

March from Ramleela Ground (9:30 AM) to Sansad Marg to culminate in People's Parliament (1:00 PM)

ALL INDIA FORUM FOR RIGHT TO EDUCATION

UNITE TO RESIST THE TWIN DANGERS OF COMMERCIALIZATION AND COMMUNALIZATION OF EDUCATION

In the sixty-fourth year of the Republic of India,
we, the people, resolve to continue our struggle in order to achieve a
FULLY STATE-FUNDED COMMON EDUCATION SYSTEM
which alone can pave the path for entirely free,
democratic, scientific & humane education of equitable quality
at all levels of education ('KG to PG').

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THE CONSTITUTIONAL VISION OF RIGHT TO EDUCATION
can't be achieved without

fighting to demolish the neo-liberal policy

of allowing profit making in education, siphoning public assets and funds to private managements under Public-Private Partnership (PPP), reducing education to tradable service under WTO-GATS and undermining the purpose of education by subserving the market through communalization, regimentation and enslavement of minds.

Build Struggles to Stop or Reverse Fresh Neo-liberal Attacks

Mumbai Mahanagarpalika 'auctions' all its 1,174 Schools under PPP! Single biggest sell-out in education!!

- *Outsourcing/Leasing/Auctioning* of Municipal/Government Schools in Delhi, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Punjab, Tamilnadu, Uttarakhand & others
- *Closure/merger* of Government Schools in Andhra Pradesh, Delhi, Goa, Karnataka, Odisha & others
- *Instituting Private University Bills/Acts/Policies* in Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Punjab, Rajasthan & others
- *Thwarting* democracy in universities and *restricting* freedom of student & karamchhari unions and teachers associations
- *Increased pace* of contractualisation of teachers and *non-filling* of vacant teachers' posts
- *Dismantling* public education system with Right to Education Act 2009, PPP & higher education Bills

Delhi University Imposes Four-Year Undergraduate Programme (FYUP) to Destroy a Prestigious University & Exclude the Deprived Youth!

Education is not for producing work force for global market's loot but for meeting economic, social and cultural needs of the people and for building

A DEMOCRATIC, SOCIALIST, SECULAR AND ENLIGHTENED SOCIETY

by promoting equality, social justice and plurality; liberating it from communal, casteist, patriarchal, sectarian and anti-disability prejudices, irrationality and superstitions; and inculcating critical consciousness for social transformation.



... Please see overleaf

EDUCATION IS NOT FOR SALE, IT IS A PEOPLE'S RIGHT!

STRENGTHEN PUBLIC EDUCATION AND REGULATE PRIVATE EDUCATION!

Abolish commercialization of education and establish fully state-funded Common Education System which alone can guarantee Fundamental Right from pre-primary to class XII and Equal Opportunities and Social Justice in higher and professional education.

We ask the Government to do the following for exclusion of inequalities and inclusion of diversities,

- **Reverse** all decisions to close/merge state-funded schools or outsource/lease/sell/auction them to corporate houses, religious bodies and NGOs under PPP (Mumbai Mahanagarपालिका decision is a 'red-alert' case for reversal);
- **Backtrack** Delhi University's semesterisation and Four Year Undergraduate Programme (FYUP) and **stop** its imposition on the rest of Indian Universities;
- **Restore** democratic functioning of the university system and **withdraw** all unconstitutional restrictions placed on student and karamchari unions and teachers' associations in state-funded as well as private colleges and universities;
- **Withdraw** all Higher Education Bills, including 'Foreign Educational Institutions Bill', introduced in the Parliament in order to commercialize and commoditize higher education under WTO-GATS agenda; **Stop** UGC's twinning arrangements to bring in foreign colleges/universities which amounts to bypassing the Parliament;
- **Review** 86th Constitutional Amendment Act, 2002 with a view to guarantee Fundamental Right to free & democratic education of equitable quality up to 18 years of age i.e. up to Class XII, including Fundamental Right to balanced nutrition, health support and pre-primary education for children below six years of age and **to ban** child labour;
- **Replace** the farcical Right to Education Act, 2009 with an Act drafted in the framework of a fully state-funded 'Common School System based on Neighborhood Schools' from pre-primary to Class XII; **upgrade** infrastructural (including teacher-related), curricular and pedagogic norms and standards of all schools, including private schools, to at least those of the Central Schools; **provide** one teacher for each class;
- **Ensure** all necessary support to enable the disadvantaged, deprived and discriminated children and youth, marginalized on the basis of their class, caste, religion, gender, culture, language, region or disability, to complete their school education up to Class XII and seek higher education through equal opportunity and social justice;
- **Upgrade** all Para-Teachers and **merge** them in regular school teacher cadre, ensuring that their pre-service education cost is borne by the government; **prohibit entirely** assigning of any duty to teachers other than teaching;
- **Provide** tiffin on arrival, Mid-Day Meal (cooked, not pre-packaged) and milk at the end of the school up to senior secondary level and **establish** a full-fledged independent procurement, storage, cooking and delivery mechanism for every school such that it does not disturb the teachers at all, thereby letting them perform their basic duty of teaching with love, diligence and consciousness;
- **Redefine** 'FREE EDUCATION' from 'KG to PG' to include, apart from tuition-free education, exemption from all other direct or contingent expenses such as miscellaneous fees and charges; cost of textbooks and supplementary texts, stationery, uniform, computer and internet usage, transport, extracurricular activities and hostels;
- **Apply** All India Pay Scales and Service Conditions equitably for all teachers appointed from 'KG to PG' and **replace** the present pension scheme with the old pension scheme;
- **Take over** all fee-charging private schools, colleges and universities and **place** them under democratic, decentralized and participative governance at par with state-funded institutions;
- **Institute** a common language policy in all schools, including private schools, founded on mother tongue in a multi-lingual context as the most powerful medium for acquiring modern knowledge and proficiency in any other language, including English; **make** available world's best literature of all disciplines through translation at least in each of the Eighth Schedule languages;
- **Scrutinise** curriculum/text material, including that of teacher education, in order to eliminate communal, casteist, patriarchal, sectarian and anti-disability prejudices and irrational and superstitious content which weaken the social fabric and subvert India's rich diversity by insidiously pushing hegemony of any one class, caste, religion, culture, gender, language, region or the so-called 'normal' body over the rest;
- **Ban** all forms of PPP including new schemes of fee reimbursement (e.g. Right to Education Act, 2009), tax exemptions, free/subsidized land and other hidden subsidies; voucher schools; sale, leasing or renting of government schools/campuses; outsourcing ('adoption') of government schools to corporate houses, religious bodies or NGOs;
- **Reject** recommendations of Sam Pitroda Knowledge Commission and Yash Pal Committee that **promote** neo-liberal policies such as PPP e.g. resource generation in state-funded institutions through student fee hikes and corporate consultation fees for the faculty and **facilitate** entry of foreign universities instead of improving existing colleges and Universities for fulfilling the needs of the people;
- **Withdraw/Repeal** all Private Universities Bills/Acts at the Centre and in various states;
- **Allocate** adequate funds to fill up the cumulative gap of investment building up since 1986 and **ensure** required funding thereafter for continuing improvement of state-funded education system while **strictly banning** siphoning government funds to private bodies through PPP; and
- **Withdraw** 'offers' in higher education made to WTO-GATS before they become irrevocable 'commitments'.

ALL INDIA FORUM FOR RIGHT TO EDUCATION (AIFRTE)

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21st October 2013 • Rally will begin from Ramleela Grounds, New Delhi • Time to Assemble - 9:00 AM