



Punjab Sikhiya Kranti

Sikhiya Darpan: A Quarterly Newsletter

Journeying through the achievements of Punjab's Schools



Date: 7 May 2025 | Wednesday

Vol : 1 No. 3



Department of School Education Punjab



@schooledu_pb



@department_of_school_edu_pb

Punjab government appoints over 3,000 New ETT Teachers

To further enhance the quality of education in Punjab, the state government is set to appoint **3,381 new Elementary Teacher Training (ETT) teachers**. This significant move aims to improve the education system across schools by addressing the need for qualified teaching staff.

In the first phase, **951 teachers received their appointment letters** in March 2025, marking a pivotal step towards fulfilling the state's educational goals. The second phase will soon see an additional 2,430 teachers joining the workforce.

A Commitment to Merit and Transparency

The appointments are made based on merit, with no room for corruption or nepotism. This initiative demonstrates the government's commitment to ensure transparency in hiring practices and providing equitable opportunities to the youth.



Parents being attended by ETT Teachers



An ETT Teacher attending a student

Teachers as Catalysts for Change:

The newly appointed ETT teachers are expected to be catalysts for an educational transformation. Their focus will be on improving learning outcomes while ensuring that teaching remains their primary responsibility, free from the burden of non-teaching tasks that have previously hindered their effectiveness. This initiative reinforces the government's commitment to revamping Punjab's education sector.

Under the administration of CM Bhagwant Mann, Punjab has appointed 3,381 ETT teachers through a transparent, merit-based process, completed in two batches having 951 and 2,430 teachers respectively. Over 35 months, **the government has provided 50,892 jobs, out of which 11,000 in the education department alone**, demonstrating a firm commitment to fairness and integrity in public service.

Punjab's Sikhiya Kranti continues: A new batch of teachers embarks on Transformative Finland training journey

Punjab's Teachers Head to Finland for Advanced Training

As part of its ongoing efforts to enhance the quality of education, the Punjab government has sent **72 primary school teachers to Finland** for a two-week training program at the University of Turku in March 2025. This initiative builds on the success of the first batch that traveled in October 2024 and is aimed at equipping teachers with global best practices.

By undergoing training in Finland, Punjab's teachers will gain exposure to innovative teaching methodologies and effective use of digital learning, which can be adapted to their classrooms to create a more engaging and effective learning environment.

Sustainable Impact through 'Train the Trainer'

A key component of the program is the "Train the Trainer" approach, ensuring that the knowledge gained by participating teachers is shared with their peers. This will help improve the teaching standards across Punjab's primary schools and create long-term positive changes in the education system. This initiative reflects Punjab's commitment in adopting innovative educational strategies to enhance student learning outcomes.



Hon'ble CM Bhagwant Mann sends Off 72 Teachers to Finland for 2- week Training program

161 government schools awarded for excellence in education with ₹11 Crore prize money

In a landmark recognition of quality and commitment in public education, Punjab School Education Minister **S. Harjot Singh Bains** honoured **161 government schools** with the **Best School Award**, with a **total prize money of ₹11 crore**. The award ceremony was held at MC Bhawan to celebrate schools that have demonstrated excellence in academics, community engagement, and infrastructure.

The awards were given to **92 schools for the academic session 2023-24** and **69 schools for session 2024-25**. These included primary, middle, high and senior secondary schools. **As per the award structure, primary schools received ₹2.5 lakh, middle schools ₹5 lakh, high schools ₹7.5 lakh, and senior secondary schools ₹10 lakh each.** Selection was done through a merit-based system focusing on key parameters such as student performance, attendance, school infrastructure, and community participation.



Hon'ble Education Minister S. Harjot Singh Bains appreciating school principals.



Hon'ble Education Minister S. Harjot Singh Bains appreciating school principals.

Congratulating the award-winning schools, S. Harjot Singh Bains said these schools would serve as role models for others across the state. He encouraged school heads to continue leading change under the Punjab Government's education reforms and contribute to the vision of Rangla Punjab. He also announced the government's plan to introduce a State-Level, 'Best School Award' from the next academic session.

