## Minutes of the brainstorming session to identify 'Thrust areas' and 'Ideas' to be pursued as a part of Unnath Bharat Abhiyan (At 01.30 PM on 31-08-2016)

Principal Secretary (Higher Education) chaired the session and the list of other participants is annexed.

- 2. After welcoming the participants, the Principal Secretary explained that the objective of the Brainstorming Session was to identify some 'Thrust Areas' pertaining to various disciplines as well as coming out with 'innovative ideas' so that the faculty and students of the Higher Education Institutes could focus upon them during their visits to rural areas for implementing the objectives envisaged under UBA. After detailed discussion, the following 'Thrust Areas' have been identified:
  - (i) Village sanitation
  - (ii) Drinking water supply
  - (iii) Energy, including renewable energy
  - (iv) Agriculture and allied activities
  - (v) Irrigation
  - (vi) improving technology of handicrafts and Artisans
  - (vii) Affordable housing
  - (viii) Improving educational standards
  - (ix) Improving Health
  - (x) Proper use of IT applications, especially the 'Panchayath Enterprise Suite' for the governance of Grama Panchayats covering a host of applications, NREGA soft and so on. Conscious efforts need to be made to bridge the digital divide.

## 3. Ideation:

- (i) Sun set to sun rise modernization and diversification of traditional sectors
- (ii) Job oriented skills for youth through finishing schools
- (iii) Basic Service delivery improvement (drinking water, sanitation, health & education)

- (iv) Cooperation models 'local government contiguous areas plan'(Eg: Dealing with Septage/solid waste/watershed)
- (v) Post-construction support to 'Community water supply schemes'.
- (vi) Retrofitting and refurbishing of LSGI assets (polytechnics/hospital beds)
- (vii) Water audit as well as water quality mapping
- (viii) Local water security and IWRM (surface/ground water/water trading/rainwater harvesting etc.)
- (ix) Open well recharge programme
- (x) Alternate technologies for 'Sustainable environment' and 'Sanitation'.
- (xi) Community innovation labs Action research on technology, product, process and services.
- (xii) Service Delivery Goals in various Sectors (benchmarking)
- (xiii) Local government service delivery benchmarking
- (xiv) Climate change local solution to global problems
- (xv) Rain water management Drainage mapping Retention and release
- (xvi) Application of ICTs Asset mapping Mobile applications GIS based
- '(xvii) Tackling destitution through inclusion
- (xviii) Prathibha vikas
- (xix) Housing
- (xx) Organic framing
- (xxi) Genetic Engineering
- (xxii) Post-harvest technologies
- (xxiii) Value addition and market linkages
- (xxiv) Weather forecast and early warning
- (xxv) Sanitation-solid and liquid waste/septage
- (xxvi) Public expenditure tracking
- (xxvii) Social audit and quality assurance
- (xxviii) Transparency
- (xxix) Marketing entrepreneurs/micro-finance
- (xxx) Nutrition and food security

(xxxi) Micro-enterprises (xxxii) Salinity in coastal Kerala

4. The above-mentioned list is only illustrative and it is up to the Individual Institutes to come out with ideas, based on the local problems, to find innovative solutions applying the technical know-how of the concerned Higher Education Institutes. It was also felt that the whole exercise under UBA has to be participatory and consultative. Village Immersion Program, identification of local partners, association of the alumni with the processes, convergence, inventorization of assets and multi-disciplinary approach will help in smooth implementation of the scheme.

The meeting ended at 3.30 p.m. with mutual thanks.

## **List of Other Participants**

SI No.	Name	Designation
1.	Dr. V. K. Baby	Special Secretary, Local Self Government Department
2	Dr. K. Vijayakumar	Director of Technical Education Department
3	Sri. Shiekh Parith	Director of Collegiate Education Department
4	Sri. M. Harshan	Joint Secretary, Higher Education Department
5	Dr. Suja R	Associate Professor, Co-ordinator, TPLC
6	Dr. Biju Joseph	Kerala Agricultural University
7	Sri. Abdul Jabbar Ahamed	Programme Co-ordinator, NSS Tech Cell
8	Sri. Krishna Kumar T.V.	Senior Administrative Officer Director of Collegiate Education

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