



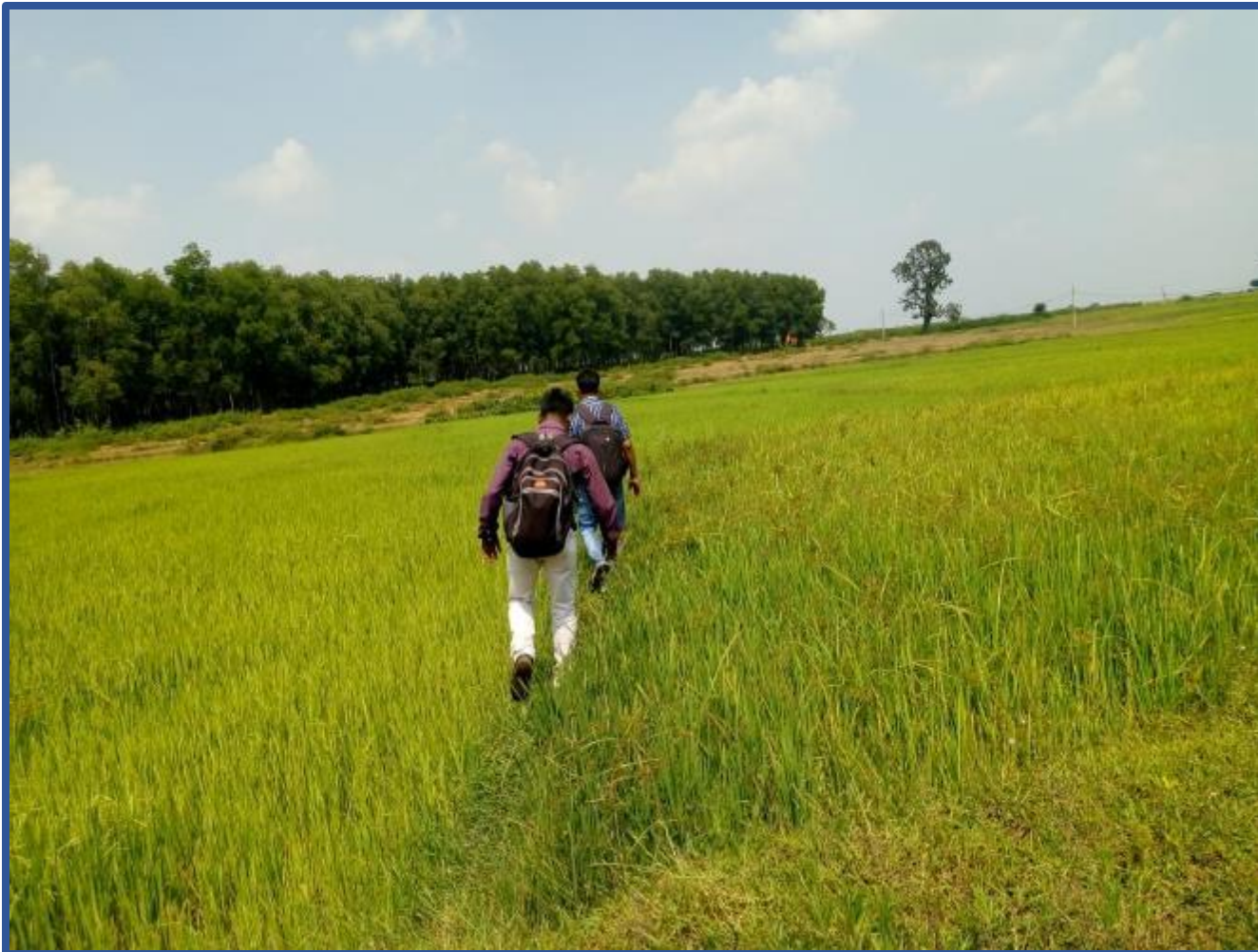
Main findings All India (rural) report

Annual Status of Education Report

असर **2018** **RURAL**
ASER

Facilitated by PRATHAM

About ASER: Scale of ASER 2018



ASER 2018 reach:

- Districts = 596 (rural)
- Villages = 17,730
- Households = 354,944
- Children (age 3-16) = 546,527

ASER 2018 participation:

- Partner institutions: 573
- Master trainers: ~ 820
- Volunteers: ~ 30,000

ASER 2018 timelines :

- National workshop = Aug 6, 2018
- National report release = Jan 15, 2019

ASER 2018 is the 13th ASER report.

After 10 years of ASER from 2005 to 2014, there was a break of one year in 2015. Then the series has resumed with a usual ASER in 2016 and now in 2018.

About ASER: Key features of ASER

WHERE: Household survey of a representative sample of rural children of India. Every rural district. Govt schools also visited.

HOW: Sampling using Census 2011 frame

- 30 villages randomly selected in each district
- 20 households randomly selected in each village
- All children age 3-16 in household surveyed
- All children age 5-16 in household assessed

WHAT: Assessment

- One-on-one assessment with each child
- Basic reading, arithmetic for all (age 5-16).
- 'Beyond Basics' (for age 14-16 only)
- Same tasks with all children; several samples used

WHO: District level organization or institution conduct ASER. Colleges, universities, NGOs, teacher training institutions.
For example: 236 DIETS participated in ASER 2018



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Discussion:

