

Bhasha Sangam initiative

In order to celebrate these unique features of our country, the **Bhasha Sangam initiative** under the "Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat" ushers in a programme for schools and educational institutions to provide multilingual exposure to students in Indian languages listed in Schedule VIII of the Constitution of India.

This initiative is just the beginning of a journey meant to create interest in these languages and a curiosity to learn more. It will be followed by other activities subsequently.

The Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) has suggested all the heads of the CBSE schools to follow Bhasha Sangam Initiative. All the students of class 10 and 12 who are studying under CBSE board will get the opportunity to explore the various languages under the Schedule VIII of the Constitution of India.

Objectives

- To introduce school students to all the **22 Indian Languages of Schedule VIII of the Constitution of India**.
- To enhance linguistic tolerance and respect, and promote national integration.

Features of Bhasha Sangam

- This will be run by the **State/UT Department of School Education**.
- A short dialogue consisting of five simple, commonly used sentences has been designed in **22 languages for use by students of all classes**.
- Sentences from **each language are to be shared with student's everyday for 22 working days**. Everyday only one language will be shared.
- A digital book with audio recordings of the dialogues is available on the websites <http://epathshala.gov.in/> so that students can hear the correct pronunciations.
- A mobile app is also made available to access the e-resources.

Suggested activities

- The 5 sentences pertaining to the language of the day should be read out e.g. Assamese on day 1, Bengali on day 2 etc., in the morning assembly, and students asked to repeat them. In case there is any student from that State, e.g.
- Senior students may be encouraged to create posters on these sentences, these can be put up all over the school.
- Teachers may address the students and converse with them in the language of the day, and encourage students to do the same.
- Students may be encouraged to share these sentences with their families at home.
- The schools may carry out other activities related to this initiative

Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat

- The '**Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat**' programme was announced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in October 2015 on the occasion of the 140th birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. Subsequently, Finance Minister Arun Jaitley announced the initiative in his Budget Speech for 2016-17.
- The programme aims to actively enhance interaction between people of diverse cultures living in different states and union territories in India, with the objective of promoting greater mutual understanding amongst them.