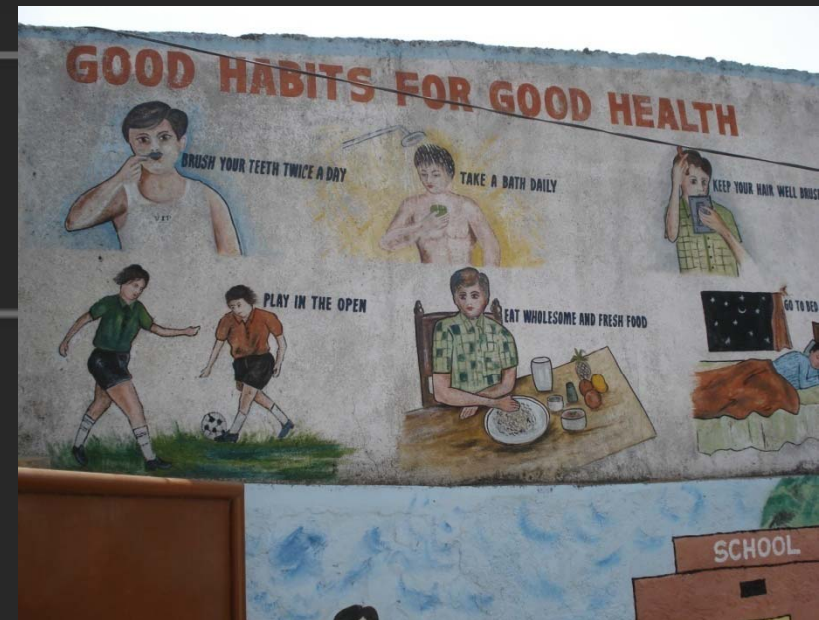# Is rating schools a good way to make informed choices for parents and public?
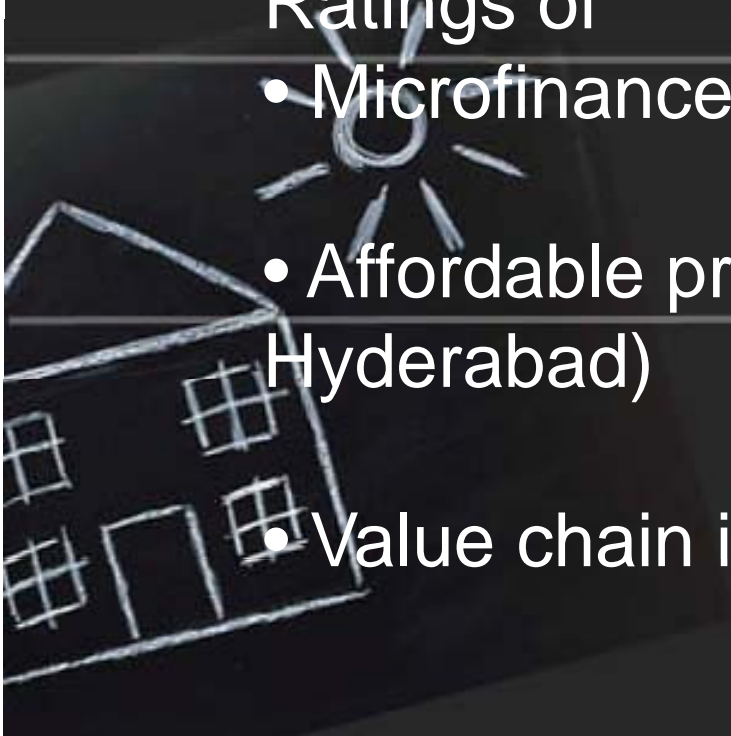
About M-CRIL

Undertaken 650 ratings in 30 countries – world's leading microfinance rating agency

Ratings of
- Microfinance institutions – financial, social

- Affordable private schools (35 schools in Hyderabad)

- Value chain initiatives

# What is school rating/assessment?

M-CRIL's school assessment service provides an objective assessment of the performance of affordable (budget) private schools.

The rationale is to enable a better evaluation of schools and to set suitable standards of excellence for them.

