

SECTOR SPECIFIC REPORT

(Education)



Policies Covered In The Edition

'New India Literacy Programme' to Increase India's Literacy Rate

'Environment Protection and Nature Education' to Promote Sensitivity and Conservation Under NEP 2020

'Framework Mechanism for Mutual Recognition of Qualifications' between India and Australia to Facilitate Mobility

'REACHOUT' Scheme for Capacity Building and Promotion of R&D in Earth Sciences

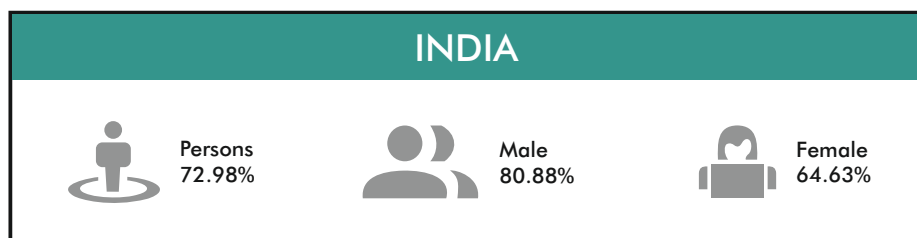
"NIPUN Bharat": Promoting Foundational Literacy and Numeracy for All

Expert Insight

'New India Literacy Programme' to Increase India's Literacy Rate

Currently, the literacy rate is below 75% in India because of a composite mesh of social and economic diversity across the country. Economic disparities, gender, and caste inequalities are among many other barriers that lead to prevailing illiteracy in India.

Literacy Rate at a Glance



Source: <https://nilp.education.gov.in/nilp/#/>

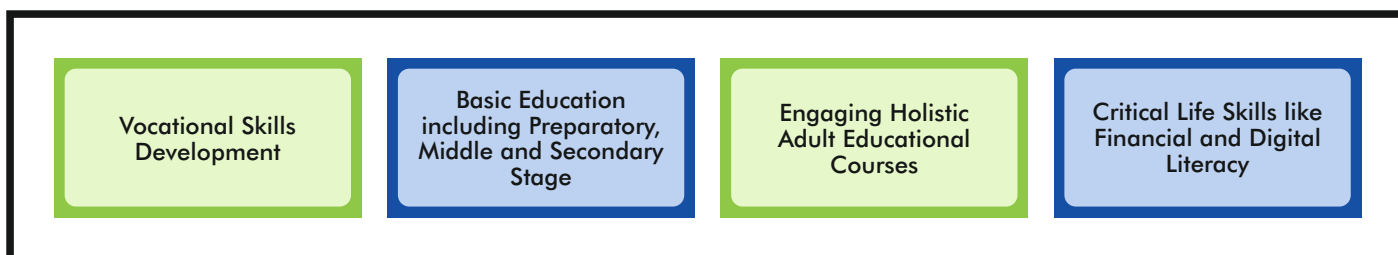
The New India Literacy Programme (NILP) in this regard, will authorize individuals to obtain knowledge and skills through a variety of activities, promote informal learning, and motivate people to make and follow their educational plans beyond formal schooling. **It is a centrally financed scheme, approved for the FYs 2022-2027 to protect all the features of adult education to line up with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020.** The scheme will target all non-literates from 15 years of age and above and make 'Adult education', 'Education for All' in the country.

COMPONENTS OF 'NEW INDIA LITERACY PROGRAMME'

Foundational Literacy and Numeracy	Critical Life Skills(includes Financial Literacy, Digital Literacy, Legal Literacy, Healthcare and Awareness, Child care and Education, Family Welfare)	Basic Education(Includes Preparatory, Middle and Secondary stage equivalency)	Vocational Skills (skill development will be a part of the Continuous Learning Process for Neo-literates to obtain Local Employment)	Continuing Education (Includes engaging holistic adult education courses in arts, science, technology, culture, sports, recreation, as well as other topics of interest or use to vocal learners)
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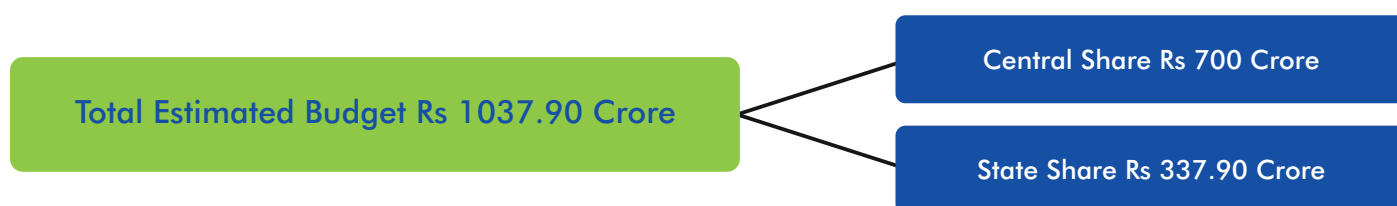
The goal of the NILP is to bring foundational literacy and numeracy under universal coverage. It will also cover all other components which are essential for an individual in the contemporary world such as financial, digital, vocational skill development, fundamental education, etc.

