Learning Enhancement under NIPUN Tripura: A Study of Elementary Schools

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Abstract

Elementary Education is very crucial for each child that paves the way towards higher learning.It is a potential instrument that can be used to achieve a more rapid economic, social, political, technological,scientific and cultural development of holy Mother land's. Success and failure of entire education system depends on Elementary Education because it a foundation upon which all other levels of education are built. The prime focuses of this paper is to examine thoroughly the concept of NIPUN,its goals, objectives, key components,New Pedagogical and Curricular Re-Structure, Methodology for Transaction of NIPUN Tripura Programme in Elementary Schools, Role of Teachers, State Government of Tripura policy initiatives in line with National Education Policy 2020.In order to investigate these objectives secondary data have been collected from journals, books, Government & School reports. The findings of this study reveals that execution of NIPUN Tripura programme at Elementary level in each School is being implemented properly with great enthusiasm and zeal that foster a congenial learning environment. It also revealed that students are able to solve numerous problems related to daily life,through activity based learning, play based learning, gaming,learning by doing, questioning, dramatization.Further it also revealed that students are motivated,enthusiastic in their teaching and learning process as well as gaining mastery over learning.

Keywords: *Elementary Education, National Education Policy 2020,NIPUN Tripura*

Introduction:

Education is a Fundamental Right of every Children (Article 21 A) which ensures full human potential, and creating a equitable and just society for the prosperity of national development.National Education Policy-2020 envisages that ensuring universal access of high quality education to each child is the key to Inida's Education system.Through the medium of education countries' rich talents and resources can be fostered for benefits of Individual, Society, Country and World at large.

National Education Policy 2020 comes to light to overhaul the whole educational structure and makes learning Equitable, Holistic, Integrated, Enjoyable and Engaging through its new pedagogical and curricular re-structure. It is the offshoot of National Policy of Education-1986/1992, The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act,2009 in short called it RTE Act-2009 which also talks about the Early Childhood Care &Education (Section-11,Age group starts from 3-6 years.)Now, this notion made stronger in order to build a strong base of education for a child under the umbrella of National Education Policy 2020. National Initiative for Proficiency in Reading with Understanding & Numeracy(NIPUN) is a landmark strides taken by Government of India in line with NEP-2020 ,Ministry of Education to give a strong,

vibrant educational foundation to learners for acquiring the ability to read,write and comprehend basic text and the ability to carry out basic addition and subtraction with Indian numerals by Grade 3 and subsequently it has been adopted by pan Indian States and named it according to the respective State's name in our case is NIPUN Tripura.

Rationale of the Study: Education is a viable tool through which we can mould the character of future generation. Informal education received by the children first in the lap of family has tremendous effect on his/her character and personality. Contribution of school is taken into account more potent next to family from where the journey of formal education has been started for all. Pre-Schoolingand Elementary Education are considered very crucial for shaping the one's educational foundation. If right type of educational foundation has not been built, then only there is high possibility of being dropping out of students from the main stream of education. In order to catch up the students in the main stream there is need a sportive, integrated and engaging education system that cater the individual needs of the students in consonance with 21st century skills. That is why after 34 years later it is felt by the Nation that past educational structure need to be revised, revamp, overhaul, re- configured as a result 'National Education Policy 2020' was introduced which suggested a new Pedagogical and Curricular restructuring for all level. It is evident from the National Education Policy 2020 that nearly 5 cores students have not attend foundational literacy and numeracy that drastically impact on the pan Indian Educational landscape.The National Initiative for Proficiency in Reading with Understanding and Numeracy(NIPUN) is a landmark educational mission has been launched by Ministry of Education Govt.of Inida to ensure that every Child at Primary School will have acquired the ability to read and comprehend basic text as well as the ability to do simple addition and subtraction with Indian number system after going through the right type of strong foundational education system introduced in line with NEP-2020 by the end of Grade-III. With the help of NIPUN a holistic, enjoyable, equitable and integrated leaning atmosphere can be underpinned that will facilitate lifelong learning for all.

