

# **S.C.E.R.T**

## **Telangana, Hyderabad.**

### **RTE-2009 - Provisions & Entitlements**

# The Provisions of RTE Act

- Age group: 6- 14 years.
- Coverage: Elementary Education (upto class 8).
- Free & compulsory education in a neighbourhood school.
- Ensure compulsory admission, attendance & completion of elementary education.
- Ensure 'good quality' elementary education.
- Ensure that children from weaker and disadvantaged group are not discriminated against caste, gender, religion, poverty etc.

# Provisions....

- Child to be admitted to 'age- appropriate' class and has the right to receive 'special training' to come at par with other children.
- Aided and private schools: 25% reservation for weaker & disadvantaged children.
- Schools to get reimbursement for this expenditure.
- Govt. may provide free pre-school education.
- 25% reservation for weaker/ disadvantaged children applies here as well.

# Provisions ....

- No capitation fee/ screening procedure for child or parents.
- No child can be held back or expelled from school.
- No physical punishment/ mental harassment of children.
- Teachers: Minimum qualifications needed. Assess learning ability of each child and regularly meet parents.
- School Management Committee-
  - with  $3/4^{\text{th}}$  parents/ guardians
  - Half the members should be women

# Provisions ....

- Education is now a fundamental right for a child in India in the age group 6-14 years.
- All aspects of the Act should be justiciable as a Fundamental Right i.e. violation of any clause of the Act can be taken up in court by any citizen – not just the person/s directly involved and adversely affected.
- There will be no discrimination of any kind when it comes to enrolment
- Necessary number of neighbourhood schools shall be built in all communities within three years

# Provisions

- Norms and standards for all schools (government and private), including teacher qualifications, will be detailed without which no school will be recognized
- Appropriate pupil- teacher ratio within 6 months (1:30)
- Private schools will have to reserve 25% of their seats for the disadvantaged and weaker sections
- Overall, RTE is a well conceptualized and comprehensive Act, covering various stakeholders who have an influence on child's education- parents, community, teachers, schools and the government

# Concerns

- Major concern: implementation in the right spirit.
- The Act protects the government against legal proceedings for anything which is done in 'good faith' for RTE
- Mechanisms to ensure 'good quality' education
- Child labour Act- various areas of conflict
- Education for children under 6 (ECE) is optional
- Disadvantaged children treated as a homogenous group- various categories and different needs for each
- SMCs- private schools exempted/ minority institutions (advisory role)

# Quality provisions - Curriculum ...

The curriculum and evaluation procedures shall take into consideration the following (SCERT as State academic authority shall lay down appropriate curriculum, evaluation procedures and design teacher training programmes and monitor the quality in the field):

- Conformity with the values enshrined in the Constitution.
- All round development of the child.
- Building up child's knowledge, potentiality and talent.
- Development of physical and mental abilities to the fullest extent.
- Learning through activities, discovery and exploration in a child friendly and child-centered manner.



# Quality provisions - Curriculum

- Medium of instruction shall, as far as practicable, be in child's Mother tongue.
- Making the child free of fear, trauma and anxiety and helping the Child to express views freely.
- Continuous and Comprehensive Evaluation of child understanding and knowledge and his / her ability to apply the same.

# Quality provisions - Teacher

## Quality of Education:

Quality of education depends upon the quality of teachers. Teachers' selection and training procedure and their conditions of work need a substantial improvement. Teachers' accountability to the pupils, learning achievement to their parents and the community and develop professionally for effective teaching and assessment.

- Maintain regularity and punctuality in attending school.
- Conduct and complete the curriculum in accordance with the provision of section 29 i.e. curricular and evaluation reforms.
- Complete entire curriculum within the specified time (completing curriculum means it is not completing the syllabus but same time ensure learning achievement for all the children) – Implementation of academic standards with effective teaching learning strategies, annual and unit and lesson plan.

