

Mizoram Declared First Fully Literate State

Prelims: Social Development | Current events of national and international importance.

why in news?

Mizoram became the first Indian state to achieve 98.20% functional literacy under the ULLAS - Nav Bharat Saaksharta Karyakram.

- Mizoram was officially declared a **fully literate state** by Chief Minister Lalduhoma.
- It is the **first state in India** to achieve **100% functional literacy**, surpassing the **95% benchmark** set by the Ministry of Education.

Functional literacy refers the ability to use reading, writing, and arithmetic skills effectively in daily life

- **Periodic Labour Force Survey** - It reported a literacy rate of 98.20%, for Mizoram in 2023-24.
- Earlier, **Ladakh** had become the first fully literate **UT** in June 2024.

*Mizoram has historically ranked high in literacy — **91.33%** as per the **2011 Census**, the third-highest in India.*

- **Adoption of ULLAS Nav Bharat Saaksharta Karyakram** - Mizoram implemented the central government's literacy programme effectively.
- **Door-to-Door Literacy Survey** - A comprehensive survey was conducted in 2023 by Cluster Resource Centre Coordinators (CRCCs).
- It identified 3,026 non-literate persons in the state and intervened with necessary Literacy & Numeracy skills.
- **Community Involvement and Volunteerism** - A total of 292 volunteer teachers (students, educators, officials) participated in the campaign.

**ULLAS - Nav Bharat Saaksharta Karyakram
(New India Literacy Programme)**

- **ULLAS** - *Understanding of Lifelong Learning for All in Society*.
- It is a centrally sponsored scheme on Education for All (erstwhile known as Adult Education).
- It has been approved by the Government of India with a financial outlay of Rs.1037.90 crore for implementation during FYs 2022-23 to 2026-27,
- It is aligned with the recommendations of National Education Policy (NEP) 2020.
- The scheme is targeted at all non-literates of age 15 years and above.
- It focuses on **five key components**:
 - Foundational Literacy & Numeracy
 - Critical Life Skills
 - Basic Education
 - Vocational Skills
 - Continuing Education
- The scheme is to be implemented through **volunteerism**.
- The learners will be encouraged to access the content in local languages in online mode through DIKSHA platform in NCERT.
- **Implementation Units** - Government/Aided schools registered under UDISE.

Reference

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