

# PR SENSE

Communicate the communication

**India's First Corporate ezine**

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**Theme of this Issue**  
Right to Education Act

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## Pre-FACE: From the desk of Editor-in-Chief

### Present day youth needs more awareness about finance

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Though the constitution provided 'right to education' under Article 45, it has taken nearly 60 years for the various successive Governments to enact a law. For the first time in Indian history, a law was brought into force by the Prime Minister addressing the Nation. Though debates are going on the various challenges in implementation, it is a right step towards building the nation. Though the scheme may face lot of teething problems for another four or five years, the real fruits of the scheme will start emerging after nearly 10 years. Earlier, many were skeptical about RTI Act, when it was launched. Presently, RTI Act has started giving good benefits.



The issues like 25% reservation in private schools, creating awareness among the poor parents who send their children for work, identification of eligible children

may pose challenge during the initial period. If the general public, NGOs and the Government officials show some commitment, this historic law can position our nation at the top of the world.

As we are about to release this ezine, we got the media report that Union HRD Minister will be discussing with various stakeholders in the first week of August, 2010 to sort out the challenges.

As the readers are aware, your ezine PreSense has initiated an "Education Loan Task Force". We have also included an article on ELTF in this issue. If the readers come across any harassment or humiliation to the deserving poor students from banks, please send a report to us.

*K. Srinivasan*

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### Implementation of RTE is the National responsibility



We need to have one teacher for every 30 students. We need 1.2 million teachers. There is a shortage of 5 lakh teachers in the country. It may take 5 to 6 years to bring to the desired ratio. It is the responsibility of all the stakeholders like state and central Governments, parents, children, school teachers, NGOs, civil society, Managing Committee, Panchayat Raj to implement this scheme. It is the national responsibility. – *Mr Kabil Sibal, Union Human Resources Development Minister, Government of India.*

## கேடில் விழுச்செல்வம் கல்வி ஒருவற்கு மாடல்ல மற்றை யவை (Thirukkural 400)



Thirukkural 400

By Saint Thiruvalluvar 2000 years back

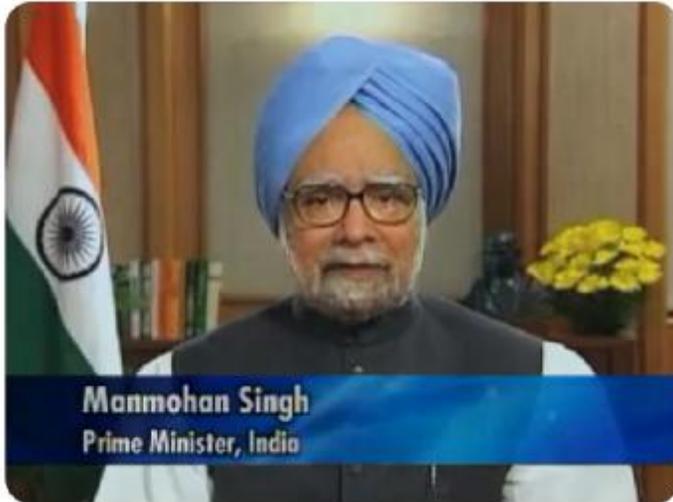
Education is the only serene and indestructible  
wealth. There is nothing else to compare.

## Right to education Act

The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act or Right to Education Act (RTE) was passed by the Indian parliament on 4 August 2009. The Act describes the modalities of the provision of free and compulsory education for children between 6 and 14 in India under Article 21A of the Indian Constitution. India became one of 135 countries to make education a fundamental right of every child when the act came into force on 1 April 2010.



## Right to education Act



Indian Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh addressed the nation through broadcast channels announcing the commencement of this historic act – Right to Education Act - on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2010.

For the first time in India, a law was brought into force by a speech by the Prime Minister. Please watch this historic speech in the following link.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4rIMfutxEqU>

"We are committed to ensuring that all children, irrespective of gender and social category, have access to education. An education that enables them to acquire the skills, knowledge, values and attitudes necessary to become responsible and active citizens of India." – Dr Manmohan Singh

## Important links of RTE

Department of Education

<http://education.nic.in/Elementary/elementaryRTE.asp>

The full text of the Act

<http://education.nic.in/Elementary/free%20and%20compulsory.pdf>

Model Rules under RTE Act

[http://education.nic.in/Elementary/RTI\\_Model\\_Rules.pdf](http://education.nic.in/Elementary/RTI_Model_Rules.pdf)



## Highlights of Right to Education Act

education  
for all 

- 25% seats to be reserved by even private schools for weaker section and disadvantaged groups;
- Free and compulsory education as a fundamental right to every child of age group between 6 to 14;
- Centre and State Governments to share the expenses in 65:35 ratio
- No screening procedure during admission; no capitation fee to be collected; no child should be held back in the class till the completion of elementary school;
- Parents/Guardians should admit their children in neighbourhood school for elementary education. (responsibility to parents also fixed)

## Workshop on 'How to track performance of MPs and MLAs' at Chennai Press Club



From last year, your ezine *PreSense* has started honouring top performing MPs and also trying to create awareness about analysing the performance of MPs. As part of the initiative, Prime Point Foundation and Chennai Press Club organised a workshop at Chennai Press Club on 24<sup>th</sup> July 2010. Chakshu Roy and Tonusree from PRS Legislative Research, Delhi conducted the workshop on various aspects of tracking the performance of MPs and MLAs.

