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NEWSLETTER

UNNAT BHARAT ABHIYAN (UBA)

A Flagship program of Ministry of Education (MoE), GOI

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About UNNAT BHARAT ABHIYAN

Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA) is a flagship initiative by the Government of India, led by higher education institutions to foster rural development through knowledge sharing and sustainable technologies. It aims to bridge the urban-rural divide by empowering villages with eco-friendly solutions, local resource utilization, and academic expertise for holistic growth.



UBA RCI Workshop



Workshop on Mentoring Support for Child-Centered, Gender, and Shock Responsive GPDPs - IIT Jodhpur



A two-day workshop on “Mentoring Support to PIs for Preparing Child-Centered, Gender, and Shock Responsive GPDPs” was conducted by IIT Jodhpur, the Regional Coordinating Institute (RCI) under UBA, in association with UNICEF, on 15-16 December 2024. The Objective of the workshop was to strengthen the capacity of Participating Institutes (PIs) in assisting Gram Panchayats in formulating inclusive and responsive Gram Panchayat Development Plans (GPDPs).

As part of the workshop, two interactive sessions were conducted - one on social mobilization by Lopamudra Tripathi from UNICEF and another on public health by Dr. Alok Ranjan from IIT Jodhpur. The Event brought together 45 participants from various colleges across western Rajasthan, who actively engaged in discussions and capacity-building exercises. The event was enriched with the gracious presence of dignitaries including Shafqat Hussain from UNICEF, Dr. Vivek Vijay, Regional Coordinator UBA, and Nirmal Gehlot, Project Manager UBA.



Workshop on Voices of Leadership - Women Sarpanch Transforming Grassroots Governance - IIT Jodhpur

On November 9, 2024, IIT Jodhpur, under the UBA-RCI, in collaboration with UNICEF, organized a roundtable titled ‘Voices of Leadership: Women Sarpanch Transforming Grassroot Governance.’ The event provided a meaningful platform for women sarpanchs from western Rajasthan to share their experiences, discuss challenges, and explore actionable solutions for empowering women and strengthening grassroots governance. The program began with an introduction to UBA by Prof. Vivek Vijay (IITJ), followed by a keynote address from Ms. Hyun Hee Ban, Chief of Social Policy, UNICEF India Country Office, who emphasized the importance of inclusive leadership in fostering sustainable development. The session was anchored by Dr. Akanksha Chaudhary (IITJ), who facilitated an engaging and insightful discussion among the participants. The event was graced by the presence of several dynamic women sarpanchs who are making significant strides in their communities: Anushree Punia (Pardhan) from Keru (Jodhpur); Kusum Singh from Rarah (Bharatpur); Sonu Sihag Saharan from Bhadwanwala (Shri Ganganagar); Sushila Devi from Vijai Mukundpura (Jaipur); Rekha Rani from Natai (Baran); Shobha Bisnoi from Chirdhani (Jodhpur); Pawan Kanwar from Kalauna (Jodhpur); Suman Chaudhary from Khichiyani-Jajiwala (Jodhpur); Neetu Meena from Bassi (Jaipur); Pushpa from Khariya-Meethapur; and Aanand Kanwar from Salva-Khurd (Jodhpur). Their collective voices reflected the growing impact of women’s leadership at the grassroots level, offering valuable insights into inclusive governance and community empowerment.



UBA PIs ACTIVITIES



AIIS Team Visit to Model Gram Panchayat Nandia Kalan (PI IIT Jodhpur)

On 18th January 2025, a team of faculty members of the American Institute of Indian Studies (AIIS) visited Nandia Kalan, a model Gram Panchayat under UBA, IIT Jodhpur to explore rural development and sustainable practices. Led by UBA Project Manager Nirmal Gehlot, the visit began with a traditional Rajasthani welcome, symbolizing village pride.

Key highlights included visits to the Gaushala (livestock care and organic farming), home-based farming (Self-sustaining Kitchen Gardens), Navagrah Vatika (Environmental Conservation),

pond conservation (Traditional Water Management), and a maths lab in the school (Practical Learning).

Special guests included SDM Jewar Ram Choudhary and Sarpanch Jaswant Singh. Prof. Anand K Plappally from IIT Jodhpur emphasized UBA's role in rural progress. The visit was enriched with the presence of Amar Sawhney, from, AIIS; Bhikhpuri Goswami from Surya Foundation, Ganpat Lal, Babulal, and others, fostering meaningful dialogue and knowledge exchange while reinforcing the importance of collaborative efforts in advancing sustainable rural development.