Secretary School Education, Ms. Anindita Mitra, inspired teachers with the words of Nelson Mandela: **"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world."** She urged educators to continue shaping an inclusive and forward-looking society. Special Secretary School Education Rajesh Dhiman and Director School Education (Elementary) Paramjit Singh were also present to honour the schools and their contributions. This recognition not only celebrates excellence but also encourages a spirit of healthy competition, collaboration and continuous improvement across government schools in Punjab.

Super school campaign: Empowering parents, enriching early learning



Tableau (Thanki) presented by the Amritsar District Administration highlighting Project Aarambh's theme

Project Aarambh: The Government of Punjab, in collaboration with the Punjab Development Commission, SCERT, and Rocket Learning, launched **Program Aarambh**, a pathbreaking initiative to transform Early Childhood Education (ECE) across the state. The program places parents at the center of the learning journey for children aged 3 to 6 years, acknowledging the crucial role families play in child's cognitive, social, and emotional development during these foundational years.

Program Aarambh bridges the gap between home and school learning by equipping parents with simple, accessible tools and resources. Through the use of WhatsApp-based learning groups, parents receive regular learning activities and messages that help them support their child's growth at home. This low-tech yet powerful digital strategy has ensured strong educator-parent communication and increased their involvement in the early learning process.

Launching Super School Campaign: A key milestone under Project Aarambh was the launch of the **Super School Campaign** on 2nd February 2025. Rolled out across 8 districts, the campaign engaged **5,047 pre-primary schools** in recognizing and celebrating schools that demonstrated high levels of parental involvement. A total of **1,347 schools were awarded the title of "Super School"** for either involving at least 10 parents per school or achieving 100% parental engagement based on enrollment.

The campaign not only highlighted the power of community participation in early education but also built healthy competition and motivation among schools to strengthen the home-school connection. Super Schools have set a benchmark in demonstrating that when schools and families work together, early learning becomes stronger, more joyful, and deeply impactful.



ਜਿਲਾ ਪ੍ਰਸ਼ਾਸਨ ਅੰਮ੍ਰਿਤਸਰ ਵੱਲੋਂ ਚੰਗਾ ਪ੍ਰਦਰਸ਼ਨ ਕਰਨ ਵਾਲੇ ਅਧਿਆਪਕਾਂ ਦਾ ਸਨਮਾਨ

"My son Sahibjot happily participates in the activities shared on WhatsApp. Earlier, it was a challenge to make him sit and do homework in a notebook, but now he enjoys learning through activities on the phone."

— **Rimpi Rani, Parent, Sante Majra, Kharar**

19,000+ SMCs unite to strengthen school governance. "School da Badlav, SMC de Naal"



SMC of GSSS GAG KALAN, Ludhiana during Mega SMC Meeting

In a historic move to strengthen community participation in school governance, the Department of School Education, Punjab conducted a statewide Mega School Management Committee (SMC) Meeting on 11th February 2025. For the first time, **over 1.68 lakh SMC members from 19,000+** government schools convened on a single day under the theme **"School da Badlav, SMC de Naal"**. The agenda for the Mega SMC Meeting was 'School Safai, School Vadhaai' (Promoting Cleanliness and Sanitation across schools).

Well-Planned Execution and Active Participation

In the weeks leading up to the Mega SMC Meeting, guidelines on conducting Mega SMC meeting were shared, and DEOs were oriented to ensure smooth execution. Schools sent personal invites and WhatsApp nudges to engage SMC members. On the day, school heads led discussions, recorded key points, and officials conducted site visits, enabling real-time support and feedback.

Key Highlights of the Mega SMC Meeting:

- **19,110** government schools conducted SMC meetings on the same day.
- Over **1.68 lakh SMC members participated actively**.
- **73,961** community members participated in the Mega SMC Meeting
- **8 to 9 SMC members per school**, attended the meeting.
- **85% of schools conducted physical rounds** to inspect facilities; 86% reviewed drinking water, 82% assessed sanitation areas.
- More than **90% of SMCs reported** discussion of cleanliness of the school as the agenda for the Mega SMC meeting.
- State and district officials visited schools, monitoring proceedings and offering support on the day of Mega SMC meeting.



