

# Infrastructure of state schools to be evaluated

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Panaji:** As part of the central government's 'Shagunotsav' programme, an audit of infrastructural facilities available in 888 government and aided primary schools and 483 secondary and higher secondary schools across the state will be conducted during the current academic year. Independent assessors will evaluate the facilities and then upload their findings about each school on a mobile app being developed centrally.

"This census-based audit will cover all schools to ascertain the adequacy of infrastructure facilities, teachers, students, school management and community participation. The parameters for the school census



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will be based on the indicators monitored through the central government's newly-introduced performance grade index (PGI) for schools," a state official said.

The state will receive funding worth around Rs 11 lakh to carry out this activity.

However, the learning outcome of students will not be part of this evaluation as it will be conducted through the next round of national assessment and school-based assessments.

"The feedback received

from this census will help the central government initiate appropriate policy interventions. Every two months, heads of government schools will use a mobile app to report utilisation of funds. This data will be compiled at a central server where the software will generate discrepancy reports, which will then be followed up for corrective action," the official said. The data will eventually help the central government to carry out grading of schools, which it intends to introduce.

The need for taking up such an exercise was felt after feedback received from district level officers in some states appeared to show that many schools are not visited at all or the frequency of visits is low.