

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4366

ANSWERED ON:19.12.2012

LEARNING OUTCOME OF CHILDREN

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

- (a) whether the Government measures learning outcomes for children in primary schools;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the criteria by which these outcomes are measured;
- (c) whether any study has been conducted to evaluate the learning outcomes of children during the last three years and if so, the outcome thereof; and
- (d) the steps the Government is taking to ensure better learning outcomes for children in primary schools?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT(DR. SHASHI THAROOR)

(a) to (c): The National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) conducts periodic surveys of learning achievement of children in classes – III, V and VIII. The objectives of these surveys are to study the learning achievement of students in the main subjects; differences with regard to gender, location and social groups; the contribution of institutional factors such as school and teachers on the achievements of students; and to study the effect of home background of students on their achievement levels.

Two rounds of National Learners' Achievement Surveys have been completed by the NCERT which have revealed improvements in the overall learning levels. A comparative table of the progress in respect of the two rounds of surveys for classes III & V is given below: -

Subject	Class III	Class V
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	Round-I 2003-04	Round-II 2007-08	Round-I 2001-02	Round-II 2005-06
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Mathematics	58.25%	61.89%	46.51%	48.46%
Language	63.12%	67.84%	58.57%	60.31%
Environmental Studies (EVS)	NA	NA	50.30%	52.19%

(NA: Not applicable)

The NCERT has conducted the third round of class V Achievement Survey in 2010-11, which indicates that there is enhancement in the achievement levels of students in most States.

(d): In order to improve the quality of education and learning levels of children, the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) programme implements several interventions, which inter alia include the sanction of more than 19 lakh teachers to improve the Pupil-Teacher Ratio (PTR), the sanction of 1,94,574 primary school buildings and 1,07,682 upper primary school buildings to improve school infrastructure, annual in-service training for teachers and regular academic support to teachers and schools through the Block and Cluster Resource Centres respectively, as well as providing free textbooks to children.