

Bill No. XVI of 2020

THE RIGHT OF CHILDREN TO FREE AND COMPULSORY
EDUCATION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2020

A

BILL

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

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

1. This Act may be called the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (Amendment) Act, 2020. Short title.

5 2. In the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009, in section 8, after clause (i), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:— Amendment of section 8.

"(j) provide incentive, financial or otherwise, to the parent or guardian, as the case may be, whose child has been enrolled in any school:

10 Provided that a person shall be entitled to the incentive, financial or otherwise, as the case may be, only if the gross annual family income is below eight lakh rupees, or as may be prescribed by the appropriate Government, from time to time."

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The Bill, in essence, is based on the successful Jagananna Amma Vodi programme of Andhra Pradesh. The said program has helped to increase the student enrolments in the state. This law therefore can be replicated nationally.

The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009, tried to bring in a healthy regime for compulsory elementary education, such as establishing neighbouring schools, providing training to teaching staff and prescribing of curriculum in a timely manner but fell short of incentivising the parents or the guardians who would be sending their wards to school.

The insertion of clause(s) of article 51A in the constitution of India merely made it a fundamental duty for the parent or guardian to provide educational opportunities to his child between the ages of six to fourteen. However, a need was felt to take further steps which would result in an increase in enrolment levels in the country.

An amendment in the 2009 Act to provide incentives to parents or guardian is required to enable India to achieve its target of hundred per cent enrolment in elementary schools.

Hence, this Bill.

V. VIJAYASAI REDDY

FINANCIAL MEMORANDUM

The intended amendment to the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 provides for giving incentives financial or otherwise, to the parents or guardians, subject to a minimum income limit. A recurring expenditure of about rupees ten thousand crore per annum is anticipated for the expenses towards the same.

No non-recurring expenditure likely to be incurred.

RAJYA SABHA

A

BILL

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

(Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy, M.P.)