SOE Karampura, Amritsar conducting Mega SMC Meeting as per the suggested agenda.



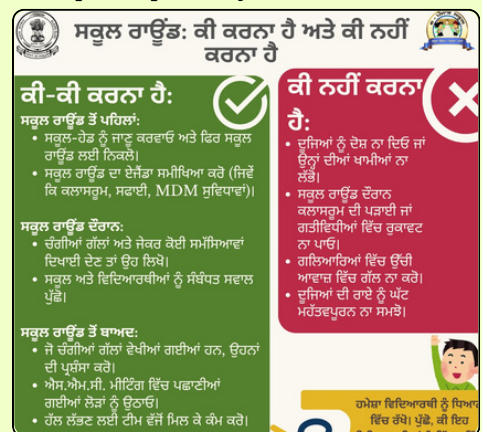
SMC Members of SOE Bagrian, Malerkotla conducting school rounds

Unique practices followed in the Mega SMC Meeting:

- 'Video invitations from state leaders' and 'student voice notes' to encourage SMC participation.
- DEOs conducted district-level orientations and school visits, sharing best practices observed.
- The principals, BPEOs, and BRCs were oriented on SMC Meeting guidelines & meeting plan by the DEO (Secondary) Ludhiana and Pathankot to ensure thorough preparations for the Mega SMC Meeting.
- Certificates awarded to active SMC members; welcoming environment created with nameplates and displays.
- Regular WhatsApp nudges with reminders, resource links, and motivational messages were sent to school heads and officials to ensure timely preparation and maximum SMC participation.



Public invites were released to increase participation of SMC Members



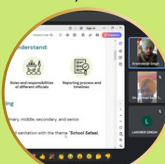
School Round checklist for SMC members to conduct school round

GPS Faridpur, Patiala



Panchayat & SMC unite for school development talks

Ludhiana, Pathankot



Online School Head orientation by DEOs

GHS Barth Sahib, Pathankot



Honoring SMC Members with nameplates

SOE Chhajli, Sangrur



SMC's door-to-door outreach boosted student attendance

Aviation in action: Chuck glider session at SOE Ghanauri Kalan



Prof. Rajkumar Pant explaining the working of Chuck Gliders

Highlights of the session:

- **Expert-Led Learning:** The event featured an insightful lecture by Prof. Rajkumar Pant, Faculty of Aerospace Engineering, IIT Bombay, who simplified the science behind aircraft flight.
- **Huge Participation:** Students from 20 schools in the district took part, making this one of the most impactful aeronautical science sessions.
- **Practical Demonstration:** A live hang glider demonstration helped students observe real-time flight mechanics.
- **Interactive Engagement:** The event concluded with a Q&A session, where students interacted with experts, deepening their understanding of aviation technology.

The Department of School Education, Punjab, is committed to providing students with engaging and experiential learning opportunities in STEM education. As part of this effort, a **Lecture-Cum-Demonstration Session on Chuck Gliders** was organized at the School of Eminence, Ghanauri Kalan, with support from the Bharti Airtel Foundation. **300+ students from 20 schools attended the session.**

A Chuck Glider is a lightweight, hand-launched aircraft that demonstrates basic principles of aerodynamics, including lift, thrust, and air pressure. **By engaging with these simple flying models, students were taught the fundamentals of flight mechanics,** making complex scientific concepts more accessible and enjoyable.



Students sharing their learnings after the session

"The Lecture-cum-Demonstration on Chuck Gliders inspired students to explore aerodynamics, fostering curiosity and opening pathways to careers in aviation and engineering."

