

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-3385  
ANSWERED ON -16/12/2024**

**Learning Level among Students belonging to SCs/STs/OBCs and Rural Areas**

†3385 **Shri Dharmendra Yadav:**

**Shri Charanjit Singh Channi:**

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to State:

- (a) Whether the Government is aware of the recent report published in the newspaper which revealed that over 40 per cent of rural students in some States, including Punjab and Uttar Pradesh are unable to answer grade-level questions;
- (b) if so, the reasons for such low learning outcomes in rural areas despite various educational schemes and initiatives;
- (c) the current status of learning level among SC, ST and OBC students in the country, especially in Uttar Pradesh;
- (d) the measures being taken to improve the quality of education as well as enrolment of the children of deprived section of the society, particularly in Uttar Pradesh including teacher training, curriculum enhancement and infrastructure development; and
- (e) the target set by the Government to ensure that rural students achieve grade-appropriate learning levels in the next five years?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION**

**(SHRI JAYANT CHAUDHARY)**

- (a): As per NAS-2017 and NAS-2021 reports, the learning level of the rural students including Punjab and Uttar Pradesh is at **Annexure-I**.
- (b): Ministry of Education has been implementing a rolling programme of sample based National Achievement Survey (NAS) at classes 3, 5, 8 and 10 with an interval of three years to assess children's progress and learning competencies as an indicator of the health education system and to take appropriate steps for remedial actions at different levels. The last round of NAS was conducted on 04.12.2024 and the report is awaited. The National Achievement Survey conducted in 2017 and 2021 has not shown any significant difference in the level of achievements between Urban and Rural Schools.
- (c): The NAS 2017 and NAS 2021 result comparing the grade-wise, subject- wise performance of students from Uttar Pradesh by Social Group (SCs/STs/OBCs) is placed at **Annexure-II**.
- (d) & (e): Education is in the Concurrent List of the Constitution and the majority of Schools are in the domain of the respective States/UTs. The States/UTs and Centre endeavour to uplift the educational status of the students of the country, including rural, deprived and underprivileged students. Various schemes/projects/programmes run by the Ministry have been aligned with the National Education Policy (NEP), 2020. NEP 2020 aims to ensure that no student loses opportunity to learn and excel because of the circumstances of birth or background. It has taken into account the concerns of the Socio-Economically Disadvantaged Groups (SEDGs) which inter-alia includes geographical identities such as students from villages, small towns, and aspirational districts and other categories. This policy aims at bridging the social category gaps in access, participation and learning outcomes.

The Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Samagra Shiksha focuses on improvement in quality of education by providing support for different interventions to all States and UTs like introduction of new pedagogical and curricular structure, Early Childhood Care and Education, Foundational Literacy and Numeracy and Transforming Assessment for Student Development, Experiential and Competency based Learning, 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 Rashtriya Avishkar Abhiyan, ICT and digital initiatives, School Leadership development programme, remedial teaching for academically weaker students etc. The scheme aims to ensure that all children have access to quality education with an equitable and inclusive classroom environment which should take care of their diverse background, multilingual needs, different academic abilities and make them active participants in a continuous learning process.

National Initiative for Proficiency in Reading with Understanding and Numeracy (NIPUN Bharat) was launched on 5<sup>th</sup> July 2021, for ensuring that every child in the country necessarily attains foundational literacy and numeracy by the end of Grade 3, by 2026-27. The mission covers the first 5 years of the school continuum of the 5+3+3+4 pedagogical structure including 3 preschool years.

In order to provide continuous learning opportunities to the teachers, NISHTHA (National Initiative for School Heads' and Teachers' Holistic Advancement) platform in October launched using DIKSHA (Digital Infrastructure for Knowledge Sharing) platform in October, 2020 to reach out to elementary teachers and its further extension to all level of teachers. It includes multiple approaches for interaction i.e. Text Modules along with videos. All these contents are aligned to the developmental goals and learning outcomes of Foundational Literacy and Numeracy (FLN).

To prepare an initial cadre of high-quality Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) Teachers in Anganwadis, NISHTHA-ECCE and FLN were launched in July, 2022. It is aimed towards sensitization of master trainers on developmentally appropriate pedagogy for holistic development of children which will contribute for enhancing quality education at Foundation level. These cater to both training of Anganwadi workers and preschool teachers.

The NEP 2020 also recognizes reinvigoration of DIETs to change the capacity and workculture of these institutions and develop them into vibrant institutions of excellence. Financial assistance under Samagra Shiksha is provided to States/UTs for physical upgradation of all 613 functional DIETs in the country in a phased manner in the next five years. In the FY 2023-24, 125 DIETs across 33 States/UTs with an approximate budget of Rs. 92,320.18 lakhs were approved.

PM SHRI (PM Schools for Rising India) scheme was launched on 7th Sep 2022 with an aim to strengthen the existing schools from amongst schools managed by Central government/State/UT Government/local bodies. These schools are to showcase all the initiatives of National Education Policy 2020 and emerge as exemplar schools over a period of time, and also offer leadership to other schools in the neighbourhood. Under the scheme, there is a provision of setting up of more than 14500 PM SHRI Schools by strengthening the existing schools from amongst schools managed by Central government/State/UT Government/local bodies out of which 12,084 PM SHRI Schools have been selected so far.

The Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Pradhan Mantri Poshan Shakti Nirman (PM POSHAN) has been revamped and extended to cover students of Balvatika in addition to students of Classes I-VIII in Government and Government-Aided Schools. It encourages setting up of School Nutrition Gardens (SNG) and strengthening of community participation through 'Tithi Bhojan'.

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**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3385 FOR ANSWER ON 16.12.2024 ASKED BY SHRI DHARMENDRA YADAV AND SHRI CHARANJIT SINGH CHANNI HON'BLE MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT REGARDING "LEARNING LEVEL AMONG STUDENTS BELONGING TO SCs/STs/OBCs AND RURAL AREAS"**

**The data comparing the grade-wise and subject-wise performance of students at National Level in NAS 2017 and NAS 2021**

**NATIONAL LEVEL:**

<b>Grade 3</b>				
Subject	NAS 2017		NAS 2021	
	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban
Language	68	67	62	61
Mathematics	64	64	58	56
EVS	65	65	58	56
<b>Grade 5</b>				
Subject	NAS 2017		NAS 2021	
	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban
Language	58	59	55	56
Mathematics	55	52	44	43
EVS	57	56	49	48
<b>Grade 8</b>				
Subject	NAS 2017		NAS 2021	
	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban
Language	57	57	50	58
Mathematics	43	39	36	37
Science	45	41	38	42
Social Science	45	42	39	40

**The data comparing the grade-wise and subject-wise performance of students by location, from Punjab and Uttar Pradesh in NAS 2017 and NAS 2021.**

**PUNJAB:**

<b>Grade 3</b>				
Subject	NAS 2017		NAS 2021	
	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban
Language	64	62	76	73
Mathematics	56	56	72	69
EVS	58	56	70	69
<b>Grade 5</b>				
Subject	NAS 2017		NAS 2021	
	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban
Language	53	54	70	68
Mathematics	47	46	58	56
EVS	51	51	61	58
<b>Grade 8</b>				
Subject	NAS 2017		NAS 2021	
	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban
Language	54	55	66	68
Mathematics	31	32	50	49
Science	37	36	50	50
Social Science	35	34	50	48

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**UTTAR PRADESH:**

<b>Grade 3</b>				
Subject	NAS 2017		NAS 2021	
	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban
Language	58	54	58	56
Mathematics	59	60	54	51
EVS	56	54	55	52

  

<b>Grade 5</b>				
Subject	NAS 2017		NAS 2021	
	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban
Language	51	50	52	52
Mathematics	51	50	42	39
EVS	53	52	47	44

  

<b>Grade 8</b>				
Subject	NAS 2017		NAS 2021	
	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban
Language	53	50	46	52
Mathematics	41	34	33	33
Science	43	35	35	37
Social Science	43	36	36	36

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## ANNEXURE-II

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (c) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3385 FOR ANSWER ON 16.12.2024 ASKED BY SHRI DHARMENDRA YADAV AND SHRI CHARANJIT SINGH CHANNI HON'BLE MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT REGARDING "LEARNING LEVEL AMONG STUDENTS BELONGING TO SCs/STs/OBCs AND RURAL AREAS"

The data comparing the grade-wise and subject-wise performance of students by Social Group in NAS 2017 and NAS 2021

## NATIONAL LEVEL:

Grade 3						
Subject	NAS 2017			NAS 2021		
	SC	ST	OBC	SC	ST	OBC
Language	67	66	68	62	61	62
Mathematics	64	62	65	57	55	57
EVS	64	63	66	58	57	57
Grade 5						
Subject	NAS 2017			NAS 2021		
	SC	ST	OBC	SC	ST	OBC
Language	57	55	60	54	53	54
Mathematics	53	51	56	43	41	43
EVS	56	55	58	48	47	48
Grade 8						
Subject	NAS 2017			NAS 2021		
	SC	ST	OBC	SC	ST	OBC
Language	55	53	58	49	47	51
Mathematics	40	40	44	35	33	35
Science	43	43	46	37	36	38
Social Science	42	43	45	38	37	39

## UTTAR PRADESH (BY SOCIAL GROUP):

Grade 3						
Subject	NAS 2017			NAS 2021		
	SC	ST	OBC	SC	ST	OBC
Language	59	57	57	57	58	58
Mathematics	59	57	59	53	52	54
EVS	56	55	55	54	53	54
Grade 5						
Subject	NAS 2017			NAS 2021		
	SC	ST	OBC	SC	ST	OBC
Language	51	42	52	51	51	52
Mathematics	50	41	51	41	40	41
EVS	53	43	54	46	45	46
Grade 8						
Subject	NAS 2017			NAS 2021		
	SC	ST	OBC	SC	ST	OBC
Language	53	49	54	44	43	46
Mathematics	41	36	41	32	32	33
Science	42	38	42	34	34	35
Social Science	42	38	42	35	34	36

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