About the Survey

What to do in a village?

How to make a map and make sections?

To start making a map: Walk around the village and talk to the villagers.

To get to know the village, walk around the whole village first before you start making the map.
Talk to people: Ask how many different hamlets/sections are there in the village? Where are they located?
Ask the children to take you around the village. Tell people about ASER. This initial process of walking and talking may take more than an hour.

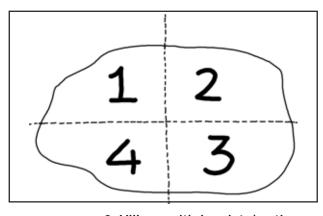
Map:

- **Rough map**: The purpose of a rough map is to understand the pattern of habitations in the village. Use the help of local people to show the main landmarks temples, mosques, river, schools, bus-stop, panchayat bhavan, shops etc. Mark the main roads/streets/paths through the village prominently on the map.
- **Final map**: Once everyone agrees that the rough map is a good representation of the village and it matches with your experience of having walked around the whole village, copy it on to the map sheet that has been given to you in the survey booklet.

Once the map is made, make sections on the map as follows:

How to mark and number hamlets/sections on the map you have made?

1. Continuous village



If it is a village with continuous habitations:

- Divide the entire village into 4 sections geographically.
- Assign each section a number. Write the number on the map.
- Select 5 households from each section.

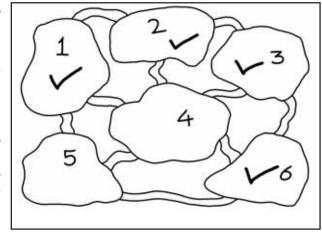
2. Village with hamlets/sections

If it is a village with different hamlets/sections:

• Assign each hamlet/section a number. Write the number on the map.

If the village has:

- 2 hamlets/sections: Divide each hamlet/ section in 2 parts and take 5 households from each section.
- 3 hamlets/sections: Take 7, 7 and 6 households from the 3 hamlets respectively.
- 4 hamlets/sections: Select 5 households from each hamlet/section.
- More than 4 hamlets/sections: Randomly pick 4 hamlets/sections and then select 5 households from each hamlet/section. On the map, tick the hamlets/sections chosen for the survey.



(more than 4 hamlets/sections in a village)

What to do in each hamlet/section?

Pick 5 households from each of the 4 selected hamlets/sections, using the following procedure:

- Go to each selected hamlet/section. Try to find the central point in that hamlet/section and start household selection from the left.
- Select every 5th household. Begin from the first household on your left. After you have surveyed this household, skip the next 4 households and select the 5th one. While selecting households, count only those dwellings that are residential. "Household" refers to every 'door or entrance to a house from the street'.
- If you have reached the end of the hamlet/section before 5 households are sampled, go around again using the same every 5th household rule. If a surveyed household gets selected again then go to the next household. Continue till you have surveyed 5 households from the hamlet/section.
- Stop after you have surveyed 5 households in the hamlet/section. Now move to the next selected hamlet/ section.
- If the hamlet/section has less than 5 households, then survey all the households in that hamlet/section and survey the remaining households from other hamlets/sections.
- If the village has less than 20 households, then survey all the households in the village.

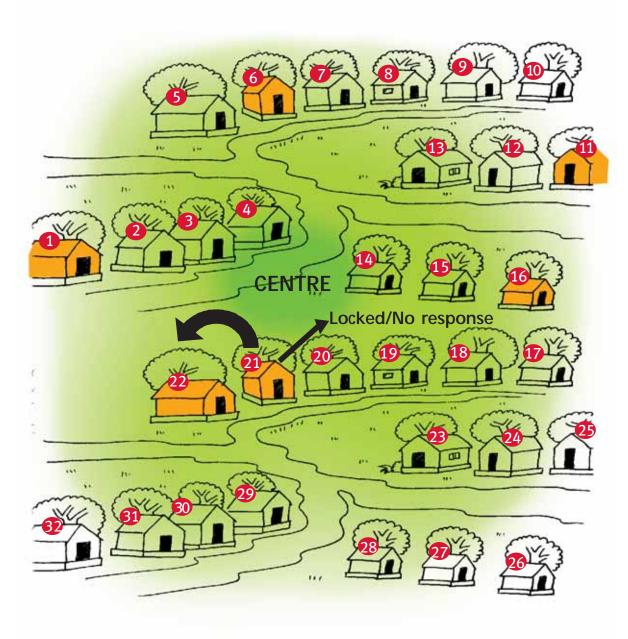
What to do if:

- 1. Household has multiple kitchens: In each house ask how many kitchens or 'chulhas' there are. If there is more than one kitchen in a household, then select the kitchen from which the respondent's family eats. You will survey only those individuals who regularly eat from the selected kitchen. After completing the survey in this house proceed to the next 5th house (counting from the next house on the street, not from the next 'chulha').
- 2. Household has no children: If there are no children in the age group 3–16 in the selected household but there are inhabitants, include that household. Take the information about the name of the head of the household, total number of members of the household, household assets, name of the respondent and mobile number of the household. Also, write the number of the hamlet/section from which the house has been selected from the map. Such a household will be counted as one of the 5 surveyed households in that hamlet/section but no information about mothers or fathers will be collected.
- 3. House closed: If the selected house is closed or if there is nobody at home, note that down on your Village Compilation Sheet (at the end of the survey booklet) as "house closed". This household does not count as a surveyed household. Do not include this household in the survey booklet. Move to the next/adjacent house.
- **4. No response:** If a household refuses to participate in the survey, record the house on your Village Compilation Sheet in the "no response" box. This household also does not count as a surveyed household. Do not include this household in the survey booklet. Move to the next/adjacent house.

Ensure that you go to households only when children are likely to be at home. This means that you will go to households after school hours and/or on a holiday/Sunday.

¹Respondent = An adult who is present in the household during the survey and is providing you with information.

How to sample households in a hamlet?



What to do in a house with multiple kitchens?



What to do in each household?

1. General information

- Household (HH) Number: Write down the household number on every sheet. Write 1 for the first household surveyed, 2 for the second household surveyed and so on till the 20th household.
- Total number of members in the HH who eat from the same kitchen: Ask this question to the adults present in the household and write down the total number. If there are multiple kitchens (chulhas) in the household, remember to include only those members who eat regularly from the same kitchen.

Note down the following:

- Respondent name: Respondent is an adult who is present in the household during the survey and is providing you with information.
- o Hamlet/Section no. (from the map) and/or name of hamlet/section from where the household is selected.

2. Information about children and adults living in the household

No information will be written in the household survey sheet about any individual who does not regularly live in the household and doesn't eat from the same kitchen.

We will collect information from the sampled household about all children aged 3-16 years who regularly live in the household and eat from the same kitchen. Ask members of the household to help you identify these children. All such children should be included, even if their parents live in another village or if they are the children of the domestic help in the household.

Rules for selecting children

- 1. Older children: Often older girls and boys (in the age group of 11 to 16 years) may not be thought of as children. Avoid saying "children". Probe about who all live in the household to make sure that nobody in this age group gets left out. Often older children who cannot read are very shy and hesitant about being tested. Be sensitive about this issue.
- 2. Children who are not at home at the time of survey: Often children are busy in the household or in the fields. If the child is somewhere nearby but not at home, take down information about the child, like name, age and schooling status. Ask family members to call the child so that you can speak to her directly. If she does not come immediately, make a note of the household and revisit it once you are done surveying the other households. But if there are children who regularly live in the household but are out of the village on the day of the survey, for e.g. if a child has gone to visit her relatives, we will write her information even if we cannot test her.
- 3. Children who are relatives but live in the sampled household on a regular basis: We will include these children because they live in the same household on a regular basis. But we will not take information about their parents if parents do not regularly live in this household.
- **4. Children not living in the household**: DO NOT INCLUDE children of this family who do not regularly live in the household, for e.g. children who are studying in another village or children who got married and are living elsewhere.
- **5. Visiting children:** DO NOT INCLUDE children who have come to visit their relatives or friends in the sampled household as they do not regularly live in the sampled household.

