

# Samagra Shiksha Scheme

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**Why is in news?** National Education Policy, 2020 provides for setting up a Gender Inclusion Fund (GIF) especially for girls and transgender students to provide them equitable quality education

The National Education Policy (NEP), 2020 focuses on 'Equitable and Inclusive Education' which reverberates the idea that no child should be left behind in terms of educational opportunity because of their background and socio-cultural identities.

It has taken into account the **concerns of the Socio-Economically Disadvantaged Groups** (SEDGs) which includes female and transgender individuals.

In addition, NEP prescribes to approach gender as a cross-cutting priority to achieve gender equality in education with the partnership of states and local community organizations.

National Education Policy, 2020 provides for setting up a Gender Inclusion Fund (GIF) especially for girls and transgender students to build the nation's capacity to provide equitable quality education for all girls as well as transgender students.

The objectives of NEP for equitable and quality education for girl children are being met through specific provisions **under Samagra Shiksha 2.0** by allocating dedicated resources for Socio-Economically Disadvantaged Groups (SEDGs)

Under Samagra Shiksha, **various interventions have been targeted for providing quality education to girls**, which include opening of schools in the neighbourhood to make access easier for girls, free uniform and text-books to girls up to class VIII, additional teachers and residential quarters for teachers in remote/hilly areas, appointment of additional teachers including women teachers, stipend to CWSN girls from class I to class XII, separate toilets for girls, teachers' sensitization programmes to promote girls participation, gender-sensitive teaching-learning materials including text books etc.

# About the scheme:

It is an **integrated scheme for school education** covering complete **pre-primary to senior secondary** (up to class 12th).

# It is a **Centrally Sponsored Scheme**.

The main emphasis of the Scheme is on **improving the quality of school education** by focussing on the **two T's** – **Teacher and Technology**.

The scheme mainly aims to support States in the implementation of the **Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009.** 

<u>**Objectives**</u>: To implement SDG 4, Right to Education and New Education Policy in an inclusive way by emphasising pre-primary school and vocational education.

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It will also help fulfil the goals of AtmaNirbhar Bharat.

# Aims:

to universalize access to school education;

to promote equity through the inclusion of disadvantaged groups and weaker sections, and

to improve the quality of education across all levels of school education.

#### Components of the Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) 2.0:

In order to **enhance the direct outreach of the scheme**, all child-centric interventions will be provided directly to the students **through DBT** [or direct benefit transfer] mode on an IT-based platform over a period of time.

This DBT would include RTE entitlements such as textbooks, uniforms and transport allowance.

Keeping with the NEP's recommendations on **encouraging Indian languages**, it has a new component for appointment of language teachers, which includes salaries, and training costs as well as bilingual books and teaching learning material.

It will have the **NIPUN Bharat initiative for foundational literacy and numeracy**, which will get an annual provision of ?500 per child for learning materials, ?150 per teacher for manuals and resources and ?10-20 lakh per district for assessment.

As part of digital initiatives, there is a **provision for ICT labs and smart classrooms**, including support for digital boards, virtual classrooms and DTH channels.

It includes a provision to **support out of school children from age 16 to 19** with **funding of ?2000 per grade** to complete their education via open schooling.

It also has a provision for **an incentive of up to ?25000 for schools** that **have two medal-winning students at the Khelo India school games** at the national level.

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