

Raj leads in learning outcomes: MHRD survey

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Jaipur: Rajasthan scored the highest points in the category of ‘learning outcomes and quality’ of education in government schools among the states and the union territories.

The category is one of the five categories further divided into a total of 70 subcategories to form the performance grading index (PGI) report 2017-18 released by the MHRD on February 27. The desert state ranked among the top five states in the PGI.

Leading the pack among the states and union territories are Chandigarh, Gujarat and Kerala. These states are listed in grade I category as their aggregate score is between 801-850 while Rajasthan stood in the grade II along with Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Haryana and D&N Haveli for having aggregate score between 751 and 800.

“Rajasthan scored 168 out of 180 to lead in the country in the important parameter of learning outcomes and quality,” reads the report. The learning outcomes are defined by the students’ academic performance in reading, comprehension and mathematics. The state performed poorly in two categories — infrastructure & facilities and access. It scored 84 out of 140 and 56 out of 80, respectively. The poor performance in the access category means that the state has poor retention, transition rate and high dropout rate.

“It is good that the state is doing significantly well in equity category, which means lesser difference in performance among the SC, ST vis-à-vis general category students. The state stood 10th in the combined category of union territory and states. The efforts of the consecutive governments are delivering positive results,” said KB Kothari, an educationist.

The learning outcomes are considered the most important domain and the ultimate goal of the index.

The total weightage under the PGI is 1,000 points with each of the 70 indicators assigned a weightage of either 10 or 20 points. The aim of the report is to inform the state government on areas of improvements. The percentage of average daily attendance of teachers recorded in electronic attendance system, too, is very good in the state.