

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION  
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION AND LITERACY**

**RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 3059  
ANSWERED ON- 20/08/2025**

**Special support for multilingual education in tribal languages**

**3059 Shri Niranjan Bishi:**

Will the Minister of **EDUCATION** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry will provide special support for multilingual education in tribal languages (e.g., Kui, Santali, Desia) in Odisha under the NIPUN Bharat Mission; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION  
(SHRI JAYANT CHAUDHARY)**

(a) & (b) : The Department of School Education & Literacy (DoSE&L), Ministry of Education has launched a National Mission called “National Initiative for Proficiency in Reading with Understanding and Numeracy (NIPUN Bharat)” on 5th July, 2021 for ensuring that every child in the country (including all district of Odisha) necessarily attains foundational literacy and numeracy by the end of Grade 2. This Mission has been set up under the aegis of the centrally sponsored scheme of Samagra Shiksha- an integrated scheme for School Education. Under Samagra Shiksha scheme, education is imparted with equitable access to the highest-quality education for all learners regardless of social or economic background.

Education in the mother tongues of learners during the formative years is one major goal of the NEP 2020 and the NCF-FS & National Curriculum Framework for School Education (NCF-SE) 2023. The Ministry of Education (MoE) through NCERT in collaboration with Central Institute of Indian Languages, Mysuru and Central University of Odisha, Koraput have developed and launched a total number of 117 primers including 89 tribal language primers. The Primers are available at <https://ncert.nic.in/primers.php>. These are languages spoken by at least 10000 population. These primers are designed to support multilingualism and utilize children’s mother tongue as a medium of instruction, aligning with the NEP-2020.

There are primers in 15 languages of Odisha (Desia, Kuwi, Gadaba (Gutob), Juang, Kui, Kisan, Santhali (Odia), Savara (Sora), Gondi-Odia, Ho-Odia, Odia, Kandha (Khond), Malto, Munda, Parji (Duruva)). Besides, *Joyful Mathematics* of Class 1 and Class 2 have also been translated in Santhali and Bodo.

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