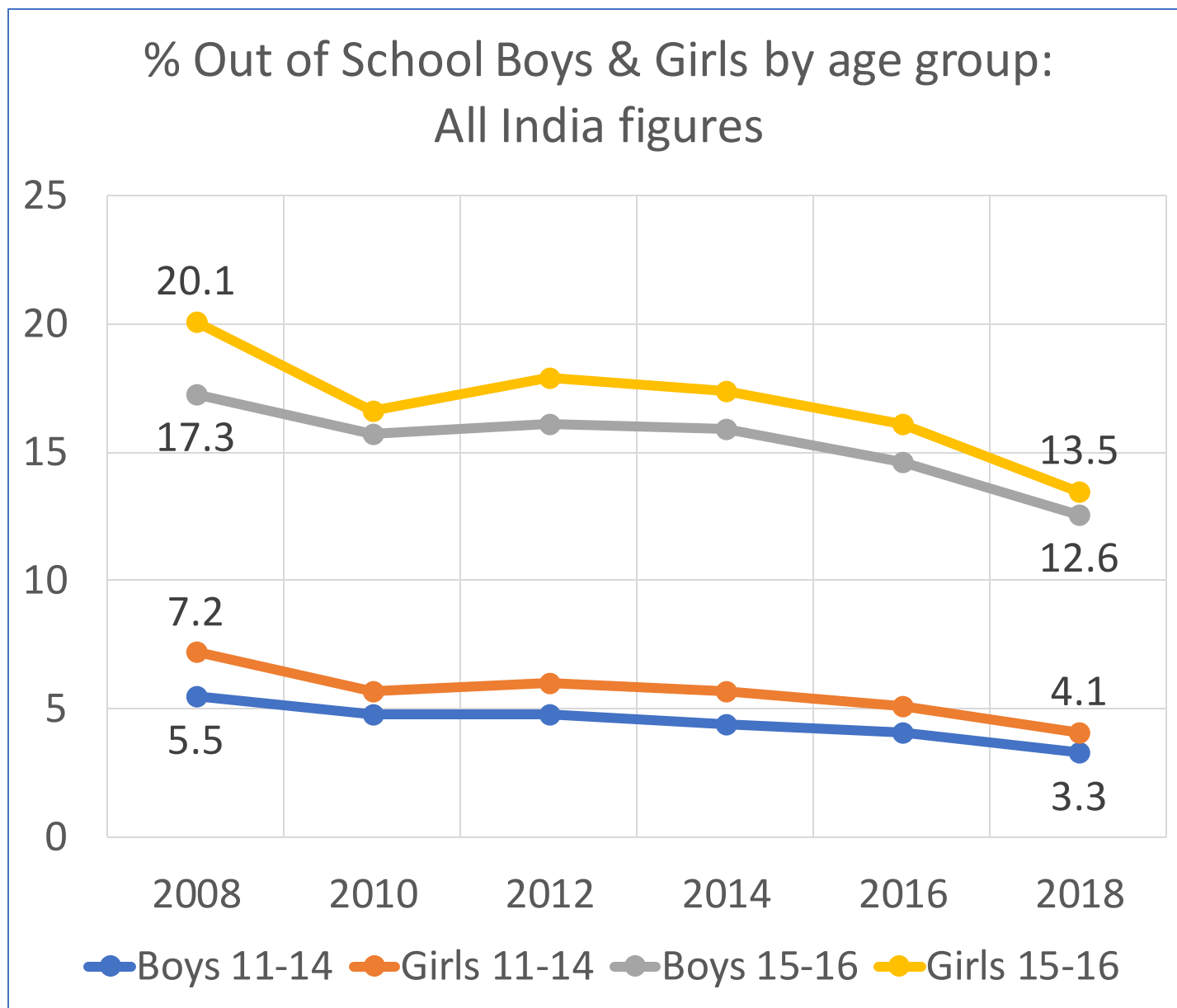
- Schooling trends
- Learning levels
- Facilities
- Way forward

Enrollment (age 6-14) above 96% since 2010 but attendance varies

Overall, enrollment for the age group 6 to 14 has been above 96% every year since 2010. However, attendance patterns in primary sections of government schools varies across states.

Attendance based on visit on a random day	States: ASER 2018
85% & more	Gujarat, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu
80% to 84%	Himachal, Punjab, Uttarakhand, Kerala, Mizoram, Odisha, Andhra, Sikkim
75% to 79%	J&K, Haryana, Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh, Telangana, Arunachal, Nagaland
70% to 74%	All India, Assam, Meghalaya
60% to 69%	Jharkhand, Tripura
Below 60%	Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, Manipur

Overall, out of school numbers declining & gender gap shrinking



Overall, enrollment of children in the age group 6-14 is over 96%.

This figure has been 96% or higher since 2010.

The proportion of children out of school in different age groups has been falling over time.

Gender gaps in enrollment have also narrowed considerably over time.

