



## MYSORE

The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 (RTE Act) was notified to come into force on April 1 2010. Almost five years have gone by since the RTE Act became a law. In the context of urban areas, especially with respect to low income neighbourhoods, what does “guaranteeing” education mean? How can citizens find out if every child in their community is in school and whether he/she is learning? What is the way for people to assess whether schools in their locality are complying with the norms laid down by the law?

The aim of this exercise was to find the answers to these questions and figure out what it would take to translate policy into practice in urban locations across India. Five cities participated in this exercise. These cities were: Delhi, Jaipur, Patna, Mysore and Hyderabad. In each of these cities, one municipal ward, typically a mixed or low income area, was chosen to be a “pilot” location and a census was carried out.

We hope that the measures, methods and findings from this exercise are useful as a demonstration of what can be done to understand the status of education in urban areas. We also hope that the actual example of a census of one municipal ward in the city can guide the way for community-based planning, not just for compliance with the RTE Act, but for guaranteeing quality elementary education for all children in the city.

### ENROLLMENT

Table 1: % Children in different types of schools 2014

Age group	*No. of children	Govt.	Pvt.	Other	Not in school	Total
Age: 6-14 ALL	755	15.4	83.2	0.6	0.9	100
Age: 6-14 BOYS	426	14.4	84.1	0.8	0.8	100
Age: 6-14 GIRLS	329	16.7	82.1	0.3	1.0	100
Age: 6-10 ALL	400	13.7	84.6	0.8	0.8	100
Age: 6-10 BOYS	229	10.7	87.3	1.5	0.5	100
Age: 6-10 GIRLS	171	17.6	81.1	0.0	1.3	100
Age: 11-14 ALL	355	17.2	81.7	0.3	0.9	100
Age: 11-14 BOYS	197	18.3	80.6	0.0	1.1	100
Age: 11-14 GIRLS	158	15.7	83.0	0.7	0.7	100
Age: 15-16 ALL	122	14.8	80.0	0.9	4.4	100
Age: 15-16 BOYS	64	16.4	80.3	0.0	3.3	100
Age: 15-16 GIRLS	58	13.0	79.6	1.9	5.6	100

Note: 'Other' includes children going to madarasas and EGS.

'Not in school' = dropped out + never enrolled

\* The numbers might not add up due to missing information under certain categories.

Table 2: % Children age 2-6 enrolled in different types of pre-schools and schools 2014

Age	No. of children	In balwadi or anganwadi	In LKG/UKG	In school			Not in school or pre-school	Total
				Govt.	Pvt.	Other		
Age 2	7	57.1	42.9				0.0	100
Age 3	45	31.1	66.7				2.2	100
Age 4	64	7.8	92.2				0.0	100
Age 5	92	0.0	63.0	4.4	32.6	0.0	0.0	100
Age 6	68	0.0	22.1	5.9	70.6	0.0	1.5	100

Note: For 2, 3 and 4 year old children, only pre-school status was recorded.

### ABOUT THE WARD

Out of a total of 65 wards in Mysore, Ward number 63 was surveyed for this study. Known as Siddharthanagar, the ward is situated in the eastern part of Mysore. Two prominent localities in this ward are Siddharthanagar and Kurubarahalli. While the residents of Kurubarahalli belong to a middle or low income group, residents of Siddharthanagar belong to a higher-income group. Residents of Kurubarahalli are mostly labourers, vegetable vendors or autorickshaw drivers. Many of the women residents of Kurubarahalli work as domestic helps in the households of Siddharthanagar. While many children from Siddharthanagar are enrolled in private schools, their counterparts in Kurubarahalli are mostly enrolled in government schools.

This survey was conducted in November-December 2014. It reached 2,180 households and 1,144 children in the age group of 2 to 16 years.

Table 3: % Children going to schools in different location by school type 2014

School type	No. of children	Location of school		Total
		Inside ward	Outside ward	
Govt.	98	39.8	60.2	100
Pvt.	472	53.8	46.2	100
Other	2	100.0	0.0	100
Total	572	51.6	48.4	100

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## READING

**Table 4: % Children by class and READING level  
All schools 2014**

Std	Not even letter	Letter	Word	Level 1 (Std I text)	Level 2 (Std II text)	Total
Std I-II	23.1	29.4	30.8	11.2	5.6	100
Std III-V	3.2	11.7	33.3	26.6	25.2	100
Std VI-VIII	4.6	1.8	12.3	25.5	55.9	100
Total	8.6	12.3	24.8	22.4	32.0	100

How to read this table: Each cell shows the highest level in reading achieved by a child. For example, in classes III-V, 3.2% children cannot even read letters, 11.7% can read letters but not more, 33.3% can read words but not Std I level text or higher, 26.6% can read Std I level text but not Std II level text, and 25.2% can read Std II level text. For each group of classes, the total of all these exclusive categories is 100%.