Many children may come up to you and want to be included out of curiosity. Do not discourage children who want to be tested. You can interact with them. But data must be noted down ONLY for children regularly living in the 20 households that have been randomly selected.

Now that we have identified which children to survey, let us understand what information is to be collected about each child. Remember, one row of the household survey sheet will be used for each child.

- Child's name, age and sex: Name, age and sex should be filled for all children aged 3-16 who live in the selected household. In the column for sex, write 'F' for female children and 'M' for male children.
- Children aged 3-6 years: The first block, "Pre-school children (Age 3-6)", is to be asked only for children aged 3 to 6 years. On the household sheet, note down whether they are attending anganwadi (ICDS), balwadi, or nursery/LKG/UKG, etc. If the child is not going to any anganwadi/preschool, etc., put a tick under 'Not going' in the "Pre-school children (Age 3-6)" section.
- **Children aged 5-16 years:** The remaining blocks of information are ONLY to be filled for children aged 5-16 years.

For In School Children (currently enrolled in school): The child's current schooling status and Std. will be noted. The following terms should be written under 'Std.', if the child is in pre-school:

'NUR' for nursery; 'LKG' for LKG; 'UKG' for UKG; 'AW' for Anganwadi; 'BW' for Balwadi.

For Out of School Children (who are currently not enrolled in school):

- o If the child has never been enrolled in school, then put a tick under 'Never Enrolled'.
- o If the child has dropped out of school, then put a tick under 'Drop out'.

Note the Std. in which the child was studying when she dropped out irrespective of whether she passed or failed in that Std. Probe carefully to find out these details.

Also, note the actual year when the child left school. E.g. if the child dropped out in 2006 write '2006'. Similarly if the child dropped out in the last few months write '2013'.

For all children (aged 5-16 years):

- o Ask the respondent if the children aged 5-16 take any tuition, meaning paid classes outside school. If they do take paid tution classes then ask how much do the parents pay for the child's tuition per month.
 - If the respondent cannot tell you the amount paid for child's tuition per month then leave the box blank.
 - If the child takes more than one paid tuition class, then add the payment for all the classes (per month) and write the total amount paid for the child's tuition classes per month.
- o Ask the children if they attend the specific government school which you have/will be surveying. Do not ask this to children who are not currently enrolled in school.
- o All children in this age group (5-16 years) will be tested in basic reading and arithmetic. (We know that younger children will not be able to read much or solve arithmetic problems but still follow the same process for all children so as to keep the process uniform).

Mother's background information: At the beginning of the entry for each child, we ask for the name of the child's mother. Note down her name only if she is alive and regularly living in the household. If the child's mother is dead or not living in the household we will not write her name. If the mother has died or has been divorced and the child's stepmother (father's present wife) is living in the household, we will include her as the child's mother. Note down the mother's age and schooling information in the box provided.

Father's background information: At the end of the entry for each child, we ask for the age and schooling information of the child's father. We will only write this information if the father is alive and regularly living in the household. If the father is dead or not living in the household we will not ask for this information. If the father has died or has been divorced and the child's stepfather (mother's present husband) is living in the household, we will include him as the child's father.

3. Household indicators

All information on household indicators is to be recorded, based as much as possible, on observation. However, if for some reason you cannot observe it, note down what is reported by household members only and not by others. In case of assets like TV, mobile phone, ask whether it is there in the household and whether it is owned by the household or not. This information is being collected in order to link education status of the child with the household's economic conditions.

- Type of house: Types of houses are categorized as follows:
 - o **Pucca house:** A pucca house is one which has walls and roof made of the following material:
 - Material for walls: Burnt bricks, stones (packed with lime or cement), cement concrete, timber, ekra etc.
 - Material for roof: Tiles, GCI (Galvanised Corrugated Iron) sheets, asbestos cement sheet, RBC (Reinforced Brick Concrete), RCC (Reinforced Cement Concrete), timber etc.
 - o **Kutcha house:** The walls and roof are made of material other than those mentioned above, such as un-burnt bricks, bamboos, mud, grass, reeds, thatch, loosely packed stones, etc.
 - o **Semi-kutcha house:** A house that has fixed walls made of pucca material but the roof is made of material other than those used for pucca houses.
- **Motorized 2 wheeler:** Ask the respondent and mark 'yes' if the household owns a motorized two wheeler like a motorcycle/scooter, otherwise mark 'no'.

• Electricity in the household:

- o Mark 'yes' or 'no' by observing if the household has wires/electric meters and fittings and bulbs.
- o If there is an electricity connection, ask whether the household had electricity at any time on the day of your visit, not necessarily when you are doing the survey.
- **Toilet:** Mark 'yes' or 'no' by observing if there is a constructed toilet in the house. If you are not able to observe, then ask whether there is a constructed toilet in the house or not.
- **Television:** Mark 'yes' or 'no' by observing if the house has a television or not. If you are not able to observe, then ask. It does not matter if the television is in working condition or not.
- Cable TV: If there is a TV in the household, ask whether there is cable TV. This includes any cable facility which is paid for by the household (include Direct To Home (DTH) facility). Mark 'yes' if there is cable facility. If not, mark under 'no'.

· Reading material

- o Newspaper: Mark 'yes' if the household gets a newspaper everyday. If not, mark under 'no'.
- Other reading material: This includes story books, magazines, religious books, comics etc., but does not include calendars and school textbooks. If the above reading material is available, mark 'yes', otherwise mark 'no'.

Other questions for the household:

- o Mark 'yes' if anyone in the household (apart from mother(s) and father(s) whose background information has already been recorded earlier) has completed Std.12.
- o Mark 'yes' if anyone in the household knows how to use a computer.
- o If the household has a mobile phone mark 'yes' and note the mobile number in the next column. The mobile number will only be used for the recheck process and not for any other purpose. Please tell household members that this is the reason for taking the mobile number.

If you do not get an answer for a question in the household survey sheet, leave the column for that question blank.

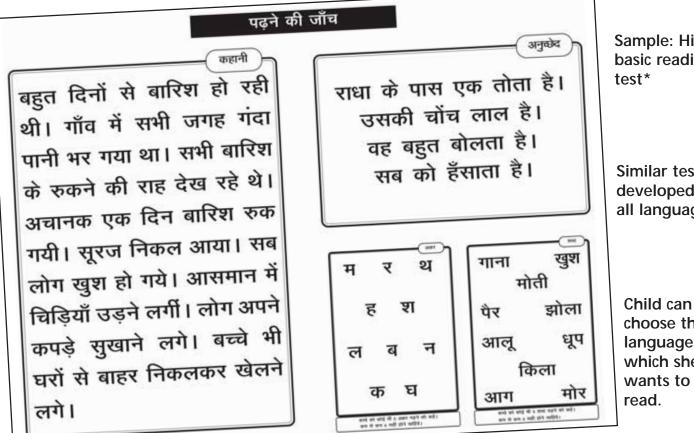
Be polite. Often a lot of people gather around and want to know what is going on. Explain what you are doing and why. Tell them about the ASER survey. Remember to thank people after you have finished surveying the household.

ASER 2013: Reading tasks



All children were assessed using a simple reading tool. The reading test has 4 categories:

- Letters: Set of commonly used letters.
- Words: Common familiar words with 2 letters and 1 or 2 matras.
- Level 1 (Std 1) text: Set of 4 simple linked sentences, each having no more than 4-5 words. These words or their equivalent are in the Std 1 textbook of the states.
- Level 2 (Std 2) text: Short story with 7-10 sentences. Sentence construction is straightforward, words are common and the context is familiar to children. These words (or their equivalent) are in the Std 2 textbook of the states.