– Khushdeep Goyal, Principal, School of Eminence Ghanauri Kalan, Sangrur

184 Government school students crack JEE Mains through free PACE coaching

In a remarkable achievement, **184 students from Schools of Eminence and Meritorious Schools have successfully qualified for the JEE Mains Phase 1 Examination.** For many of these students, the dream of cracking JEE seemed distant, not because of a lack of talent or determination, but due to financial constraints and the absence of structured guidance. Due to economically weaker background, it was difficult for the students to afford private coaching, which has long been considered a necessity for success in highly competitive exams like JEE.

Recognizing this gap, the Department of School Education, Punjab, stepped in with a transformative initiative; the **Punjab Academic Coaching for Excellence (PACE) Program.** This initiative provided free, high-quality coaching to government school students, ensuring they received structured guidance, expert mentoring, and rigorous training comparable to that of their private school counterparts.



Student attending coaching in residential camps



Doubt clear sessions during residential coaching camps.

Additionally, the department organized **Residential Coaching Camps,** offering an immersive learning experience where students could focus entirely on their preparation. These camps were designed to provide expert-led coaching sessions by faculty from renowned institutions like **Physics Wallah, Avanti Fellows, and Vidya Mandir Classes.**

184 students defied the odds and cleared JEE Mains, proving that with the right support and opportunities, talent can shine regardless of socio-economic background.

Their success is not just an individual triumph but a testament to the impact of inclusive educational policies and targeted interventions. It reflects the potential of government school students when given the right sources and guidance. As these students now prepare for JEE Advanced, the Punjab government remains committed to ensuring that no deserving student is left behind, empowering them to chase their dreams and redefine what is possible.

Business Blasters: Building future entrepreneurs in Punjab's government schools

The **Business Blasters** program, introduced in government schools across Punjab, is **shaping the next generation of problem-solvers** and innovators. Designed to build entrepreneurial mindsets and strengthen 21st-century skills like creativity, collaboration, and critical thinking, the program has engaged thousands of students through structured activities, real-world projects, and regular mentorship.

A key highlight of the program was the organization of **School Melas**; **vibrant exhibitions where students presented their ideas and projects to peers, teachers, and community members**. These Melas gave students a platform to showcase their creativity, explore local challenges, and present innovative business ideas. District Commissioners, District Education Officers, school heads, and local leaders attended these events, encouraging students and appreciating their efforts.



DC Patiala visits SOE Pheel Khana and motivates Business Blasters students.



Students gaining hands-on BB Mela experience.

A total of **₹10.31 crores** in seed money was disbursed to **51,565 selected students**. With this support, students developed real business ideas and models, which were then showcased at the School Melas. From solving local issues to building creative solutions, the students demonstrated how young minds can come up with powerful ideas when given the opportunity.

The program also helped students develop essential life skills. Working in teams improved their communication, cooperation, and leadership abilities. Facing real audiences to explain their ideas gave them the confidence to speak clearly and think on their feet.

The top-performing teams from each school will now move forward for additional support under the Sarvo Udhyaam program, where they will receive advanced mentoring to take their ideas to the next level.

Through the Business Blasters initiative, Punjab's government schools are proving that with the right support, students can become confident thinkers and doers, ready to take on challenges and create solutions that matter.

BUILDING FUTURE CHAMPIONS

Strengthening schools through community participation: GHS Barth Sahib & GMS Cemetery Road

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

Two schools in Punjab GHS Barth Sahib, Pathankot, and GMS Cemetery Road, Ludhiana are setting strong examples of how active School Management Committees (SMCs) and community involvement can transform government schools.

At **GHS Barth Sahib**, the SMC is taking a lead role in **improving enrollment, building a positive school image, and sustaining a strong alumni network**.

The SMC also organizes regular orientation and awareness sessions to ensure parents are informed and engaged.

The Mega SMC Meeting held at the school was attended by **DEO Mr. Rajesh Kumar**, where issues like cleanliness, washrooms, sports facilities, and menstrual hygiene were discussed, and handed Certificates of Appreciation to the SMC members.



