

Why Do We Oppose the Right to Education Act, 2009?

I. Not just because -

1. It denies Right to early childhood care and pre-primary education to children below 6 years of age; and
2. It denies Right to secondary education to children in the 14-18 year age group.

II. But because -

1. It denies elementary education of equitable quality even to children in the 6-14 year age group;
2. It does not include even the required student support measures to ensure retention and regular participation of children in the 6-14 year age group; and
3. It neither develops government schools nor regulates private schools.

III. More so because -

1. It has provisions to allow private managements to hike fees as they like and to intensify the pace of commercialization;
2. It provides for siphoning off public funds to private operators through reimbursement;
3. It opens flood gates to thorough commercialization of school education under reimbursement scheme.
4. It not only institutionalizes the present multi-layered and unequal school system but also further widens inequalities and discrimination in all dimensions.
5. It ends up in closure of government schools and takes the school system precisely in opposite direction to the long-cherished Common School System.

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