

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION & LITERACY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-3224
ANSWERED ON 29/03/2023

SURVEY BY NCERT

3224. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that as per a survey conducted by the NCERT in 2022, 37 per cent of students enrolled in Class III have limited foundational numeracy skills while 11 per cent lack the most basic knowledge and skills;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that as per the survey, at the national level, 11 per cent did not have the basic grade-level skills, 37 per cent had limited skills, 42 per cent had sufficient skills, 10 per cent had superior skills; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the action being taken by Government in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
(SMT. ANNPURNA DEVI)

(a) to (d) : Foundational learning Study (FLS) : an assessment & benchmarking study for foundational learning was administered in March, 2022 by NCERT at the national level. FLS was conducted in 20 different languages. Approximately 86,000 grade 3 students from 10,000 schools were covered. As an important literacy skill, FLS 2022 assessed 'Reading with understanding and numeracy' skill of class 3 students. Pertaining to the linguistics differences in languages, benchmarks have been calculated distinctly for each of the 20 languages that aim to interpret the performance of the students in reading with understanding/comprehension in each of them. The survey results reflected that there is a requirement to improve the levels. These can be accessed at https://dsel.education.gov.in/fls_2022.

The National Initiative for Proficiency in Reading with Understanding and Numeracy (NIPUN) Bharat Mission has been launched for the period 2021-22 to 2026-27 on 5th July 2021 which aims to ensure that all the children achieve foundational learning standards by the end of grade 3, by the year 2026-27. Apart from that Vidya Pravesh that is a 3-month play based school preparedness programme for children entering grade I has been designed to help teachers ensure that all children are exposed to a warm and welcoming environment when they enter grade- I, leading to their smooth transition to formal school. The National Curriculum Framework for Foundational Stage (NCF-FS) was launched on 20th October 2022 which includes engaging Teaching-Learning Material (TLM) both for teachers and students, teacher capacity building programme, assessment and pedagogical approaches to guide the nature of syllabus, textbooks and other resource material for teaching and learning in the country to be used at the foundational stage. Jaadui Pitara was recently released on 20th February, 2023 for the foundational stage under the NCF-FS with the motto "Learning through play". It is an exemplar of content needed in any school for the Foundational Stage. National Initiative for School Heads' and Teachers' Holistic Advancement (NISHTHA) training programmes in FLN and ECCE are being run to train teachers across the country.
