

If Govt. Schools Delay Adopting PAL, Any Positive Trend in ASER 2024 May Just Be for the Short Term

Rohit Prakash · 31 January 2025

Discusses ASER 2024's mixed findings and warns that the recent revocation of India's No Detention Policy could accelerate school dropouts unless historical learning gaps are addressed through Personalized Adaptive Learning (PAL). Notes states like Andhra Pradesh and Haryana are already scaling PAL and stresses that active teacher involvement and training are essential for PAL-generated data to translate into real learning improvements.

Hi,

I hope you find the insights shared in these newsletters relevant and valuable. Today, I want to talk about something that needs our urgent attention—Increasing learning gaps among students.

The recently released ASER 2024 report brings a mix of good news and pressing concerns. While early learners have shown encouraging improvements in reading and math skills compared to previous years, achieving consistent learning outcomes across all age groups remains a challenge. At the same time, since its release, NEP 2020 has introduced significant reforms in school education. But the real question remains—how to lay a foundation for a stronger learning ecosystem and tangible improvements in learning outcomes for every student?

Through our work with government school students, we have observed that historical learning gaps are a major reason behind limited or no improvement in learning outcomes. These gaps often lead to students dropping out after Grade 8. This challenge has become even more urgent with the revocation of the No Detention Policy by the Government of India. If left unaddressed, we may soon see an increase in school dropouts even in lower grades, intensifying the crisis.

How Can We Address This?

The answer lies in Personalized Adaptive Learning (PAL)

The Good Thing? Governments are already taking action.

States such as Andhra Pradesh and Haryana have taken the lead in implementing PAL at scale, releasing RFPs to integrate adaptive learning into government schools. Further, EdTech Tulna has introduced structured benchmarks for PAL solutions, ensuring that digital learning tools are both effective and impactful.

But What Will Truly Make PAL Successful?

While these advancements are promising, our experience working with schools has shown that one critical factor must not be overlooked—teachers.

PAL is designed for personalized learning, delivered on student devices such as tablets, mobile phones, and Chromebooks. But for PAL to drive real impact, teachers' active involvement is essential. PAL apps provide rich data on student progress, and when integrated into teachers' workflows, this information becomes a powerful tool. With the right training, teachers can leverage PAL-generated

insights to understand student needs better, optimize classroom time, and drive meaningful learning improvements.

Bridging learning gaps in government school students requires a fundamental shift in how education is delivered.

This is why Personalized Adaptive Learning (PAL) must become an integral part of every school—ensuring that each student receives personalized support to reach grade-level proficiency. At the same time, teachers gain valuable data-driven insights into students' learning levels, enabling them to refine their teaching strategies for greater impact.

This shift will not only help us engage students in remedial learning, reducing the risk of dropouts, but also enhance their participation and learning outcomes. Moreover, it will empower teachers by equipping them with a deeper understanding of each student's needs and the ability to use data effectively to personalize instruction and maximize impact.

By integrating PAL into government schools, we can build a more resilient, inclusive, and effective education system—one that truly empowers both students and teachers.

If you'd like to discuss more about PAL or experience our PAL application, feel free to reply to this email. I would be happy to connect and arrange a demo at your office, at our location, or online.

Thanks and Regards,

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