

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION  
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION & LITERACY  
LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-65  
ANSWERED ON-01/12/2025**

**NIPUN Bharat**

65. Shri Kalipada Saren Kherwal:

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that forty eight percent of students either lacked most of the basic knowledge or had limited knowledge and skills with regard to global minimum proficiency as per the Foundational Learning Study 2022, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is also a fact that approximately one out of three class VIII students in rural India within the age group of 14 to 18 cannot read class II level text fluently as per Annual Status of Education Report 2024 and if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of progress achieved by National Initiative for Proficiency in Reading with Understanding and Numeracy (NIPUN) Bharat since 2021, year-wise; and

(d) the details of proportion of students in primary schools who have achieved foundational numeracy and literacy?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION**

**(SHRI JAYANT CHAUDHARY)**

(a to d) Foundational Learning Study (FLS) 2022, conducted by NCERT under the aegis of Department of School Education & Literacy (DoSE&L), Ministry of Education(MoE), provides benchmarks for foundational literacy in different languages and foundational based on Global Minimum Proficiency framework. As per FLS 2022, 52% students are proficient in numeracy whereas proficiency across languages tends to vary. Benchmarks and proficiency data from the FLS 2022 study is available in the public domain at <https://parakh.ncert.gov.in/sites/default/files/fls-reports/report-files-pdf/ORF.pdf>

The Government of India conducted PARAKH Rashtriya Sarvekshan (earlier known as National Achievement Survey) on 4th December, 2024, to understand the baseline performance under the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 in development of competencies among students at the end of the Foundational, Preparatory and Middle Stages (assessed in Grades 3, 6 and 9, respectively) of education. This Sarvekshan is designed as a system-level reflection

on Learning Outcomes in India which underscores critical competency, skill or infrastructural gaps at various stages of schooling. National, State and District level reports for PARAKH Rashtriya Sarvekshan (PRS) 2024 are available at <https://dashboard.parakh.ncert.gov.in/en>, a dedicated dashboard designed to disseminate the findings of the assessment. The findings of PRS 2024 highlight a significant improvement as compared to National Achievement Survey 2021 in foundational literacy and numeracy skills, thereby, reflecting the positive impact of the NIPUN Bharat Mission launched under NEP 2020.

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 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. All 36 States/Union Territories are implementing NIPUN-Bharat Mission. 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. The various initiatives under NIPUN Bharat Mission which contribute to better outcomes implemented by all States/UTs :-

- A 3 months play based ‘School Preparation Module and Guidelines’ for Grade I named ‘Vidya Pravesh’ was launched on 29<sup>th</sup> July, 2021. The goal of Vidya Pravesh programme is to promote school preparedness in all children coming to Grade- I from diverse backgrounds (Balvatika, Anganwadi Centers (AWCs), at home, private play schools etc.), to ensure a smooth transition of children to Grade-I. It provides play based, age and developmentally appropriate learning experiences in a joyful and stimulating environment leading to holistic development to bolster a child’s pre-literacy, pre-numeracy, cognitive and social skills. This Programme is being implemented across the country. From 2022-23 till date, over 4.2 crore students in 8.9 lakh schools have benefitted.
- Jaadui Pitara (JP): Launched on 20th February 2023, JP is a collection of 53 Learning-Teaching Materials (LTM) (toys, games, puzzles, story cards, etc.) for children aged 3-6 years. It includes resources translated into 22 languages, a Trainer’s Handbook ‘Unmukh’, and an Activity Book ‘Anand’ for integrated worksheets.

- Play and activity-based textbooks for classes 1 and 2 have released in July, 2023 (Hindi- “Sarangi”, English-“Mridang”, “Mathematics- Joyful-Mathematics and Anandmay-Ganit” and Urdu- “Shahnai”) fulfilling NEP 2020 and NCF-FS (National Curricular Framework for Foundational Stage) recommendations.
- e-Jaadui Pitara (e-JP): Launched on 10th February 2024, this app and website extend JP’s reach beyond classrooms, providing interactive content in multiple languages with AI-driven bots through Katha Sakhi (storyteller), Teacher Tara (educator guide), and Parent Tara (parent support). It has over 1,000 stories and is accessible via <https://ejaaduipitara.ncert.gov.in/>.
- Primers (launched in March, 2024) have been developed in 121 Local Languages for foundational literacy and numeracy in mother tongues spoken by populations of at least 10,000.
- Lakshya or Targets for Foundational Literacy and Numeracy starting from the Balvatika upto Grade 2 based on the learning outcomes have been developed on the basis of national and international research.
- In order to provide continuous learning opportunities to the teachers, NISHTHA (National Initiative for School Heads' and Teachers' Holistic Advancement) online was launched using DIKSHA platform in October 2020 to reach out to elementary teachers and its further extension to all level of teachers. 13.74 lakh+ teachers and 1.69 lakh+ teachers have completed NISHTHA online training programmes for FLN & ECCE respectively. In total, 15.43 lakh+ teachers have been covered.

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