Transforming Bajra Waste into Eco-Friendly Handicrafts for Sustainable Livelihoods (PI SBRM College)

Dr. Saroj Kumari Fagodia of SBRM Government College, Nagaur, led skill development workshops to transform Bajra agricultural waste into eco-friendly handicrafts. In collaboration with Eco-Art Kaushal Vikas Foundation, workshops in Roopnagar and Nagri villages trained artisans to create sustainable products like home decor, jewelry, and handmade paper. Volunteers Seema Choudhary, Urmila, and Divya Tak also contributed to the

initiative, actively supporting training sessions and community engagement. This initiative empowers rural communities, reduces migration, and promotes environmental conservation. With proposals for further expansion, it aligns with India's 'Make in India' mission, fostering self-reliance and boosting Rajasthan's handicraft sector in domestic and global markets.



UBA PIs ACTIVITIES



Empowering BHAKARASANI Village Through Education (PI Aishwarya College, Jodhpur)

On 2nd October 2024, an educational activity was conducted in Bhakarasani village under the guidance of Dr. Apurva Sharma, PI Aishwarya College, to raise awareness on key social issues. School students created interactive charts and models to educate villagers on topics like health, hygiene, sanitation, and environmental

conservation. The initiative enhanced awareness, encouraged critical thinking, and fostered problem-solving skills among students. It also promoted community engagement and participation, developing leadership and teamwork abilities.



Gramsabha in Sangariya Village (PI JIET college, Jodhpur)

On 26th January 2025, as part of its commitment to community engagement under the UBA, JIET College organized a Gramsabha in Sangariya village. The event, coordinated by Dr. Kiran Bhoot, witnessed the participation of 16 NCC cadets from the 3 Raj and 6 Raj Battalions. To raise awareness about 'Fundamental Rights', the cadets performed an impactful Nukkad Natak (street play), engaging villagers and school children in meaningful discussions. It was proposed that JIET could collaborate with the Rotary Club to develop effective solutions for addressing these local issues.



Gram Sabha and Plantation Drive in Hansasar Village (PI JJT University , Jhunjhunu)

The Gram Sabha in Hansasar village, Jhunjhunu, in collaboration with JJT University, conducted a tree plantation drive to promote environmental conservation. Under the guidance of Dr. Madhu from JJTU, the university provided saplings and technical support, while

the Gram Sabha mobilized community participation for planting and nurturing the trees. This initiative not only enhanced the village's green cover but also raised environmental awareness among villagers.



UBA PIs ACTIVITIES



UBA Initiative for a Plastic-Free Jhajhar Village (PI SGB Podar College, Nawalgarh)

The UBA Cell of Seth Gyaniram Bansidhar Podar College, Nawalgarh, organized an extension program in Jhajhar village to promote a plastic-free environment. The event focused on raising awareness about plastic's harmful effects, encouraging eco-friendly alternatives, and discussing sustainable waste management.

A total of 35 students actively participated. Dr. Daulal Bohra, UBA DCI, and Mr. Ramswaroop, Sarpanch, delivered insightful lectures on plastic's impact on human and animal life. Village students Vandana, Kumkum, Ankita, and Param Alaria also contributed by

spreading awareness on reducing plastic use.

The program also explored Jhajhar's historical significance, with UBA students engaging with historian Sangram Singh on Rajasthan's Shekhawati heritage.

Rajeev K. Podar, Chairman, Vedika Podar, Trustee, Dr. M.D. Shanbhag, Executive Director, Dr. Vinod Kumar Saini, Director, PR & IP, and Dr. Satyendra Singh, Principal, Poddar College, extended their congratulations and support for the program's successful execution under the Unnat Bharat Abhiyan.



Orientation Workshop for Unnat Bharat Abhiyan Participating Institutes at MGS University, Bikaner

The One Day Orientation Workshop for Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA) Participating Institutions (PIs) was jointly organized by IIT Jodhpur, UNICEF, and Maharaja Ganga Singh University (MGSU), Bikaner on 8th November 2024 at the MGSU campus in Bikaner. The workshop aimed to enhance the engagement of PIs in community-driven rural development, emphasizing the utilization of institutional expertise for sustainable and impactful initiatives in line with UBA's mission.

Dr. Vivek Vijay from IIT Jodhpur introduced the Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA), highlighting its objectives and the role of participating institutions in rural development. Mr. Shafqat Hussain from UNICEF shared valuable perspectives on community engagement and child welfare programs that can be integrated into rural initiatives. Chandra Shekhar Shrimali from MGSU Bikaner discussed the importance of academic institution's role in fostering sustainable and scalable solutions for rural upliftment.



