



Foundational Learning Survey

For Prelims: NCERT, Trends in Survey, Government's Initiatives

For Mains: State of Education in India, Government's Initiatives

Why in News?

Recently, the nationwide **Foundational Learning Survey (FLS)** was carried out jointly by the **Union Ministry of Education** and the **National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT)**.

- **More than 50% of the assessed class III children** from **Delhi** have either **“limited”** foundational numeracy skills or **“lacking the most basic knowledge and skills”**.
- In the **National Achievement Survey (NAS)** also Delhi featured in the **five states with the lowest average scores** in both **Math and Language at the class III level**.

What do we need to know about the Foundational Learning Survey?

- **About: Foundational Learning Survey (FLS)** aims to set-up benchmarks for reading with comprehension in 22 Indian languages.
- **Background:** FLS was undertaken in 2022 as a crucial step towards strengthening efforts for Foundational Literacy and Numeracy (FLN) under the **NIPUN Bharat Mission**.
- **Sample Size:** FLS was carried out among **86,000 class III children in 10,000 schools** in the country.
 - In Delhi, the sample size was 2,945 students from across 515 schools.
- **Categorization:**
 - **Based on children's performances, they were placed in four categories:**
 - Those who lacked the **most basic knowledge and skills**
 - Those who have **limited knowledge and skills**
 - Those who have **developed sufficient knowledge and skill**
 - Those who have **developed superior knowledge**
- **Findings:**
 - **National:**
 - **Overall Figures:**
 - 11% of students lack **the most basic knowledge and skills**.
 - 37% of the students have **limited knowledge and skills**.
 - **Language:**
 - **English:**
 - 15% of students were found to be **lacking even basic skills**.
 - 30% had **limited skills**.
 - 21% had **sufficient skills**.
 - 34% had **fairly superior skills**.
 - **Hindi:**
 - 21% fell under the **worst performing bracket**
 - 32% had **limited proficiency**.

- **States:** In numeracy, **Tamil Nadu (29%) had the maximum number of students** who could not complete the most basic grade-level tasks, followed by Jammu and Kashmir (28%), Assam, Chhattisgarh and Gujarat (18%).
- **Basis of Findings:**
 - Findings of the FLS are **based on interviews with each individual participant.**
 - While the National Achievement Survey evaluated learning outcomes based on Multiple Choice Questions.

What are the Government's Initiatives for the Education Sector?

- **NIPUN Bharat Mission**
- [Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan](#)
- [Mid Day Meal Scheme](#)

What is the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT)?

- **About:**
 - **The National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) is an autonomous organisation** set up in 1961 by the Government of India to assist and advise the **Central and State Governments** on policies and programmes for qualitative improvement in school education.
- **Constituent Units:**
 - **The major constituent units of NCERT which are located in different regions of the country are:**
 - National Institute of Education (NIE)
 - Central Institute of Educational Technology (CIET)
 - Pandit Sundarlal Sharma Central Institute of Vocational Education (PSSCIVE)
 - Regional Institute of Education (RIE)

[Source: IE](#)

PDF Reference URL: <https://www.drishtias.com/printpdf/foundational-learning-survey>