



Himachal Pradesh Declared 'Fully Literate' State

Source: IE

The declaration was made on the occasion of **International Literacy Day** on 8th September, under the **ULLAS program**.

- Himachal Pradesh has become the **fourth state to achieve full functional literacy**, joining **Tripura, Mizoram, and Goa** in this significant milestone.
- In June **2024**, Ladakh was declared the **first Union Territory** to be fully literate.
- Himachal Pradesh literacy rate has reached **99.30%**, exceeding the **national benchmark of 95%**, which the Ministry of Education considers equivalent to full literacy(100%).

ULLAS Program

- **ULLAS (Understanding Lifelong Learning for All in Society)** Nav Bharat Saaksharta Karyakram, is a **centrally sponsored scheme** being implemented from 2022 to 2027.
- It is also known as the **New India Literacy Programme (NILP)** targets non-literate adults **aged 15 and above**.
- **It aims to provide literacy, digital literacy, and critical life skills** such as **financial literacy**.
- It has enrolled over **3 crore learners and 42 lakh volunteers**, with 1.83 crore learners having completed **foundational literacy assessments** with a 90% success rate.
- The program now offers materials in **26 Indian languages**, emphasizing inclusive literacy.

National Literacy Landscape

- According to the **Office of the Registrar General of India**, a person **aged 7 years or older** who can read and write with understanding in any language is **considered literate**.
- **Functional literacy** refers to **an individual's** capability to use **reading, writing, and numerical skills** in everyday tasks that contribute to personal growth and community participation.
- According to the **PLFS 2023-24**, India's **overall literacy rate is 80.9%**.

Read more: [Akhil Bharatiya Shiksha Samagam and ULLAS Initiative](#)