Key Features of NILP



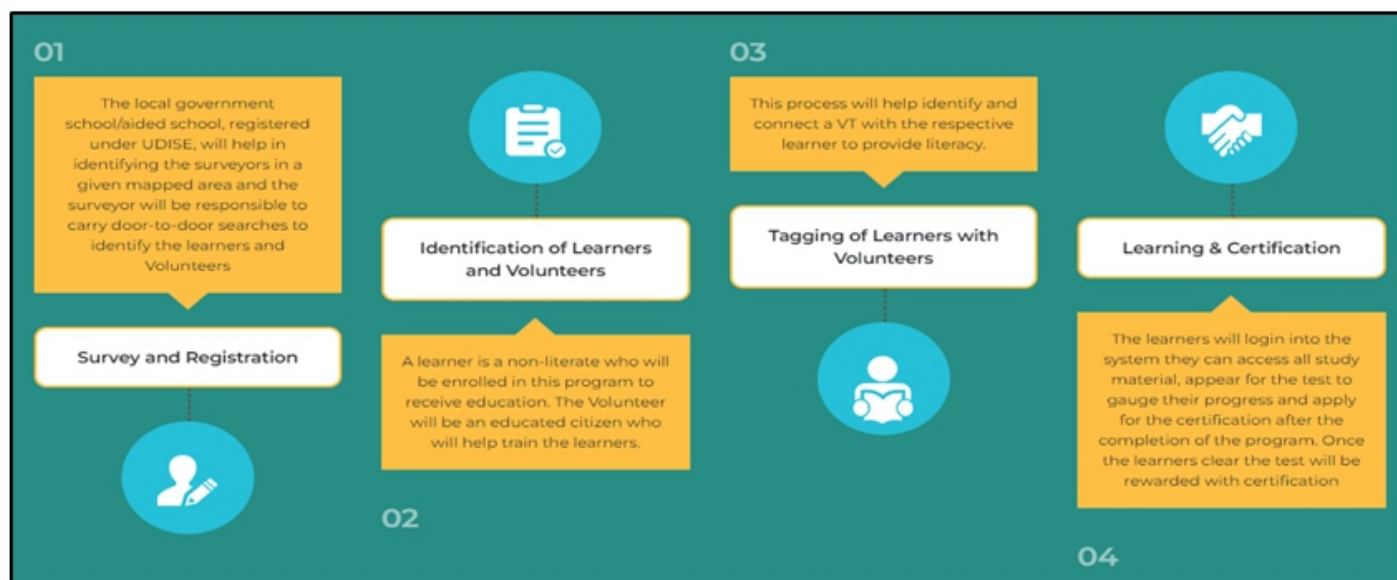
The target of the scheme is **to impact 1 crore learners every year using 'The Online Teaching, learning, and assessment system (OTLAS)' with the support of the NIC, NCERT, and NIOS**. The age-appropriate strategies will be adopted to increase the ambit of this program by also providing enough flexibility for states/UTs to tackle innovative activities. For wider coverage of the scheme, advanced technologies will be used to impart adult education in which ground-level support will be achieved from PRI, Anganwadi workers, ASHA workers, and volunteers from Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (NYSK), National Service Scheme (NSS), and NCC.