Objective: The main Objectiveof the study is to examine thoroughly the concept of NIPUN, its goals, objectives, key components, New Pedagogical and Curricular Re-Structure, Methodology for Transaction of NIPUN Tripura Programme in Elementary Schools, Role of Teachers, State Government of Tripura policy initiatives in line with NEP-2020

Methodology of the Study: Objectives of thepresent study clarify that it seeks to examine the concept of NIPUN, its goals, aims, key components, New Pedagogical and Curricular Re-Structure, Methodology for Transaction of NIPUN Tripura Programme in Elementary Schools, Role of Teachers, State Government of Tripura policy initiatives in line with NEP-2020.Therefore, the researcher has adopted theoretical description followed by documentary reviews was found to be the most effective method. The study was purely qualitative in nature because data collection process and analysis were fully.

depending on previously published documents like, policies, books, State Govt. of Tripuar's School Education website, journals, chronicles, related to the topic.

Discussions & Findings:

What does NIPUN mean?

The National Initiative for Proficiency in Reading with Understanding and Numeracy(NIPUN) is a landmark educational mission has been launched by Ministry of Education Govt.of Inida to ensure that every Child at Primary School will have acquired the Foundational Literacy and Numeracy skills by 2025.

NIPUN Tripura Goals: The targeted goals of NIPUN Tripura have been enumerated in below;

At Grade I

- Children can discuss with their friends and class Teachers about their needs and environment.
- Children can discuss about the pictures and printed things which are present in classroom.
- Children can recite Rhymes, poems and songs along with gestures.
- Students will acquire the ability to read small sentences that consist at least four to five simple words from unknown text as per age appropriate
- Children can participate in loud reading &story telling. In between story-telling and after finishing they can able to answer questions.
- Children can express meaning of things by writing and painting as well as able to write the name of things in worksheet.
- Children will acquire the ability to read and write numbers up to 99.
- Students will have the ability to read and write numerals up to 99
- Children can able to perform simple addition and subtraction.

At Grade II

- Children can discuss and talk about the pictures and printed things which are available in classroom.
- Children can able to ask questions.
- Children can able to participate in discussion.
- Children can recite poems and songs.
- Children can able to recall known words used in stories, poems and pictures.
- Children can able to read stories from text book and re-tell the same.
- Children can able to read with meaning 45-60 words per minutes.
- Children can able to express himself /herself by using simple and small easy sentences in writing.

- Children can able to read and write numbers up to 999.
- Children can able to add and subtract numbers up to 99.
- Children can able to use situational words like far/near, in/out, up/down, right/left, front /back etc.

