

CENSUS BASED STATE ACHIEVEMENT SURVEY (CSAS)

Census based state achievement survey (CSAS) which is considered as the largest assessment in India, is a census based diagnostic test to assess the education quality in all government and government aided schools of Karnataka. The main purpose of CSAS conducted by KSQAAC is to collect, compile and disseminate information of State's overall progress in the area of school education. This survey provides basic inputs to develop educational plans at micro-level as well as at macro-level to formulate educational policies.

OBJECTIVES:

The current set of large-scale assessments (NAS and ASER) conducted in India do not gauge learning levels at the individual student and school level as they are sample-based assessments. Therefore, the Education Department of Government of Karnataka decided to conduct a census-based assessment in November 2018 with an aim to assess the learning levels of 40.70 lakh students across 4th to 10th grade of govt. and aided schools.

There are five key objectives of the SAS:

1. To understand **student-specific** learning levels
 - To check each student's progress as per the syllabus and provide a report card to them
 - To identify students who falter at basic competencies (topics) and need additional support from teachers
 - To gauge each student's performance across different types of questions: knowledge, understanding and application-based
2. To understand **school-specific and subject-specific** learning levels
3. To understand **cluster, block, district-wise** learning levels
4. To gauge gender-wise, area-wise, category-wise and management-wise differentials and also understand the level of Children With Special Needs (CWSN)
5. To identify students requiring Remedial Teaching

PROCESS OF CSAS 2018-19:

- **As per Govt. Order No. ED30MCD2018, Bengaluru, dated: 06/09/2018**, KSQAAC conducted Census Based State Achievement Survey (CSAS-SA-1) examination on **29th and 30th November, 2018** for all the students studying in Classes 4 to 10 of Government & Aided schools. **40.70 lakh** students appeared for the CSAS examination.

- The students studying in class 10 in unaided schools were also considered on voluntary basis by collecting a fee of Rs.75 per student. **1734 Students of 38 unaided** schools from seven districts appeared for the CSAS 2018 examination.
- The CSAS examination was held in **9 mediums** viz., Kannada, English, Hindi, Urdu, Marathi, Tamil, Telugu, Gujarati & Malayalam for the students studying in classes 4& 5.
- Similarly for the students studying in classes 6 to 10, the CSAS examination was conducted in **7 mediums** viz., Kannada, English, Hindi, Urdu, Marathi, Tamil and Telugu.
- The CSAS examination was held for all the subjects; for students studying in classes 4 & 5- First Language, Second Language, Mathematics& EVS (4 Subjects), whereas, for students studying in classes 6 to 10 - First Language, Second Language, Third Language, Mathematics, Science & Social Science (6 Subjects).
- There were four types of questions relating to knowledge, understanding, appreciation and expression for language papers. In respect of core subjects, there were three types of questions relating to knowledge, understanding and application. For classes 4th and 5th, both Languages and Core papers had 60 questions while for classes 6th to 10th, both Language and Core papers had 90 questions each.
- Customised **OMR** (Optical Mark Reader) **Sheets** for 40.70 lakh students studying in classes 4 to 10 incorporating Student Name, Student ID, School Name, School ID and Class details were printed. QR Code and Bar Code were also printed in the customised OMR sheets to capture all other details of student. The information available in SATS as on **18/09/2018** was taken for printing customised OMR Sheets.
- The Customised OMR Sheets were supplied well in advance to all the **53,000** schools to ascertain that all the students got OMR sheets. Three sets of customised **Buffer OMR sheets** were also supplied to all the schools to use it for the students who did not get the regular OMR sheets.
- In assessing the students, comprehensive competencies of previous class and the present class were given due weightage. Previously learnt contents were given a weightage of 20% and currently learnt contents were given a weightage of 80%. Key competencies as per this weightage were decided with the assistance of practicing school teachers and experts. This formed the basis for preparation of questions and question papers. In all, **1492 version** question papers were designed for all the subjects.

- Arrangements were made to supply question papers to the BEOs to distribute the question papers to the respective schools one day before the examination.
- A Self Sticking Adhesive Tamper Proof Pre-Printed Covers were supplied to all the schools to pack the answered OMR Sheets.
- A comprehensive circular was issued to all the personnel involved in the conduct of CSAS examination to adhere to the guidelines and time to time instructions and clarifications were also given via WhatsApp Group. The nodal officers and programmers of districts were given hands-on training at the State headquarters regarding pre and post examination process required to be followed by the district and sub-district levels personnel.
- After the CSAS examination, the answered OMR sheets were transmitted to district headquarters. Scanning of answered OMR sheets was undertaken at the district level. KSQAAC had supplied 2-3 scanners to each district during the year 2017-18, these machines were kept ready well in advance for scanning of OMR sheets of CSAS 2018 examination. Sikshana Foundation was instrumental in developing the technology that allowed scanners to identify tick marks on OMR sheets. Once the sheets were scanned, they were automatically uploaded into two folders - one for languages and the other for core subjects. In this regard, programmers of all the districts were trained at Bengaluru to manage the scanning process and submission of the images to KSQAAC.
- Scanning has been done at district centers, converted the scanned OMR images to csv file, errors identified and rectified and result given.
- Educational Achievement Progress Card (Kalika Payana Card) for all the students who have participated in the survey has been printed and distributed to District Deputy Director (Admin)
- Appreciation letter from **Honorable Chief Minister** to all parents has been sent.
- Student learning achievement information to each school has been given in the form of T1, T2, and S-LR (Student Learning Report)
- Students information who have achieved less than 40% and have to undergo the remedial teaching has been sent to DSERT for further action.
- The total learning achievement of the State is 63%. Analysis work will be done based on the result.

Implications of the Survey

SAS is the largest learning assessment conducted in India. It was made possible due to the existence of internal capacity (KSQAAC) of the education department to lead large-scale assessments. CSAS analysis is helpful to:

1. Identify students, schools, clusters, blocks and districts in need of support. Students who secured less than 40% (a total of 13.69 lakhs) were identified for remedial teaching.
2. Identify most challenging topics for children across different grades
3. Influence teachers to frame assessments that test for understanding and application rather than just knowledge
4. Understand the impact and effectiveness of various interventions (govt. and non-governmental) on learning outcomes
5. Increase parental involvement in their child's educational journey and also motivating them to engage more with the school authorities
6. Design various learning strategies (Modules) under Guruchethana programme based on result
7. Teachers in preparing competency based lesson plan and conducting remedial teaching