Mr Era. Chezhan, a well known octogenarian Parliamentarian inaugurated the workshop. In the photo above: L to R – Bharathi Thamizhan, (Chennai Press Club), Tonusree, K. Srinivasan and Era Chezhan.

For more details and to watch the presentation on this theme, please click here: <http://www.poduniversal.com/2010/07/how-to-track-performance-of-mps-and.html>

## Milestones of this historic Act



सत्यमेव जयते

### Indian Constitution –Article 45 states:

“The State shall endeavour to provide, within a period of ten years from the commencement of this Constitution, for free and compulsory education for all children until they complete the age of fourteen years “

### Amendments

Following initiatives by the Supreme Court of India during the 1990s the Ninety-third amendment bill suggested three separate amendments to the Indian constitution:

The constitution of India was amended to include a new article, 21A, which read:

“The State shall provide free and compulsory education to all children of the age of six to fourteen years in a such manner as the State may, by law, determine.”

Article 45 was proposed to be substituted by the article which read:

“Provision for early childhood care and education to children below the age of six years: The State shall endeavour to provide early childhood care and education for all children until they complete the age of six years.”

Another article, 51A, was to additionally have the clause:

“...a parent or guardian [shall] provide opportunities for education to his child or, as the case may be, ward between the age of six and fourteen years.

The bill was passed unanimously in both Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha in 2001 and 2002. After the approval by the President of India, it became the 86<sup>th</sup> amendment. Since then those between the age of 6–14 have a fundamental right to education.

### Passage of Bill and implementation

A draft Education Bill was released in 2005. It received opposition, as it contained a mandatory provision of 25% reservation for disadvantaged children in private schools. Both the Houses passed this Bill in July and August 2009 and President approved this bill in Sep 2009. This historic law came into effect on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2010 with the speech of the Prime Minister of India.

## How people react to 25% reservation in private schools



*PreSense* conducted an online snap survey to get the views of the readers. 100% of the respondents, welcomed this Act. We requested them to give their views on the 25% reservation in private schools. Some of the views expressed are:

**Sudhir, Delhi**

Great step toward middle class and lower class people who wanted their kins to study and have better future ☑

**Prof. S Krishnamurthy, Chennai**

Yes it must do good for economically weaker section students irrespective of caste, creed or religion

**P B Raghvendra Rao, Hyderabad**

This percentage is heavy burden for the privately managed schools rather a choice may be given to them as a social cause.

**Siva, USA**

Good. But just making the seat available may not make this Act success. Making proper propaganda thro' all possible media in all the necessary sectors will help. This will definitely more beneficial for our country and get to our Great Vision 2020 faster.

**Vibhuti Agarwal, Mumbai**

It is good provided the school authorities treat them equally

**Prof. K Prabhakar, Chennai**

It is a right move. There should be public private partnership. However, this should not be used as a corruption tool for bureaucrats and politicians. Many politicians will start schools to just get this money.

**Anil G Khendelwal, Indore, MP**

Instead of 25% uniformly everywhere, it should be minimum of either 25% or percentage of poor families in locality of school,

**Preeti, Mumbai**

It will be viable only if 1. Govt also ensures those poor students get the resources out of school to be able to be at par with other students and 2. There is an unbiased process of selection of students by private schools.

## What are the challenges?



In the online snap survey, we also requested the readers to give their perception on the challenges. Some of the responses are:(reproduced without any editing, in the words of respondents)

Creating awareness and getting the support from the wealthy groups in bringing up the downtrodden population. (SaiMeenakshi, Chennai)

The poor children, might not afford proper quality uniform, transport from their homes, food etc. A dedicated , kind hearted volunteer, should interact with School management bi-monthly, and should report to authorities. All these society should take as their duty, as a monitoring body. (C Rajendra Prasad, Mumbai)

Government laying such scheme doesn't see to that whether these parents can afford that much amount for private schools. Solution - some scholarship scheme which is adequate for the children to cover their education (S Nagavathani, Srilanka)