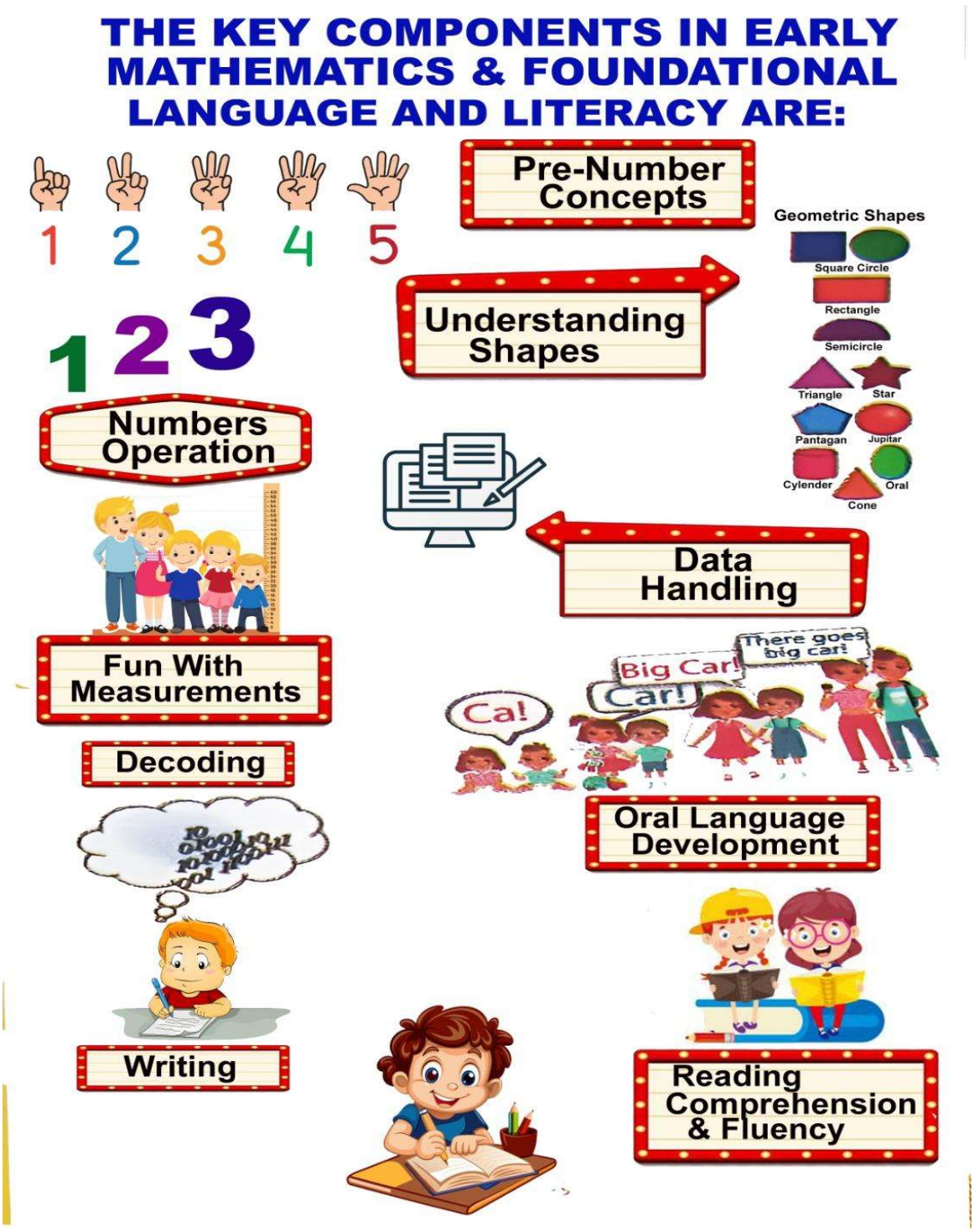
At Grade III

- Children can able to read with meaning at least 60 words per minute.
- Children can discuss and talk about the pictures and printed things which are available in classroom.
- Children can able to ask questions, exchange experience, listen to other speech and participate in discussion.
- Children can able to write small messages for serving various purposes.
- Children can able to identify various shapes and patterns.
- Children can able to perform division and multiplication by using Table 1 to 10.
- Children can able to read and write numbers up to 999.
- Children can able to solve simple multiplication problems.
- Children can able to search information from known text books.

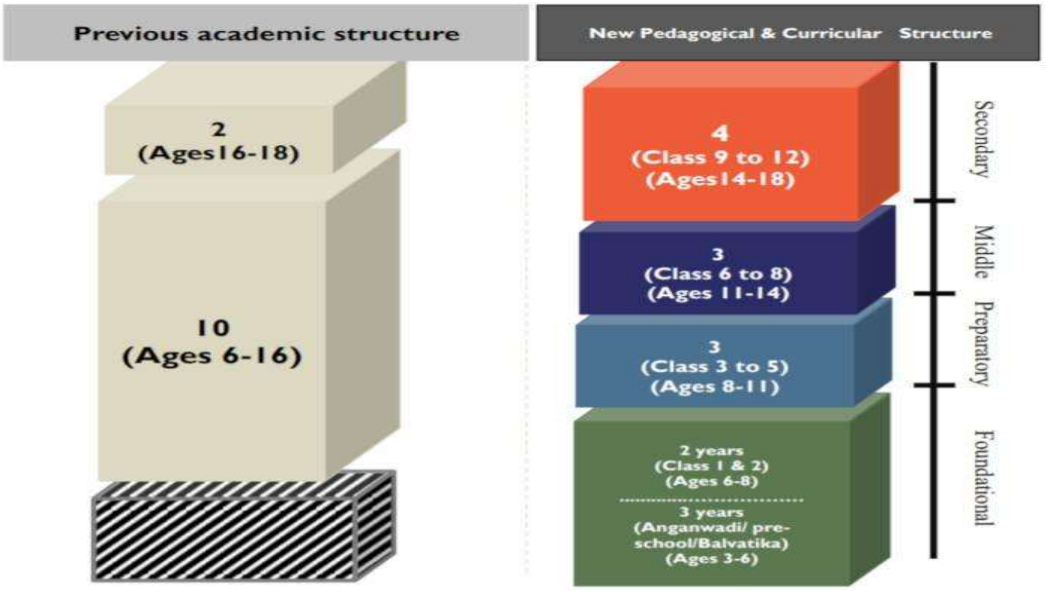
NIPUN Tripura objectives to Transform Primary School Education by 2026-2027

