Guidelines for School education

What is the issue?

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Centre must push teacher training, eLearning apart from consolidation of school facilities.

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What is the status of school education?

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- Over the last four years, both primary and upper primary schools with zero enrolment have increased.
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- Zero-enrolment schools in case of upper primary accounted for 0.7% of total schools in 2015-16 as compared to 0.3% in 2012-13.
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- But a report states that levels of education in the country have dropped in the last decade in government schools.
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- While 56.7% of class V students in government students could read English words in 2007, this dropped to 39.7% in 2016.
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- A similar trend is noticed for mathematics and reading ability.
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- Many of the schools in India are understaffed or has absent teachers.
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How government can address this issues?

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- Recently released set of draft guidelines on consolidation of school infrastructure may help remedy the education situation.
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- Schools within a particular vicinity could be consolidated in fewer campuses to provide efficient and better quality education.
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- Apart from consolidation, it also needs to improve teacher training and inculcate e-learning.
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- The government plans to improve school infrastructure on a war footing, like it did for Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan.
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- Rationalisation can be a good vehicle to bring in technology-aided learning.
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- A study using learning software Mind spark shows that the software improved learning outcomes for the students, and also proved to be cost-efficient than the present set-up.
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Source: Financial Express

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