

AS INTRODUCED IN THE RAJYA SABHA
ON THE 5TH DECEMBER, 2025

Bill No. XXI of 2025

**THE RIGHT OF CHILDREN TO FREE AND COMPULSORY
EDUCATION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2025**

A
BILL

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

BE it enacted by Parliament in the Seventy-sixth 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, 2025.

Short title and
commencement.

5 (2) It shall come into force at once.

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

Amendment of
section 2.

“(gg) ‘learning outcomes’ means assessment standards, indicating the

expected level of learning that children should achieve for each class, as may be prescribed.”

Amendment
of section 8.

3. In section 8 of the principal Act, after clause *(i)*, the following clause shall be inserted, namely,-

“(j) ensure yearly evaluation of learning outcomes of each class and subject 5 as required.”

Amendment
of section 18.

4. In section 18 of the principal Act, in sub-section *(1)*, the words "other than a school established, owned or controlled by the appropriate Government or the local authority" shall be omitted.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 was enacted with the good intention of providing free and compulsory education to the children of India. However, it suffers from some flaws that undermine its purpose. The exemption of schools established, owned or controlled by the appropriate Government or the local authority from the recognition criteria under section 18 of the Act, leaves many schools out of the requirements necessary for quality education. There is a need for amendment in the Act to ensure quality education in all the schools.

2. Secondly, in evaluating the performance of schools, apart from the “inputs”, the addition of evaluation of learning outcomes can be a tool for significantly improving the quality of learning. The principal Act is completely silent on learning outcomes. The current Bill provides for the right to quality education while ensuring quality learning outcomes.

The Bill seeks to achieve the above objectives.

DEREK O'BRIEN.

ANNEXURE

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

(35 OF 2009)

No School to
be established
without
obtaining
certificate of
recognition.

18. (1) No school, other than a school established, owned or controlled by the appropriate Government or the local authority, shall, after the commencement of this Act, be established or function, without obtaining a certificate of recognition from such authority, by making an application in such form and manner, as may be prescribed.

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RAJYA SABHA

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BILL

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

(*Shri Derek O'Brien, M.P.*)