- Desired learning competencies like, Reading, Writing and Numeracy will be achieved by each child at the end of Grade III by 2026-2027, it is a prime aim.
- Strong base at ECCE (Early Childhood Care and Education) has been provided.
- To ensure an inclusive classroom environment in all Government and Government Aided Schools.
- Vidya Setu module has been introduced as preparatory, in the Class I which enables the child to comprehend all essential knowledge and skills before they enter into the higher grades, it is working a bridge in their path.
- It facilitates every child to become motivated, independent learners, writers and engaged readers with comprehension.
- To make children comprehend with domains of Number, Measurement and shapes.
- It envisages available high quality and effective culturally responsive Teaching and Learning Materials(TLMs)will be in used.
- To focus on continuous capacity building of Teachers, HMs, Academic Resource persons and Educational Administrators.
- To actively engaged with all stakeholders for building a strong foundation of lifelong learning.
- To ensure learning Assessments.
- To ensure tracking of learning levels.

The key components in Early Mathematics & Foundational Language and Literacy are;



New Pedagogical and Curricular Re-Structure: National Education Policy 2020 envisages the extant 10+2 structure in school education will be modified with a new Pedagogical and Curricular restructuring of 5+3+3+4 covering ages 3 to 18 as shown in the representative figure ;



Methodology for Transaction of NIPUN Tripura Programme in Elementary Schools: The State Government of Tripura has been given initial Rupees **8000/-** to each Elementary school and Elementary schools attached with High & Higher Secondary schools for procuring the rationalized material in order to smooth transaction of NIPUN **Tripura** Programee under the umbrella of NEP 2020 throughout the State. First of all, NIPUN Tripura goals has been put on wall in Class-I, II &IIIby the school itself. Second, a rationalized list of materials has been shared for buying learning materials which are in line with NIPUN. These are ,Thick Wax Crayon, Drawing files , Origami sheet ,paint brushes, Colored Chalks, Sketch color Pens, Gule,Tape,Markers, Child friendly scissors, Big scissors, stapler & Pins, Rubber Bands, Paint poster Colors, Chat papers, Sand papers, white cartridge sheet, Ice-cream stick,Ganit Mala,Mesuring Tape,Beads & strings,Play currency notes and coins, Jodo straws,letter cubes,story books,soft ball, magnifying glass, musical instruments ,plastic balls,flexi wires,different kind of dice, Geometrical instruments, Braille writing slate, skipping rope ,mind mingle,puzzle(map of Inida), puzzle(animal tray),spoon,plate etc. All these material must be kept in a clean place in the classroom I & II and named it as NIPUN corner as well as allow each child to used these materials alone or in group to make whatever they want to make as per their Creative Talent, artistic view, interest etc. Restrictions cannot be imposed on using these materials to students. Access facilities can be provided up to Class I to Class II. Students cannot be restricted in pre –dominated classroom activities. They have been given opportunities to think out of the box and prepared various things as they wish as well as like and connect it with their daily life activities. Furthermore, a book corner has been introduced in a classroom by keeping

child friendly story books, images of Indian great luminaries and allied. By using these materials students can make their own imaginary portraits or geometrical shapes and nurture their creative potentialities as well as reading story books facilitates language development of child. A Teacher in the classroom just guides the children and observed what they are making and continuously encourages them to be stuck in learning by doing activities. By using these materials students are really doing well and express themselves.