The Framework

• Governance and strategy – history, profile of school leader, growth strategy

• Learning environment – teacher competency, quality of teaching, values, infrastructure and facilities in the school, space per child, weight of bags

• Student academic achievement – Class 10 results, ASER test (classes 1-5) and NCERT test (classes 5-10)

• Parent engagement – Parent-teacher association

• Financial systems and performance – quality of record-keeping and accounting, extent of subsidies, overdues and recovery, existing liabilities, fee structure and annual cost per child

• Future plans and prospects
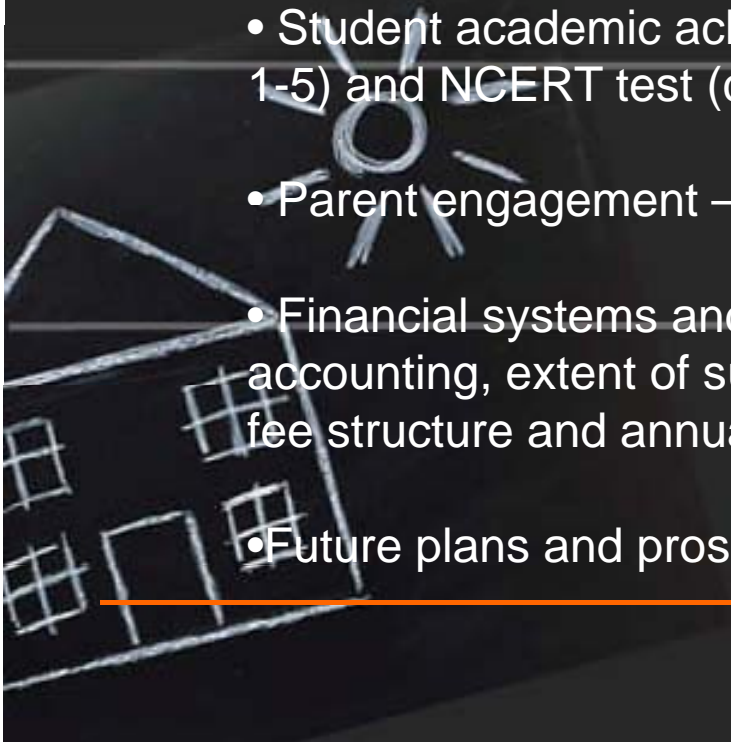
Inputs in the ratings/assessment process

- History, background, vision, mission and objectives
- Details of the Board members
- Staff details
- Information for last three academic years
  - Number of staff
  - Class-wise number of students (boys and girls), new enrolment and dropout, attendance of students (boys and girls), pass percentage of students (boys and girls)
  - Number of students with fee overdues and amount overdue
  - Number of students with full scholarship and subsidized fee
  - Class-wise fee structure
- Teachers' attendance and number of working days in school
- Details of external liability *(loan funds, grant or equity investment)*
- Audited financial statements for the last three years
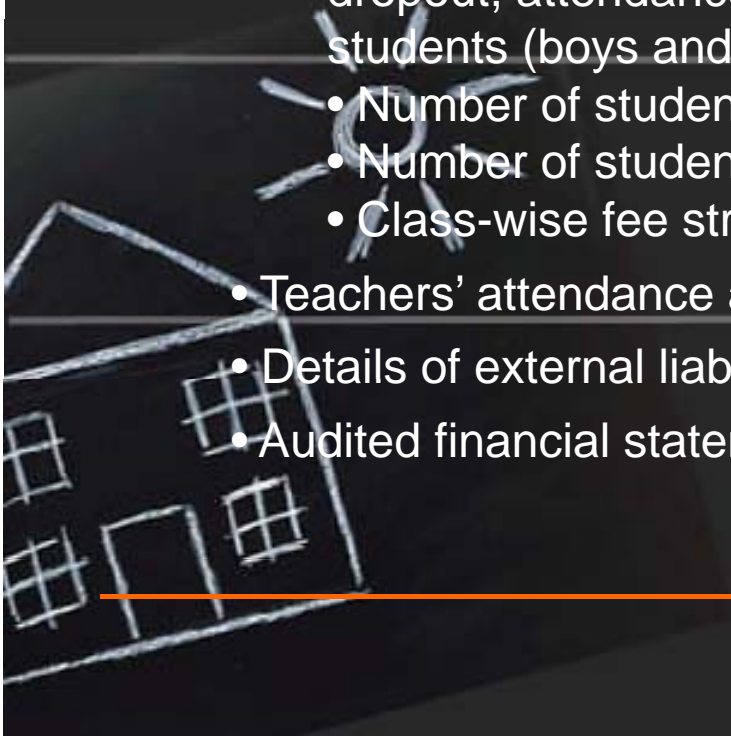
Outputs

