

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION & LITERACY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO 2176
ANSWERED ON 05/08/2024

Strength Enhancing Literacy Skills in Children

†2176 Shri Ram Shiromani Verma:

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to launch any scheme to strengthen and modernize Primary Education for enhancing literacy skills in children;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the objectives of the scheme; and
- (c) the policies formulated/being formulated by the Government in this regard, and the benefits thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

(SHRI JAYANT CHAUDHARY)

(a) to (c) : The Department of School Education and Literacy (DoSE&L) is implementing an integrated centrally sponsored scheme for School Education- Samagra Shiksha since 2018-19. The scheme of Samagra Shiksha has been aligned with National Education Policy, 2020 with focus on improving the quality of education through various measures such as introduction of new pedagogical and curricular structure, Early Childhood Care and Education and Foundational Literacy and Numeracy, among others.

A National Mission called “National Initiative for Proficiency in Reading with Understanding and Numeracy (NIPUN Bharat)” has been launched on 5th July, 2021 for ensuring that every child in the country 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, all 36 States/Union Territories are implementing NIPUN-Bharat Mission.

The National Education Policy (NEP 2020) emphasizes on developing the relevant concepts and attaining requisite competencies to facilitate optimal learning when children start schooling. Keeping in focus the holistic development, a 3 Months Play Based ‘School Preparation Module and Guidelines’ for Grade I named ‘Vidya Pravesh’ was launched on 29th July, 2021. The goal of Vidya Pravesh programme is to promote school preparedness in all children coming to

Grade- I from diverse backgrounds, to ensure a smooth transition of children to Grade-I, to provide play based, age and developmentally appropriate learning experiences in a joyful and stimulating environment leading to holistic development. The 12-week module contains developmentally appropriate instructions for the children entering Grade 1 to bolster a child's pre-literacy, pre-numeracy, cognitive and social skills. All States/UTs are implementing Vidya Pravesh programme.

To improve the Learning Outcomes in Foundational Stage, the National Curricular Framework for Foundational Stage (NCF-FS) was released on 20th October, 2022 providing a structure for the syllabus, Training of Teachers, Learning Teaching Material (LTM), etc. Accordingly, Jaadui Pitara for Balvatika (3 years of preschool) and Books for Grade 1 & 2 have been provided by NCERT for use by States/UTs.

JaaduiPitara -a Collection of learning- teaching material for 3 to 6 years age group has been developed and launched on 20th February, 2023. The JaaduiPitara is a box having 53 Learning Teaching Materials (LTM) for the foundational stage. It has toys, games, puzzles. puppets, posters, flashcards, story cards, play book set for students, and handbooks for teachers.

The e-JaaduiPitara (e-JP) was launched on 10th February 2024. The e-JP is an app and website with integration of the latest technology with play-based pedagogy and a way to disseminate the learning of JaaduiPitara and transcend it beyond the four walls of the classroom.
