

TeacherSpeak

A Research Study



IT for Change, Bengaluru
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Aim, Sampling and Methodology



- Teachers voices have not been heard on resumption of schools – including what they feel about their students learning levels and the challenges on reopening of schools. The aim of this survey was to get teachers opinions on these issues.
- A Google form was created to collect responses online. The link was shared with teachers via WhatsApp/Telegram for them to fill out the form voluntarily. The form was open to responses from 17 October to 21 October 2021.
- The target was high school teacher networks in Karnataka. Some responses (around 10) were received from high school teachers in Andhra Pradesh.
- The responses to the questions are subjective, based on teachers subjective views and not on any formal student assessments.



Response Analysis



A total of 146 responses were received from teachers teaching grades 8th, 9th or 10th (various combinations)

Grade level of students:

- Only 15% of grade 8 teachers said that 80% or more of their students are at grade level.
- Only 18% of grade 9 teachers said that 80% or more of their students are at grade level.
- Only 24% of grade 10 teachers said that 80% or more of their students are at grade level.





- 75% of teachers either 'agree' or 'strongly agree' that most of their students have the ability to succeed academically.
- 65% either 'agree' or 'strongly agree' that the way teachers teach, not students background, has the biggest impact on student learning.





- When asked about specific academic steps and processes that need to be taken up in school to help students learn and teachers teach, these were the top responses from teachers:
 - 1) Focus on the basics, foundational literacy and numeracy
 - 2) Plan a refresher or bridge course
 - 3) Joyful learning – more activities, projects, practicals, use of art, story-telling and games
 - 4) Create a safe, fear-free, and stress-free learning environment
 - 5) Create space for children to express themselves, build socio-emotional skills
 - 6) Give more time for teachers and students to fill the gap



Limitations



The teachers surveyed were only high school teachers largely from Karnataka and some from Andhra Pradesh. Due to the limited size (146) of sampling data, some findings cannot be generalized.



Conclusion



These findings highlight the urgency to address the large gap between students' learning levels and the curriculum. They also show that teachers have confidence in the abilities of their students and believe that with the right kind of support they can succeed academically. Teachers feel the need to be given proper guidance, support, a certain level of autonomy and time.

