

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION & LITERACY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-410
ANSWERED ON-02/02/2026**

Achieving of NIPUN Bharat Mission

410. Shri Baijayant Panda:

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the major achievements of the NIPUN Bharat (National Initiative for Proficiency in Reading with Understanding and Numeracy) Mission during the last three years;
- (b) whether the Government has a vision or blueprint to introduce AI under this mission; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

(SHRI JAYANT CHAUDHARY)

(a) to (c): The Department of School Education & Literacy, 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 aligned with NEP 2020, 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 the NIPUN-Bharat Mission. It is the first time that the age group of 3-6 years has been included in the school continuum in the foundational stage in 5+3+3+4 structure consisting of 3 years of Balvatika and Grade 1 & 2.

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 details of the major achievements of the NIPUN Bharat (National Initiative for Proficiency in Reading with Understanding and Numeracy) Mission during the last three years are as under:

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 (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’ - a play-based learning-teaching material is tailored for children between the age group of 3-8 years. As envisaged in the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 and National Curriculum Framework for Foundational Stage (NCF-FS) ‘Jaadui Pitara’, was launched on 20th February, 2023. The Jaadui Pitara is a box having 53 Learning Teaching Materials (LTM) for the foundational stage. Available in 22 Indian languages, it has toys, games, puzzles, puppets, posters, flashcards, story cards, playbooks etc. for students and handbooks for teachers. It also consists of a Trainer’s Handbook ‘Unmukh’ which is a comprehensive guide for the trainers which has activity bank for 3–6-year-old children which is mapped to Panchkoshiya vikas and curricular goals of NCF-FS for future training of teachers at Foundational Stage. The Activity Book ‘Anand’ contains integrated worksheets to be used by children.

The e-Jaadui Pitara (e-JP) was launched on 10th February 2024. The e-JP is an integration of the latest technology with play-based pedagogy and a way to disseminate the learning of Jaadui Pitara and transcend it beyond the four walls of the classroom. e-JP, in alignment with the NEP 2020, is web-based application along with browser access at <https://ejaaduipitara.ncert.gov.in/>. The app currently has more than 1,000 stories in 14 different Indian languages. This website and mobile application is packed with fun and engaging content in multiple languages, including activities, songs, riddles, stories and lullabies. Using Artificial Intelligence, it comprises of three bots, viz.,

Katha Sakhi: Your storyteller Buddy, bringing magical tales to life;

Teacher Tara: A guide for educators, offering tips and resources; and

Parent Tara: A supportive companion for parents, providing guidance and fun activities.

Play and activity-based textbooks for classes 1 and 2 have been 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.

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.

Lakshyas or Targets for Foundational Literacy and Numeracy starting from the Balvatika-3 upto Grade 2 based on the learning outcomes have been developed on the basis of national and international research.

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. It includes multiple approaches for interaction i.e., Text Modules along with videos. Currently, it hosts contents in 133 languages (126 Indian Languages + 7 foreign languages). More than 15.45 lakh teachers have completed NISHTHA online training program for FLN & ECCE.

PARAKH (Performance Assessment, Review, and Analysis of Knowledge for Holistic Development) is conducted to evaluate the learning competencies of students in Foundational Literacy & Numeracy, Language and Mathematics at the end of each of the educational stages i.e. Foundational, Preparatory and Middle in Grades 3,6 & 9. PARAKH is conducted once in three years.

The latest PARAKH Rashtriya Sarvekshan 2024 was conducted on 4th December, 2024. The State/UT wise PARAKH 2024 report has been officially released in public domain on 2nd July, 2025. This can be accessed at <https://dashboard.parakh.ncert.gov.in/en>.

PARAKH Rashtriya Sarvekshan 2024 findings **highlight a significant improvement in foundational literacy and numeracy skills outcomes**, reflecting the positive impact of the NIPUN Bharat Mission as envisioned in NEP 2020. It reflects that the performance of children in Grade 3 in rural school is better than urban schools and government schools have performed better than private schools at foundational stage.

| Grade 3: Comparative Picture | | |
|------------------------------|----------|----------|
| | NAS 2021 | PRS 2024 |
| Language | 62 | 64 |
| Mathematics | 57 | 60 |

