

AS INTRODUCED IN LOK SABHA

Bill No. 195 of 2016

THE RIGHT OF CHILDREN TO FREE AND COMPULSORY
EDUCATION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2016

By

SHRI RAJENDRA AGRAWAL, M.P.

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BILL

*further to amend the Right of Children to Free and
Compulsory Education Act, 2009.*

BE it enacted by Parliament in the Sixty-seventh Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

1. (1) This Act may be called the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (Amendment) Act, 2016. Short title and commencement.

5 (2) It shall come into force on such date, as the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, appoint.

Amendment
of section 2.

2. In the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act), in section 2, after clause (*q*), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:—

(*r*) "uniform education system" means education system having a common syllabus and school curriculum for all stages of elementary education across the country.'. 5

Amendment of
section 3.

3. In section 3 of the principal Act, in sub-section (*1*), after the words "neighbourhood school", the words, "with the value based uniform education system," shall be inserted.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

Consequent upon the enactment of the Constitution (Eighty-sixth Amendment) Act, 2002, the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 was enacted to provide for free and compulsory education to all children of the age of six to fourteen years.

The right of a child should not be restricted only to free and compulsory education. Article 21A of Constitution read with articles 14 and 15 explains that there must be no discrimination in quality education irrespective of economic, social and cultural background.

It is true that disparities and inequalities of various kinds like inequalities based on caste, creed, region or religion or economic inequalities are prevalent in the society. Such inequalities will be rooted out if the coming generation and children in their formative years have uniform resources and opportunity to understand and learn about each aspect of this country and events of the world at large.

Currently the National Curriculum Framework (NCF), 2005 sets the guidelines and directions for syllabus and textbooks for all stages of school education. Schools affiliated to the Central Board of Secondary Education follow the National Council for Education Research and Training syllabus and textbooks. However, States through their State Councils of Education Research and Training (SCERTs) or State Board develop and adopt their own textbooks.

To build a code of common culture, removal of disparity of all kind and discriminatory values in human relations and assuring dignity of individuals is required. There is a need to have the common curriculum and syllabus at all stages of school education for all schools across the whole territory of India. It will not only enhance the virtues and improve the quality of human life but also elevate the thought leading to the advancement of our constitutional philosophy of equal society.

It will help to achieve social and economic equality goals along with promoting fraternity, it would be a baby step towards the basic preparation of Uniform Civil Code.

Hence this Bill.

NEW DELHI;
July 07, 2016

RAJENDRA AGRAWAL

ANNEXURE

EXTRACT FROM THE RIGHT OF CHILDREN TO FREE AND COMPULSORY
EDUCATION ACT, 2009

(35 OF 2009)

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Definitions.

2. In this Act, unless the Context otherwise requires,—

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(q) "State Commission for protection of Child Rights" means the State Commission for protection of Child Rights constituted under section 3 of the Commission for Protection for Child Rights Act, 2005.

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CHAPTER II

RIGHT TO FREE AND COMPULSORY EDUCATION

Right of child
to free and
compulsory
education.

3. (1) Every Child of the age of six to fourteen years shall have a right to free and compulsory education in a neighbourhood school till completion of elementary education.

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LOK SABHA

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(Shri Rajendra Agrawal, M.P.)