**PERFORMANCE GRADING INDEX (PGI) 2.0 REPORT**

NEWS: Recently, the **Performance Grading Index (PGI) 2.0 report** was released by the **Union Ministry of Education.**

**WHAT'S IN THE NEWS?**

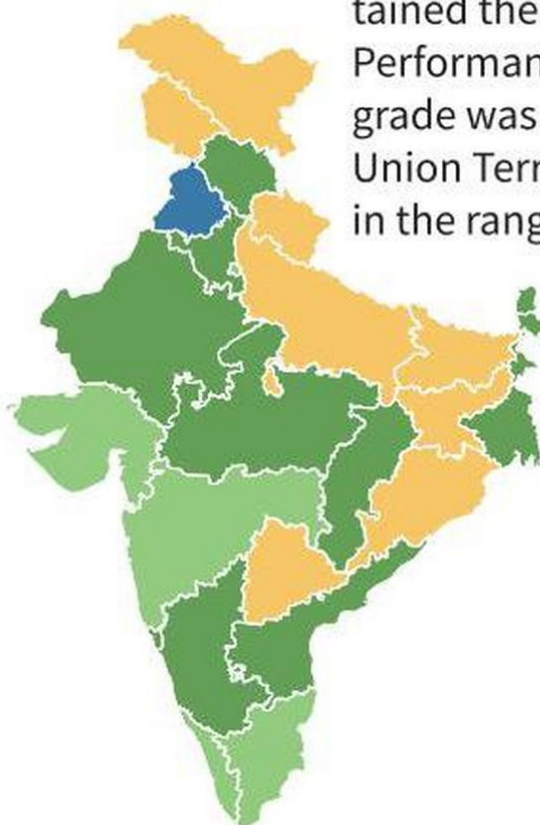**Overview of the Performance Grading Index (PGI)**

- The **Performance Grading Index (PGI)** is an evaluation framework developed by the **Ministry of Education, Government of India** to assess the performance of **States and Union Territories (UTs)** in delivering quality school education.

- It was first released for the year **2017-18**, focusing on evidence-based policy formulation, data-driven governance, and improving education outcomes.

- The PGI uses data sourced primarily from **UDISE+ (Unified District Information System for Education Plus)**.

**PGI 2.0 – Revised Framework (From 2021-22)**
- The PGI was upgraded to **PGI 2.0** to align with the **National Education Policy (NEP) 2020** and **Sustainable Development Goal 4 (SDG 4)**.

- It places greater emphasis on **quality of education**, beyond just access and infrastructure.

- The revised structure uses a **1,000-point grading system** with **73 indicators** categorized under two major areas:

  - **Outcomes** (Learning, Access, Equity, etc.)

  - **Governance and Management (GM)**

# Grading education

None of the States/Union Territories attained the highest grade (941-1,000) in the Performance Grading Index. The top-most grade was achieved by only two States/Union Territories, Punjab and Chandigarh, in the range of 641-700

| Grade colour | Grade score | No. of State/UTs |
|---|---|---|
| | 941-1,000 | 0 |
| | 881-940 | 0 |
| | 821-880 | 0 |
| | 761-820 | 0 |
| | 701-760 | 0 |
| | 641-700 | 2 |
| | 581-640 | 6 |
| | 521-580 | 13 |
| | 461-520 | 12 |
| | 401-460 | 3 |

■ The PGI score is the aggregate score of six domains of educational attainment of States/Union Territories: Learning outcomes, access, infrastructure and facilities, equity, governance processes and teacher education & training

**Domains of PGI 2.0**
- **Learning Outcomes (LO):** Measures student performance in key subjects and foundational skills.

- **Access (A):** Tracks enrolment, transition rates, and retention across grades.

- **Infrastructure & Facilities (IF):** Reviews availability of basic services like toilets, drinking water, electricity, etc.

- **Equity (E):** Evaluates reduction of disparities in education based on social and economic background.

- **Governance Processes (GP):** Assesses school management, leadership, data systems, and transparency.

- **Teacher Education & Training (TE&T):** Examines teacher qualifications, in-service training, and classroom effectiveness.

