

### **KVs, JNVs, Chandigarh schools in PISA 2021**

After signing a pact with Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) for participation in Programme for International Students Assessment (PISA) 2021, Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs), Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas (JNVs) and the schools of the Union Territory (UT) of Chandigarh have been selected to participate in the first phase of the assessment. As PISA is an agespecific assessment of scholastic performance in Math, Science and reading to bring about a change in educational policies of a country, students born between February 1, 2004, and January 31, 2006, will participate in the survey. They will also undergo a field trial in 2020, conducted by OECD.

“KVs and JNVs have been selected for the first phase solely because they are a part of the central government school system. As we have not participated in PISA for long, managing all the schools across the country at once is hard. We have selected UT of Chandigarh on many factors, including ease of replicability just like China had selected Shanghai for their first PISA assessment,” said Rajnish Kumar, director, Department of School Education, MHRD.

“Taking into account the large size of the country and the complexity of the implementation of PISA, the Indian government decided to start with only one region, the Union Territory of Chandigarh. After the implementation of PISA 2021 in this region, it will be easier to expand this assessment to other regions of India, with the ultimate objective of implementing a countrywide assessment,” said Andreas Schleicher, director (PISA) OECD. Countries participating in PISA are allowed to use the PISA instruments for some specific samples such as grade sample or specific school sample by adding ‘additional national option’ in the assessment. Schleicher says that the Indian government was keen to know about the proficiency levels of students enrolled in KVs, JNVs; hence they have been added as national options on special requests. “The questions in PISA need students to have basic skills such as problem-solving, reading, etc. Soon, we will familiarise students with the question patterns,” added Kumar.