Five Years (2022-27) Budget Estimate for NILP



All essential materials and required resources will be supplied digitally to registered volunteers through easily approachable modes i.e. T.V., radio, and cell-phone-based free apps while the training, orientation, and workshops of volunteers will be arranged through face-to-face mode. At the implementation level, to conduct surveys of beneficiaries and voluntary teachers the schools will act as a unit. **The learners will be motivated to access the content in regional languages in online mode through the DIKSHA platform.**

Process Flow of NILP



Source: <https://nilp.education.gov.in/nilp/#/>

In India, the amalgamation of the Indian education system should fulfill the training requirements of children and working adults for their real liberation. The program will help to provide reading and writing proficiency to a much larger population within the set timeline. **It will also upscale India's SDG performance and leverage the true potential of its vast population for its socio-economic growth.**

'Environment Protection and Nature Education' to Promote Sensitivity and Conservation Under NEP 2020

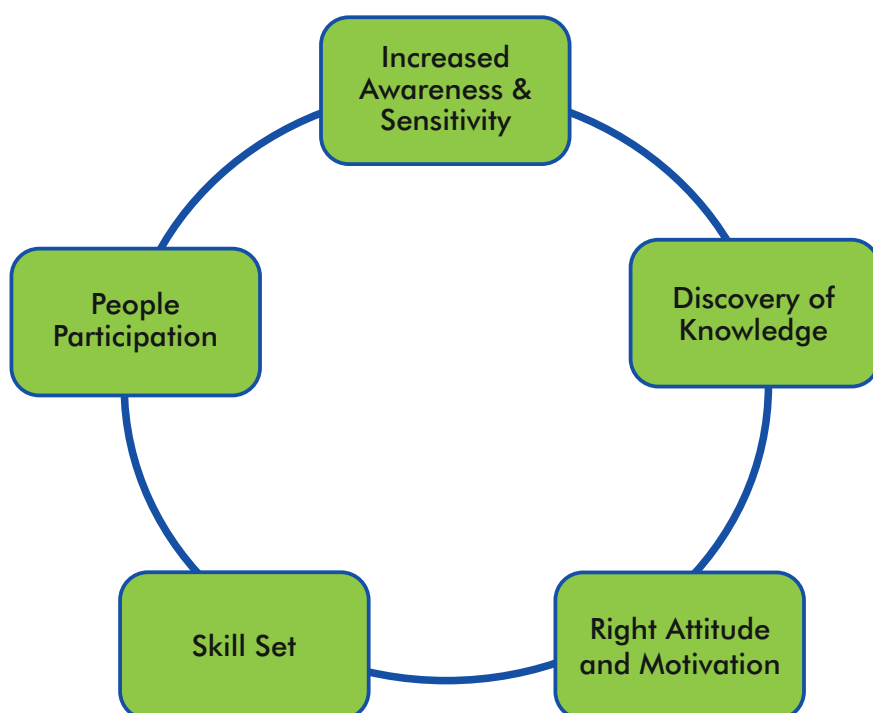
India's education system received a contemporary revamp under NEP 2020 through a strong integration of curriculum framework related to environmental awareness, protection, and sensitivity at the various stages through the introduction of relevant subjects. The idea is to achieve India's future aspirations regards to holistic and multi disciplinary approach towards environment conservation and sustainable development through empowered learners.

Key Recommendations Under NEP 2020 for Environment Protection & Nature Education

- 01 Inclusion of environmental awareness including water and resource conservation
- 02 Introduction of environmental education as a contemporary subject at relevant stages
- 03 Incorporation of traditional Indian knowledge systems and India's future aspirations with regards to environment
- 04 Inculcation of respect for environment
- 05 Suitable Integration of environmental awareness and sensitivity towards its conservation and sustainable development in all B.Ed programmer

The provisions work by using India's traditional knowledge system to create awareness of its future environmental yearnings. In this regard, **CBSE and NCERT will play a crucial role in developing and adopting the curriculum at the school education level.** The various activities such as exhibitions, quiz competitions, workshops, seminars, and expert talks are designed to include **the promotion of Mission LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment) to make conscious use of environmental and natural resources for the promotion of sustainable lifestyles among future generations.**

Methods to Achieve the Goal



The provisions will help to understand the importance and reason for celebrating various events regards to environmental protection and conservation such as Earth Day, World Environment Day, International Day of Forest, and International Day for Biodiversity, among many others. To increase its reach, **the provision of live telecasting of these important celebrations in PM e-Vidya channels has also been made** so that more encouragement and awareness can be brought among children and youths for an action-driven approach to environmental concerns.