In addition to, a 5 day,2-day orientation and Training have been given to all Teachers' irrespective of category at Elementary level for their Continuous Professional Development(CPD) in line with NEP 2020.These orientation and Training provide facilities to Teachers to acquaint with diverse pedagogical learning techniques and its applications, also to have a better understanding about child psychology. In between the course the Department of School Education, Govt. of Tripura has been taken a assessment test to each Child to check whether students have been moving forward as per the NEP 2020 mandate or not by its machinery and also identify the stages in which they belong to as well as marked the lack and work on its progress through appropriate strategies.

Moreover, The State Government of Tripura has been sanctioned its 2nd installment **Rupees 10,000/-** to each Elementary school and Elementary schools attached with High & Higher Secondary schools for procuring above mentioned materials widely. Recently the Department of School Education has distributed NIPUN related materials for Class-I & II to each School in order to draw out its main extract.

Role of Teacher:

- Use maximum culturally responsive TLMs to make teaching and learning more enjoyable, more vivid and more lively
- Use innovative teaching strategies to make learning Holistic, Integrated, Enjoyable and Engaging.
- To check regular progress of each student by giving simple oral reading activity, writing, playing, drawing and manipulating things etc.
- To identify strength and weakness of each child and provides appropriate remedial measures provided that Student are unknown, that they are being observed in the classroom.
- To boost up the morale of each child by giving examples of various luminaries of the motherland.
- To teach as per the principles of psychology of learning.
- To acquaint the child with Alphabet and basic Numeracy.
- To Teach the child through dramatization, recitation, role pay etc
- To develop basic habits & values among the students like washing hand before eating, using soap after using washroom, cooperation, sharing attitude, group activities, don't cut nails by tooth, cleanliness, wear clean dress etc.

- To break down the teaching content into small bit.
- To linkup the teaching content with daily life activities.
- To encourage local languages & Cultures in the classroom.
- To teach the content with fun.
- To incorporate vivid & concrete examples in teaching.
- To linkup the past knowledge with present context.

State Government of Tripura policy initiatives for NIPUN Tripura in line with NEP-2020

- State level Committee, PMU (Project Management Unit), ATF (Academic Task Force) are in function to boost up the NIPUN Programme across the State
- Foundational Literacy and Numeracy(FLN) Cell has been established and 4 Sub Committees namely(a) TLM/TPD (Teacher Professional Development), (b) Assessment, (c)Monitoring, (d)Goal Setting and monitoring teams are formed at State Level.
- District level Steering Committees has been creating.
- NIPUN's Lakshyas poster from Balvatika to Grade-III has already been shared to all District in Tripura.
- A Website and Youtube Channel were created to make awareness on NIPUN works& vision in Tripura State.
- NIPUN logo designed to dedicate States' NIPUN works.
- Tripura's Signature programme Vidya Setu (School Preparation) module was being introduced, compressing of Teachers hand books, lesson plans, workbooks & TLMs.
- The NIPUN Bharat (Tripura) Pakhwada/mela in schools were done in Schools, Panchayat Ghar/ Community Centres/Chaupal etc
- Workshop has been conducted in each District to sensitize the Teachers, Stakeholders on NIPUN Bharat Mission
- Mission Mukul was launched to accelerated the Foundational Literacy and Numeracy(FLN) programme inTripura, AWC workers will be trained as supplementary resources by SCERT in collaboration with Social Welfare and School Education department. In addition to,2-3 AWCs will be tied up with nearby Government School which will be treated as Nodal School for FLN purpose.
- 'Saksham Tripura' a newly scheme has been launched for the development of Divyang Children with special needs Tripura' in consonance with NIPUN effectiveness as supplementary support.
- IT based solution to improvise the child wise tracking & monitoring is an another initiative
- Tabs have been distributed to each Elementary Teacher who are teaching from Grade-I to Grade-V.
- To conduct monitoring visit in each Elementary School to check the current status of NIPUN Programme through its Project Management Unit(PMU)

Conclusion:

To sum up it can be rightly said that NIPUN Tripura programme has given a new avenue to Elementary Education that leverage the learning objectives as determined in National Education Policy 2020.Introduction of New Pedagogical and Curricular re-structure has drastically changed the pattern of education through which the holy Mother Land's Children will be getting age appropriate education in conjunction with 21st century skills & needs.

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