Challenges are 1. creating awareness among the poor class 2. v.poor class use their children to work in order to feed. One can say don't do it. But the basic need for them is food first. 3. education should not mean providing a school which lacks quality teachers and infrastructure. Govt should ensure that they have these 2 in place before venturing into just providing education per say 4. unless we bring the v.poor to little higher level, they will still not send their children to school. How to lift them up is the biggest challenge Solution: - Public-Private Participation will have to happen - Enterprises should contribute to educating few children; depending upon the level of the firm, government could enforce it as a law or education cess [worse case] (Sabapathy, Bangalore)

## Admit on first-come-first served basis

*On behalf of PreSense, we sought the views Mr Hansraj Ahir Member of Parliament from Maharashtra. He represents BJP in the Lok Sabha. He is the top performing MP in the current Lok Sabha for participation in debates and raising questions. (His Hindi speech translated by Malvika Saraogi)*



India has various villages, tribal areas as well as metro cities and all these should have a right to education. Thus this act is a welcome step in this direction. After a long time this act has been passed and it is for the welfare of our country and it is supported by all the political parties. Now all the states should take responsibility for its implementation. It is a central government scheme but without the help of state level players, this act has no meaning.

Another amendment which is required in the education sector is that of admissions. All top educational institutions in the country should follow a policy of admission on a first-come-first-served basis. Also, there should be a certain percentage reservation for the poor who cannot afford to pay for their education. For example, the Maharashtra government provides free or subsidised treatment to 10 % of the patients in the government hospitals. These two measures will ensure that quality education is accessible by all.

Education should include not only theoretical, but also technical and practical knowledge. It is important to include teaching students how to use computers, the Internet, etc. Moreover, quality education should ideally be extended to high school and college levels. Our country needs a sound educational system at all levels.

## Important links of Prime Point Foundation

[www.prpoint.com](http://www.prpoint.com)

[www.indiavision2020.org](http://www.indiavision2020.org)

[www.imageaudit.com](http://www.imageaudit.com)

[www.action2020.co.cc](http://www.action2020.co.cc)

[www.corpezine.com](http://www.corpezine.com)

[www.eltf.co.cc](http://www.eltf.co.cc)

[www.poduniversal.com](http://www.poduniversal.com)

<http://prpoint.blogspot.com>

# PRince

by- Triambak Sharma

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cartoonwatch@gmail.com



I AM EDUCATED ENOUGH...  
ABOUT "RIGHT TO EDUCATION  
ACT"... I TELL EVERYBODY  
THAT I AM 14 YEARS OLD...!!



## Media Partnership @ Malaysia

Pre-Conference Workshop: 27 September 2010  
Conference Date: 28-29 September 2010  
Post-Conference Workshop: 30 September 2010  
Venue: Crowne Plaza Mutiara Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

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## Media Partnership @ Vietnam



Fourth Annual Asian Publishing Convention was held at Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam on July 8 and 9, 2010. 190 delegates from 17 countries participated. Your ezine *PreSense* was a Media Partner for this event. Winners from eight categories relating to publishing, were given awards.

In the photo above: Lifetime Awardee Dr. Doris M. Brougham, Founder & CEO of Overseas Radio and Television, Inc. and Studio Classroom together with Mr. Steve Garton from Synovate Limited, Mr. Cyril Periera, APC Co-Chairman and Mr. Dieter Pluess from Swiss Post International Asia.

## Education Loan

Your ezine *Pre-Sense* and online India Vision Group have started an initiative "Education Loan Task Force" (ELTF) to create awareness about education loan scheme among students.

ELTF has provided all the relevant information about education loan scheme in the site [www.elft.co.cc](http://www.elft.co.cc)



### Performance of PSU Banks under Edu Loan Scheme:

As at March 2009, Rs. 26825 crores was outstanding in 1.6 million accounts. In March 2010, Rs. 35628 crores was outstanding in 1.9 million accounts. The outstanding in education loan is only around 1.2% of total advances granted by the banks. NPA is very low at 2.1%. ELTF has been demanding that education loan should be increased to a minimum of 7% of total outstanding bank advances.

ELTF has also brought to the notice of Reserve Bank of India, many violations in the guidelines by the banks while disbursing education loans.

Private Sector Banks do not participate actively in disbursing education loan to poor students. Like RTE Act mandates the private schools also to reserve 25% seats to weaker section, RBI should mandate Private Sector Banks to be part of the upliftment of poor and weaker section.

## PRetty - Noisy class

While visiting a country school, the chairman of the Board Of Education became provoked at the noise the unruly students were making in the next room. Angrily, he opened the door and grabbed one of the taller boys who seemed to be doing most of the talking. He dragged the boy to the next room and made him to stand in the corner.

A few minutes later, a small boy stuck his head in the room and pleaded, "Please, sir, may we have our teacher back?"

## PResenters of *PReSENSE*



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