Sample: Hindi basic reading

Similar tests developed in all languages

choose the language in which she wants to

While developing these tools in each state language, care is taken to ensure:

- Comparability with the previous years' tools with respect to word count, sentence count, type of word and conjoint letters in words.
- Compatibility with the vocabulary and sentence construction used in Std 1 and Std 2 language textbooks of the states.
- Familiarity with words and context through extensive field piloting.

^{*} Shortened to a more concise layout for purposes of this report. However the four components or 'levels' of the tool remain the same in the full version.

How to test reading?

PARAGRAPH

START HERE:

Ask the child to read either of the 2 paragraphs.

Let the child choose the paragraph herself. If the child does not choose, give her any one paragraph to read. Ask her to read it. Listen carefully to how she reads.

The child is not at 'Paragraph Level' if the child:

- Reads the text like a string of words, rather than a sentence.
- Reads the text haltingly and stops very often.
- Reads the text fluently but with more than 3 mistakes.

The child can read a paragraph, if the child:

- Reads the text like she is reading sentences, rather than a string of words.
- Reads the text fluently and with ease, even if she is reading slowly.
- Reads the text with 3 or less than 3 mistakes.

If the child is not at 'Paragraph Level', then ask the child to read words.

If the child can read a paragraph, then ask the child to read the story.

WORDS

Ask the child to read any 5 words from the word list.

Let the child choose the words herself. If she does not, then point out any 5 words to her.

The child is at 'Word Level' if the child:

• Reads at least 4 out of the 5 words with ease.

Ask the child to read the story.

STOR

The child is at 'Story Level' if the child:

- Reads the text like she is reading sentences, rather than a string of words.
- Reads the text fluently and with ease, even if she is reading slowly.
- Reads the text with 3 or less than 3 mistakes.

If the child is at **Word Level**', then ask her to try to read the paragraph again and then follow the instructions for paragraph level testing.

If she can correctly and comfortably read words but is still struggling with the paragraph, then mark the child at 'Word Level'.

If the child is not at 'Word Level' (cannot correctly read at least 4 out of the 5 words chosen), then show her the list of letters.

If the child can read the story then mark the child at 'Story Level'.

If the child is not at 'Story Level', then mark the child at 'Paragraph Level'.

LETTERS

Ask the child to read any 5 letters from the letter list.

Let the child choose the letters herself. If she does not choose, then point out any 5 letters to her. The child is at 'Letter Level' if the child:

Correctly recognizes at least 4 out of 5 letters with ease.

If the child is at 'Letter Level', then ask her to try reading the words again and then follow the instructions for word level testing.

If she can recognize 4 out of 5 letters but cannot comfortably read words, then mark the child at 'Letter Level'. If the child is not at 'Letter Level' (cannot recognize 4 out of 5 letters chosen), then mark the child at 'Beginner Level'.

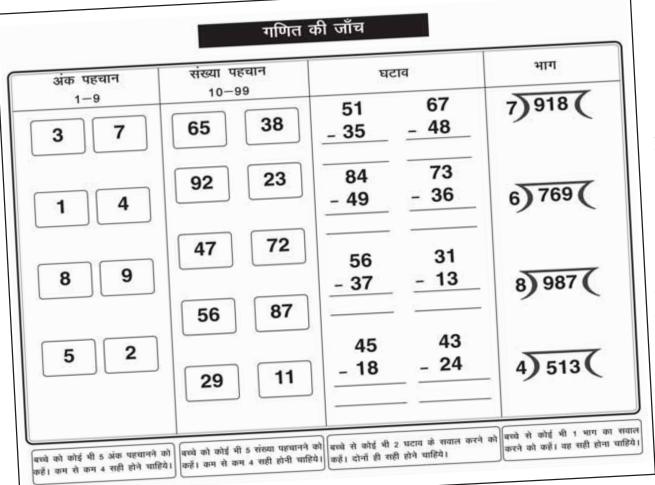
IN THE HOUSEHOLD SURVEY SHEET, MARK THE CHILD AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL SHE CAN REACH.

ASER 2013: Arithmetic tasks



All children were assessed using a simple arithmetic tool. The arithmetic test has 4 categories:

- Number recognition 1 to 9: Randomly chosen numbers between 1 to 9.
- Number recognition 10 to 99: Randomly chosen numbers between 10 to 99.
- Subtraction: 2 digit numerical problems with borrowing.
- Division: 3 digit by 1 digit numerical problems.



Sample: Arithmetic test

Similar tests developed in all languages

SUBTRACTION 2 digit with borrowing

START HERE:

Show the child the subtraction problems. Ask the child to choose a problem, if not, then you pick one.

Ask the child what the numbers are and then ask the child to identify the subtraction sign.

If the child is able to identify the numbers and the sign, ask her to write and solve the problem. Observe to see if the answer is correct.

Even if the first subtraction problem is answered wrong, still ask the child to solve the second question with the same method. If the second problem is correct ask the child to try and do the first problem again.

If the child makes a careless mistake, then give the child another chance with the same question.

If the child **cannot do both** subtraction problems correctly, then ask the child to recognize numbers from 10-99.

Even if the child does just one subtraction problem wrong, give them the number recognition (10-99) task.

If the child **does both** the subtraction problems correctly, ask the child to do a division problem.

NUMBER RECOGNITION (10-99)

Ask the child to identify any 5 numbers from the list. Let the child choose the numbers herself. If she does not choose, then point out any 5 numbers to her.

If she can correctly identify at least 4 out of 5 numbers then mark her at 'Number Recognition (10-99) Level'.

DIVISION 3 digit by 1 digit

Show the child the division problems. She can choose any one problem. If not, then you pick one.

Ask her to write and solve the problem.

Observe what she does. If she is able to correctly solve the problem, then mark the child at 'Division Level'. Note: The quotient and the remainder both have to be correct.

If the child makes a careless mistake, then give the child another chance with the same question.

If the child cannot recognize numbers from 10-99, then ask the child to recognise numbers from 1-9.

If the child is unable to solve a division problem correctly, mark the child at 'Subtraction Level'.

NUMBER RECOGNITION (1-9)

Ask the child to identify any 5 numbers from the list. Let the child choose the numbers herself. If she does not choose, then point out any 5 numbers to her

If she can correctly identify at least 4 out of 5 numbers then mark her at 'Number Recognition (1-9) Level'.

If the child is not at 'Number Recognition (1-9)' level (cannot recognize numbers 1-9), mark her at 'Beginner Level'.

NOTE: ASK THE CHILD TO SOLVE THE ARITHMETIC PROBLEMS AT THE BACK OF THE HOUSEHOLD SURVEY SHEET.

IN THE HOUSEHOLD SURVEY SHEET, MARK THE CHILD AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL SHE CAN REACH.

What to do in a school?

General instructions

- Visit any Government Upper Primary School in the village with classes from Std. 1 to 7/8. If there is no school in the village which has classes from Std. 1 to 7/8, then visit a Government Primary School (Std. 1 to 4/5). If there is more than one Government Primary School in the village, then visit the Government Primary School with the highest enrollment in Std. 1 to 4/5. In the top left box of the school observation sheet, tick according to the school type.
- Meet the Head Master (HM). If the HM is not present, meet the senior most teacher. He/she will be the respondent. Explain the purpose and importance of ASER and give him/her the letter. Be very polite. Assure the respondent and teachers that the name of the school will not be shared with anybody.
- Ask the respondent for his/her phone number for the purpose of recheck.
- Note the time of entry, date and day of visit to the school.
- Ask the respondent for the enrollment register or any official document for the enrollment figures in that school.

