

Navodaya Vidyalaya in each district of the country. Opening of new Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas in uncovered districts depends on the willingness of the concerned State Government to make available suitable land free of cost for construction of school buildings and required temporary accommodation (free of rent) to start the Vidyalaya, and is subject to the availability of funds and approval by the competent authority.

(b) The functioning of Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas (JNVs) has been studied in the past by IIM, Ahmedabad, IIM, Lucknow and by an expert committee headed by Shri Y.N Chaturvedi. These studies covered several aspects like admissions, performance of the students, pace setting role of the Vidyalayas and other miscellaneous management issues. The recommendations made by these committees were taken into consideration from time to time in laying down mechanisms for the fulfillment of the objectives for setting up the JNVs. More recently, an in-house evaluation study was conducted by the Programme Evaluation Organisation, NITI Aayog. Apart from this, the functioning is also reviewed on a continuous basis by its Executive Committee and the Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti (NVS) headed by the Minister of Human Resource Development.

Improvement of the functioning of the JNVs is a continuous process. The students of the JNVs have consistently been performing well over the years.

Adoption of villages under Unnat Bharat Abhiyan

2141. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have launched Unnat Bharat Abhiyan;

(b) if so, whether Government has issued directions to all Higher Educational Institutions to adopt backward villages in their vicinity and apply their knowledge and expertise to improving the infrastructure in the gram panchayats under their watch under Unnat Bharat Abhiyan, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have entrusted some tasks to Higher Educational Institutions, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether the Higher Educational Institutions have identified villages in their vicinity for intervention, and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) has launched the Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA) on 11th November, 2014 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. The MHRD has advised all the higher educational institutions

which are funded by the Central/State Governments and all Institutions which are under approval by the regulatory bodies to adopt clusters of backward Gram Panchayats/villages in their vicinity and apply their knowledge and expertise to improve the infrastructure in the Gram Panchayats (GPs). The details regarding the UBA can be accessed at <http://unnat.iitd.ac.in>.

(c) Higher educational institutions have been advised to give special emphasis on issues pertaining to sanitation, drinking water supply, energy, agriculture and allied activities, irrigation, education, health, etc. and provide innovative solution in consultation with Panchayat Raj Institutions (PRI).

(d) So far, 128 villages have been identified for intervention by institutions of higher education. The institute wise number of villages identified is given in the Statement.

Statement

Table: Institute-wise number of villages identified

Sl. No.	Institution	Number of Villages
1.	IIT Bombay	29
2.	IIT BHU	9
3.	IIT Delhi	8
4.	IIT Bhubaneswar	2
5.	IIT Guwahati	10
6.	IIT Hyderabad	3
7.	IIT Indore	3
8.	IIT Jodhpur	2
9.	IIT Kanpur	12
10.	IIT Kharagpur	13
11.	IIT Mandi	1
12.	IIT Madras	11
13.	IIT Patna	2
14.	IIT Ropar	1
15.	IIT Roorkee	11
16.	MNIT Jaipur	5
17.	IISER Bhopal	5
18.	IISER Trivandrum	1
TOTAL		128