- Report will act as a self appraisal process

- To differentiate assessed school with other neighbourhood schools

- Facilitate lending to APS

- Enable service providers to identify opportunities

- Increasing transparency and accountability

- Third party assessment of school quality

- Enable informed decision making by parents

- Setting industry standards

Consolidated results

Governance & strategy	
Years of operation	14
Legal status	Society
Recognition by government (Class 7 or 10)	15/19
Students	654

Learning environment	
Classrooms	18
Space per child, sq ft	6.3
Weight of bag, kg (norm 3.5)	6.0
Teachers	22
Student-teacher ratio	31
Teacher drop-out ratio	23%
Teacher attendance	89%

Teacher test results
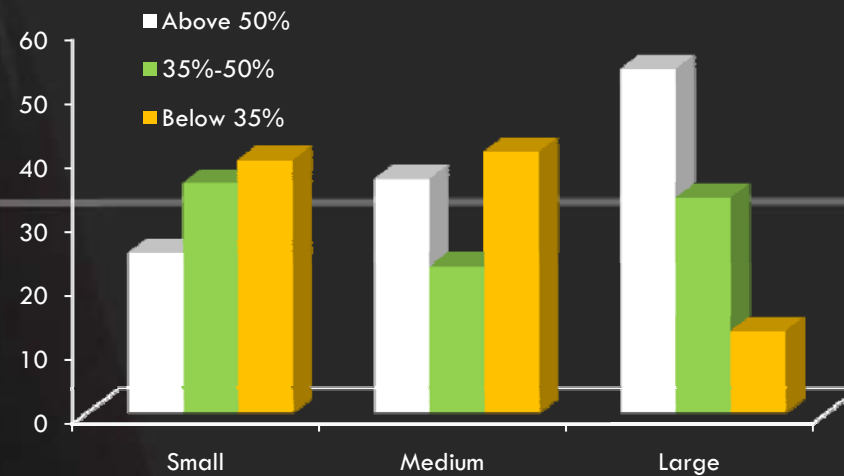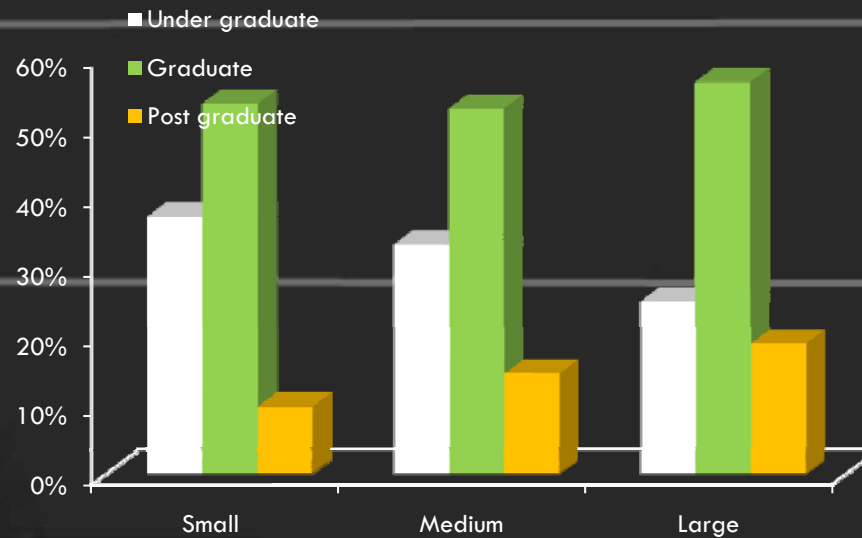
Consolidated results- continued

