



## NIPUN Bharat Mission

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### Why in News

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The **Ministry of Education** has launched **NIPUN (National Initiative for Proficiency in Reading with Understanding and Numeracy) Bharat Scheme**.

It aims to cover the learning needs of children in the age group of 3 to 9 years.

### Key Points

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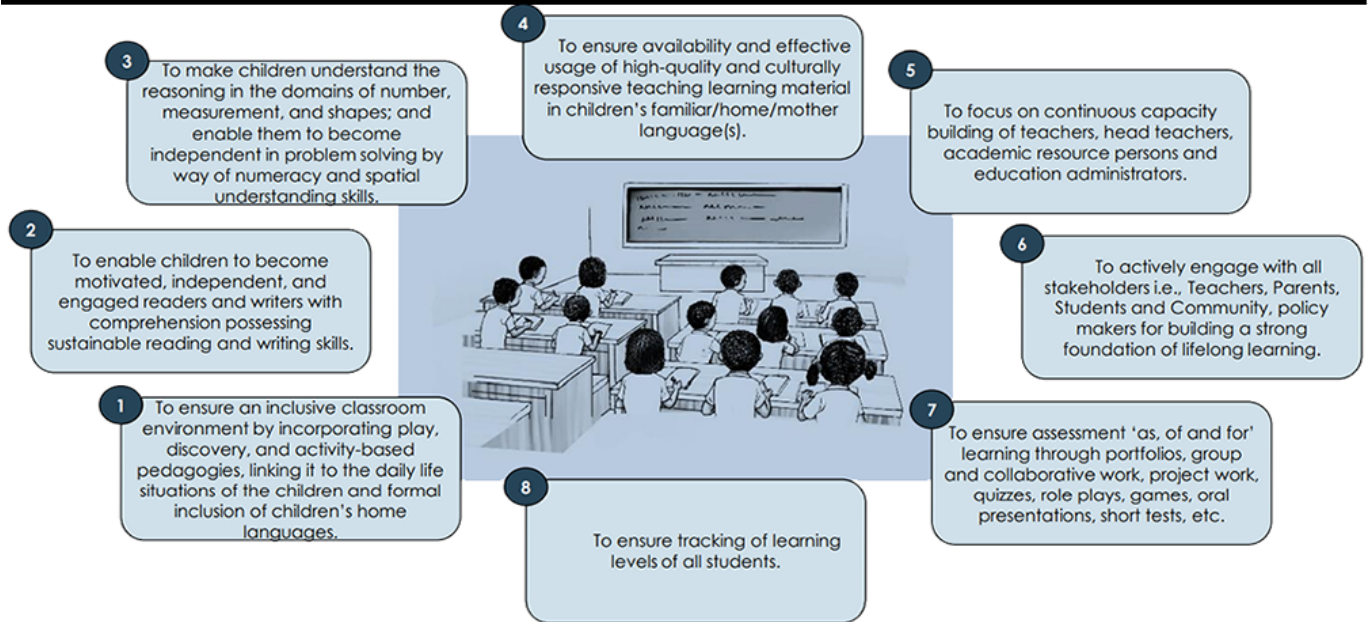
- **Part of NEP 2020:**
  - This initiative is being launched as a part of **NEP (National Education Policy) 2020**.
  - This policy aims to pave the way for **transformational reforms in school and higher education systems** in the country. This policy **replaced the 34 year old National Policy on Education (NPE), 1986**.
- **Objective:**

To create an enabling environment to **ensure universal acquisition of foundational literacy and numeracy**, so that every child achieves the desired learning competencies in reading, writing and numeracy by the end of Grade 3, **by 2026-27**.
- **Focus Areas:**

It will focus on providing access and **retaining children in foundational years of schooling; teacher capacity building**; development of high quality and **diversified Student and Teacher Resources/Learning Materials**; and **tracking the progress of each child** in achieving learning outcomes.

- **Implementation:**
  - NIPUN Bharat **will be implemented by the Department of School Education and Literacy.**
  - **A five-tier implementation mechanism** will be set up at the National- State- District- Block- School level in all States and UTs, under the **aegis of the centrally sponsored scheme of Samagra Shiksha.**
    - ‘Samagra Shiksha’ programme was launched **subsuming three existing schemes:** Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) and Teacher Education (TE).
    - The aim of the scheme is **to treat school education holistically**, from pre-school to Class XII.
  - **A special package for foundational literacy and Numeracy (FLN) under NISHTHA (National Initiative for School Heads and Teachers Holistic Advancement) is being developed by NCERT.**
    - Around **25 lakh teachers** teaching at pre-primary to primary grade **will be trained** this year on FLN.
    - **NISHTHA** is a capacity building programme for "Improving Quality of School Education through Integrated Teacher Training".
  - **Stage-wise targets** are being set in a continuum from the pre-primary or balvatika classes.
- **Expected Outcomes:**
  - Foundational skills enable to keep children in class thereby **reducing the dropouts and improve transition rate from primary to upper primary** and secondary stages.
  - Activity based learning and a conducive learning environment will **improve the quality of education.**
  - **Innovative pedagogies** such as toy-based and experiential learning will be used in classroom transactions thereby making learning a joyful and engaging activity.
  - **Intensive capacity building of teachers** will make them empowered and **provide greater autonomy for choosing the pedagogy.**
  - **Holistic development of the child** by focusing on different domains of development like physical and motor development, socio-emotional development, literacy and numeracy development, cognitive development, life skills etc. which are interrelated and interdependent, which will be reflected in a Holistic Progress Card.
  - Children to achieve a steeper learning trajectory which **may have positive impacts on later life outcomes and employment.**
  - Since almost every child attends early grades, therefore, focus at that stage **will also benefit the socio-economic disadvantaged group** thus ensuring access to equitable and inclusive quality education.

# Objectives of the Mission



## Education in India

- **Constitutional Provisions:**

- **Part IV of Indian Constitution**, Article 45 and Article 39 (f) of Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSP), has a provision for state-funded as well as equitable and accessible education.
- The **42<sup>nd</sup> Amendment to the Constitution in 1976** moved education from the State to the Concurrent List.

The education policies by the Central government provide a broad direction and state governments are expected to follow it. But it is not mandatory, for instance Tamil Nadu does not follow the three-language formula prescribed by the first education policy in 1968.

- The **86<sup>th</sup> Amendment in 2002 made education an enforceable right under Article 21-A.**

- **Related Laws:**

**Right To Education (RTE) Act, 2009** aims to provide primary education to all children aged 6 to 14 years and enforces education as a Fundamental Right.

It mandates non-minority private unaided schools to keep aside at least 25% of their entry-level seats for children belonging to disadvantaged sections to create a more integrated and inclusive schooling system.

- **Government Initiatives:**

**Source: TH**