Proportion of girls out of school declining across all age groups



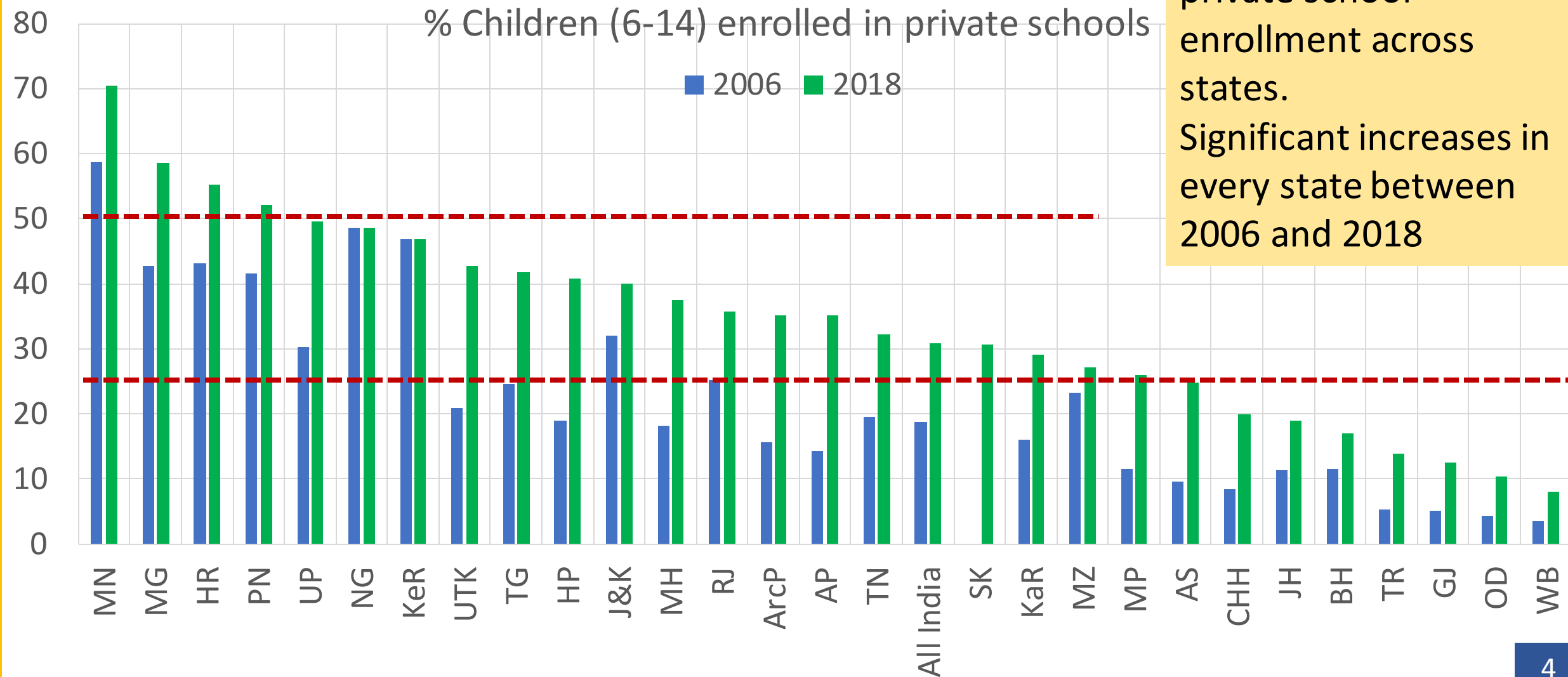
The percentage of out of school girls aged 11-14 has fallen significantly over time. Even older girls (age 15-16) are staying on in school.

States with more than 20% OOS girls in 15-16 age group in 2006				
State	%OOS 11-14 girls		%OOS 15-16 girls	
	2006	2018	2006	2018
Rajasthan	19.6	7.4	37.7	20.1
Uttar Pradesh	11.1	7.4	25.6	22.2
Bihar	17.6	4.2	28.2	9.8
West Bengal	12.1	1.3	24.9	4.8
Jharkhand	13	3.4	29.2	11.2
Odisha	13.7	2.1	31.4	12.3
Chhattisgarh	13.6	5.6	33.6	21.2
Madhya Pradesh	7.3	7.7	23.4	26.8
Gujarat	11.7	3.6	27.3	24.9
Andhra Pradesh	10.5	2.9	21.3	9.7
All India	10.3	4.1	22.6	13.5

No overall increase in private school enrollment since 2014

% Private	2006	2008	2010	2012	2014	2016	2018
All India	18.7	22.6	23.7	28.3	30.8	30.6	30.9

Substantial variation in private school enrollment across states. Significant increases in every state between 2006 and 2018



Early years: Varied options in the pre-primary stage in India



Even in rural India, young children (in the age group 3 to 8) have several options ranging from anganwadis to pre-primary in government schools to pre-school sections in private school. Most private schools enrol children in LKG or UKG rather than directly in Std I., whereas in most states, government schools enrol children in Std I. These trends are likely to change in the next few years.

	PRE-SCHOOL			SCHOOL			Not enrolled	Total
	Angan-wadi	Govt: Pre-primary	Pvt: LKG-UKG	Govt school	Private school	Other		
Age 3	55.8	1	9.9	3.3	1.1	0.1	28.8	100
Age 4	49	2.1	23.2	6.8	3.2	0.2	15.6	100
Age 5	27.6	2.8	27.4	23.9	9.9	0.3	8.1	100
Age 6	7.6	1.9	16.4	49.5	20.7	0.5	3.3	100
Age 7	1.8	0.8	7.3	59.1	28.7	0.6	1.8	100
Age 8	0.7	0.4	3.3	62.6	30.8	0.7	1.5	100

Pre-primary classes in government schools can be seen in several states, notably Kerala, Assam and most recently in Punjab and Himachal.

Quick glimpse - ASER tasks : Reading & Arithmetic

READING TASKS

Std II level text

राजू नाम का एक लड़का था। उसकी एक बड़ी बहन व एक छोटा भाई था। उसका भाई गाँव के पास के विद्यालय में पढ़ने जाता। वह खूब मेहनत करता था। उसकी बहन बहुत अच्छी खिलाड़ी थी। उसे लंबी दौड़ लगाना अच्छा लगता था। वे तीनों रोज़ साथ-साथ मौज-मस्ती करते थे।

Std I level text

रानी नदी किनारे रहती है।
नदी में बहुत मछलियाँ हैं।
रानी उनको दाना देती है।
वे सब मज़े से दाना खाती हैं।

Letters

म र ड
ह च
ल ब न
क य

Words

गाना खुश
मौसी
पैर झोला
किला
आग मोर

ARITHMETIC TASKS

Number Recognition/
अंक पहचान 1-9

3

7

1

4

Number Recognition/
संख्या पहचान 11-99

65

38

92

23

Subtraction/घटाव
(2 digit with carry over)

52

- 24

76

- 47

Division/भाग
(3 digit by 1 digit)