Area-specific Action-oriented Project Approach

Climate Change	Pollution	Waste Management	Sanitation
Conservation of Biological Diversity	Management of Biological Resources & Biodiversity	Forest & Wildlife Conservation	Sustainable Development & Living

An innovative, and flexible curriculum has been also designed for Higher Education Institutions by the UGC, including credit-based courses and various project-based community engagement activities. The value-based environment education at the higher education level will draw the attention of Indian youth to find creative solutions to India's present grass root level environmental concerns like rising pollution levels, frequent flooding or drought, rising sea levels, etc in collaboration with various stakeholders such as Central & State Ministries/ Department including the UT administration.

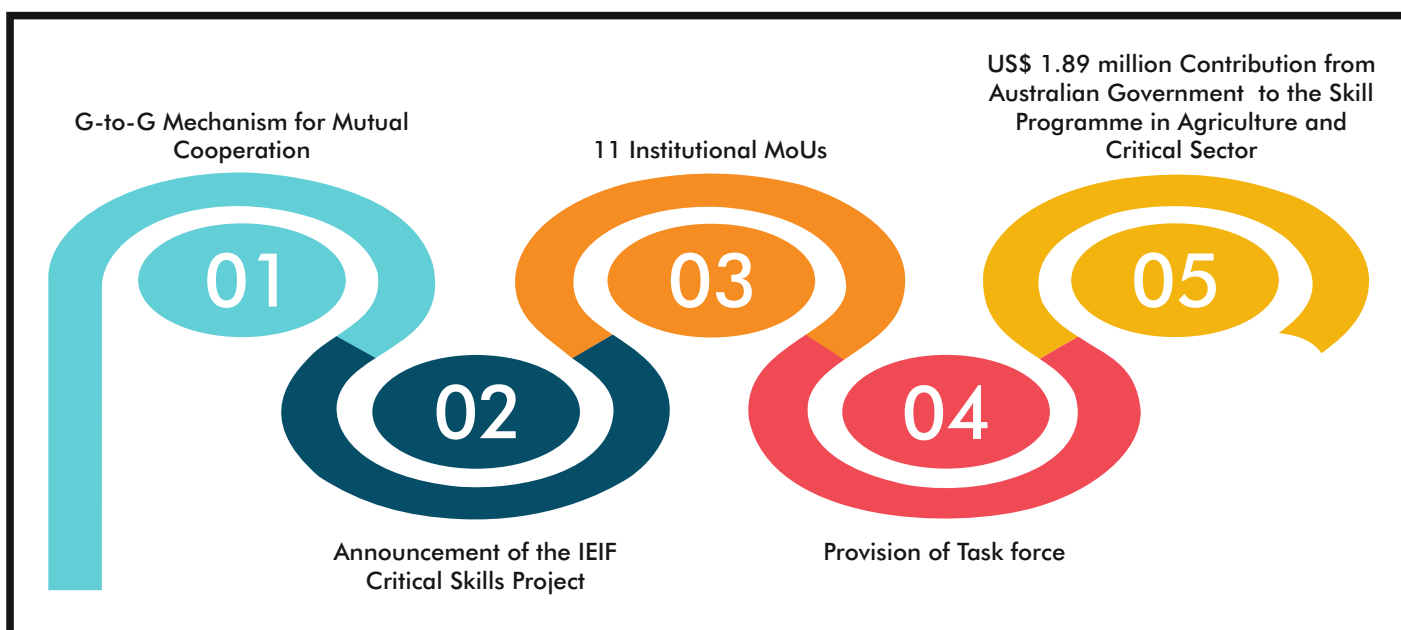
Outline of UG Curriculum Framework for Environment Education by UGC	Humans and the Environment
	Natural Resources and Sustainable Development
	Environmental Issues: Local, Regional, and Global
	Conservation of Biodiversity and Ecosystems
	Environmental Pollution and Health
	Climate Change: Impacts, Adaptation and Mitigation
	Environmental Management
	Environmental Treaties and Legislation
	Case Studies and Fieldwork

The environment-sensitive education will bring a new perspective to the learners and integrate them into community services programs to further increase their employability rate in the new areas of sustainability, environment, and biodiversity conservation among others. These provisions in the education system will bring a fresh view of living life in harmony with nature to the coming generations. That will help to accelerate India's efforts in environment conservation and healthy lifestyle adoption to benefit everyone.