### Reading Tool

**ಲಘೆ**

ಆಮೆ ಮತ್ತು ಮೊಲ ಒಳ್ಳೆಯ ಸ್ನೇಹಿತರು. ಒಂದು ದಿನ ಆಮೆ ಮತ್ತು ಮೊಲ ಸ್ವರ್ಧೆ ಬರ್ಪಾಟು ಮಾಡಿಕೊಂಡವು. ಯಾರು ಮೊದಲು ಪಕ್ಕದ ಊರನ್ನು ತಲುಪುವರೋ ಅವರಿಗೆ ಬಹುಮಾನ ಎಂದು ಘೋಷಿಸಿದವು. ಮೊಲ ಓಡುತ್ತಾ ಮುಂದೆ ಸಾಗಿತು. ಅರ್ಧ ಸಾಗಿದ ಮೇಲೆ ಮೊಲ ವಿಶ್ರಾಂತಿ ಪಡೆಯಲು ಬಯಸಿತು. ಅಲ್ಲೇ ಮರದ ಕೆಳಗೆ ನಿದ್ದೆ ಮಾಡಿತು. ಅಷ್ಟರಲ್ಲೇ ಆಮೆ ಬೇಗನೇ ಸಾಗಿ ಊರನ್ನು ತಲುಪಿತು. ಸ್ವರ್ಧೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಆಮೆ ಜಯಿಸಿದಾಗ ಮೊಲ ಸಪ್ತೆ ಮೋರೆ ಮಾಡಿ ಕುಳಿತುಕೊಂಡಿತು.

**ಸ್ಯಾರಾ**

ಕಮಲೆಗೆ ಗುಲಾಜಿ ಹೂವು ಅಂದರೆ ಬಹಳ ಇಷ್ಟ. ಇದು ನೋಡಲು ಬಹಳ ಅಂದ. ಕಮಲೆಯ ಮನೆಯ ಅಂಗಳದಲ್ಲೆ ಬಣ್ಣ ಬಣ್ಣದ ಗುಲಾಜಿ ಹೂವುಗಳ ಅಂದವಾದ ತೋಟವಿದೆ.

**ಮರ**

ಎ ಖ ಐ  
ಫ ಪ  
ದ ರ ಖ  
ಓ ಡ

**ಕೊಡ** **ಭರ**

ಸಾರು ಮಳೆ  
ನಾರು ಭಯ  
ದಾರಿ ದಾರಿ  
ಬಾಣ ಭಡಿ  
ದೇವ ದೂರು

**Table 5: % Children in Std I to Std VIII at different READING levels  
by school type 2014**

Std	Reading level	Govt.		Pvt.		Govt. & Pvt.*	
		No. of children	%	No. of children	%	No. of children	%
Std I-II	Children who can read at least letters	15	60.0	127	78.7	142	76.8
Std III-V	Children who can read at least a Std I level text	39	48.7	181	53.0	220	52.3
Std VI-VIII	Children who can read a Std II level text	42	45.2	177	58.8	219	56.2

\* This is the weighted average of children in government and private schools only.

**Table 6: % Children studying in different medium of instruction  
by school type 2014**

Std	Type of school	No. of children surveyed	Kannada	English	Urdu	Other	Total
Std I-V	Govt.	56	57.1	32.1	0.0	10.7	100
	Pvt.	324	2.8	96.3	0.0	0.9	100
	Govt. & Pvt.*	380	10.8	86.8	0.0	2.4	100
Std VI-VIII	Govt.	43	67.4	20.9	0.0	11.6	100
	Pvt.	187	3.2	96.3	0.0	0.5	100
	Govt. & Pvt.*	230	15.2	82.2	0.0	2.6	100

\* This is the weighted average of children in government and private schools only.