1. Children's enrollment & attendance

- Ask for the registers of all the classes and fill in the enrollment information from them. If a standard/class has many sections, then take total enrollment.
- Then move around to the classes/areas where children are seated and take down their attendance class-wise by counting yourself. You may need to seek help from the teachers to distinguish children class-wise as they are often found seated in mixed groups. In such a case, ask children from each Std. to raise their hands. Count the number of raised hands and accordingly fill the same class-wise in the observation sheet. Please note that only children who are physically present in the class while you are counting should be included.
- Attendance of class with many sections: Take headcount of the individual sections, add them up and then write down the total attendance.

Official medium of instruction in the school

- Note the official language used as the medium of instruction.
- If the school has more than 1 official medium of instruction, note all of them in the box provided.

3. Teachers

- Ask the respondent and note down the number of teachers appointed. Acting HM will be counted as a
 regular teacher. HM on deputation will be counted under the regular HM category. Do not include the HM
 in the regular government teacher column.
- Observe how many HMs/teachers are present and note down this information.
- If the school has para-teachers, mark them separately. (Definition of a para-teacher: Para-teacher is a contract teacher with a different pay scale than that of a regular teacher). In many states para-teachers are called by different names such as Shiksha Mitra, Panchayat Shikshak, Vidya Volunteer etc.
- Do not include NGO volunteers in the list of teachers.

4. Continuous and Comprehensive Evaluation (CCE)

- Ask the respondent if he/she has heard about CCE.
- If he/she has not heard about CCE then don't ask the next question.
- If he/she has heard about CCE, then ask if the teachers have received a CCE manual/format.
- If yes, ask the respondent to show you the CCE manual/format and tick accordingly.

5. Mid-Day Meal (MDM)

- Ask the respondent whether the mid-day meal was served in the school today.
- Observe if there is a kitchen/shed for cooking the mid-day meal.
- Observe if any food is being cooked in the school today.
- Observe whether the mid-day meal was served in the school today (look for the evidence of the mid-day meal in the school like dirty utensils or meal bought from outside). Mark accordingly.

6. Classroom observations - only for Std. 2 and Std. 4

This section is for Std. 2 and Std. 4 only. If there is more than one section for a class, then randomly choose any one section to observe. You may need to seek help from the teachers to distinguish children class-wise as more than one classes may be seated together.

- Are two/more classes sitting together in the same class or is a single class sitting separately? (The seating arrangement of children)
- Is there a blackboard where the children are sitting? If yes, could you write on it easily?
- Was there any teaching material other than textbooks available like charts on the wall, board games etc.? (Material painted on the walls of the classroom is not counted as teaching material)
- Where are children sitting? (In the classroom, in the verandah or outside)

7. Facilities observation

Observe the following and fill accordingly:

- Observe and count the total number of pucca rooms (excluding toilets). Also observe and count the total number of pucca rooms used for teaching on the day of the survey.
- Observe if there is an office/store/office cum-store. Tick under 'yes' if even one of these is present.
- Observe if there is a playground. (Definition of a playground: it should be within the school premises with a level playing field and/or playing equipment eg: slide, swings etc)
- Observe if there are library books in the school (even if kept in a cupboard).
- If there is a library, then observe if library books are being used by children.
- Observe if there is a hand pump/tap. If yes, whether you could drink water from it. If there is no handpump/tap or you could not drink water from it, check whether any other source of drinking water is available.
- Observe if the school has a complete boundary wall or complete fencing. It can be with or without a gate.
- Observe if there are computers to be used by children in the school. If yes, then did you see children using computers?

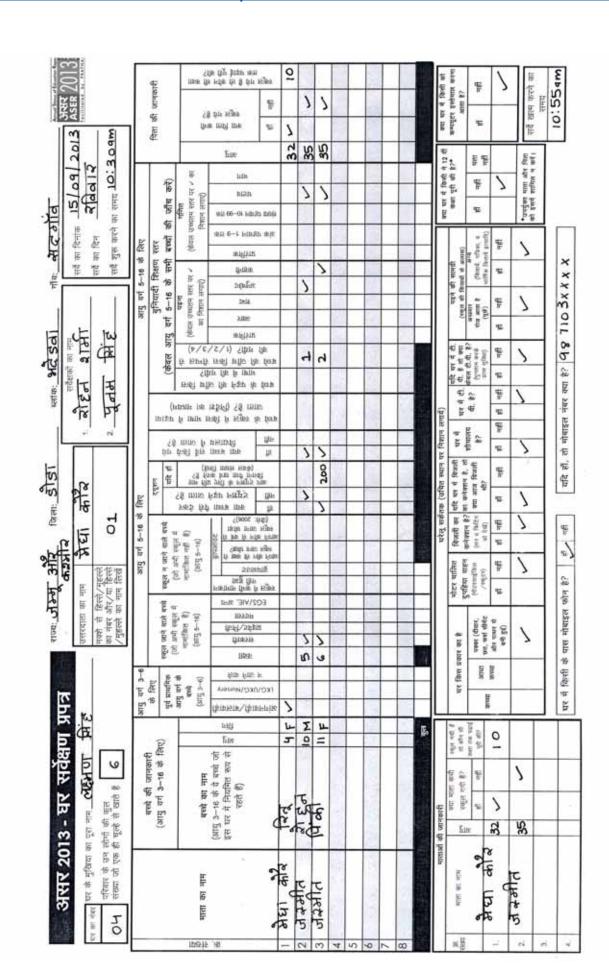
8. Toilets

- Observe whether the school has a common toilet, a separate toilet for girls, a separate toilet for boys and a separate toilet for teachers. Ask the respondent or any teacher or any child if you cannot tell who the toilets are for.
- For each type of toilet facility that you find at the school, note whether it is locked or not. If it was unlocked, note whether it was usable or not. A usable toilet is a toilet with water available for use (running water/ stored water) and a basic level of cleanliness.
- If 2 common toilets or other type of toilets are there in the school then take information about the toilet which is in a better condition.

Sample household survey sheet - English

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5 0					dgein which ogein ead									phric	household	cable IV	, a		
10 10	A		()	struction	i to mulbar	u)							100	bbuc		-	o N	1	_
ROHAN SHA	POONAM		PHYS		gaugnai rioi e ni Irigual	um uj								HOUSEHOLD INDICATORS (Tick the appropriate column)	N in	ponsepold	z .	,	-
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4	7			ob blin	Does the c	101		7	>					RS (T	Tolled in	household	2	7	_
	_		I Yes	30th k	schild's fulfice in (write only)	HIL			200					ATO			, fee		_
8		8	111/12	currer currer	MOH		2	N	+	H	-		DIC	If electricity in household, was	there electricity today?	e Z	7		
AUR		-16	100		Does the c	10),			>					9	lectric sehol	today?			-
×	SE.	3e 5.	-	. 8	300617 100 out	p.noA								ЭН	minutes (gr	Ž.	*		_
4	10	For age	Out of School	(Curently not errolled in school (Age 5-16)	Accarded Chooks	4.104			+	+	H	+		ons	Electricity	place for wires and mineral	2		
MEGHA	~	F	ut of Scho	Curently no pled in sch (Age 5-16)	Std. with		-	-	-	+	H	+		T			Ē	1	
Σ			9	0.0	belowe w				1	+	\Box	+	\vdash		Motorised 2 wheeler	(Notocycle) scooter!	No	1	
9 0	oud/		E .		NE other	EC?							П		Moto 2 wh	MO5	Ē		
Tour I	(ham the map) and, or name of hamiet/ section		In school children	- 19	оцоро	_											pud ()		Ī
rident	28.		000	school] (Age 5-16)	91099			7		+	H	+	Н	П	91	th we	of brick and cement)	7	
Retbo	or name		sch		. D12	.00		ro.	9	+	H	+	(g)	П	f hou	27	50		_
1		0	_		SuroD jo	_		4.	9	+	Н	+	100	П	Type of house	Semi			
I		For age	3-6 Pre-school	Children (Age 3-6)	Artsmin/93	1				\top	\Box	+	H		-	Kutcha Kutcha celling floor			-
SINGH		For	Pre-s	2 S	ibowio8/ibow	чебиу	7						\Box	Ш		Kuf			_
S		Г		П	xəs		L	Σ	L		\Box			П	9 E.	. 5			-
Z					γθe		3	20	=				1		If affended school, then	riplefe	0		
MAL			ation 16)		polar)									z			-27		
ES L	٥		Child information (for age 3-16)	Pilit	(Chloren age 3-16 regularly living in the household)								盛	ATIO	aver aftended	2		7	
3			ild int	Name of child	22			2	7				4	FORM	at at	II.	7		Ī
900	e Luc	-	55	Eog	F 100		5	ROHAN	PINKY				4	NI ON			0.00	10	_
Illy Pa	2			*	Page 1		RITU	80	PIR				开	ROU	aby	-	32	35	-
Full name at tamily head LAKSHMAN	HH who eat hom the same sticken	\vdash		_	8	-	100		+	+	H	-		MOTHER'S BACKGROUND INFORMATION	96		KAUR	+	
теа	90			e			MEGHA KAUR		4					R'S BA	Mother's name		7		
in and and	HH who Glichen			Mother's name			×	ET	JASMEE					OTHE	Jother		Y.	JASMEE	
1 0				the			SHA	JAS MEET	50					2	5		MEGHA	AS	
NH NG	070	1		×			W	8	15				foldi				Σ	2	