**Grading System in PGI 2.0**
- The grading scale ranges from **Akanshi-3 (lowest)** to **Daksh (highest)**.

- **Daksh grade** is awarded to states scoring **above 940 out of 1000**.

- **Akanshi-3** reflects scores **below 460**, indicating urgent need for intervention.

- Other intermediate grades (Grade 1 to Grade 9) show varying levels of progress in school education.

**Key Highlights: PGI 2022-23 & 2023-24**
- **Best Performer: Chandigarh** scored 703 and was graded under **Prachesta-1**, with top rankings in governance, infrastructure, and teacher training.

- **Significant Improvement: Bihar and Telangana** improved access to education through better enrolment and retention strategies.

- **Lowest Performer: Meghalaya** scored 417 and was placed in the **Akanshi-3** category.

- **Other low performers:** Telangana, Assam, Jharkhand, Tripura, Manipur, Chhattisgarh, and Bihar were in **Akanshi-2** grade.

**Domain-wise Performance**
- **Learning Outcomes:** No state achieved the top "Daksh" grade. Though Chandigarh, Punjab, and Puducherry performed better, foundational literacy and numeracy remain weak.

- **Access:** Odisha attained "Daksh" in access. Bihar and Jharkhand made notable strides in enrolment and retention.

- **Infrastructure & Facilities:** Chandigarh led this domain; Delhi and Jammu & Kashmir followed closely with improvements in toilets, electricity, and digital tools.

- **Equity:** All states showed incremental improvements in educational access for marginalized groups like SC/ST students.

- **Governance:** Chandigarh was again the top performer, highlighting strong administrative systems.

- **Teacher Education & Training:** Chandigarh secured "Daksh" grade with high scores in in-service training and teacher qualifications.

**Structure and Status of School Education in India**

- India has **24.8 crore students** in **14.72 lakh schools**, supported by over **98 lakh teachers** (UDISE+ 2023–24).

- School education is divided into:

    - **Pre-Primary:** Play schools, Kindergarten

    - **Primary:** Classes I–V

    - **Upper Primary:** Classes VI–VIII

    - **Secondary:** Classes IX–X

    - **Higher Secondary:** Classes XI–XII

**Types of Schools**
- **Government Schools:** Represent **69%** of total schools, enrolling about **50%** of all students.

- **Private Schools:** Comprise **22.5%** of schools, enrolling **32.6%** of students (Economic Survey 2024–25).

- The NEP 2020 targets **100% Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER)** in school education by 2030.

| Scores (% of total points) | Score range | Grade | Names of States/ UTs attaining the respective Grades | Total number of States/UTs |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 91% to 100% | 941-1000 | Daksh | None | NIL |
| 81% to 90% | 881-940 | Utkarsh | None | NIL |
| 71% to 80% | 821-880 | Atti-Uttam | None | NIL |
| 61% to 70% | 761-820 | Uttam | None | NIL |
| 51% to 60% | 701-760 | Prachesta -1 | Chandigarh | 1 |
| 41% to 50% | 641-700 | Prachesta -2 | None | NIL |
| 31% to 40% | 581-640 | Prachesta -3 | Punjab, Delhi, Gujarat, Odisha, Kerala, DNH&DD, Haryana, Goa, Maharashtra & Rajasthan | 10 |
| 21% to 30% | 521-580 | Akanshi-1 | Puducherry, Himachal Pradesh, A&N Islands, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Lakshadweep, West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, Sikkim, Uttar Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Uttarakhand & Ladakh | 14 |
| 11% to 20% | 461-520 | Akanshi-2 | Telangana, Assam, Jharkhand, Tripura, Manipur, Chhattisgarh, Bihar, Nagaland, Mizoram & Arunachal Pradesh | 10 |
| Up to 10% | 401-460 | Akanshi-3 | Meghalaya | 1 |

**Enrolment, Dropouts, and Retention**
- **Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER)**:

    - Primary (Classes I–V): 93%

    - Secondary (Classes IX–X): 77.4%

- Higher Secondary (Classes XI–XII): 56.2%

- **Dropout Rates (2023-24):**

  - Primary: 1.9%

  - Upper Primary: 5.2%

  - Secondary: 14.1%

- **Retention Rates (2024–25):**

  - Primary: 85.4%

  - Elementary: 78%

  - Secondary: 63.8%

  - Higher Secondary: 45.6%

## Learning Outcomes and Quality Challenges
- Around **60% of Grade I students** struggle with basic addition.

- **50% of Grade III students** are unable to read a Grade I-level text.