**Table 7: % Children in Std I to VIII at different READING levels  
by school medium of instruction and school type 2014**

Std	Reading level	Govt. school (Medium of instruction - Kannada)		Pvt. school (Medium of instruction - English)	
		No. of children	%	No. of children	%
Std I-II	Children who can read at least letters	8	50.0	120	80.0
Std III-V	Children who can read at least a Std I level text	21	52.4	175	54.3
Std VI-VIII	Children who can read at least a Std II level text	27	33.3	168	60.1

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## ARITHMETIC

**Table 8: % Children by class and ARITHMETIC level All schools 2014**

Std	Not even 1-9	Recognize numbers		Can subtract	Can divide	Total
		1-9	10-99			
Std I-II	13.3	21.7	42.0	19.6	3.5	100
Std III-V	2.3	3.2	26.6	52.7	15.3	100
Std VI-VIII	2.7	0.0	10.9	25.3	61.1	100
Total	5.1	6.5	24.4	34.3	29.7	100

How to read this table: Each cell shows the highest level in arithmetic achieved by a child. For example, in classes III-V, 2.3% children cannot even recognize numbers 1-9, 3.2% can recognize numbers up to 9 but not more, 26.6% can recognize numbers up to 99 but cannot do subtraction, 52.7% can do subtraction but cannot do division, and 15.3% can do division. For each group of classes, the total of all these exclusive categories is 100%.

### Math Tool

ಅಂಕ ಗುರುತಿಸುವಿಕೆ 1 ರಿಂದ 9		ವಿರಹ ಅಂಕ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ ಗುರುತಿಸುವಿಕೆ 10 ರಿಂದ 99		ಕಳೆಯುವುದು		ಭಾಗಾಕಾರ
1	4	51	83	46 - 29	63 - 39	7) 879
7	3	37	65	47 - 28	45 - 17	6) 824
6	9	55	26	92 - 76	84 - 57	8) 985
5	2	91	43	52 - 14	66 - 48	4) 517
36	27					

5 ಅಂಕಗಳನ್ನು ಕೇಳಿ ಅವುಗಳಲ್ಲಿ 4 ಉತ್ತರಗಳು ಸಂಯೋಜಿಸಿವೆ.  
5 ಅಂಕ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆಗಳನ್ನು ಕೇಳಿ ಅವುಗಳಲ್ಲಿ 4 ಉತ್ತರಗಳು ಸಂಯೋಜಿಸಿವೆ.  
ಯಾವುದಾದರೂ 2 ಲೆಕ್ಕಗಳನ್ನು ಮಾಡಿ, ವಿರಹ ಉತ್ತರಗಳು ಸಂಯೋಜಿಸಿವೆ.  
ಯಾವುದಾದರೂ ಒಂದು ಲೆಕ್ಕ ಮಾಡಿ, ಲೆಕ್ಕದ ಉತ್ತರ ಸಂಯೋಜಿಸಿವೆ.

**Table 9: % Children in Std I to Std VIII at different ARITHMETIC levels by school type 2014**

Std	Arithmetic level	Govt.		Pvt.		Govt. & Pvt.*	
		No. of children	%	No. of children	%	No. of children	%
Std I-II	Children who can recognize numbers 1-9 or more	15	73.3	127	88.2	142	86.6
Std III-V	Children who can do at least subtraction	39	48.7	181	72.9	220	68.6
Std VI-VIII	Children who can do division	40	45.0	180	64.4	220	60.9

\* This is the weighted average of children in government and private schools only.

## ENGLISH

**Table 10: % Children by class and READING level in ENGLISH All schools 2014**

Std	Not even capital letters	Capital letters	Small letters	Simple words	Easy sentences	Total
Std I-II	21.4	8.6	29.3	30.7	10.0	100
Std III-V	3.3	3.8	14.8	44.8	33.3	100
Std VI-VIII	2.3	0.9	1.9	29.4	65.4	100
Total	7.5	3.9	13.5	35.5	39.7	100

How to read this table: Each cell shows the highest level in reading English achieved by a child. For example, in classes III-V, 3.3% children cannot even read capital letters, 3.8% can read capital letters but not more, 14.8% can read small letters but not words or higher, 44.8% can read words but not sentences, and 33.3% can read sentences. For each group of classes, the total of all these exclusive categories is 100%.

### English Tool

ಈ ಸಾಧನವು, ಮಗು ವ್ಯಕ್ತಿಯೊಬ್ಬರನ್ನು ಓದಲು ಸಿದ್ಧನಲ್ಲವೆಂದು, ಕಂಡು ಬಂದಾಗ ಈ ಮಗು ಓದಲು ಸಿದ್ಧನಾಗುವವರೆಗೆ ಬಳಸಬೇಕು.

