

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION & LITERACY**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 397
TO BE ANSWERED ON 5.2.2018**

ASER Report

397. SHRI CH. MALLA REDDY:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the key findings of the Annual Status of Education Report (ASER);
- (b) whether the Government has accepted the findings of the ASER Report;
- (c) if so, the details of action taken/being taken by the Government in this regard;
and
- (d) whether the Government is considering instituting a periodic survey on the same pattern to reach a wider audience and if so, the details thereof ?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA)**

- (a) to (c). Achievement surveys are released in the Annual Status of Education Report (ASER) by a non-governmental organization. It is a household survey limited to rural areas of the country. During 2017, 28,323 students in the age group of 14-18 years from 23,863 households in 26 rural districts across 24 states were assessed. Some of the salient findings of the ASER-2017 report include inter-alia, that, Overall, 86% of youth in the 14-18 age group are still within the formal education system, either in school or in college, 75% of children in the 14 to 18 age group can read basic text fluently in their own language and that the usage of mobile phone among those surveyed rises significantly with age. Further, 53% of all 14 year-olds in the sample can read English sentences. For 18 year-old youth, this figure is closer to 60%. Of those who can read English sentences, 79% can say the meaning of the sentence. Also, 76% of surveyed youth could count money correctly and 56% could add weights correctly in kilograms and for those with basic arithmetic skills this figure was close to 90% and 76%, respectively. However, the report points out that only 43% student are able to do a 3-digit by 1-digit division correctly.

The Department of School Education & Literacy, Ministry of Human Resource Development was not associated with this ASER 2017 survey.

- (d) National Achievement Survey (NAS) was conducted on 13th November, 2017 through which the learning levels of around 22 lakh students of Classes III, V and VIII from 1.10 lakh schools across 700 districts in all 36 States and UTs were assessed. It has now been decided to conduct NAS biennially. Students of Classes III and V were assessed on Reading Comprehension, Mathematics and Environmental Studies and Class VIII students were assessed on Language, Maths, Science and Social Science. This competency based assessment was based on the Learning Outcomes developed by the NCERT. Along with the test items, questionnaires pertaining to students, teachers and schools were also used. District report cards (provisional) for NAS 2017 have been released by this Department and are available on MHRD website. Further, it has been decided to conduct NAS for class X on 5th February, 2018.

Through NAS it is for the first time that the teachers have a tool to understand what exactly the child should be learning in various classes, how to teach this through activities and how to measure and ensure that children have reached the required level.
