

AS INTRODUCED IN THE RAJYA SABHA  
ON THE 21ST JUNE, 2019

**Bill No. XXIII of 2018**

THE COMPULSORY YOGA AND SPORTS EDUCATION  
IN SCHOOLS BILL, 2018

A

BILL

*to provide for compulsory yoga and sports education from primary to senior secondary level in all the schools throughout the country in order to prepare talent of sports from school level and thereby ensuring good health of students and for making it obligatory for the Central and State Governments to provide requisite infrastructure for the purpose and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto.*

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

1. (1) This Act may be called the Compulsory Yoga and Sports Education in Schools Act, 2018.

Short title and commencement.

5 (2) It extends to the whole of India.

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

Definitions.

**2.** In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires,—

(a) “appropriate Government” means in the case of a State, the Government of the State, and in other cases the Central Government;

(b) “prescribed” means prescribed by rules made under this Act;

(c) “school” includes Government school Government aided school or a private school which imparts education; 5

(d) “sports infrastructure” means requisite resources for playing such as playground with necessary facilities, articles of sports, sports instructors etc. and requisite environment as are required necessary in the school; and

(e) “yoga” means yoga postures or asanas and such other yoga exercises as would promote control of the body by bringing in flexibility, strength and endurance and of mind by enhancing alertness and meditation. 10

National policy for Yoga and Sports education and infrastructure thereof.

**3.** (1) The Central Government shall, as soon as may be, but not later than one year of the commencement of the Act, formulate a National Policy for providing yoga and sports education in all schools of the country and ensuring requisite infrastructure and other facilities required for yoga and sports. 15

(2) The national policy referred to in sub-section (1) shall provide for,—

(i) imparting free yoga and sports education to all the students as per their ability and physical condition in all the schools;

(ii) encouraging yoga, sports and sports education and creating awareness of the importance of yoga and sports among the schools students; 20

(iii) ensuring the availability of yoga teacher and sports instructor in all the schools;

(iv) releasing adequate funds for infrastructure development for yoga and sports education in all the schools; 25

(v) incorporating yoga and sports as compulsory subjects in all the schools;

(vi) preparing standard and qualitative syllabus for yoga and sports education as per the age and physical capacity of the students under the guidance of experts and universalisation thereof;

(vii) providing scholarship and stipend to those students whose performance in yoga and sports has been outstanding; 30

(viii) giving weightage to marks obtained in yoga and sports for admission in colleges, universities, and institutions of national importance;

(ix) giving preference to the outstanding sports persons in direct recruitment under the Central and State Government services; and 35

(x) such other provisions, as the Central Government may deem fit and necessary for carrying out the purposes of this Act.

Appropriate Government to implement National policy.

**4.** (1) It shall be the duty of the appropriate Government to implement the National Policy formulated under section 3 of this Act.

(2) The appropriate Government shall review the progress and quality of yoga and sports education being imparted by the schools from time to time, in such manner as may be prescribed. 40

Penal provisions.

**5.** Any school which violates the provisions of this Act shall be liable for punitive action by the appropriate Government, including withdrawal of recognition of the school in such manner and with such condition, as may be prescribed. 45

**6.** The Central Government shall, after due appropriation made by Parliament by law in this behalf, provide requisite funds from time to time for carrying out the purposes of this Act. Central Government to provide funds.

**7.** The provisions of this Act shall be in addition to and not in derogation of any other law for the time being in force dealing with the subject matter of this Act. Act to supplement other laws.

**8.** The Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, make rules for carrying out the purposes of this Act. Power to make rules.

#### STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

Yoga is being practiced in our country since the time immemorial for good health and longevity. It keeps the body and mind healthy and sound and its various *asanaas* cure even serious diseases. Now, yoga is not confined to India only but has become international and International yoga Day is held every year throughout the world. It is felt that yoga should be introduced right from the childhood to make it a part and parcel of everyones life. Similarly, various sports activities make us healthy, fit and fine and they are essential for the overall development of people in particular, the children and youth. Some sports are even very rewarding and outstanding sportpersons of these sports earn enormous Wealth in their career. Many international sports events such as Olympics, Common wealth Games, Asian—Championships etc. are held from time-to-time and winning in these events brings laurels for the country. Thus, the process of sports must start from the school itself to prepare talents for national and international events.

Our country is having the highest number of youth and majority of them are sports lovers. In fact, there is no dearth of talent in various sports in the country. The only shortcomings is that they seldom get proper resources, training and well equipped infrastructure to sharpen their talent to become international sportpersons. It is felt that compulsory yoga and sports education in schools will definitely identify talent and make our nation excel in the global sports and competitions, apart from building a fit and healthy nation.

Hence this Bill.

RAJKUMAR DHOOT

## FINANCIAL MEMORANDUM

Clause 3 of the Bill provides for imparting free yoga and sports education in all schools, adequate funds for infrastructure development and scholarship and stipends for outstanding students in yoga and sports. Clause 6 makes it obligatory for the Central Government to provide requisite funds for carrying out the purposes of the Bill. The Bill if enacted, will involve expenditure from the Consolidated Fund of India. It is not possible to quantify the actual expenditure at this juncture, but it is estimated that a sum of rupees one lakh crore may be as recurring expenditure per annum.

A non-recurring expenditure to the tune of rupees two lakh crore may also be involved for creating various assets throughout the country.

## MEMORANDUM REGARDING DELEGATED LEGISLATION

Clause 8 of the Bill empowers the Central Government to make rules for carrying out the purposes of the Bill. The rules will relate to matters of details only. The delegation of legislative power is of normal character.

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*(Shri Rajkumar Dhoot, M.P.)*