UBA PIs ACTIVITIES



Revitalizing Dhingana : Water Conservation and Sustainable Development

Dhingana Gram Panchayat, established in 2020 under the Luni Panchayat Samiti, has made remarkable journey of development under the leadership of Sarpanch Beerbal Ram Vishnoi. With a vision to transform the village, the administration has focused on key areas such as education, water conservation, environmental sustainability, and infrastructure development.

A major achievement has been addressing the village's water crisis. Previously dependent on costly water tankers, Dhingana now enjoys a consistent potable water supply, thanks to a 5 crore pipeline project under the Jal Jeevan Mission. Traditional water sources, such as ancient ponds and wells, have been revived through the MGNREGA and CM Water Conservation Scheme 2.0, ensuring year-round water availability.

This developmental work started with the initiative by some faculty members of IIT Jodhpur and a youth team from Dhingana, demonstrating the power of community and institutional partnership.

Recently, Dhingana hosted a visit from a UNICEF team, led by Social Policy Chief Ms. Hyun Hee Ban, and experts from IIT Jodhpur, including Dr. Vivek Vijay (Regional Coordinator, UBA), Prof. Anand K Plappally, Prof. Akanksha Chaudhary, and Nirmal Gehlot, Manager of the UBA. The team praised the village's efforts, especially in child development and water conservation, calling it an exemplary model for other villages to follow.



Orientation Workshop (DCI Madhav University, Sirohi)

An Orientation Workshop for Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA) was held on 23rd January 2025 at Madhav University, Sirohi, with participation from over 10 institutes. Dr. Vivek Vijay, Regional Coordinator, IIT Jodhpur, presented UBA's objectives and initiatives, highlighting strategies for rural development in Western Rajasthan. Madhav University was officially designated as the District Coordinating Institute (DCI) for Sirohi, recognizing its contributions to rural progress. Dr. Vivek Vijay presented the DCI designation letter to Dr. Rajkumar Rana (Director) and Dr. Rajeev Mathur (Vice Chancellor).

Representatives from various institutes, including Dr. Anshu Rani Saxena (Principal, SMC Government College), Dr. Reena Rana (Principal, USB College), Dr. J. S. Panwar (Principal, JR College), Dr. Rajnesh Yadav (Director, CIT College), and Dr. Alka Jain (Principal, Chandrawal College), attended the workshop, which focused on UBA initiatives for a self-reliant and prosperous India.





UBA SEG Project

Turning Waste into Wealth: Char Production Initiative in Birani Village

In Birani Village, Jodhpur, a transformative project titled 'Char Production from Textile Waste and its Potential in Water Treatment' (RP-03525G) is being led by Principal Investigator Dr. Kirti Sankhala with student researchers Sahdev Choudhary and Sriram Chauhan. The initiative focuses on converting textile waste into char—a carbon-rich, porous material that purifies water and air, improves soil health, sequesters carbon, and offers a sustainable alternative to activated carbon. Through community engagement sessions at traditional water structures like the Naadi, villagers were educated on microplastic pollution,

traditional water systems, and the art of char-making. Over 150 residents participated, and hands-on training was provided in pyrolysis furnace construction and maintenance, empowering the local community with practical skills and economic opportunities. Blending scientific innovation with indigenous knowledge, the project supports SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being), SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation), SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities), and SDG 13 (Climate Action), SDG 15 (Life on land) offering a replicable model for rural sustainability and circular economy practices.



Glimpses of UBA Activities

बसंत उत्सव पर माधव विश्वविद्यालय में विशेष आयोजन

सरस्वती पूजा और व्याख्यान का हुआ आयोजन

हनुमान चालीसा

आजकल उत्साह भरा उत्सव के तहत माधव विश्वविद्यालय में विशेष आयोजन किया गया। इस अवसर पर सरस्वती पूजा और व्याख्यान का आयोजन किया गया। इस दौरान सरस्वती पूजा के कार्यक्रमों के माध्यम से छात्रों में साहित्यिक भावना को प्रोत्साहित किया गया।

इस अवसर पर डॉ. किरण शर्मा ने व्याख्यान दिया। उन्होंने साहित्य के महत्व और छात्रों के बीच साहित्य के प्रसार के लिए आवश्यकताओं को उजागर किया।

