Press Information Bureau Government of India Ministry of Human Resource Development

28-November-2016 17:11 IST

Learning Outcomes

The National Council for Educational Research and Training (NCERT) has developed Learning Outcomes for Elementary Stage as an exemplar for guiding States and UTs to facilitate the monitoring of students learning against expected benchmarks, to organize additional instruction for children who have learning gaps and to share the progress of the child with parents or guardians. It will also help to identify the overall performance of a school with regard to learning and teacher effectiveness.

The National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) conducts periodic national surveys of learning achievement of children in classes III, V, VIII and X. Four rounds of National Achievement Survey (NAS) have been conducted so far for class V and three rounds for classes III & VIII. These reveal improvement in learning achievement levels of pupils, in identified subjects from first round to fourth round. Since only first round of NAS has been conducted at class X level, it is not possible to comment on the comparative learning achievement or decline of students of Standard X. From current year onwards, Government has decided to conduct annual census based National Achievement Surveys covering all students from Classes I to VIII in all government and government aided schools. The students learning assessment will be according to the Learning Outcomes developed by NCERT for all subjects covering all classes at the elementary level.

'Education' is a subject in the "Concurrent" list and most schools are under the administration of State Governments and UT Administrations. The Central Government through its flagship programme for elementary education viz. Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan provides financial assistance to States and UTs to address gaps and challenges in ensuring quality education to children in elementary classes through recruitment of additional teachers to improve the Pupil Teacher Ratio (PTR) and regular annual-in-service teacher training to all teachers to update their skill and knowledge. A similar programme for secondary education, the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan provides for in-service teacher training and academic support to schools for improving performance including training for Principals.

This information was given by the Minister of State (HRD), Shri Upendra Kushwaha today in a written reply to a Lok Sabha question.

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