Sample household survey sheet - Hindi



Sample village information sheet - English

VILLAGE INFORMATION SHEET



	State Name	JAMMU AND KASHMIR	Block Name	BHADERWAH
D	District Name	DODA	Village Name	SADGAON
	Surv	reyors' names:	1. ROHAN SHA	RMA
	6509921	Professional Residence (Professional Professional Profess	2. POONAM SIN	GH
De	ate of Survey	14/09/2013	Day of Survey	SATURDAY
10	Please tick	(✓) the relevant box	yourself? (Tick Y	lowing services in the village es/No based on your own bservation)
	Pucca road le	eading to the village?	✓ YES	NO
	Electricity cor	nection in the village?	✓ YES	NO
192	Post office in t	the village?	YES	✓ NO
BASIC SERVICES	Bank (any typ	e) in the village?	YES	✓ NO
C SER	Govt. Ration/	PDS shop in the village?	✓ YES	NO
BASI	Govt. Primary, village?	/Sub Health Centre in the	✓ YES	NO
	Private health	clinic in the village?	YES	✓ NO
	Computer cer village?	ntre/internet café in the	YES	✓ NO
		cility using solar energy c) in the village?	✓ YES	NO
	Govt. Primary village?	School (Std. 1 to 4/5) in the	YES	✓ NO
	Govt. Upper - in the village?	primary School (Std. 1 to 7/8)	✓ YES	NO
SOCS	Govt. Second village?	ary School (Std. 1 to 10) in the	YES	✓ NO
SCHOOLS	Govt. school village?	(Std. 6 to 8/10/12) in the	YES	✓ NO
	Private school	in the village?	YES	✓ NO
	Pre-school (Anganwadi/B the village?	alwadi/LKG/UKG/Nursery) in	✓ YES	NO

	गाँव की जान	कारी प्रपत्र	असर 2011 ASER 2011
रा	ज्य का नाम जिस्सू और क्रमीर	ब्लॉक का नाम	अदेड्बा
fū	तले का नाम	गाँव का नाम	सद गाँव
-1	सर्वेक्षकों का नाम	1. बोहन शर्मा 2. पूनम सिंह	1.00.112
संदे	र्वे का दिनांक 14 09 2013	सर्वे का दिन	शनिवार
	चचित स्थान पर सही (√) का निशान लगाएं		खेत सुविधाओं को खुद देख गर पर हाँ / नहीं पर निशान गाएं)
	क्या गाँव में जाने के लिये पक्की सड़क है?	🗸 हीं	नहीं
	क्या गाँव में बिजली का कनेक्शन है?	✓ gĩ	नहीं
	क्या गाँव में डाकघर है?	हों	🗸 नहीं
	क्या गाँव में बैंक है (किसी भी प्रकार का)?	हों	🗸 नहीं
सेवाएं	क्या गाँव में सरकारी राशन/PDS की दुकान है?	√ हीं	नहीं
बुनियादी सेवाएं	क्या गाँव में सरकारी स्वास्थ्य / उप स्वास्थ्य केंद्र (PHC/Sub Centre) है?	√ हों	नहीं
	वया गाँव में निजी स्वास्थ्य केंद्र है?	हों	🗸 नहीं
	वया गाँव में कम्पयूटर सेंटर/इंटरनेट कैफे है?	हों	🗸 नहीं
	क्या गाँव में सौर ऊर्जा (solar energy) का प्रयोग करने वाला उपकरण/सुविधा है? (निजी/सार्वजनिक)	✓ हाँ	नहीं
	क्या गाँव में सरकारी प्राथमिक विद्यालय (कक्षा 1 से 4/5 तक) है?	हाँ	✓ नहीं
	क्या गाँव में सरकारी उच्च प्राथमिक विद्यालय (कक्षा 1 से 7/8 तक) है?	✓ हॉ	नहीं
E	क्या गाँव में सरकारी माध्यमिक विद्यालय (कक्षा 1 से 10 तक) है?	हीं	🗸 नहीं
स्कृत	क्था गाँव में सरकारी विद्यालय (कक्षा 6 से 8/10/12 तक) है?	हाँ	🗸 नहीं
	क्या गाँव में निजी (private) विद्यालय है?	हीं	🗸 नहीं
	क्या गाँव में पूर्व प्राथमिक विद्यालय है? (ऑगनवाड़ी/बालवाड़ी/LKG/UKG/Nursery)	√ हाँ	नहीं

Sample school observation sheet - English

SHAR MA

2. POONAM

Surveyors' names:

ASER 2013 - SCHOOL OBSERVATION SHEET

Name of school: KUMARVIDYA MANDIR SADGAON

Name of village:

SADGAON

State: JAMMU & KASHMIR

3747 201

INSTRUCTIONS: Visit any government school (Std. 1 to 7/8) in the village. If there is no school in the village which has classes from Std. 1 to 7/8, then visit the government school in the village which has the highest enrollment in Std. 1 to 4/5. Do not visit a government school if it has no classes from Std. 1 to 4/5. If there is no government school in the village with classes from Std. 1 to 4/5, do not visit any school. Meet the Head Master (in the absence of the HM, meet the senior most teacher of the school). Documents required: Register with enrollment details of children.

District: DODA

Block: BHADE RWAH

				Resp	Respondent Inf	formati	ion	Date of	Day of	
-	which std.	to which St	from which std. to which std. (fick any one) Name	Name	AKSHAY KUMAR	1 KUI	MAR	survey	survey	_
	Std.	/Std.	Othors	Designation	n(Tick)	¥	Teacher	8		
	1 to 4/5	1 to 6/7/8		Phone no.	The no. 921273 XXXX	13 X J	×××	4/0d	SATURDAY	>

1. CHILDREN'S ENROLLMENT & ATTENDANCE	Std.1	SId.1 SId.2 SId.3 SId.4 SId.5 SId.6 SId.7 SId.8	Std.3	Std.4	SId.5	Std.6	Std.7	Std.8
Children's enrollment (Take from egister yourself), If more than 1 section write the total	25	30	រិ	26 31	3.	40	40 20	19
Children's attendance today*	20	24	12	22	21	12 22 21 30	12	3

*Note: Take a headcount of children in the room. If more than one class is seated together, ask the children of each class to raise their hands separately and then count accordingly, If more than I section, do headcount in all sections and write the total.