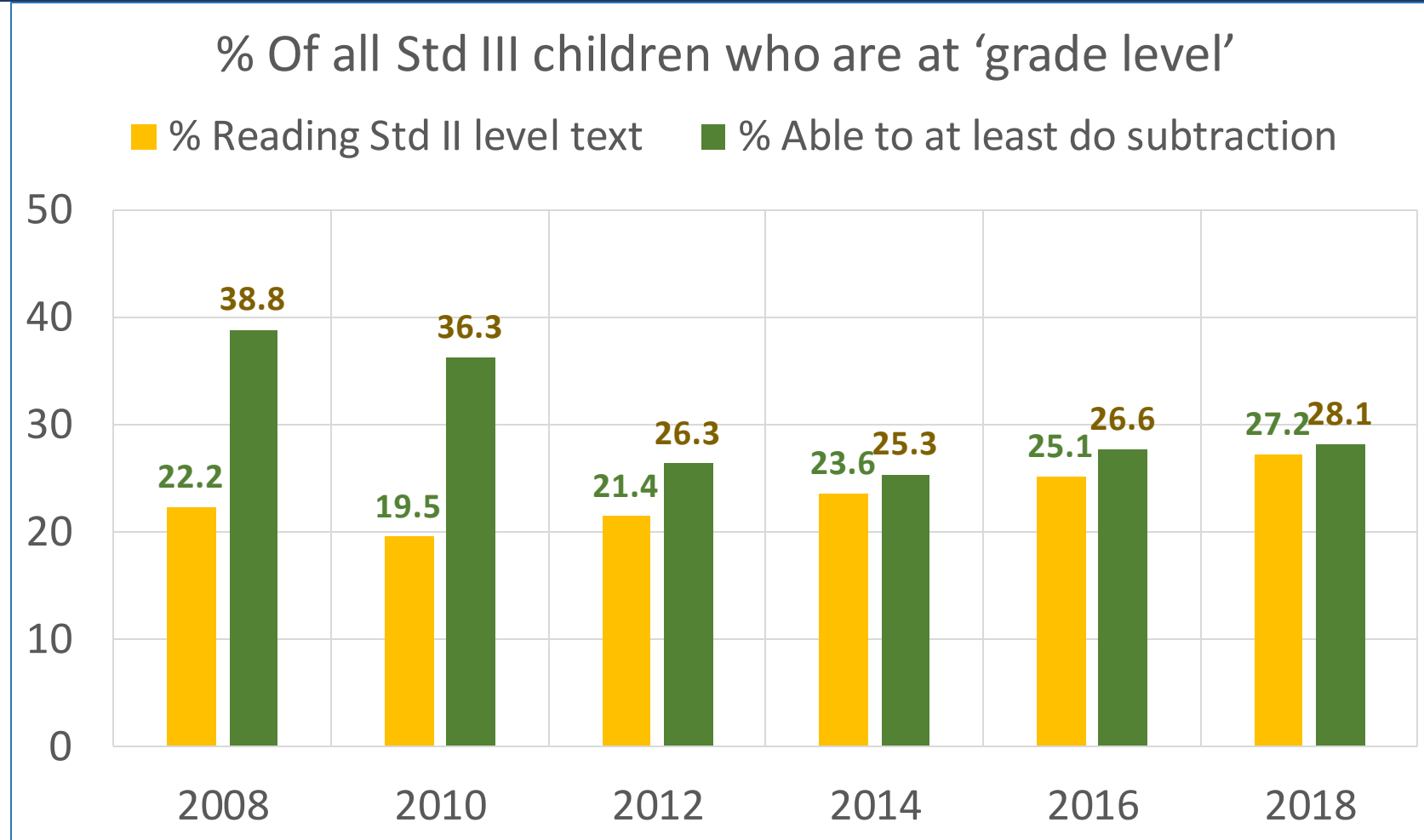
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Each child assessed one on one.

S/he is marked at the highest level that s/he is able to do.

Reading tasks are available in all regional languages.

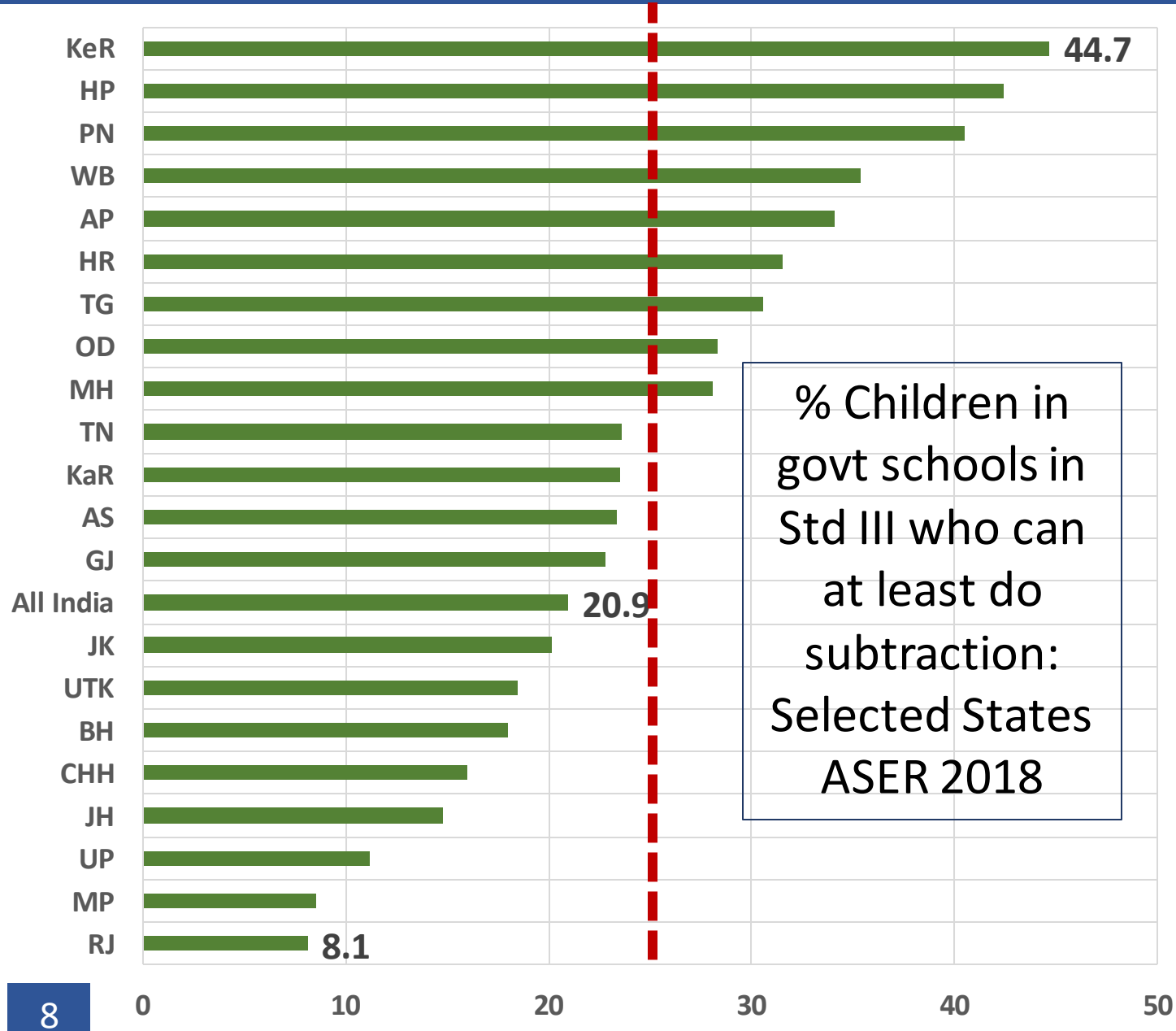
Std III: Learning levels improving gradually since 2014



