

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 27
ANSWERED ON - 04/12/2023

PARAKH

27. SHRI VINOD KUMAR SONKAR:
SHRI BHOLA SINGH:
DR. SUKANTA MAJUMDAR:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has proposed to set up Performance Assessment, Review and Analysis of Knowledge for Holistic Development (PARAKH), to oversee the process and conduct periodic tests like the National Achievement Survey (NAS) and State Achievement Surveys;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the PARAKH has been launched under the National Education Policy (NEP)-2020 to develop a standard-setting body to advise school boards regarding new assessment patterns and latest research, and promote collaborations between them and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the ETS, which conducts key tests such as TOEFL and GRE, have been chosen by the Government for setting up the regulatory platform;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether PARAKH will be able to bring “uniformity” in assessment across the boards in 36 States and UTs despite the diverse school education system due to geographic differences and multiple languages; and
- (g) the other steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

A N S W E R

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

(a) to (g): National Education Policy (NEP), 2020 under Para 4.41 envisions “to set up a National Assessment Centre, PARAKH (Performance Assessment, Review, and Analysis of Knowledge for Holistic Development), as a standard-setting body under Ministry of Education (MoE) that fulfils the basic objectives of setting norms, standards, and guidelines for student assessment and evaluation for all recognized school boards of India, guiding the State Achievement Survey (SAS) and undertaking the National Achievement Survey (NAS), monitoring achievement of

learning outcomes in the country, and encouraging and helping school boards to shift their assessment patterns towards meeting the skill requirements of the 21st century in consonance with the stated objectives of this Policy. This Centre will also advise school boards regarding new assessment patterns and latest researches, promoting collaborations between school boards. It will also become an instrument for the sharing of best practices among school boards, and for ensuring equivalence of academic standards among learners across all school boards.” National Assessment Centre, PARAKH (Performance Assessment, Review and Analysis of Knowledge for Holistic Development) was set up in NCERT as an independent constituent unit vide Notification no. 1-4/2012-EC/ 101- 164 of NCERT dated 8th Feb, 2023, to fulfil the basic objectives of setting norms, standards, guidelines and implement activities related to student assessment along with other tasks as mandated by Para 4.41 of NEP, 2020. Educational Testing Services (ETS) has been hired by NCERT to assist in establishing and operationalizing PARAKH.

PARAKH has undertaken State Educational Achievement Survey 2023, a study on equivalence across the boards and is actively involved in development of Holistic Progress Card for all four stages outlined in the NEP 2020: Foundational, Preparatory, Middle and Secondary stages.