3. TEACHERS	Number Appointed (Ask)	Prese (Obset
Head Master (Doesn't include acting HM)	-	-
Regular govt. teachers (Doesn't include Head Master)	7	Ŋ
Para-leachers	0	0

ENGLIS H

2. OFFICIAL MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION

IN THE SCHOOL

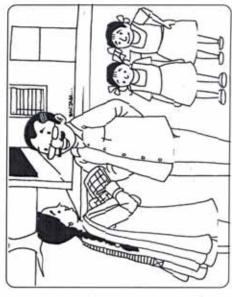
5. MID-DAY MEAL		
Tick the relevant box.	Yes	°2
Was mid-day meal served in the school today? (Ask)	7	
is there a kitchen/shed for cooking mid-day meal?(Observe)	1	
Did you see food being cooked in the school? (Observe)		7
Did you see any evidence of the meal being served to the children today (Look for the evidence like dirty utensits or meal bount from outside)? (Observe)	7	

4. CONTINUOUS AND COMPREHENSIVE EVALUATION	z		
Have you heard about Continuous and Comprehensive Evaluation/CCE?		Yes	Š
If yes,		,	
How many teachers in this school have received a Continuous all stand Comprehensive Evaluation manual or format? (Ask)	оше	Some None Don't	Don't know
If manual or format was received, ask the respondent to show if			
Could you see a Continuous and Comprehensive Evaluation manual or format in the school? (Ask and observe)	rmat	Yes	»

6. CLAS	6. CLASSROOM OBSERVATIONS	ATIONS				7. FACILITIES OBSERVATION ASER	ASER 20
Tick the relevant box						Total number of pucca rooms in the school excluding tollets (count yourself and write)	rite)
Observe	Ē	Ste	Std. 2	386	\$1d. 4	Total number of rooms being used for teaching today (count yourself and write)	1
(If more than 1 section, choose any 1)	se any 1)	Yes	No	Yes	No	Tick the relevant box	Yes
Are the children of this Std. sitting with children from any	children from any	1			\	Did you see an office /stare/ office-cum stare?	1
other Std.7	CARTEST MEDITALISMS	>			1	Did you see a playground?	1
is there a blackboard for this class?))		Did you see Ilbrary books in the school?	3
						If yes, did you see library books being used/read by children?	
If yes, could you easily write on the blackboard?	:kboard?	7		7		Did you see a handpump/tap?	7
Apart from text books, did you see any other TLM (e.g.	other TLM (e.g.	,				If there is a handpump/tap, could you use it to drink water?	1
other books, charts on the wall, board games etc.) in the room?	games etc.) in the	>			7	If there is no handpump/tap or it is not usable, did you see drinking water available?	
	Classroom	7		,	\	Did you see a complete boundary wall or fencing?	1
Where is the class seated? (fick one)	Verondah					Did you see computers to be used by children in the school?	. >
	Outdoor					If yes, did you see children using computers?	

7 0 1

No.



Departure time from school 11: 40am

0

Xes.

Unlocked

Locked

ô

Tollets

1 16

Girl Boy

Common

If there is a toilet, was it locked? If unlocked, was it in a usable

is there a foilet?

8. TOILETS (by observation)

condition?

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condition.

Sample school observation sheet - Hindi

सर्वेशको का नाम

497

असर 2013 - विद्यालय अवलोकन प्रपत्र

भियालय का नामः कुशाबिद्यामंदिय सद्गोति स्नाकः भदेडवा

15 DOLL HG offa मींव का नामः

निवेश: नीव के किसी एक सरकारी विषयालय (अक्षा १ से 7/8) में जाये | यदि गोंच में कथा १ से 7/8 का कोई विषयालय न हो, तो जस सरकारी विषयालय में जायें जहां जहां कथा १ से 4/8 के मध्यों का नामांजन सबसे अधिक हो। ऐसे सरकारी विद्यालय में न जायें जाड़ी कक्षा 1 से 4/5 तक की कोई कक्षा न हो। यदि गाँव में कक्षा 1 से 4/5 का कोई सरकारी विद्यालय न हों, तो किसी भी विद्यालय में न जाये। मुख्य अध्यापक से मिलें (मुख्य अध्यापक के न होने विद्यालय के सबसे गरिष्ठ शिक्षक से मिलें)। आवश्यक प्रलेखः शिक्षरं एतासमें बच्चों के नामांकन की जानकारी हो।

4	सब का दिन	S. Asla	
N. C. S.	सब का विनाक	14109	- 0/1
उत्तरदाता की जनकारी	अहाय कुमान	गाए) जुट्टा अध्यापक शिक्षक	921273XXXX
	नाम	मद (र स	कोन नम्बर
किसी एक पर सही का	d)	100.00	7 8
तकता तकरे	निशान लगा	/ seen	1 से 6/7/8
किस कका से किर		THEFT	一 将 4/5
स्कूल में आने बार	समझ		11.05am

कला 7 कला 8 "मोट कहा में उपस्थित बच्ची की सख्या मिने | यदि एक से अधिक कहा के बच्चे एक साथ बेठे हैं, तो प्रत्येक यहा के अनुसार बच्ची 3 20 कता 6 9 कसा 5 3 7 22 **BSII 4** 56 TERT 3 7 厄 77 क्रमा 2 30 ineri 1 2 बच्चों का नामाकन (धुद शीतस्टर से ली)। गींदे एक से ज्यादा संबंशन हो, तो कुल नामांकन दिखें 1. बस्यों का नामांकन एवं उपस्थिति सर्वे के दिन उपिष्यत बच्चे"

को हाथ उठाने को कई और इसके आधार पर प्रत्येक करा। में उपरिशत पच्चों की संख्या लिखे। यदि एक से ज्यादा सेक्शन ही, तो

समी संकान की उपस्थिति मिनें और फिर कुल उपस्थिति निर्धे ।

रदाई का माध्यम अंग्रेजी 2.विद्यालय में (official)

कुल उपस्थित (अयलोकन करें)	1	Ŋ	0
कुल नियुषेत (पूछे)	-	٦	0
3. शिक्षक	मुख्य अध्यापक (प्रसारी मुख्य आयापक को न गिने)	नियमित सरकारी शिक्षक (मुख्य अध्यापक को न गिने)	पैरा-शिक्षक (Para-teacher)

幣 7 क्या आपने बच्चों को आज मध्याहन मोजन दिये जाने का कोई सबूत देखा? (जैसे: गंदे बतेन या बाहर से मंगाया गया मोजन आदि) (अवलोकन करें) अया आफ्ने विद्यालय में मध्याष्ट्रन भीजन पकाये जाते हुये देखा? (अवलोकन करें) गया मध्याएन मोजान पकाने के लिए कोई रसोई घर है? (अवलोकन करें) 5. मध्याष्ट्रन मोजन या आज दियालय में मध्याहन भोजन दिया गया? (पूछे) उधित स्थान पर निशान लगाएँ

क्या आपने सतत् व्यापक मूल्यांकन/CCE के बारे में सुना है? (पूछे)	E)	雅
यांव सी,		
इस विद्यासय में फिटमे फिलमे फिलमे को सत्त्व व्यापक मूच्यातन (CCE) मैनुअल या प्रथन मिला है? (पूछे) समी को कुछ को को नुब्धी पत्ता नहीं	事品	म मार्
यदि मैचुअल और प्रपत्र मिला है, तो उत्तरदाता से उसे दिखाने को कहें		
क्या आप सत्तम व्यापक मत्त्वाकन (CCE) मैनअल या प्रपत्न देख सके? (एउँ और अवलोकन करें)	15	#