# Quality provisions – Teacher ...

- Assess the learning ability of each child accordingly supplement additional instruction if required. (implementation of CCE for both curriculum and co-curricular activities.
- A teacher committing default in performance of duties specified as above shall be liable to disciplinary action under the service rules applicable to him/her.
- Prohibition of deployment of teachers for non educational purposes. – except population senses disaster relief duties, elections to the local authority, state legislature, parliament as the case may be.
- Prohibition of private tuitions by teachers – no teacher shall engage himself/herself in private tuition or private teaching activity.
- Providing training facility for the teachers.

## RTE provisions – Children ...

- Education is the right of the child and not charity.
- Free & compulsory education in a neighbourhood school.
- Ensure compulsory admission, attendance & completion of elementary education.
- Ensure ‘good quality’ elementary education.
- No child shall be liable to pay any kind of fee or charges or expenses which may prevent him/ her from pursuing and completing the elementary education.
- Child to be admitted to ‘age- appropriate’ class and has the right to receive ‘special training’ to come at par with other children.

## RTE provisions – Children ...

- It is the responsibility of the HM & teachers to provide special training/ remedial teaching to reach class specific competencies/ learning achievements.
- Entitled to get good quality elementary education confirming to the standards and norms as specified by the academic authority i.e. SCERT.
- No screening procedure for admission. If school conducts any admission test it shall be punishable with fine Rs.25,000/- for the first time and Rs. 50,000/- for each subsequent contraventions.

# RTE provisions – Children

- No child shall be denied admission in a school for lack of T.C, age proof certificate or time of admission etc. The concerned HM shall get them in due course after admitting the child.
- No child admitted in a school shall be held back in any class or expelled from school or convince parents to take him back in view of non performance.
- No child shall be subjected to physical punishment or mental harassment.

# RTE– Norms & Standards for Schools ...

- No school shall be established or recognized under section 18 unless it fulfills the norms and standards specified in the schedule. i.e. qualified teachers, infrastructure, play ground, library etc.
- If a school established before commence of this act and does not fulfill the norms & standards specified in the schedule it should take steps to fulfill such norms & standards at its own expenses within a period of three years from the date of commencement of Act.
- The school shall constitute School Management Committee to monitor the functional aspects of schools and to prepare School Development Plan with the help of HM & teachers and monitor the utilization of funds etc.

# RTE– Norms & Standards for Schools

- The minimum no. of working days for primary schools is 200 and for upper primary i.e. classes VI to VIII i.e. 220.
- 800 instruction hours for primary and 1000 instruction hours for upper primary.
- Minimum no. of working hours per week for the teacher including preparation hours at school is 45 hours.
- There shall be a library in each school providing newspaper, magazines and books in all subjects including story books.
- Play material, games & sports equipment shall be provided to each class as required.



# Monitoring the Implementation of RTE & Protection of Right of Children

- The NCPCR (National Commission for Protection of Child Rights) at National Level and SCPCR or REPA (Right to Education Protection Authority) at State Level is to examine and review the safeguards for rights provided by this Act and enquire into complaints relating to child's right to free and compulsory education.
- Constitution of National Advisory Council at National Level and State Advisory Council at State Level with persons having knowledge and practical experience in the field of elementary education and child development to advise the central government and State government respectively on the implementation of the provision of the act in an effective manner.

# Implications ....

- Undertaking appropriate curricular and evaluation reforms by the State academic authority and capacity building of teachers and field staff, and follow up.
- ‘Special training’ for bringing children in age-appropriate classes: school’s responsibility
- Ensuring students achieve the right learning level till class 8: Comprehensive and continuous evaluation of each child
- Teacher recruitment and training
- 25% reservation for disadvantaged children: selection criteria
- Teacher training on child- friendly and child- centred manner of teaching

# Implications

- Schools to have barrier- free access.
- Safe and appropriate transportation arrangements to attend school.
- Free special learning and support materials.
- Local authority to keep updated records of children, including the disabled.
- SMC to monitor enrolment and facilities of learning for disabled children.
- State Advisory Council should have atleast 1 person specialized in education of children with special needs.



**Thank you**