By the end of Std II in India, children are expected to be able to read a simple text fluently and also be able to do basic operations like subtraction. Hence, it is possible to use ASER data as a 'proxy' for the proportion of children who are at 'grade level' by the time they have reached the middle of the school year in Std III.

- All India figures suggest that from 2014 to 2018, there is a gradual improvement in both basic reading and math
- However, even in 2018, only a quarter of all children in Std III are at 'grade level'. This means that a majority of children need immediate help in acquiring foundational skills in literacy and numeracy

Std III Maths: Wide variation across states & mixed picture over time



States showing increase 2016 - 2018

State	2016	2018	Pc pts diff
PN	36.3	40.5	4.2
KeR	35.9	44.7	8.8
HR	27.7	31.6	3.9
MH	22.4	28.1	5.7
AS	19.8	23.4	3.6
GJ	18.3	22.8	4.5
UP	7.9	11.2	3.3

States showing decline 2016 - 2018

State	2016	2018	Pc pts diff
HP	48.4	42.4	-6
AP	39.1	34.1	-5
KaR	25.5	23.5	-2
UTK	23.4	18.5	-4.9
BH	20	18	-2

Example - Std III: Wide disparity in reading levels in the same grade

A closer look at two states – HP & UP

In both, ~ 5 percentage point improvement between 2014 & 2018 .

% Children in Std III in govt schools who can read at different levels

Example : HP & UP	Cannot recognize letters yet	Can recognize letters but cannot read words	Can read words but cannot read sentences	Can read Std I level text but not higher	Can read Std II level text	Total
Himachal Pradesh						
2014	4.7	12.5	17.6	21.6	43.6	100
2016	2.4	16.6	12.3	23.6	45	100
2018	2.4	10.6	15.5	24.1	47.4	100
Uttar Pradesh						
2014	31.9	40.2	14.6	7.4	6	100
2016	28.2	40.3	15.3	8.9	7.2	100
2018	24.5	36.7	16.8	9.7	12.3	100

What does ASER data suggest in terms of action to be taken?

