

Report: Participation in the Gram Sabha and Flag Hoisting Ceremony at Nandikurli Village under Unnat Bharat Abhiyan

Event Date: 15th August 2024

Location: Nandikurli Village, Belagavi, Karnataka

Organized by: Gram Panchayat Members of Nandikurli

Attended by: Unnat Bharat Abhiyan Coordinators and Students of Dr. N.A. Magadum Ayurvedic Medical College, Hospital and Research Centre, Ankali

Introduction

On 15th August 2024, the Gram Panchayat of Nandikurli Village organized a Gram Sabha and Flag Hoisting Ceremony to celebrate India's Independence Day and promote community participation in local governance. This event was conducted under the framework of the Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA), a national program aimed at linking higher educational institutions with rural communities for holistic development. The event saw active participation from the UBA coordinators and students from Dr. N.A. Magadum Ayurvedic Medical College, reflecting the strong partnership between the college and the village community in their journey towards sustainable development.

Objectives

The primary objectives of the event were:

- **To Celebrate Independence Day:** Commemorate India's 78th Independence Day with patriotic fervor and unity.
- **To Promote Community Involvement:** Encourage active participation of villagers in local governance through the Gram Sabha, fostering a culture of transparent and inclusive decision-making.
- **To Strengthen UBA Collaboration:** Enhance the collaboration between the UBA team and the Nandikurli community for effective implementation of development projects.

Participants

- **Gram Panchayat Members:** The Gram Panchayat members, led by the Sarpanch, played a key role in organizing the event and facilitating discussions during the Gram Sabha.
- **Unnat Bharat Abhiyan Coordinators:** A delegation of UBA coordinators and students from Dr. N.A. Magadum Ayurvedic Medical College attended the event, contributing their insights and support.
- **Local Residents:** Over 200 villagers, including men, women, and children, participated in the Independence Day celebrations and the Gram Sabha, demonstrating strong community engagement.

Proceedings of the Event

1. Flag Hoisting Ceremony:

The event began with a flag hoisting ceremony at the village square, led by the Sarpanch of Nandikurli. The Indian national flag was unfurled amidst patriotic songs and the chanting of slogans, creating an atmosphere of unity and national pride. The flag hoisting was followed by a brief speech from the Sarpanch, who spoke about the significance of Independence Day and the sacrifices made by freedom fighters. The UBA coordinators also addressed the gathering, emphasizing the importance of unity and community development in realizing the true spirit of independence.

2. **Patriotic Performances:**

Following the flag hoisting, local school children presented patriotic songs, dances, and skits, adding to the festive spirit of the day. These performances highlighted the rich cultural heritage of India and reinforced the values of patriotism and solidarity among the villagers.

3. **Gram Sabha Meeting:**

After the Independence Day celebrations, the focus shifted to the Gram Sabha meeting. The Sarpanch initiated the meeting by welcoming all participants and outlining the agenda. The main points of discussion included:

- **Review of Past Initiatives:** The Gram Panchayat members provided an overview of the developmental activities carried out over the past year, including infrastructure improvements, health camps, and educational support initiatives under the UBA program.
- **Addressing Local Issues:** Villagers were encouraged to voice their concerns and suggestions on various issues affecting the community. Key topics discussed were:
 - **Water Supply:** Persistent issues with water supply and the need for better water management and conservation practices.
 - **Healthcare Access:** The importance of improving access to healthcare services and organizing regular health camps in the village.
 - **Road and Infrastructure Development:** The need for better roads and infrastructure to improve connectivity and accessibility within the village.
- **Collaboration with UBA:** The UBA coordinators provided updates on ongoing projects and discussed potential new initiatives with the villagers. They emphasized the importance of community involvement in ensuring the success and sustainability of these projects.

4. **Interactive Session:**

An interactive session followed, where the villagers had the opportunity to ask questions and provide feedback on the proposed initiatives. The UBA coordinators and Gram Panchayat members addressed the concerns raised and discussed strategies for effectively addressing them. The session also provided a platform for sharing success stories from other villages, inspiring the community to take proactive steps towards their development goals.

5. **Closing Remarks:**

The event concluded with closing remarks from the Sarpanch, who expressed gratitude to the UBA coordinators and students for their continued support and collaboration. The Sarpanch encouraged the villagers to remain actively involved in the development process and work together towards the common goal of village upliftment.

Impact and Outcomes

- **Enhanced Community Engagement:** The event successfully engaged a wide cross-section of the community, fostering a sense of ownership and responsibility among the villagers towards local governance and development.
- **Strengthened UBA Collaboration:** The participation of UBA coordinators and students helped strengthen the collaboration between the educational institution and the village community, paving the way for more impactful development projects.
- **Informed Decision-Making:** The open discussions during the Gram Sabha provided valuable insights into the pressing issues faced by the villagers, enabling the Gram Panchayat to make informed decisions and plan effective interventions.
- **Cultural Awareness and Unity:** The Independence Day celebrations and cultural performances helped foster a sense of national pride and unity among the villagers, reinforcing the values of patriotism and solidarity.

Conclusion

The participation in the Gram Sabha and Flag Hoisting Ceremony at Nandikurli Village under the Unnat Bharat Abhiyan was a significant step towards promoting inclusive governance and sustainable development. The event provided a platform for the villagers to voice their concerns, discuss solutions, and collaborate with the UBA coordinators for the holistic development of the village. The enthusiastic participation and constructive dialogue during the event reflected the collective commitment of the community and the Unnat Bharat Abhiyan team to work towards a brighter and more sustainable future for Nandikurli.

Future Directions

To build on the momentum generated by this event, the following actions are proposed:

- **Regular Follow-Up Meetings:** Organize regular follow-up meetings to monitor the progress of ongoing projects and address any emerging issues.
- **Capacity Building Workshops:** Conduct workshops and training sessions for villagers on topics such as water conservation, health and hygiene, and sustainable agricultural practices.
- **Youth Engagement:** Involve more youth from the village in UBA activities to foster leadership skills and ensure continuity in development efforts.

The success of the Gram Sabha and Independence Day celebrations has laid a strong foundation for continued collaboration between the Unnat Bharat Abhiyan team and the Nandikurli community, promoting sustainable development and improving the quality of life for all residents.