- The quality of teaching is uneven, with **over 1 million teacher vacancies** and many untrained teachers.

- Pupil-Teacher Ratio (PTR) averages **1:30** at primary level, but increases to **1:47** at senior secondary level.

## Infrastructure and Digital Access
- **96% of schools** have girls' toilets.

- **91.8% have electricity**, but only **38.5% have computers**, and **22.3% have internet access**.

- **DIKSHA platform** is now used in all schools, helping in e-content delivery and teacher training.

## Key Government Schemes & Initiatives
- **Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan:** Unified scheme from pre-primary to Class XII focusing on infrastructure, inclusion, and digitalization.

- **PM SHRI Schools:** Aim to develop over **14,500 NEP-aligned model schools** with labs, smart classrooms, and skill training.

- **PM POSHAN (Mid-Day Meal):** Nutritional meals for pre-primary to Class VIII students; includes **Tithi Bhojan** and **nutrition gardens**.

- **ULLAS (Adult Literacy):** Targeting 15+ aged non-literates; over **2 crore learners and 88.89 lakh certified literates** by 2024.

- **NIPUN Bharat:** Aims to achieve **Foundational Literacy & Numeracy (FLN)** by Grade 3 by 2026–27.

## Digital and Inclusive Innovations
- **APAAR ID:** A universal student ID (7 crore issued) to track academic journey.

- **PARAKH:** India's national assessment centre, standardising evaluations across states.

- **Eco Clubs & Mission LiFE:** Promote sustainability themes in schools.

- **PM-JANMAN and DA-JGUA:** Focus on education for tribal groups through hostels and outreach.

## Notable State-Level & Global Innovations
- **Mission Ankur (MP & Gujarat):** Personalized foundational learning.

- **Mission Daksh (Bihar):** One-on-one mentoring for lagging students.

- **Illam Thedi Kalvi (TN):** Volunteer-led learning post-COVID.

- **Shanti Bhavan School (TN):** Holistic education for the underprivileged.

- **The Khan Academy Model (USA):** Flipped classrooms using online resources.

- **Green School (Bali):** Environmental education with sustainability as the core.

- **Reggio Emilia Approach (Italy):** Inquiry-based early learning with creativity at its centre.

## Challenges in School Education
- **Learning Deficits:** Persisting low levels of foundational literacy and numeracy.

- **Dropouts:** Sharp decline in retention after Class VIII, especially among girls.

- **Teacher Shortage:** Over 1 million posts are vacant; uneven deployment across regions.

- **Poor Infrastructure:** Many schools lack basic facilities for CwSN and digital education.

- **Gender Inequality:** Cultural and economic barriers restrict girls' education, especially in rural areas.

- **Digital Divide:** Limited computer and internet access hampers online learning, especially in remote areas.

- **Weak Monitoring:** Inadequate real-time data and accountability structures delay timely interventions.

## Way Forward
- Strengthen **Early Childhood Education** (0–6 years) to build a strong foundation.

- Bridge the **digital divide** through better internet and ICT infrastructure in rural schools.

- Scale up **teacher training** using digital platforms like **DIKSHA**, **NISHTHA**, and **PRERANA**.

- Ensure **inclusive education** for Children with Special Needs with assistive tech and infrastructure.

- Promote **Social-Emotional Learning (SEL)** and life skills to improve student well-being.

- Increase **vocational training** in school curricula to align with the future workforce.

- Focus on **NEP 2020 implementation** through schemes like **PM SHRI** and NIPUN Bharat.

Source: https://theprint.in/education-2/chandigarh-tops-meghalaya-at-bottom-of-centres-school-education-performance-grading-index/2662706/