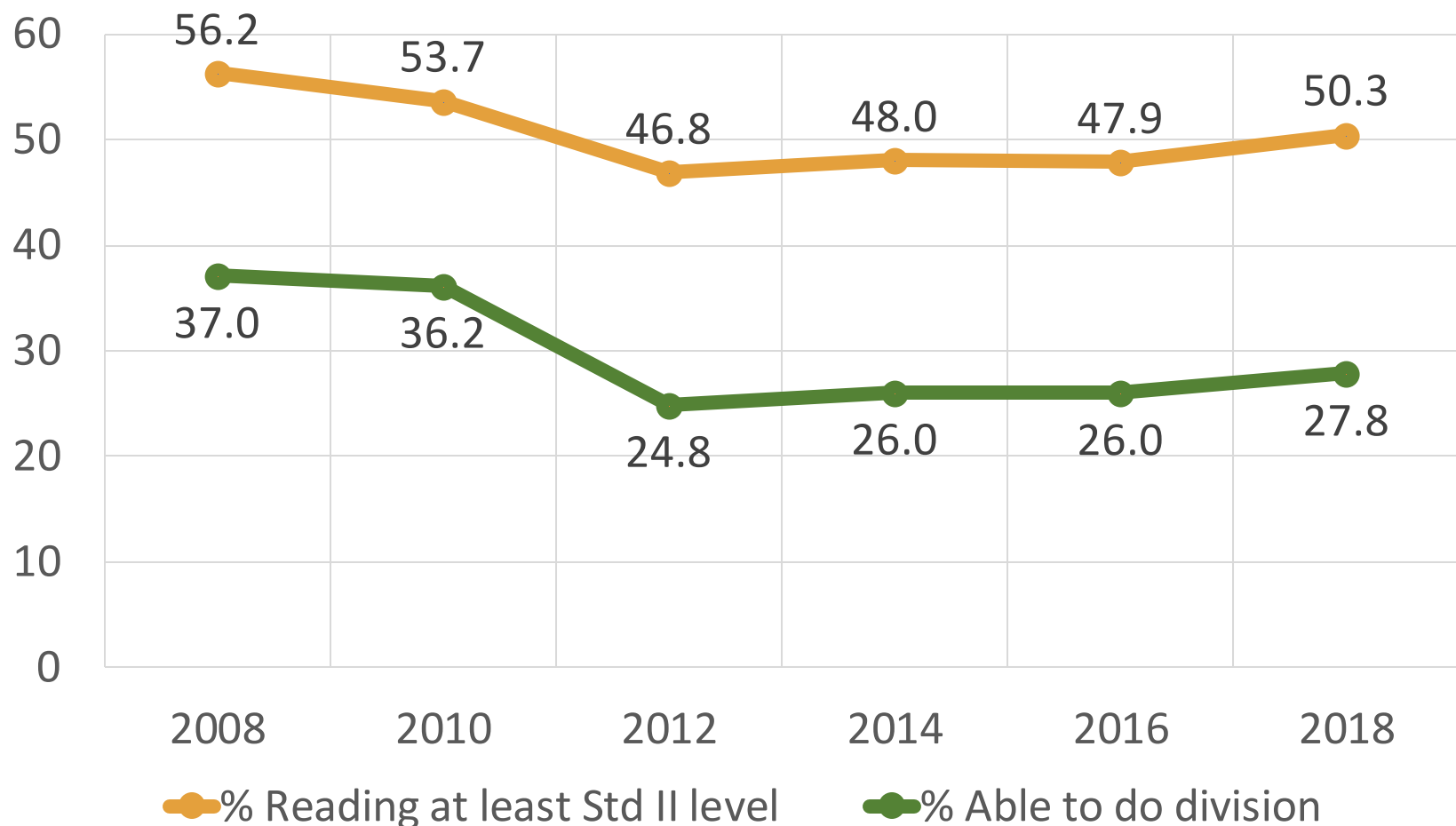
HP: Over 70% children are either at 'grade level' or close behind, so teaching from grade-level textbooks may be possible. Others will need ongoing support for basic skills.

UP: More than 60% cannot read words as yet. Urgent & immediate help is needed.

Std V: Learning levels gradually improving since 2016

Nationally, about half of all children can read, and less than a third can do basic arithmetic.

% Of all children in Std V who can at least read at Std II level and do basic arithmetic operations



States where government school children's performance has improved between 2016 & 2018 by at least 5 percentage points

Reading: 8 states.

HP, UP, OD, CHH, KaR, KeR, MZ, Arunachal

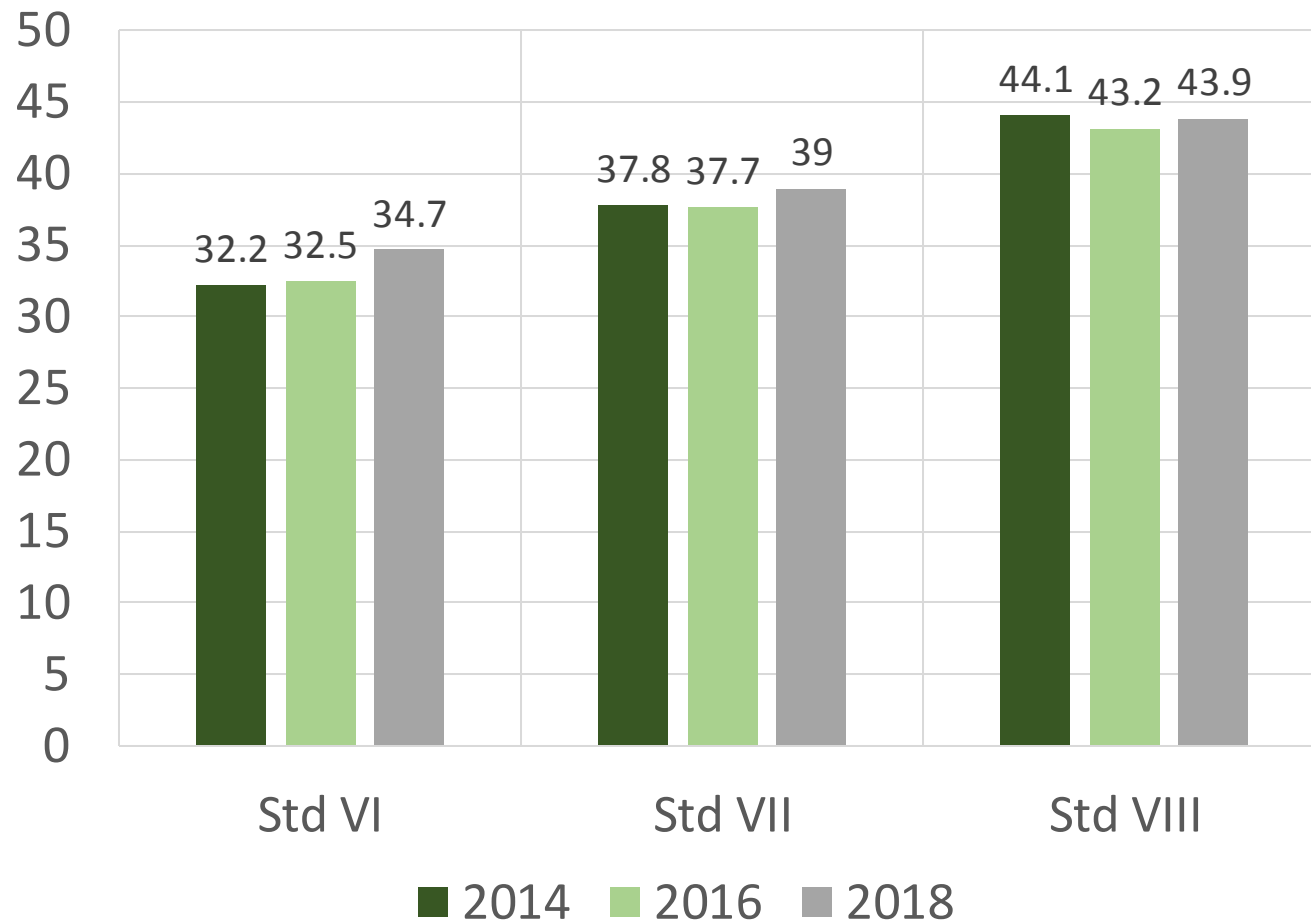
Arithmetic: 10 states.