**ದೊಡ್ಡ ಅಕ್ಷರ**  
D L T  
K G  
X P N

**ಚಿಕ್ಕ ಅಕ್ಷರ**  
y f i  
s v  
m a h

**ಮದು**  
dog fat  
cup  
boy out  
box

**ಮಾತೃ**  
What is the time?  
This is a small door.  
I like to sleep.  
He has a blue shirt.

ಮಾತೃ ಅಕ್ಷರಗಳನ್ನು 1 ಸಂಖ್ಯೆಗೆ ಓದಲು ಬೇಕು. 1 ರಿಂದ 4 ಸಂಖ್ಯೆಗಳನ್ನು ಓದಲು ಬೇಕು. ಮಾತೃ ಅಕ್ಷರಗಳನ್ನು ಓದಲು ಬೇಕು. ಮಾತೃ ಅಕ್ಷರಗಳನ್ನು ಓದಲು ಬೇಕು. ಮಾತೃ ಅಕ್ಷರಗಳನ್ನು ಓದಲು ಬೇಕು. ಮಾತೃ ಅಕ್ಷರಗಳನ್ನು ಓದಲು ಬೇಕು.

**Table 11: % Children in Std I to Std VIII at different ENGLISH levels by school type 2014**

Std	English level	Govt.		Pvt.		Govt. & Pvt.*	
		No. of children	%	No. of children	%	No. of children	%
Std I-II	Children who can recognize at least capital letters	15	60.0	124	81.5	139	79.1
Std III-V	Children who can read at least words	32	59.4	176	81.8	208	78.4
Std VI-VIII	Children who can read sentences	39	48.7	174	69.0	213	65.3

\* This is the weighted average of children in government and private schools only.

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## SCHOOLS

According to DISE (2013-14), Ward no. 63 in Mysore has 9 schools. Our surveyors visited 5 schools of which 1 was government and 4 were private. The government school gave us permission to enter and record basic data on enrollment, attendance and school facilities while we got permission from only 1 private school for the survey. Both schools had an office, a playground, boundary wall, library books, facility for drinking water, a useable toilet as well as a separate toilet for girls' that was in useable condition. The government school did not comply with the PTR norm while the private school had a PTR compliant with the RTE norm.

## KEY FINDINGS

### Enrollment in schools

- ◆ Close to 99% of children in the age group 6-14 years are enrolled in school.
- ◆ The proportion of children out of school in the age group 6-14 years is close to 1%. This proportion increases as the children cross the elementary age group; almost 4% of children in 15-16 years age group are out of school. And there is only a marginal difference in the proportion between boys and girls (4% and 3% respectively).
- ◆ Majority of the children are going to private schools than to government schools. About 83% of children in the age group 6-10 years are going to private schools, whereas just 15% of children in the same age group are going to government schools. (The remaining 2% are either enrolled in other schools or not in school.)
- ◆ The medium of instruction for most of the children (more than 57%) studying in government schools is Kannada while English was the medium of instruction for majority of children (96%) going to private schools.

### Preschool

- ◆ In the age group 4-6 years, almost all children are enrolled in pre-schools or schools. 97% of the 5 year old children are enrolled in primary schools.
- ◆ It is interesting to note that among all surveyed 5 and 6 year old children, no child attends a government pre-school (*anganwadi/balwadi*). Most children in this age group attend either a private pre-school (*LKG/UKG*), a government school or a private school. For instance, 70% of 6 year old children are enrolled in private schools.

### Learning

- ◆ 25% of children in Std 3 to 5 could read a Std 2 level text. About 15% could do division and 33% could read simple sentences in English.
- ◆ Children in private schools outperformed children in government schools.
- ◆ The proportion of children in Std 3 to 5 who could read at least a Std 1 level text is 49% for government school children and 53% for private school children.
- ◆ In arithmetic, while 49% of children in Std 3 to 5 in government schools could do at least subtraction, the corresponding figure for private school children is 73%.
- ◆ Lastly, in English, while 60% of children in Std 3 to 5 in government schools could read at least words, the corresponding figure for private school children is 82%.

### Thoughts on the way forward

Through the combination of pre-schools and schools, though largely private, the ward has attained universal enrollment with less than 1% of children in the age group 6-14 years out of school. However, the learning levels of children remain low. Thus, the schools clearly need to focus on learning in order to reap the benefit of high enrollment. In the absence of adequate data related to school observation, we cannot comment on whether the schools in the ward meet RTE norms or not.