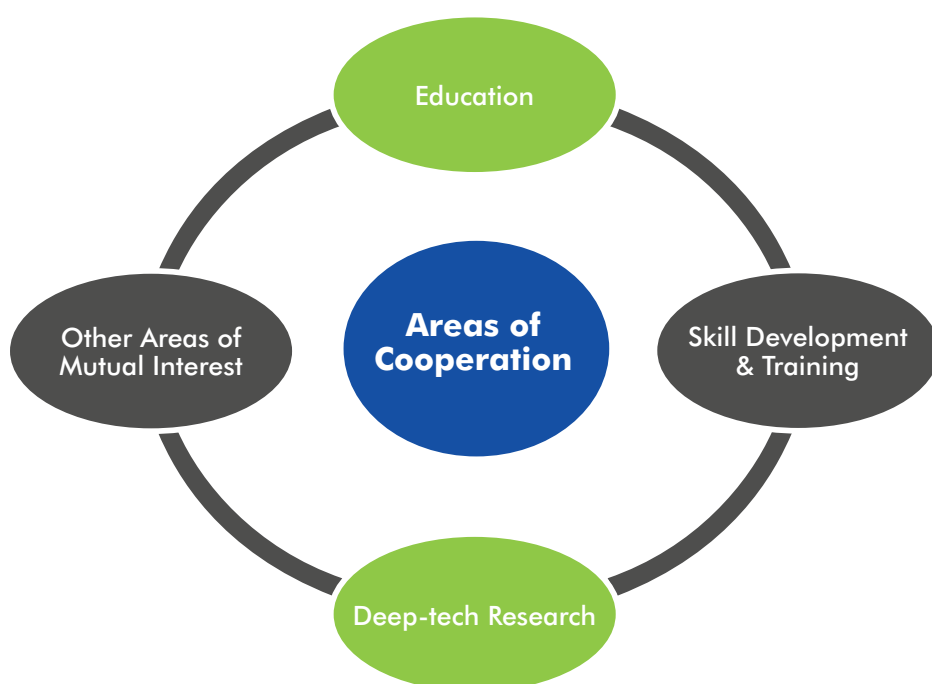
'Framework Mechanism for Mutual Recognition of Qualifications' between India and Australia to Facilitate Mobility

India and Australia have recently signed a **G-to-G 'Framework Mechanism for Mutual Recognition of Qualifications'**. It will ease the mobility of students and professionals for education, research, and employability between the two countries. The bilateral agreement also has the provision of setting up a joint task force for mutually recognizing the qualifications from the universities of both countries.