Punjab, UP, Assam, CHH, MH, KeR, TN, NG, MZ, Arunachal

Note: Red font for states which are on both lists.

Std VI-VIII: Hardly any increase in learning levels in upper primary

% Children who can correctly solve numerical division problems in different grades:
All India (rural) All children over time 2014-2018



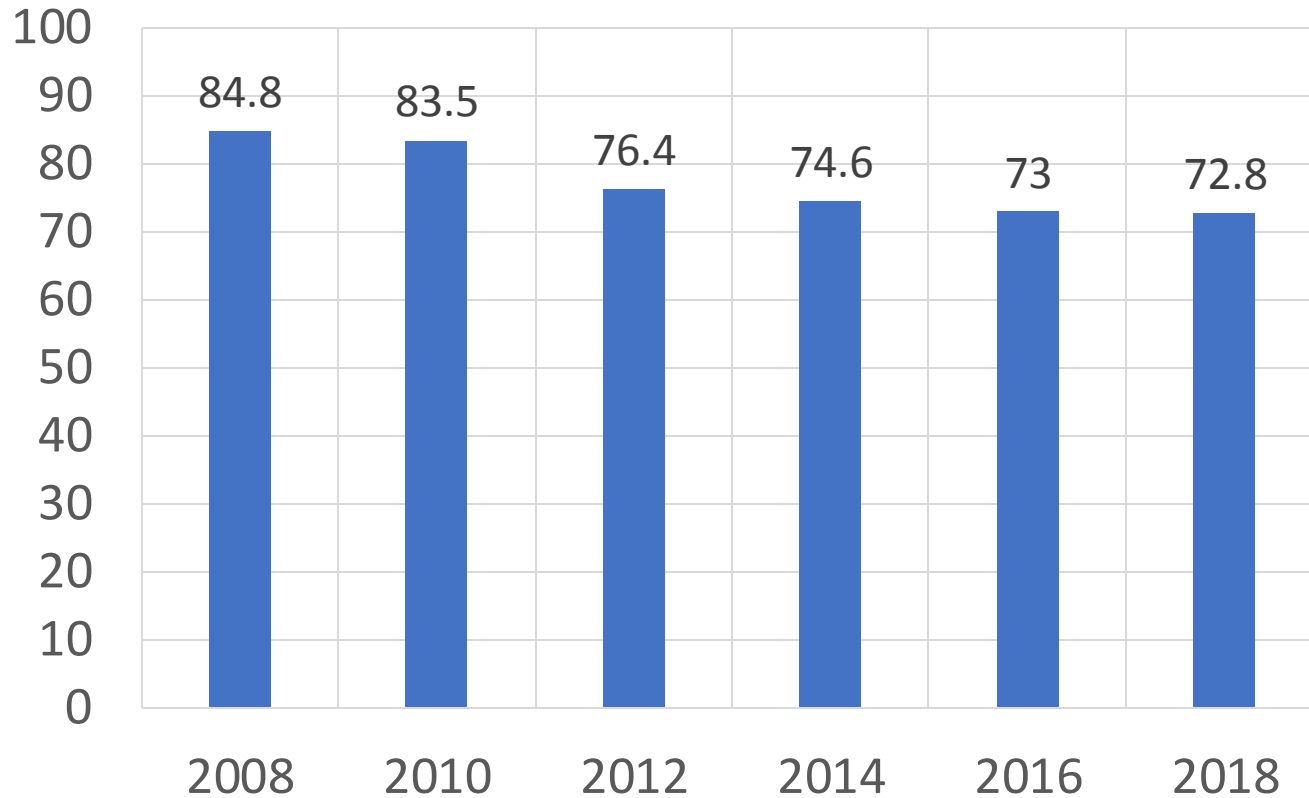
Three clear national trends:

- Basic math levels remain low. In Std VIII, more than half of all children are still struggling with division
- Additional 'value added' in terms of math skills for each year of schooling is low
- Experiences of each subsequent cohort is unchanged over time

