

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4638
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22nd JULY, 2019**

Declining Learning Outcome

4638. SHRI D.K. SURESH:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that the learning outcome has declined in school children in the recent years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has undertaken any study to find out the reasons for the declining learning outcome;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether the Government is contemplating to take up any corrective measures to improve the learning outcomes and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK')**

(a) to (d): The National Council for Educational Research and Training (NCERT) conducts periodic national surveys to assess learning achievement of children in Classes –III, V, VIII and X. The National Achievement Survey (NAS) 2017 was held on 13th November, 2017 for assessing the competencies of children at the grade levels III, V and VIII for nearly 22 lakh students from 1.10 lakh schools in 701 districts covering all the States and UTs. NAS (2017) was administered with districts as the unit of reporting in different subject areas such as languages, mathematics, EVS/Science and Social Sciences in the Government and Government aided schools. The competency based test was based on the Learning Outcomes which were incorporated in the Central Rules for RTE Act by the Government of India. NAS for students of class X was held on 5th Feb, 2018 with a district level sampling framework covering nearly 15.5 lakh students using multiple test booklets in Mathematics, Modern Indian Languages, English, Sciences and Social Sciences. District report cards for NAS have been shared with the States and UTs to help identify gaps and devise strategies for further improvement.

(e): The Central Government has taken several initiatives to improve the learning outcome, which are as under:

1. In order to focus on ensuring competencies, the Central rules to the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 have been amended to include reference on class-wise, subject-wise Learning Outcomes, which have, accordingly, been finalized and shared with all States and UTs.
2. Under Samagra Shiksha, funds are given to all States and UTs for strengthening of infrastructure and provision of other facilities in schools to ensure that all schools meet the prescribed norms, besides other interventions to improve the quality of education such as training of in-service teachers, headmasters and principals, remedial teaching for academically weaker students, provision of library grants to schools, ICT and digital initiatives, strengthening of teacher education institutions, Rashtriya Avishkar Abhiyan, Padhe Bharat Badhe Bharat, etc.
3. The online D.El.Ed. course was started from 3rd October, 2017 and 9,58,513 teachers have successfully completed the training.
4. Regulations for a four year B.Ed integrated course, to bring about qualitative improvement in teacher education, have been published in official gazette on 29th March, 2019 and applications have been invited w.e.f. 3rd June, 2019.
5. It has been decided to participate in the Programme for International Students Assessment (PISA) to be conducted by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) in 2021, which is a competency based assessment.
6. Approval has been given for conducting a Census based audit called **Shagunotsav** of all government and government aided schools in all States and UTs.
7. MHRD has designed a 70 indicators based matrix called **Performance Grading Index (PGI)** to grade the States/UTs.
8. In 2019-20, approval has been given for an **Integrated Teacher Training Programme** to train nearly 42 lakh teachers and other functionaries to make classrooms learner-friendly and improving children's competencies including critical thinking, problem solving, creativity, as well as social-personal qualities such as cooperation, team work etc.
9. In 2019-20 approval has also been given for a competency based **School Based Assessment (SBA)** at the elementary level.
