

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION  
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION & LITERACY  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 501**  
ANSWERED ON 07/02/2024

**Progress of NIPUN Bharat Mission**

501. Shri Derek O' Brien:

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) the progress of NIPUN Bharat FLN mission (Foundational Literacy and Foundational Numeracy Mission);

(b) the reasons to push back the target date to 2026-27; and

(c) whether the scheme aims on keeping specially abled children in separate institutions or to have them home schooled?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION**

**(SMT. ANNPURNA DEVI)**

(a) & (b): The Department of School Education and Literacy launched the National Mission on Foundational Literacy and Numeracy called National Initiative for Proficiency in Reading with Understanding and Numeracy- NIPUN Bharat on 5th July 2021 under the aegis of Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Samagra Shiksha. The National Education Policy 2020 had recommended that the highest priority of the education system will be to achieve universal foundational literacy and numeracy in primary school by 2025. However, due to prevailing covid pandemic and subsequent closure of schools for a long time, NIPUN Bharat Mission aims that every child in the country necessarily attains foundational literacy and numeracy by Grade 2 by 2026-27. Under Samagra Shiksha, all 36 States/Union Territories are implementing NIPUN-Bharat Mission.

(c) : Education is in the concurrent list of the Constitution and majority of the schools are under the domain of respective State and UT Governments. The NIPUN Bharat Mission as also Samagra Shiksha aims to look at education of Children with Special Needs (CwsN) in a continuum in an inclusive manner.

Under the Inclusive Education Component in Samagra Shiksha, CwSN are provided support via specific student oriented interventions such as identification and assessment camps, provision of aids, appliances and assistive devices, transportation, scribe and escort allowance support, Braille books and large print books for children with visual impairment, stipend for girls with special needs and teaching-learning materials etc. in order to appropriately address their unique educational requirements in general schools. Capacity building of general teachers and special educators on meeting learning needs to provide quality education to children with disabilities and improve their learning outcomes, are also covered. Further, individualized support is also provided through therapeutic interventions at the block level. There is also provision for Home Based Education for children with severe multiple disabilities etc. in order to appropriately address the unique educational requirements of CWSN in inclusive schools

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