

PRESS NOTE

Madhya Pradesh Students Show Steady Progress in Foundational Learning Skills in 2024 Assessment

13 June 2024

Assessment Updates

- MP Education minister, Shri Uday Pratap Singh, unveiled the findings of the 2024 Annual Assessment study as part of the State's FLN flagship programme- Mission Ankur - for children in Grades 2 & 3 under the NIPUN Bharat Mission launched by the Government of India
- The Rajya Shiksha Kendra, Government of Madhya Pradesh conducted a two-week-long annual student learning assessment in February
- For the study, the students in Grades 2 and 3 from all 52 districts and 318 blocks of Madhya Pradesh were surveyed
- About ~34000 students were tested in Grade 2 and ~37000 students were tested in Grade 3 for their foundational skills in Hindi and Math
- The results indicate that students in both Grade 2 and Grade 3 in Madhya Pradesh are on track to achieving the NIPUN goals.
- The State has set ambitious targets for ensuring this for children in Grade 3 in AY 2024-25, with a 60 per cent target for Literacy and a 50 per cent target for Numeracy
- The previous study was conducted in 2022, with 2,853 schools for numeracy and 2,847 schools for literacy.
- In 2024, however, the number of blocks remained the same, but the number of schools increased significantly: the numbers were 4,507 schools for numeracy (**58% increase**) and 4,519 for literacy (**59% increase**).
- This expansion reflects a robust effort to enhance educational assessment and outcomes across the state.

Results: Bright Spots

- The overall findings indicate that Grade 3 students have outperformed Grade 2 students in achieving NIPUN goals. This may be attributed to the fact that Grade 3 students have also received an additional year of NIPUN programming.
- **For Grade 3**
 - Over **39% of students** in over 4,500 schools in Madhya Pradesh are NIPUN in Oral Reading and Fluency (ORF), proficient in reading more than 45 words per minute.
 - Over **22% of Grade 3 students** are proficient in identifying numbers and performing two-digit subtraction.
- **For Grade 2**
 - Over **27% of students** in over 4,500 schools in Madhya Pradesh are NIPUN in Oral Reading and Fluency (ORF), proficient in reading more than 35 words per minute.
 - Over **11% of students** are proficient in identifying numbers and performing three-digit subtraction.
- **Comparison of results from Baseline 2022 and 2024**
 - In a significant stride towards enhancing literacy among Grade 2 students, recent assessments have shown notable improvements from 2022 to 2024.
 - **Literacy improvements:** The competency in word reading increased from 18% to 34%, indicating a growing ability among students to recognise and read words accurately. Sentence reading proficiency also saw a substantial rise, with 42% of

students now able to read all three assessed sentences, up from 30% in 2022. Furthermore, oral reading fluency (ORF), benchmarked at 35 correct words per minute (cwpm), improved from 17% to 23%, demonstrating better overall reading fluency among the students.

- **Numeracy improvements:** Competency in recognising two-digit numbers (up to 99) increased from 35% to 47%, indicating better number recognition. The ability to subtract single digits without carryover (up to 20) saw a dramatic rise from 18% to 65%, reflecting significant progress in basic subtraction skills. Similarly, subtraction of two-digit numbers without carryover (up to 20) improved from 42% to 49%. Most notably, the competency in adding two-digit numbers without carryover (up to 20) surged from 25% to 75%.

Quotations

- **Shri Dhanaraju S. (IAS), Director, Rajya Shiksha Kendra, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh,** stated, *"This comprehensive assessment was possible due to the visionary leadership of Honourable Prime Minister, Narendra Modi ji, following the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, which prioritises achieving foundational literacy and numeracy at the primary level, by 2026-27. The government of Madhya Pradesh made early strides with Mission Ankur in 2022 and is now committed by a single goal- that no child in Madhya Pradesh is left behind. We are seeing shoots of progress in MP and we realise that there is still a lot of ground to cover and we call upon the support of all stakeholders- parents, teachers, children and the community- to support us in our endeavour."*