition. Additionally, both of them have qualified for the National Rounds of the competition.

Also, National Law University Odisha is the only Law University to secure the First Rank in the Competition among more than 150+ Technical Institutions is also a remarkable achievement.

XII. COMPENDIUM AND FAQS

‘Education is the passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today’.

The compendium of frequently asked questions was an initiative which was taken up in the Unnat Bharat Abhiyan as a tool for assisting and aiding learning for the students. The primary aim behind implementing this was the huge difficulty and gap that exists between what curriculums is taught in the classrooms and written in the textbook and the practical understanding by the students.

In order to facilitate the better understanding of difficult concepts for students, this very compendium was conceptualized. It contained the explanation of difficult and complicated topics in extremely simplified ways from each chapter of different subjects prescribed in the curriculum. Further, a micro view was adopted wherein every detail from the given chapters was explained in detail through examples and in the format of written answers.

The rationale behind treating the difficult and complicated concepts in a question answer format was to enable the writing of answers in the examinations that the students are required to sit for quarterly and annually. Further, given the economic situation of all students is not uniform and that the privilege of hiring tutors and specialized teachers is a hugely inaccessible privilege for these students, the compendium is designed in a way that maximum help can be given to the students from the point of view of the exams.

Also, a common group of all the students/children from the villages has been created to share pertinent information with these students regarding Board exams and other related updates. Compendium and FAQs prepared by UBA Cell, NLUO has been circulated among these students via Whatsapp channel, through school administration and via other resource person contacts in our adopted villages. Dissemination of these compendiums along with lecture videos has been done in order to provide them with such resources which might be a barrier for them and Cell bridged the gap in education and learning created by the COVID Pandemic.

XIII. LECTURE VIDEOS ON YOUTUBE CHANNEL

Taking forward the Lecture Series initiated by the Cell last year, the UBA Cell continues to prepare self-made lecture videos on major subjects of Social Science, General Science including sub-subjects of History, Geography, Civics and Political Science, Physics, Biology and Chemistry focusing more on 10th Board classes. These videos have been uploaded timely over the UBA NLUO official channel and the Cell is elated with the response received from its viewers and subscribers. Also, a benchmark achievement has been marked by the Cell where **85+ meritorious students from our adopted villages scored merit in their 10th Board Examinations**. This has been a great progress the Cell has achieved in the field of education and the Cell strives to work further in this sector more.

XIV. INITIATION OF DIGITAL CHANNEL FOR UBA VILLAGES

With the COVID-19 pandemic on hike and imposed lock down has made it bit difficult to reach out to the adopted villages and conduct field visits or surveys for identification of their problems ranging from hygiene to education, medical facilities to ration and many more. Due to the digital

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barriers, virtual platforms and channels plays vital role for better communication and to build a good connect with these people.

UBA Cell is inclined to work on the same and come up with its own Digital Channel for its 5 adopted villages which would help to resolve the connectivity issue with these villagers. Communication is of utmost importance when it comes to working with the ground level or the core of the society. Having digital channel would solve this problem to a good extent and will function as a grievance redressal platform for the rural people in our adopted villages. Also, a common group of all the students/children from the villages has been created to share pertinent information with these students regarding Board exams and other related updates.

By time, the Cell has completed digital channel for 3 villages and will complete for other 2 villages by end of year 2022. The Cell hopes to achieve this target with other more success.

