

## NISA Governing Council



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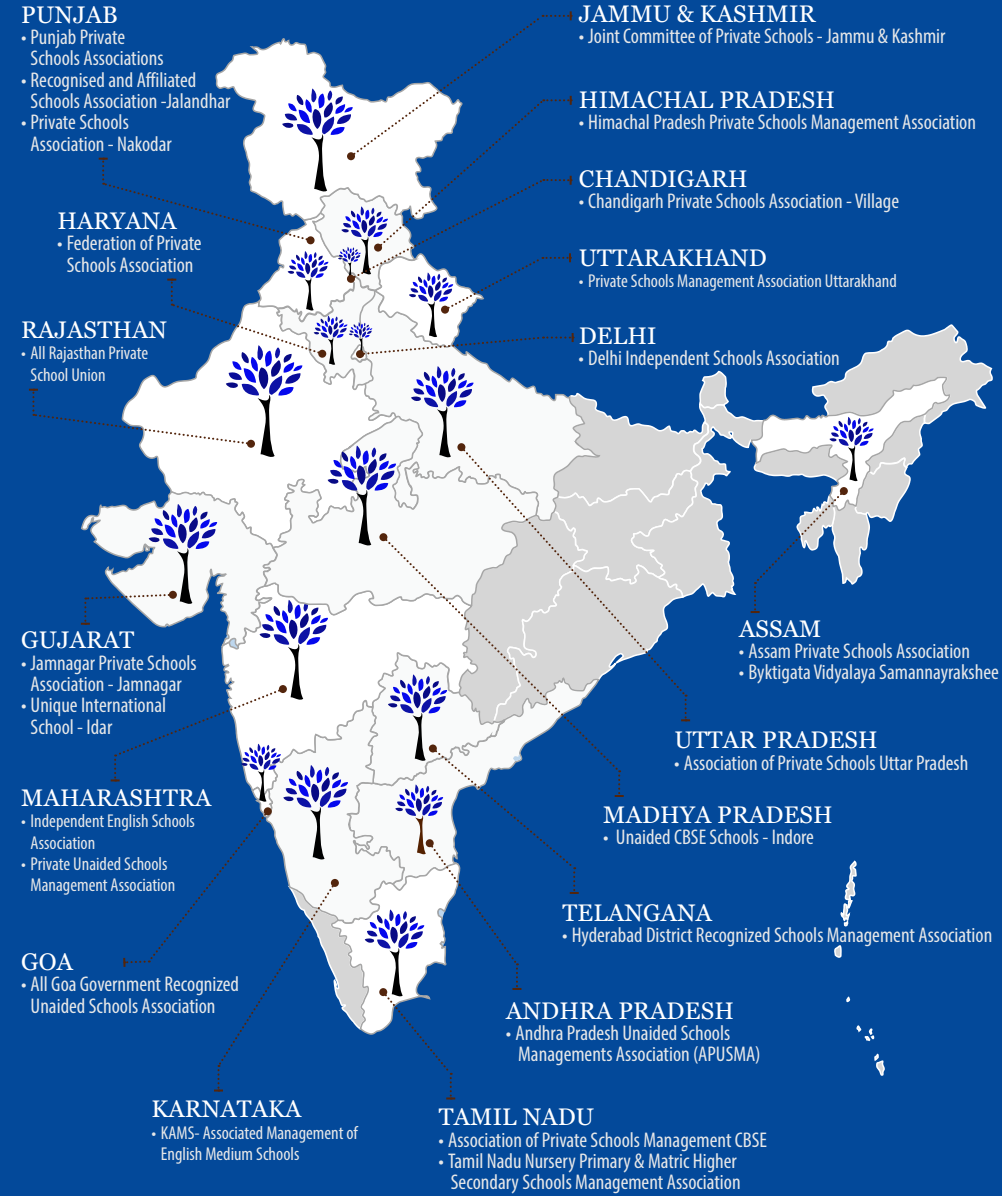


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## Member State Associations



## Bringing together Budget Private Schools (BPS) from across the country

to give them a unified voice to address their concerns about regulatory challenges and to facilitate quality improvement in schools.



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## About NISA

National Independent Schools Alliance

The National Independent Schools Alliance (NISA) is a platform that brings together budget private schools (BPS) from across the country to give them a unified voice to address their concerns about regulatory challenges and to facilitate their quality improvement. At NISA, we are touching new horizons with each passing day.

As of today, NISA represents

19 States

23 State Associations

55,000 Schools

22 million children



NISA is striving for a systemic change with its focus on building a strong platform for creating awareness around Budget Private Schools (BPS). It aspires to achieve policy change and improve school quality through

- Advocating for policy reforms
- Creating an ecosystem for School Quality Improvement



## How NISA Started

In the year 2011, school leaders from several states came together in Delhi to discuss challenges of Budget Private Schools. Lack of a credible national platform to present the voice of Budget Private Schools was identified and therefore NISA was created. Centre for Civil Society has been offering assistance to NISA with secretarial support.



## Why NISA

Budget Private Schools (BPS) as of today are a reality one can hardly overlook. BPS have come across as a natural response of edupreneurs to meet the urgent education needs of the nation. There are approximately 3 lakh such budget private schools in the country today. Operating on wafer thin margins, their emphasis has been on learning outcomes rather than mere infrastructure and facilities. Systematic research has shown that they produce the same or marginally better learning outcomes as the government schools, but at only one-third the cost (Study by Karthik Muralidharan).

Despite all the advantages, Budget Private Schools today are facing a threat of closure due to the norms laid down under the Right to Education Act, 2009. Considering the pivotal role they play in expanding the access of education to the poorest in India, it becomes imperative that a platform like NISA represents their concerns, which will positively affect the larger education space in the country.



## AREAS OF WORK

### Advocacy

NISA engages with Central and State governments, policymakers, judicial experts and other key stakeholders, with an objective to reform policies that affect the functioning of BPS. Through one-on-one meetings, policy round tables, state as well as national level meetings, publications and needs based campaigns, NISA advocates for a shift of focus from input based to learning outcome based regulations. NISA's advocacy work is supported by strong primary and secondary research that focuses on needs of Budget Private Schools and challenges in regulations. As a part of its advocacy campaign, NISA has published a coffee table book titled BOONDEIN, which captures stories of fortitude and showcases the essence of these schools. The NISA member state associations are also in the process of publishing similar state-level books highlighting the contribution of budget private schools and edupreneurs of their respective states.



### Improving Quality of Education in BPS

NISA engages with the school community to foster commitment towards improvement in quality of education in BPS. NISA also carries out research in BPS to identify the requirements and challenges of school leaders vis-à-vis quality of education. Through its online platforms, publications, national and state level meetings of school leaders; NISA provides space to service providers to present innovative products to the schools. NISA through collaboration, also engages with school leaders to avail services of external agencies to work on some of the key aspects of quality improvement such as teachers' training, school leadership training, safety and hygiene improvement, etc.