Major Highlights

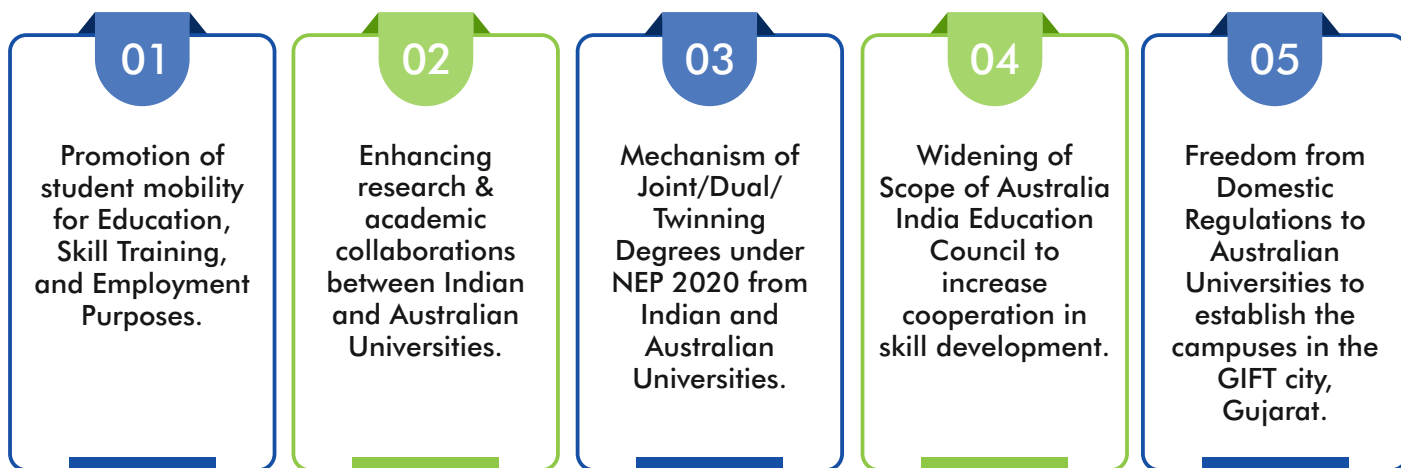


The task force will consist of officials of the Ministries of Education and Skill Development along with the education and skill development regulators of both countries. The development of a comprehensive mechanism will serve the purpose of recognizing different levels of education and skill training for further education and employment purposes that will increase the ambit of opportunities and exposure in various concerned areas.



Under the bilateral agreement, both countries have aligned their priority to strengthen the knowledge pillar as one of the key aspects and **agreed to widen the scope of the Australia India Education Council (AIEC) to include skill development as a new area of cooperation.** This will enable both countries to work on several critical skill projects together. Along with this, **the mechanism to envisage the Joint/Dual/ Twinning degrees under NEP 2020** has also found attention in the collaborations of Indian and Australian universities to ease the student's mobility and accelerate research and innovation.

Key Issues Under Discussion



India's first 21st-century reform in the education sector in the form of the New Education Policy, 2020 has given this breakthrough scope of transforming the arena of opportunities of education, skill development, employment, business, and increasing economic productivity in cooperation with the Australian government. As India has set the target to provide higher and skilled education to 50% of its youth by 2035. This has received an encouraging response from the Australian government and became the breeding ground for this mutual agreement fostering a strong and serious association in revolutionizing the education and skill sector of both countries in the years to come.



'REACHOUT' Scheme for Capacity Building and Promotion of R&D in Earth Sciences

The Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES), has announced the Research, Education, and Training Outreach (REACHOUT) scheme for capacity building in Earth Sciences. The scheme will promote Earth Science, research, education, and training in the country to help the ministry to work on various aspects related to the ocean, atmosphere, geosphere, and biosphere processes, and integrate new concepts and their application in the field of Earth System Sciences. MoES is implementing the umbrella REACHOUT scheme with six sub-schemes.

REACHOUT SUB-SCHEMES

- Research and Development in Earth System Science (RDESS)
- Outreach and Awareness
- Knowledge Resources Centre Network (KRCNet)
- BIMSTEC Centre for Weather and Climate (BCWC)
- International Training Centre for Operational Oceanography (ITCOcean)
- Program for development of skilled workforce in Earth system sciences (DESK)

The primary objective of the Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) is to provide the utmost services in the areas of ocean, weather, climate, hazards (coastal and natural), and sustainable harnessing of ocean resources including the exploration of the polar regions. The aim is to encourage cooperation between academic institutions, industry, and government in India to upgrade the standard of education and research in the area.

Objectives of REACHOUT Scheme

To support various R&D activities in the thrust areas of different components of earth system sciences that are theme and need based, and that would help in attaining the national goals set up for MoES

Develop useful collaboration with international organizations for mutual transfer of advanced knowledge in science and technology in earth science and to provide services to developing countries

Create awareness amongst the public, students, academicians and user communities about the various fields of earth system science as well as on the achievements and services rendered by MoES

Develop a skilled and trained workforce in earth sciences with the support of academic institutions in the country and abroad

The sub-schemes aim to promote research and provide training on atmospheric science and oceanography to the members from India and neighbouring countries including generating awareness amongst students, academicians, and the general public for the achievements and services of MoES. This scheme will supply grants to educational institutions, and industry partners to support research projects, training programs, and outreach initiatives while accelerating the international cooperation and interchange of knowledge and expertise between Indian and foreign institutions.

KeyActivities Under REACHOUT Scheme

Establishment of Centres of Excellence in earth sciences in various academic institutions across India.

Conducting workshops, seminars, and training programs for students, researchers, and professionals in the field of earth sciences.

Provide financial support to students and researchers for attending conferences, seminars and training programs.

Develop and circulate data related to earth sciences educational and training.

The scheme will help in setting up Centre of Excellence (CoE) in earth sciences in various academic institutions across India by providing financial support and helping them in developing and spreading educational and training material. With the support of academic institutions, the ministry aims to develop an expert and trained workforce that can serve its purpose in the future.