Student academic achievement	
Class 10 – pass % (First division)	75 (43)
Student drop-out %	14
Average days absent per student per year (June-Jan'10)	30
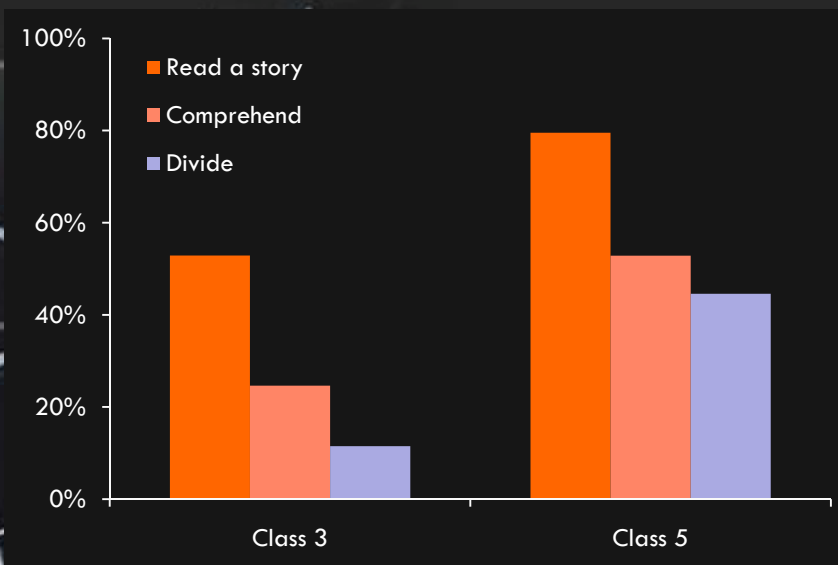
ASER Test
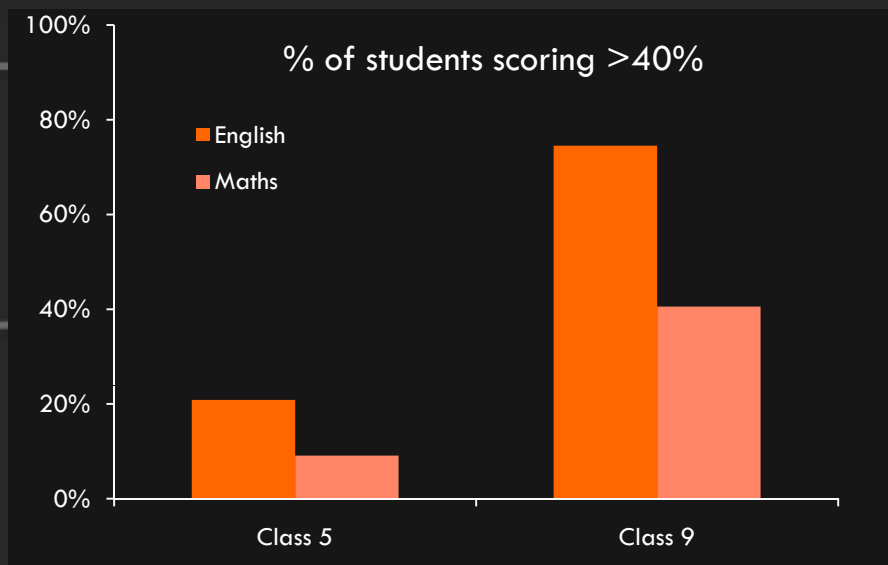
NCERT Test

Consolidated results- continued

Parent engagement	Typical APS
Parent-teacher association	22

Financial systems & performance	
Students exempted from fee payment	6%
Students with fee overdues (end of the year)	30%
Operating expenses per student, Rs ($)	2,580 (54)
Recovery rate of tuition fees	88%
Revenue per student, Rs ($)	2,948 (62)

Challenges

- Acceptance from school leaders

- Making it affordable to schools

- Limited data for the purpose of benchmarking

- Lack of proper records and information

- Different stakeholders with different needs

Thank You!

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