

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION & LITERACY**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2131
ANSWERED ON 11/03/2026**

Gaps in Right to Education

2131 Dr. Meenakshi Jain:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of gaps in the Right to Education that need to be addressed;
- (b) whether Private schools have mandatorily reserve 25 per cent seats for admission of students in the Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) category;
- (c) whether Right to Education directs that a students should be given free education till the age of fourteen years; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
(SHRI JAYANT CHAUDHARY)

(a) to (d): The RTE Act, 2009, mandates the appropriate Government to provide free and compulsory elementary education to every child of the age 6 to 14 years in a neighbourhood school. The RTE Act is applicable throughout the country. Education is in the Concurrent List of the Constitution and majority of schools are under the jurisdiction of the respective State Government and Union Territory Administration which are the appropriate Government for implementation of the provision of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009.

Section 12(1)(c) of the RTE Act, 2009 provides for admission of children belonging to weaker sections and disadvantaged groups in Class I (or below) in the schools specified in sub-clauses (iii) and (iv) of clause (n) of section 2 to the extent of at least 25 percent of the strength of that class. For implementation of the provision of the Act, the respective State/ UT Government is required to notify the disadvantaged groups and weaker sections, per child cost and start admissions as per the laid down procedure and have a grievance redressal mechanism in place. Section 12(2) of the RTE Act, 2009 provides for reimbursement to the private unaided schools for admitting children under Section 12(1)(c).