**Research, Education
& Training Outreach
(REACHOUT)
Scheme being
Implemented for
Capacity Building**

NIPUN Bharat: Promoting Foundational Literacy and Numeracy for All

The National Initiative for Proficiency in Reading with Understanding and Numeracy (NIPUN Bharat) has been launched by the Ministry of Education, Government of India to achieve the child's ability to read with meaning and answer basic math problems by class 3. **Under the initiative till 2026-27, all children must achieve foundational skills at the end of Grade 3.**

The Education system aims to achieve Foundational Literacy and Numeracy by 2026-27, where, by Grade 3 every child can.....



Read with Comprehension



Write



Basic Mathematical Operations




Learn basic life skills





Source: <https://static.pib.gov.in/WriteReadData/specificdocs/documents/2021/jul/doc20217531.pdf>

The initiative talks about an inclusive classroom environment by incorporating play and activity-based education by associating it with the daily life situations of the children to motivate and engage little keen readers and writers with self-support.



Ministry of Education
Government of India





#NIPUNBHARAT

is the need of the hour

55% of India's school-going children cannot read and understand a short, age appropriate text by Class 5: World Bank's Learning Poverty Index

13-18% students from Class 3, 5, and 8 are below basic learning levels, and only 39-53% have achieved proficiency: NAS 2017

↑ As the above statistics indicate, schooling does not equal to learning

Research suggests that **Class 3 is an inflection point**. Only if children 'learn to read' by then do they 'read to learn'

#NIPUNBharat will help children 'read to learn' so that they don't get left behind

निपुण भारत का सपना
सब बच्चे समझें भाषा और गणना

It will focus on transforming monotonous class education into an integrated, enjoyable, all-inclusive, and engaging education system. This will command teachers to draw up a study plan that encourages the student's literacy and basic language skills at the early stage.

Objectives of NIPUN BHARAT

To make children understand the reasoning in the domains of number, measurements, and shapes; and enable them to become independent in problem solving by way of numeracy and spatial understanding skills.

To enable children to become motivated, independent, and engaged readers and writers with comprehension possessing sustainable reading and writing skills.

To ensure an inclusive classroom environment by incorporating play, discovery, and activity-based pedagogies

To ensure availability and effective usage of high-quality and culturally responsive teaching learning material in children's familiar language

To ensure tracking of learning levels of all students

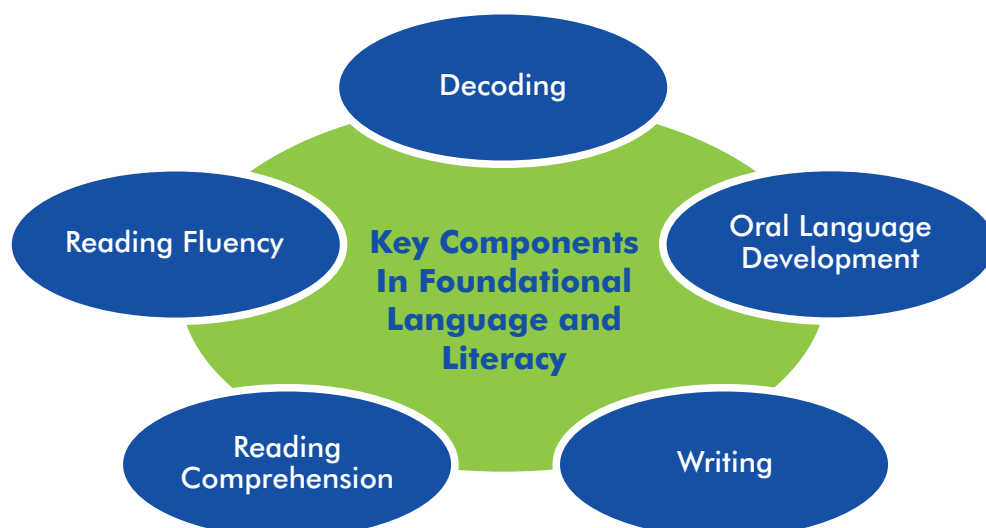
To focus on continuous capacity building of teachers, and education administrative

To actively engage with all stakeholders for building a strong foundation of lifelong learning

