

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION AND LITERACY

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2505
TO BE ANSWERED ON 1st August, 2022

Declining Standard of Education in Government Schools

†2505. SHRI DHARAMBIR SINGH:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the fact that the level of education in Government schools is declining as compared to private schools;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor, State-wise; and
- (c) the details of the concrete steps being taken by the Government to improve the level of education in Government schools in comparison with private schools?

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

(a)& (b): Education is in the concurrent list of the Constitution and majority of the schools are under the domain of respective State and UT Governments. Standard of education is a comprehensive term that includes learners, teachers, teaching learning process, learning environment, curriculum, pedagogy, learning outcomes, assessment, etc. Samagra Shiksha focuses on improvement in quality of education by providing support for different interventions to all States and UTs, like in-service training of teachers and school heads, conduct of achievement surveys at state and national level, composite school grant to every school for providing a conducive learning environment, grants for library, sports and physical activities, support for RashtriyaAvishkarAbhiyan, ICT and digital initiatives, School Leadership development programme, remedial teaching for academically weaker students, support for Padhe Bharat Badhe Bharat, etc.

Further, the Government of India has been implementing a programme of sample based National Achievement Survey (NAS) aimed at classes III, V, VIII and X with a cycle period

of three years. The last round of NAS was held on November 12, 2021 across India covering students of grades 3, 5, 8 and 10. The aim and objective of NAS is to evaluate children's progress and learning competencies as an indicator of the health of the education system, so as to take appropriate steps for remedial actions at different levels. National, State/UT and District Reports for NAS 2021 have been released on 25.05.2022 and are available at <http://nas.gov.in>.

(c): The following initiatives have been taken by the Government to improve the standard of education in the country:

1. The Centrally Sponsored Scheme of SamagraShiksha and PM Poshan have been aligned to the recommendation of NEP 2020. SamagraShiksha is an Integrated Centrally Sponsored Scheme for school education extending from pre-school to class XII and aims to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education at all levels of school education. Samagra Shiksha focuses on improvement in quality of education by providing support for different interventions like in-service training of teachers and school heads, conduct of achievement surveys, composite school grant to every school for providing a conducive learning environment, grants for library, sports and physical activities, etc. Under the scheme, financial assistance is also provided to States and UTs for undertaking various activities to ensure universal access to education including opening/strengthening of new schools upto senior secondary level, construction of school buildings & additional classrooms, up-gradation and running of Kasturba Gandhi BalikaVidyalayas, setting up of residential schools/hostels.
2. National Initiative for Proficiency in Reading with Understanding and Numeracy (NIPUN Bharat) has been launched under Samagra Shiksha for ensuring that every child in the country necessarily attains foundational literacy and numeracy (FLN) by the end of Grade 3, and e-content for the same has been released in DIKSHA platform.
3. NISHTHA integrated training programme 1.0, 2.0, and 3.0 Integrated Teacher Training Programme has been introduced for different stages of school education for Teachers, Head Teachers/Principals and other stakeholders in Educational Management.
4. Learning Outcomes for the Secondary level have been notified.
5. National Achievement Survey (NAS) 2021 has been conducted on 12th November, 2021 by the Ministry of Education to evaluate children's progress and learning

competencies as an indicator of the health of the education system, to take appropriate steps for remedial actions at different levels.

6. A 70 indicator based matrix Performance Grading Index (PGI) has been developed to grade the States/UTs. District level Performance Grading Indices (PGI) has been prepared and a Web application for compilation of PGI-District has been developed.
7. The Structured Assessment for Analyzing Learning levels (SAFAL) framework has been developed by CBSE and launched on 29thJuly, 2021 for Competency-based assessment in CBSE schools for grades 3, 5 and 8 focusing on testing for core concepts, application-based questions and higher-order thinking skills.
8. VIDYA PRAVESH—Guidelines for three-month Play-based School Preparation Module for Grade-I Children, has been released on 29thJuly, 2021 to ensure that all children are exposed to a warm and welcoming environment when they enter Grade-I.
