



# AHMEDABAD

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## The Indian EXPRESS Newsline

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### *Attention please: Students have a problem*

■ Survey of schoolkids shows 58 pc have Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

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A STUDY conducted by the Calorax Foundation among school-going children has found that of the 150 students tested, 58 per cent were suffering from Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder, whereas 39 per cent suffered from depression. It was also found that 35 per cent had vision problems and 12 per cent hearing problems.

The students were screened with the help of a standardised test and a questionnaire that included tests on IQ, attention, hearing, vision and learning disability. Experts found that the most prominent problem among students was ADHD fol-



lowed by depression. "ADHD is a neurological problem. It gets aggravated because of the kid's lifestyle. Most of these

students have very less physical activity and spend most of their time working on computers or watching television which is the cause for this syndrome," said Nutan Kasliwal, Project Co-Ordinator, Prema, a school for dyslexic stu-

dents and team member during the study.

She added that the causes for depression are high competition, expectation of the parents and peer pressure that brings in a lot of stress. The parents don't spare quality time with their children which is very important for them to come out of depression."

The report was prepared on the basis

of a study done in association with the Mt Carmel School. Children aged between 5 and 18 were tested in reasoning, logical problem solving and their concentration abilities. Some students from schools like Anand Niketan, Ahmedabad International School, Mahatma Gandhi International School, Trinity School, Riverside School, Maharaja Agresan, St Xaviers and St Kabir School also participated in the study.

"The primary goal of the study was to have an idea of the students' basic intelligence. Whether they are average, below average or above average. If they are below average than we refer them to the concerned expert," said Dr Param Shukla, Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist, one of the doctors involved in the study.