To ensure assessments 'as, of and for' learning through portfolios, groups and collaborative work, short test etc

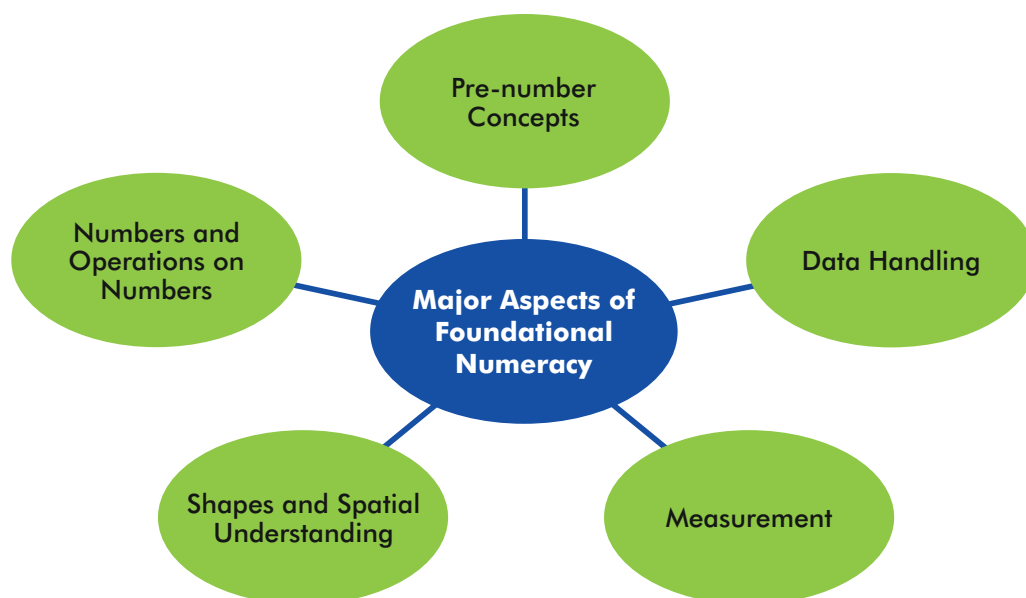
The creative and engaging learning pattern will keep a check on school dropouts and improve the transfer rate from primary to the upper primary and secondary stages. The pre-existing knowledge will help in constructing language literacy skills and provide a strong base for children in their mother tongue.

Key Elements in Foundational Language and Literacy



The foundational numeracy will make children capable to reason and put simple mathematical concepts into solving daily life problems. The growth of the pre-number concept, knowledge of comparing, and pattern recognition during pre-schools will serve as a base for mathematics learning in early primary classes.

Key Aspects of Foundational Numeracy



Moreover, as a part of SmagraSiksha, NIPUN BHARAT will work to engage students to complete their foundational learning along with improvement in learning or training modules. It will enable children to become independent in problem-solving while continuously focussing on the capacity building of teachers, education administrators, and academic resource persons. The activity-based learning in an engaging environment will enhance the quality of education and ensure the socioeconomic welfare of the disadvantaged group to access equitable and inclusive quality education across the country.



Ministry of Education
Government of India

NIPUN BHARAT MISSION

✓ National Initiative for Proficiency in Reading with Understanding and Numeracy (NIPUN Bharat), A National Mission on Foundation Literacy and Numeracy (FLN)

निपुण भारत का सपना
सब बच्चे समझे भाषा और गणना

Expert Insight

India, which is developing at an enormous scale and pace, needs to make sure that the pillars of development are set on a firm foundation. Education happens to be one of the foremost enablers of such a development agenda.

A few decades back, the major issue in the education system happened to be access to primary education. The Government of India took several breakthrough initiatives to mitigate this, thanks to which we stand at a near universal access to Primary Education today. While this is a huge achievement for the nation, it also comes with the realization that it is just the beginning. We now need to tackle a more complex set of issues, revolving around the quality of education, up gradation of institutions and setting up robust governance mechanisms.

Dr V. K. Paul

Member, NITI Aayog
Government of India



Resources

1. <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1882765>
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✉ info@aggrp.in

★ Chennai

🌐 www.aggrp.in

★ Delhi

☎ +91 9810046249

★ Gurugram

☎ 0124 4235267, 011 45356553

★ Hyderabad

★ Imphal



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