34



霏

150

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0

	6. कक्षा का अवलोकन	r				7. सुविधाओं का अवलोकन	
उधित स्थान पर निशान लगाएं।						शीवालय के अलावा विद्यालय में कल किल्ने पक्त कमरे हैं? (खद गिनकर किस्के)	-
अवलोकन करें		499	कसा 2	THEFT	1.4	the first war fact of the second to the seco	-
(यदि एक से ज्यादा सेवशन हों, तो कोई एक चुनें)	कोई एक चुने)	"Till	नही	鬼	啪	उत्तर समान हुए जिसान अनाए जाना करायां है हरायांचा तहन जा रह था. जुद त्यांचार तहने दक्षित स्थान पर निधान लगाएं	-
क्या इस क्या के बच्चे किसी और क्या के बच्चों के साथ बैठे होरे	के साथ चैठे हये हैं?	7)	क्या विद्यालय में अंकिस/स्टोर/Office-cum-store है?	1
	4					क्या विद्यालय में खेल का मैदान है?	-
क्या कक्षा में ब्लैक बोड़े है?		7		7		क्या विद्यालय में पुस्तकालय की किसाबें है?	-
4						यदि हीं, तो क्या आपने बच्चों को पुस्तकालय की किताबों का प्रयोग करते हुये/पदते हुये देखा?	-
पाद हा, ता क्या आप ब्लक बाड पर आसानी से लिख सकत है?	लिख संकत है?	7		7		क्या आपने विधालय में हैंडपंप/मल देखा?	-
And Annual money to have drawn to recover more mercing the forestern	CAS Good Garage					यदि हैडपंप्रनात है, तो क्या आप उस हैडपंप्रनात से पानी पी सके?	-
पुरसम्बद्धाः क अल्याच प्रथा प्रवदा न आपन काडू ना सहार अन्य किलाबे, दिवारों पर लगे मार्ट, बोर्ड खेल आदि}?	ति)? वि)?	7			7	यदि हैंडपंप/मान मही है या इस्तेमाल करने योग्य नहीं है, तो क्या पीने के पानी की उपलकाता है?	-
	सम्भं में)		,	\	क्या विद्यालय की पूरी चारदीवारी या बाढ़ (fencing) है?	-
इस कक्षा के बच्चे आही देते हुने थे? जिस्सी तार यन निवास सम्बद्धा	बरामदे में				T	क्या विद्यालय में बच्चों के प्रयोग के लिए कम्प्यूटर है?	-
לא אני הזנוה פהולל	जुली जगह पर					यदि हों, तो क्या आपने बच्चों को कम्पूटर का इस्तेमाल करते हुये देखा?	-



यदि खुला है, तो क्या वह प्रयोग करने योग्य है?

यदि हो, तो क्या वह वाले से बंद है?

क्या शीमालय है?

शौचालय

8. शौचालय (अवलोकन करें)

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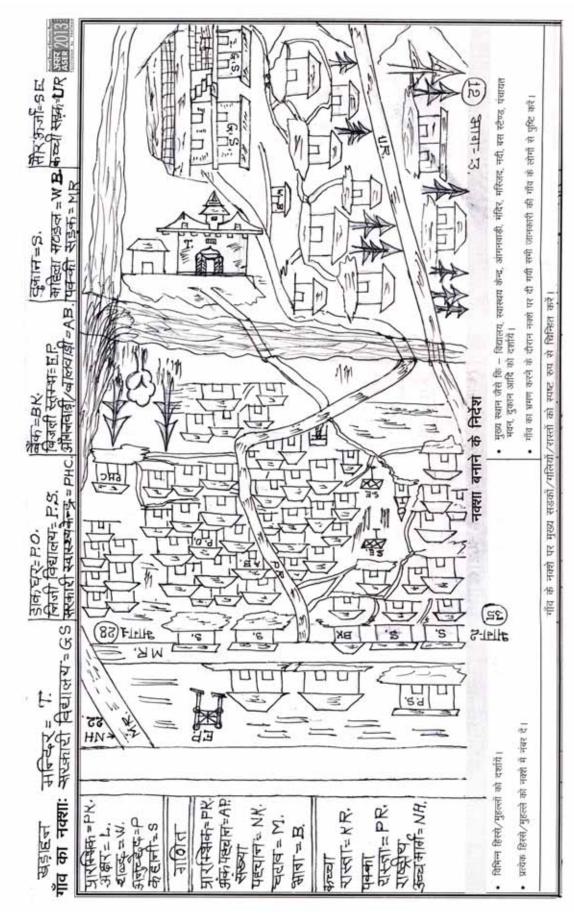
7

स्कूल से जाने का समय 11: 40am

गीदे दियालय में किसी एक प्रकार का 1 से ज्यादा शीमानय है. ती उस शीमानय की जानकारी से जो बेहतर स्थिति में हैं।

1

समापिक 915/01 सरका





From 2005 to 2013: Evolution of ASER

ASER 2005

Age group 6-14

Children were asked:

- Enrollment status
- Type of school

Children also did:

- Reading tasks
- Arithmetic tasks

School visits

Sampling:

Randomly selected 20 ASER 2005 villages

ASER 2006

Age group 3-16

Children were asked:

- Enrollment status
- Type of school

Children 5-16 also did:

- Reading tasks
- Arithmetic tasks
- Comprehension tasks
- Writing tasks

Mother's education Mothers were also asked to read a simple text

Sampling:

Randomly selected 20 ASER 2005 villages 10 new ASER 2006 villages

ASER 2007

Age group 3-16

Children were asked:

- Enrollment status
- Type of school
- Tuition status

Children 5-16 also did:

- Reading tasks
- Arithmetic tasks
- Comprehension tasks
- Problem solving tasks
- English tasks

Mother's education School visits

Sampling:

Randomly selected 10 ASER 2005 villages 10 ASER 2006 villages 10 new ASER 2007 villages

ASER 2008

Age group 3-16

Children were asked:

- Enrollment status
- Type of school

Children 5-16 also did:

- Reading tasks
- Arithmetic tasks
- Telling time
- Currency tasks

Mother's education

Household characteristics Village information

Sampling:

Randomly selected 10 ASER 2006 villages 10 ASER 2007 villages 10 new ASER 2008 villages

ASER 2009

Age group 3-16

Children were asked:

- Enrollment status
- Type of school
- Tuition status
- Pre-school status (Age 5-16)

Children 5-16 also did:

- Reading tasks
- Arithmetic tasks
- English tasks

Mother's education
Father's education
Mothers were also asked to
read a simple text

Household characteristics Village information School visits

Sampling:

Randomly selected 10 ASER 2007 villages 10 ASER 2008 villages 10 new ASER 2009 villages

ASER 2010

Age group 3-16

Children were asked:

- Enrollment status
- Type of school
- Tuition status

Children 5-16 also did:

- Reading tasks
- Arithmetic tasks
- Everyday math tasks

Mother's education Father's education Mothers were also asked to dial a mobile number

Household characteristics Village information School visits

Sampling:

Randomly selected 10 ASER 2008 villages 10 ASER 2009 villages 10 new ASER 2010 villages

ASER 2011

Age group 3-16

Children were asked:

- Enrollment status
- Type of school
- Tuition status

Children 5-16 also did:

- Reading tasks
- Arithmetic tasks

Mother's education Father's education

Household characteristics Village information School visits

Sampling:

Randomly selected 10 ASER 2009 villages 10 ASER 2010 villages 10 new ASER 2011 villages

ASER 2012

Age group 3-16

Children were asked:

- Enrollment status
- Type of school
- Tuition status

Children 5-16 also did:

- Reading tasks
- Arithmetic tasks
- English tasks

Mother's education Father's education

Household characteristics Village information School visits

Sampling:

Randomly selected 10 ASER 2010 villages 10 ASER 2011 villages 10 new ASER 2012 villages

ASER 2013

Age group 3-16

Children were asked:

- Enrollment status
- Type of school
- Tuition status
- Tuition fees

Children 5-16 also did:

- Reading tasks
- Arithmetic tasks

Mother's education Father's education

Household characteristics Village information School visits

Sampling:

Randomly selected 10 ASER 2011 villages 10 ASER 2012 villages 10 new ASER 2013 villages



ASER 2013 – Training

ASER is conducted in every rural district of India by volunteers from a local organization - colleges and universities, NGOs, youth groups, women's organizations and others. About 30,000 young people volunteer to do ASER every year, reaching about 300,000 households and more than 600,000 children annually. Training is critical to equipping our volunteers with the skills needed to survey a village, assess children's learning outcomes reliably, and record the information accurately.

