

National Seminar on Right to Education: Problems and Challenges

22nd December 2009

Venue:

Army Institute of Education
Kandhar Lines, Ring Road
Delhi Cantt
New Delhi 110010

About the Seminar

Education is the most potent mechanism for the advancement of human beings. It enlarges, enriches and improves the individual's image of the future. India is a signatory to three key international instruments that guarantee the right to elementary education – Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 1948, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, 1966 and the Convention on the Rights of the Child, 1989. India is also proud to join, albeit after 62 years of independence, the host of countries that provide for a constitutional guarantee to free and compulsory education.

Some of the salient features of the Right to Education Bill are:

- Every child between the age of 6 and 14 years has the right to free and compulsory education.
- The State shall ensure a school in every child's neighborhood. The State shall ensure that children in schools receive education (a) of equitable quality, and (b) conforming to values enshrined in the Constitution
- Government schools shall provide free education to all admitted children. Private schools shall admit at least 25% of children from weaker sections; no fee shall be charged to these children. Screening tests at the time of admission and capitation fees are prohibited for all children.
- Government schools will be managed by School Management Committees (SMC), mostly composed of parents. Teachers will be assigned to a particular school; there will be no transfers.
- No child shall be held back in any grade or expelled from a school until he/she completes elementary education, except through an Order of the School Management Committee (SMC).
- The Central government shall provide financial assistance to State Governments in accordance with such formula regarding sharing of costs of implementation of this Act, as the Central Government may determine from time to time in consultation with State Governments.
- The Central government shall take action through appropriate bodies to develop a national curriculum framework, and to develop and enforce standards for training and qualification of teachers for elementary education in a participatory and consultative manner.
- The Central government shall provide technical resource support to the state governments, through appropriate institutions, for promotion of innovations and dissemination of best practices in the field of elementary education and for related research, planning and capacity building.
- The state government shall establish additional schools as required and make them functional. They shall deploy teachers in schools in accordance with the provisions of this Act.

- The state government shall prescribe and periodically revise the curriculum for elementary education and courses of study for each grade thereof.
- Every appointing authority of State school and fully-aided school should ensure that teachers' vacancies in the schools under its control do not at any time exceed 10% of the total sanctioned posts of teachers.
- Teachers serving at the commencement of this Act who do not possess qualifications prescribed by the NCTE shall be enabled by their employer, to acquire the equivalent of such qualifications within such period not exceeding five years from the commencement of this Act.
- All schools shall function in a child friendly and child centered manner,:
 - allow the child who is capable of forming her own views the right to express those views freely in all matters affecting the child, and allow the views of the child to be given due weight in accordance with the age and maturity of the child,
 - build on the child's knowledge, environment and cultural identity, particularly linguistic, and develop the child's personality, talents and mental and physical abilities to their fullest potential,
 - use the child's mother tongue as the medium of instruction as far as possible, at least during the first five years of the elementary stage,
 - would rely on activity, discovery, exploration, understanding and problem-solving,
 - conduct learner evaluation in a continuous and comprehensive manner such that it tests the child's understanding and ability to apply knowledge rather than rote learning.
 - It shall be the responsibility of every parent/guardian to enroll his/her child or ward, who has attained the age of 6 years and above in a school, and to facilitate his/her completion of elementary education.

Objectives

Objectives of the seminar are:

- ❖ To review the Right to Education Bill in the present context
- ❖ To study the dynamics of implementing Right to Education Bill
- ❖ To discuss the various problems and issues related to Right to Education Bill
- ❖ To study the implications of Right to Education vis-à-vis Teacher Education.

Themes / Sub-themes

1. Right to Education and ECCE
2. Right to Education and Quality
3. Right to Education and teacher education
4. Right to Education and equity
5. Right to Education and financial implications
6. Right to Education in the context of Liberalization, Privatization, and Globalization

Programme Schedule

09.00-09.30	Registration
09.30-11.00	Keynote Address : Dr D K Bandyopadhyay (Vice - Chancellor GGSIPU)
11.00-11.30	Tea Break
11.30-13.00	Plenary Session I
13.00-14.00	Lunch
14.00-15.30	Plenary Session II
15.30-16.30	Valedictory Session
16.30-17.00	Tea

Who can Participate?

Teachers, Teacher educators, researchers, administrators, policy makers from all over the country working in the field of education .

About AIE, Delhi Cantt

Army Institute of Education (AIE) was established in August 2003 with the aim of providing pre-service teacher education facility to the dependents of Army personnel. The institute is functioning under the aegis of Army Welfare Education Society (AWES), which is managing 126 schools and 13 professional institutes spread across the length and breadth of this country. Army Institute of Education, Delhi Cantt is affiliated to Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University (GGSIPU), Delhi and is recognized by the National Council for Teacher Education(NCTE) for its B. Ed. program.

Seminar Convenor

Dr Sudarshan Mishra.

Organizing Committee

Dr Mahabir Yadav (Principal, AIE)

Col J K Singh (Registrar, AIE)

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