

Vacant Teachers Posts Filled, Constriction of 6 Rooms per Primary Schools Decided, Water Coolers Installed Case Study Lahore

According to ASER Survey 2011, in Lahore district 34% children in class 5 cannot read Urdu story text of class 2. In other words, 34% children are behind 3 classes with respect to their competency level. 43% Children in class 5 cannot read class two sentences in English and 59% children in class 5 and 87% children in Class 3 cannot do division (3 digits by 1 digit). These low learning levels might be because of several vacant posts of teachers or multi-grade teacher – either because of shortage of teachers or because of shortages of rooms. Interestingly for District Lahore, both these scenarios exist in this region. According to the Department figures, there are 2730 vacancies in Lahore District which are lying vacant and there is an extreme shortage of rooms at primary level.



After District Launch and dissemination of ASER 2011 survey report the Education Department was made aware of the dismal learning conditions of students. They were told as to how government schools were under performing when compared to private schools. After much consideration and pressure from ASER Team and other civil society members who were part of the ASER Coalition the Education Department was sensitized to take steps to improve quality of learning in schools and this could only be possible if the basic necessities of schooling were provided.

In lieu of ASER discussions and the movement for Right to Education, the department has decided to immediately fill the shortfall of teachers in government schools by hiring 1800 qualified teachers. To fulfill the need of shortage of rooms, the Education Department has decided that whenever a new Primary School is constructed it should have at least six rooms.



DMO has also made a strong program to monitor all activities in the schools to improve quality education. He has requested DSD to ensure the role (To educate the Teacher) of DTE in school to improve quality education. In a personal interview with the DMO, ASER Team was informed that after hearing about the low level of water facilities in school, the DMO has gotten approval of buying one water cooler per high school from the DCO. These water

coolers will be purchased during the summer holidays and will be installed in schools before holidays end.

ASER Team is happy that ASER is helping shape policy decisions at the district level and hopes that it continues to do so in the future.