An important feature of ASER 2013 was our partnership with 175 DIETs (District Institute of Education and Training) across 8 states. Located in every district in India, DIETs are responsible for training in-service and preservice teachers, and also for equipping staff of the education department at the block and district level to support schools via monitoring and mentoring. The ASER-DIET partnership gave us a unique opportunity to involve close to 10,000 future teachers in assessing the learning levels of children in rural India.

ASER follows a three-tier training structure. The National Workshop is followed by state-level training in every state. This is followed by district-level training workshops, where about 60 volunteers are trained to conduct the ASER survey.

National Workshop: Depending on the size of the state and its complexity (languages, terrain etc), each state has anywhere from 2 to 10 full time state team members devoted to ASER during the ASER season. The national workshop brings together all those who will lead ASER in their state during that year's ASER. Typically 125-150 people attend the national workshop which lasts for 5-6 days. The workshop is conducted in a rural area so that field practice can be conducted easily. ASER 2013 national workshop was carried out in Siwan district in Bihar in August 2013. The national workshop heralds the start of the ASER season for that year.

During the national workshop, ASER state teams are oriented on the tools, procedures and processes to be used. Key features of the national workshop include:

- Classroom sessions: Every step of the survey is reviewed and discussed in detail. All documents and relevant
 materials (tools, instructions, formats) are also field tested and reviewed for the final time before they go to
 print. Presentations, case studies and videos are used.
- Field Pilot: One day of the national workshop is devoted to carrying out an actual survey. All participants are involved. 30 villages are randomly selected and 20 households are surveyed. The field day is extremely useful for clarifying all doubts and revising instructions, if needed.
- ASER Quiz: A comprehensive quiz is administered in order to ensure that every participant understands the ASER content and process. Post training, additional sessions are organized to fill the learning gaps identified through the quiz.
- Mock Trainings: It is essential that all members of the ASER state teams are good trainers. One day of the national workshop is devoted to "mock" trainings. Participants are informed in advance about the topics that they have to train on and thus have the opportunity to improve content knowledge and delivery. Master trainers observe these training sessions and offer comments and suggestions for improvement.
- Planning Sessions: The national workshop is also a time to finalize the roll out plans for all states including state-level trainings and execution of survey. Experience of the previous years' ASER is reviewed, people requirements are identified, partner lists are drawn up, tentative timelines are made, and detailed budgeting is done.

State-level Training Workshop: These workshops are conducted in every state just before the district trainings are to roll out. The main objective of the state level training is to prepare Master Trainers for districts. Master Trainers are selected on the basis of past experience, ability to communicate well and execute projects. Around 1,000 Master Trainers participated in ASER 2013.

This year, most state-level trainings were organized over a five-day period. State level trainings have five main components and mirror the activities conducted in the national workshop. These include classroom session, field visit, mock trainings, quiz and planning sessions.

Performance in mock trainings, field visits and the quiz results are analyzed to identify weak Master Trainers, who are either replaced, re-trained and/or provided with additional support during district trainings. It is mandatory for all participants to be present on all days of the training. Any participant who is not present for all sessions of the training cannot become a Master Trainer for ASER.

District-level Training Workshops: The district-level training is typically a three-day workshop. Like state-level trainings, key elements of district trainings include classroom sessions, field practice sessions and a quiz. Typically, in most districts, volunteers scoring low on the quiz are either replaced or are paired with the stronger volunteers to carry out the survey.

At the district level, because of erratic electricity supply and unavailability of laptops with every Master Trainer, it is difficult to use a projector during trainings. Instead, survey formats are printed on large flex banners and used as aids in explaining the formats to volunteers. These banners are portable, easy-to-use and low cost.

Monitoring of trainings: Specific steps are taken to ensure that key aspects of training are implemented across all state and district training workshops.

- State trainings are usually attended and monitored by the head of the Pratham program in the state as well as members of the central ASER team.
- To support district level activities of ASER including district level training, in most states, a call centre is set up to monitor and support ASER teams. A trained call centre person interacts with Master Trainers on a daily basis to ensure that they complete all basic processes during training, survey and recheck.
- In all district trainings, records are maintained for each ASER volunteer. These records contain attendance data for each day of training and quiz marks of all volunteers. The data in this sheet is extensively used to guide volunteer selection for the ASER survey.

Our training system provides us with a strong foundation for effective implementation of the ASER survey. However, at ASER, we view our trainings not only as a means to collect quality data but also as an opportunity to educate 30,000 people of our country on the significance of measurement. And, in this process ask a simple yet extremely significant question - can our children read and do basic arithmetic?



ASER 2013 – Monitoring & Recheck

Monitoring and recheck activities are an integral part of the ASER process. Each year ASER processes are reviewed and concerted attempts are made to improve the quality of the data that is collected.

The monitoring-recheck system in ASER 2013 comprised four different types of processes:

Call Centre Monitoring: Each state had a 'call centre' which made phone calls to all districts as the survey process rolled out. Information on different aspects of the survey was collected at different points during the survey process. This helped to identify domains or locations requiring immediate corrective action or additional support from the ASER state teams.

Field Monitoring: The ASER survey in each district is led by at least two Master Trainers who have undergone training at the state level. These Master Trainers are responsible for training volunteers and monitoring the survey process while the survey is in the field. Most districts in ASER 2013 had a 2 weekend survey, i.e. half the villages were surveyed over one weekend and the other half were surveyed over the second weekend. Due to this phasing of the survey, Master Trainers were able to monitor 4 villages in a district over the 2 weekends. Approximately 28% of the total surveyed villages were monitored in ASER 2013.

SMS Monitoring: One of the important features of the monitoring process for ASER 2013 was the immediate availability of summary information for each monitored and rechecked village via SMS. 23 states took part in this effort. The data collected was uploaded on a common online portal. This enabled ASER Centre staff, both at the central and state levels, to receive information on a daily basis about these villages.

Recheck: In ASER 2013, there were three levels of rechecks. The first level was in the district by Master Trainers immediately after the village survey. Second, sample-based rechecks were conducted by ASER state team members. A third level involved ASER Centre teams who moved across states to do cross-checks and field verification of data.

- District level desk and phone recheck: On the completion of the survey in a district, the Master Trainers conducted desk rechecks of the survey formats received for all the surveyed villages. In addition, the Master Trainers telephoned at least 8 out of 20 surveyed households in each village. This procedure enables the quick identification of villages which were not surveyed correctly. These villages were then rechecked in person by the Master Trainers.
- District level field recheck by Master Trainers: Based on the information collected from the desk and phone rechecks, villages were identified for field recheck. In each such village, 50% of all surveyed households were rechecked. This process involved verification of the key parameters of the survey sampling, selection of children and testing.
- ASER state team field rechecks: Based on the performance of the Master Trainers and the volunteers, the ASER state teams also rechecked as many villages as possible.
- Cross-State Field Rechecks: Finally as the last stage to strengthen the quality control process, ASER state team members switched states and conducted a cross-state recheck. Some districts for this kind of recheck were chosen purposively and others were selected randomly. The process of the recheck was the same as the Master Trainer field recheck.

In all, approximately half the villages surveyed in ASER 2013 were rechecked by Master Trainers and ASER State Teams.