मास्टर स्टार 5 गांवों को ग्रीन लेजर किंग जाते हैं विकास के कार्यक्रम

बीआर मिर्धा कॉलेज यूबीए योजना का जिला समन्वयक बना, गांव विकास की रैंक बढ़ेगी

बीआर मिर्धा कॉलेज के प्राचार्य डॉ. बीआर मिर्धा ने जिला समन्वयक के रूप में कार्य करना शुरू किया है। इस अवसर पर उन्होंने गांव विकास के लिए आवश्यकताओं को उजागर किया।

इस अवसर पर डॉ. किरण शर्मा ने व्याख्यान दिया। उन्होंने साहित्य के महत्व और छात्रों के बीच साहित्य के प्रसार के लिए आवश्यकताओं को उजागर किया।

BHEEM PRAGYA Shekhawati

खेतड़ी के महिला कॉलेजों में वर्षा जल संरक्षण एवं जल संचयन पर कार्यशाला आयोजित

बीएम प्रग्या शेखवाटी के माध्यम से खेतड़ी के महिला कॉलेजों में वर्षा जल संरक्षण एवं जल संचयन पर कार्यशाला आयोजित की गई। इस अवसर पर डॉ. किरण शर्मा ने व्याख्यान दिया।

इस अवसर पर डॉ. किरण शर्मा ने व्याख्यान दिया। उन्होंने साहित्य के महत्व और छात्रों के बीच साहित्य के प्रसार के लिए आवश्यकताओं को उजागर किया।

माधव यूनिवर्सिटी का 'एक पड़ मां के नाम पर' कार्यक्रम

राष्ट्रीय सेवा योजना के तहत माधव विश्वविद्यालय में 'एक पड़ मां के नाम पर' कार्यक्रम आयोजित किया गया। इस अवसर पर डॉ. किरण शर्मा ने व्याख्यान दिया।

इस अवसर पर डॉ. किरण शर्मा ने व्याख्यान दिया। उन्होंने साहित्य के महत्व और छात्रों के बीच साहित्य के प्रसार के लिए आवश्यकताओं को उजागर किया।

पोदार कॉलेज ने विद्यार्थियों की सहभागिता और संरक्षण की वकालत के साथ विश्व गौरैया दिवस मनाया

पोदार कॉलेज के प्राचार्य डॉ. पोदार ने विद्यार्थियों की सहभागिता और संरक्षण की वकालत के साथ विश्व गौरैया दिवस मनाया। इस अवसर पर डॉ. किरण शर्मा ने व्याख्यान दिया।

इस अवसर पर डॉ. किरण शर्मा ने व्याख्यान दिया। उन्होंने साहित्य के महत्व और छात्रों के बीच साहित्य के प्रसार के लिए आवश्यकताओं को उजागर किया।

BAGTOM NEWS

अमेरिकन इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ इंडियन एजुकेशन के शिक्षाविदों ने नादिया कला का किया भ्रमण

अमेरिकन इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ इंडियन एजुकेशन के शिक्षाविदों ने नादिया कला का किया भ्रमण। इस अवसर पर डॉ. किरण शर्मा ने व्याख्यान दिया।

इस अवसर पर डॉ. किरण शर्मा ने व्याख्यान दिया। उन्होंने साहित्य के महत्व और छात्रों के बीच साहित्य के प्रसार के लिए आवश्यकताओं को उजागर किया।

UBA RCI-IIT Jodhpur – Western Rajasthan



14

District



50

Participating
Institutions



45

SEG
Proposals



250

Village

Expanding UBA Participation through District Coordinating Institutes (DCIs)

IIT Jodhpur, as RCI, has initiated the establishment of District Coordinating Institutes (DCIs) to enhance college participation in UBA. Each DCI will act as a local coordinating body, strengthening grass root engagement and effective project implementation. Details of some DCIs are given below:

District	District Coordinating Institute (DCI)	Coordinator
Bikaner	Maharaja Ganga Singh University (MGSU)	Dr. Chandra Sekhar Srimali
Churu	Govt. Lohia College	Dr. Shaantanu Dabi
Ganganagar	Shri Aatam Ballabh Jain Kanya Mahavidyalaya	Dr. Manju Sharma
Jhunjhunu	Seth Gyaniram Bansidhar Podar College	Dr. Dau Lal Bohra
Jodhpur	JIET Jodhpur	Dr. Kiran Bhoot
Nagaur	Shri Baldev Ram Mirdha Govt. College	Dr. Saroj Kumari Fagodia
Sirohi	Madhav University	Dr. Devendra Mujalda



Dr. Vivek Vijay
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Project Manager

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