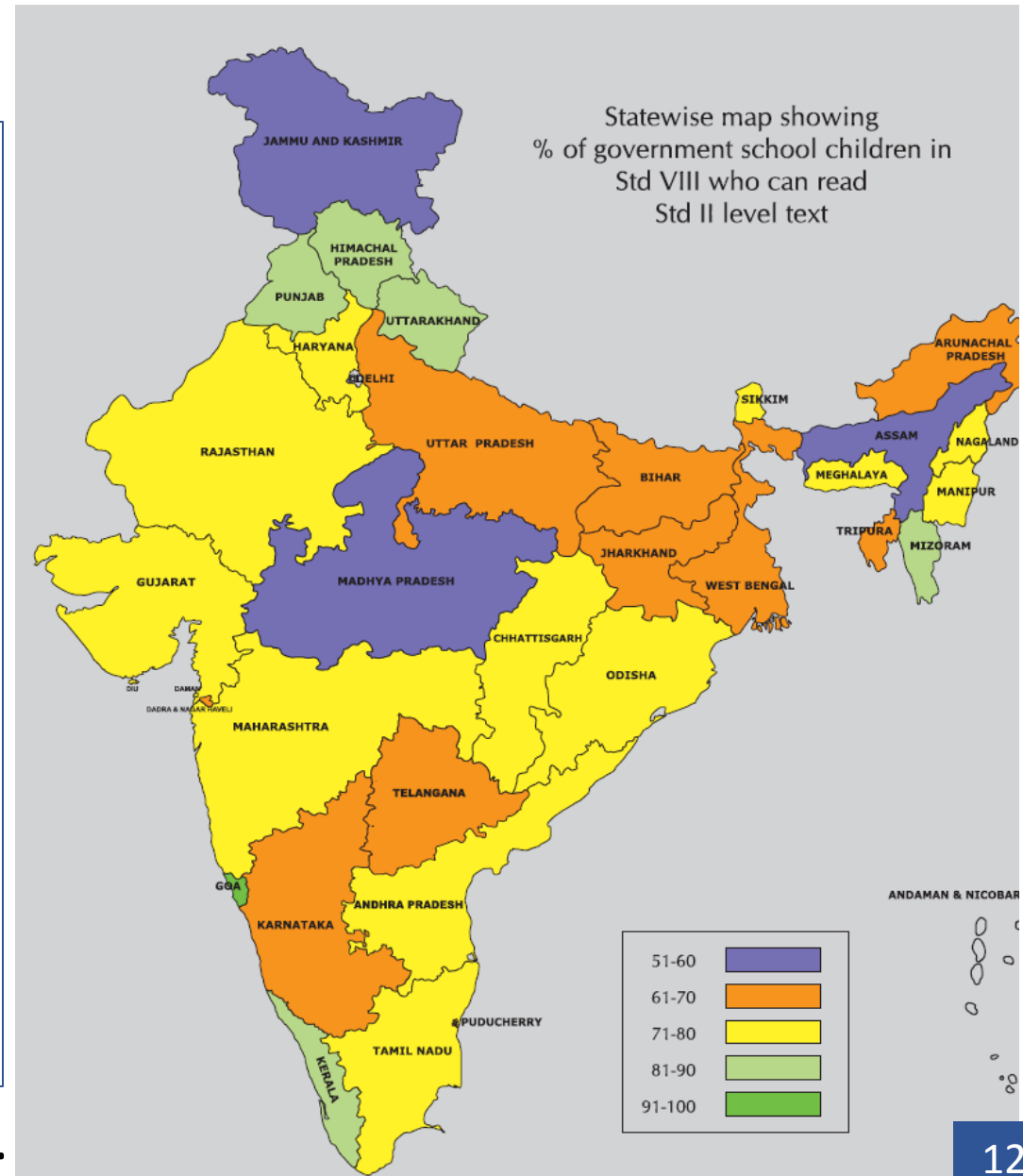
Without strong foundational skills it is difficult for children to cope with what is expected of them in upper primary grades. Need to provide them this help & opportunity.

1 out of 4 children leaving Std VIII without basic reading skills

Std VIII: % Children reading at least at Std II level: 2008 - 2018



All India figures continue to show decline over time.



'Beyond Basics': Older children and everyday calculations

In the age group 14-16, there is a gender difference in basic math capability. All India, 50.1% of boys in the age group 14-16 can do division. For girls, the figure is 44.1%.

In ASER 2018, children in the age group 14-16 were given some everyday tasks which involved computation. The results shown here are for those who can at least do division.

Calculating time

If this girl sleeps at this time at night and wakes up at this time in the morning, then for how many hours does she sleep?

Applying unitary method

If 3 tablets are needed to purify 15 litres of water, how many tablets are needed to purify 40 litres of water?

Financial decision making

These 5 books are available in two shops in a market. If you have to buy all 5 books, what is the least amount of money you would have to spend?

Shop 1 - Rate list		Shop 2 - Rate list	
Name of book	Price	Name of book	Price
Science	Special Offer!! Set of 5 books for ₹ 299 Only	Science	₹ 80
Math		Math	₹ 30
Hindi		Hindi	₹ 70
English		English	₹ 60
History		History	₹ 40

Calculating discount

This is the price of this T-shirt and it is available on a discount of 10 percent. If you were to buy this T-shirt, how much money would you need to spend?

Everyday calculations Children aged 14-16 who can do division	% Solving correctly	
	Boys	Girls
Calculating time	49.5	44.5
Applying unitary method	56.2	48.4
Financial decision making	38.3	35.8
Calculating discount	33.8	25.5

School facilities improving over time

As part of the ASER survey, one govt. school in the sampled village is visited.

In ASER 2018, 15,998 govt schools were visited.
9,177 primary schools & 6,821 upper primary schools

Selected school facilities: % Schools with:	2010	2016	2018
Midday meal on day of visit	84.6	87.1	87.1
Drinking water available	72.7	74	74.8
Toilet available & useable	47.2	68.6	74.2
Girls toilet available & useable	32.9	61.9	66.4
Playgrounds available	62.0	64.5	66.5
<i>*2018 data is for playground inside school premises only.</i>			
Library books available in school	62.6	75.4	74.2



In most states, school facilities have been improving over time, esp. provision of toilet

Concluding thoughts: Learning for all children has to be a priority

- Basic reading and math in early grades showing improvement in many states. Need to build on this momentum and sustain improvements.
- Helping children acquire skills of reading and basic math by the end of Std II or beginning of Std III will significantly reduce learning gaps in later stages.

- If children cannot read satisfactorily, pen-and-paper tests are not appropriate. Therefore, for Std III & even for Std V to assess foundational skills, oral/one-on-one methods are needed.
- Regardless of age and grade, it is important to focus immediately on building foundational skills. Without foundations in place, children cannot meaningfully benefit from additional years in school.
- Many children completing Std VIII are unprepared for higher studies or for the labour market. Preparation for school, work, and life is needed by this stage.

All ASER reports are available on:
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