Mega-SMC Meeting at GHS Barth Sahib



SMC Members being felicitated by DEO Ludhiana at GMS Cemetery Road

Similarly, at **GMS Cemetery Road**, Principal Mrs. Charanjit Kaur has built a culture of mutual respect and partnership with the SMC. She ensures the committee is involved in all school matters and recently invited the **DEO Ms Dimple Madan** to recognize the SMC's contributions. Their regular visits and suggestions have improved school functioning and helped increase student enrollment. SMC members, especially **parents Mrs. Deepika Jain and Mrs. Deepika Goyal**, are also leading **gender sensitization sessions, encouraging young girls to pursue their goals confidently**.

Both schools demonstrate how committed leadership and an empowered SMC can work together to improve infrastructure, boost enrollment, and build a supportive learning environment. Their efforts show that when schools and communities join hands, meaningful and lasting change is possible.

State Consultation on Gender Transformative Approach in NEP 2020

On 26th March 2025, the State Council of Educational Research and Training (SCERT) in collaboration with Breakthrough organized a State Consultation to explore the integration of a gender transformative approach **into the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020**. The consultation brought together a diverse group of stakeholders, including educators, administrators, policymakers, and civil society representatives, all united by a shared goal—making education in Punjab more inclusive and equitable.

The discussions focused on **how gender-sensitive practices can be embedded in classrooms, curriculum, pedagogy, and school governance**. The event featured two focused panel discussions. The first panel, comprising academic experts, delved into the theme of inclusion and equity through classroom practices, curricular materials, safety measures, and co-curricular activities. The second panel, with participation from administrative and governance officials, explored how institutional processes can be designed to support gender integration across the education system.

Participants emphasized the importance of revisiting current education policies and classroom practices to **identify gender biases and barriers**. The need for systematic monitoring of classroom interactions, integration of gender modules in teacher training, and creating support structures like counseling services were discussed in detail. The role of the **Gender Inclusion Fund (GIF) in developing a state-specific curriculum and the establishment of a Gender and Diversity Resource Centre (GDRC)** were proposed as concrete steps forward.

One of the strongest messages from the consultation was the importance of community and parental involvement. It was suggested that School Management Committees (SMCs) and Parent-Teacher Meetings (PTMs) be trained and engaged in conversations around gender equity, making them active partners.



The NEP 2020 State Consultation panel

PUNJAB SIKHIYA KRANTI IN NUMBERS



21,23,566

Students received school uniform



51,565

Students selected for seed money under Punjab Young Entrepreneurship



16,722

Schools with upto 100 MBPS internet connectivity (Work in progress)



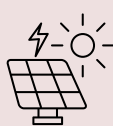
6,298

Schools with Computer Labs



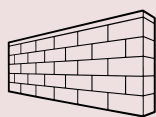
19,076

Schools with Smart Classrooms



4,375

Schools with Solar Panel installed



1,125

Kilo Meters of Boundary wall (Under construction in 7082 schools)



2,042

Schools with Campus Managers (Hiring in process)



8,502

Schools with Sanitation Workers

Data Source: Department of School Education, Punjab

Training Gender Champions for Inclusive Education

The State Council of Educational Research and Training (SCERT) in collaboration with Breakthrough conducted a successful two-day training for Gender Champions on 18th and 19th March 2025. In that event we have participation of 47 Gender Champions, including representatives from SCERT Mohali and others from various DIETs across Punjab. The training aimed to **equip participants with the skills and knowledge to promote gender equality and inclusivity in educational institutions**.

The training effectively empowered Gender Champions to advocate for **gender-sensitive pedagogy and inclusive learning environments**, fostering systemic change in Punjab's educational landscape.



Participants engaged in training activities.

“I believe that the gender norms for which we often encourage students to challenge must be revisited by us. In today's context, most of the gender norms are outdated and people are taking stock of them. We must actively work to redefine gender norms in the pretext of the 21st century.
- DIET Faculty (A Participant)

We'd love to hear from you! Share your thoughts, ideas, or the amazing work you're doing at schoolofeminencepunjab@gmail.com

Disclaimer: Details and photos in this newsletter are for informational purposes. We recommend verification before usage.