



# Project Alankar

## Why in News?

**Project Alankar**, an educational reform initiative by the Uttar Pradesh government, has been widely appreciated during a meeting chaired by the [Prime Minister](#) in New Delhi.

## Key Points

### Project Alankar

- **About:** It was launched on **1st October 2021**, by the Government of Uttar Pradesh.
  - It aims to achieve **100% compliance** with 35 infrastructure and facility benchmarks in 2,441 government secondary schools.
  - Its primary goal is to create a more **conductive, inclusive, and modern learning environment** for students across the state.
- **Key Features of Project Alankar:**
  - **Upgradation of physical infrastructure** including newly constructed classrooms, science labs, libraries, computer labs, and smart classrooms.
  - **Provision of essential amenities** such as clean drinking water and hygienic toilets, particularly focusing on girls' sanitation facilities.
  - **Development of specialized schools under the scheme:**
    - **Chief Minister Model Schools** (pre-primary to Class 12) and **Chief Minister Abhyudaya Schools** (pre-primary to Class 8) are also being developed.
      - These schools have state-of-the-art facilities, including [Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics \(STEM\)](#) laboratories, computer labs, etc.
      - Each Abhyudaya School, designed to accommodate 450 students, was allocated Rs 1.42 crore for development
  - **Renovation and modernization** of 141 Sanskrit schools across 7 districts, with dedicated funding of Rs 14.94 crore for their rejuvenation.
- **Funding and Implementation:**
  - Funding sources for Project Alankar include the state government, [Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan](#), [Gram Panchayats](#), [urban local bodies](#), corporate [Corporate Social Responsibility \(CSR\)](#) contributions, and voluntary donations.
  - Implementation is **rigorously monitored by district-level committees** headed by district magistrates and overseen by the state education director.
- **Impact and Outcomes:**
  - According to the [Annual Status of Education Report \(ASER\) 2024](#), government secondary school enrolment **increased by 23%** between 2022-23 and 2024-25.
  - Primary school attendance (classes 1-5) **rose by 11.5%** from 2010 to 2024, while upper primary attendance (classes 6-8) grew by 9.6% between 2018 and 2024 — **the highest in the country**.
  - Usage of school libraries surged by 55.2%, and access to girls' toilet facilities improved by 54.4%, **reflecting better sanitation and learning support**.

### Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan

- **About:** Introduced in the **Union Budget 2018-19**, Samagra Shiksha is a comprehensive program covering education from **pre-nursery to Class 12** to ensure equitable learning outcomes.
- **Key Features:**
  - **Integration of Schemes:** It subsumes three earlier schemes:
  - **Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA):** Focused on universal primary education.
  - **Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA):** Aimed at secondary education.
  - **Teacher Education (TE):** Focused on training teachers.
  - **Sector-Wide Development Approach:** It streamlines implementation across all levels (state, district, and sub-district) instead of fragmented project-based objectives.
  - **Alignment with SDGs:** Ensures free, equitable, and quality education (**SDG 4.1**) while eliminating gender disparities and ensuring access for vulnerable groups (**SDG 4.5**).
- **Implementation:** It is a **Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS)** implemented through a single State Implementation Society (SIS) at the State/UT level.
  - SIS is a state-registered body implementing CSS and development programs.

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