



# rte full form - 2023 : What Is RTE? - RTE Act - Right To Education

[The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act](#) or Right to Education Act (RTE), is an Act of the Parliament of India enacted on 4 August 2009, which describes the modalities of the importance 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.

## [What is the full form of RTE](#)

### RTE: Right to Education

[RTE stands for Right to Education](#). It refers to the idea that all children, regardless of caste, creed, gender, or socioeconomic status, are entitled to a high-quality education. It is among the key fundamental rights and a tool for eradicating poverty. It also attempts to establish a society that is socially fair and equal.

The Act makes education a fundamental right of every child between the ages of 6 and 14 and specifies minimum norms in elementary schools. It requires all private schools to reserve 25% of seats to children (to be reimbursed by the state as part of the public-private partnership plan). Kids are admitted in to private schools based on economic status or caste based reservations. It also prohibits all unrecognised schools from practice, and makes provisions for no donation or capitation fees and no interview of the child or parent for admission. The Act also provides that no child shall be held back, expelled, or required to pass a board examination until the completion of elementary education. There is also a provision for special training of school drop-outs to bring them up to par with students of the same age.

The RTE Act requires surveys that will monitor all neighbourhoods, identify children requiring education, and set up facilities for providing it. The World Bank education specialist for India, Sam Carlson, has observed: "The RTE Act is the first legislation in the world that puts the

responsibility of ensuring enrolment, attendance and completion on the Government. It is the parents' responsibility to send the children to schools in the US and other countries."

The Right to Education of persons with disabilities until 18 years of age is laid down under a separate legislation - the Persons with Disabilities Act. A number of other provisions regarding improvement of school infrastructure, teacher-student ratio and faculty are made in the Act.

Education in the Indian constitution is a concurrent issue and both centre and states can legislate on the issue. The Act lays down specific responsibilities for the centre, state and local bodies for its implementation. The states have been clamouring that they lack financial capacity to deliver education of appropriate standard in all the schools needed for universal education. Thus it was clear that the central government (which collects most of the revenue) will be required to subsidise the states.

A committee set up to study the funds requirement and funding initially estimated that INR 1710 billion or 1.71 trillion (US\$38.2 billion) across five years was required to implement the Act, and in April 2010 the central government agreed to sharing the funding for implementing the law in the ratio of 65 to 35 between the centre and the states, and a ratio of 90 to 10 for the north-eastern states. However, in mid 2010, this figure was upgraded to INR 2310 billion, and the center agreed to raise its share to 68%. There is some confusion on this, with other media reports stating that the centre's share of the implementation expenses would now be 70%. At that rate, most states may not need to increase their education budgets substantially.

A critical development in 2011 has been the decision taken in principle to extend the right to education till Class X (age 16) and into the preschool age range. The CABE committee is in the process of looking into the implications of making these changes.

The Ministry of HRD set up a high-level, 14-member National Advisory Council (NAC) for implementation of the Act. The members included Kiran Karnik, former president of NASSCOM; Krishna Kumar, former director of the NCERT; Mrinal Miri, former vice-chancellor of North-East Hill University; Yogendra Yadav – social scientist. India Sajit Krishnan Kutty, Secretary of The Educators Assisting Children's Hopes (TEACH) India; Annie Namala, an activist and head of Centre for Social Equity and Inclusion; and Aboobacker Ahmad, vice-president of Muslim Education Society, Kerala.

A report on the status of implementation of the Act was released by the Ministry of Human Resource Development on the one year anniversary of the Act. The report admits that 8.1 million children in the age group six-14 remain out of school and there's a shortage of 508,000 teachers country-wide. A shadow report by the [RTE](#) Forum representing the leading education

networks in the country, however, challenging the findings pointing out that several key legal commitments are falling behind the schedule. The Supreme Court of India has also intervened to demand implementation of the Act in the Northeast. It has also provided the legal basis for ensuring pay parity between teachers in government and government aided schools. Haryana Government has assigned the duties and responsibilities to Block Elementary Education Officers–cum–Block Resource Coordinators (BEEOs-cum-BRCs) for effective implementation and continuous monitoring of implementation of Right to Education Act in the State.

It has been pointed out that the [RTE act](#) is not new. Universal adult franchise in the act was opposed since most of the population was illiterate. Article 45 in the Constitution of India was set up as an act: 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.

As that deadline was about to be passed many decades ago, the education minister at the time, MC Chagla, memorably said: "Our Constitution fathers did not intend that we just set up hovels, put students there, give untrained teachers, give them bad textbooks, no playgrounds, and say, we have complied with Article 45 and primary education is expanding... They meant that real education should be given to our children between the ages of 6 and 14" - (MC Chagla, 1964).

In the 1990s, the World Bank funded a number of measures to set up schools within easy reach of rural communities. This effort was consolidated in the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan model in the 1990s. RTE takes the process further, and makes the enrolment of children in schools a state prerogative.

## Features of RTE

The provisions of the [RTE Act](#) cover children between the ages of six and fourteen. It states that the elementary grade to higher secondary stage or degree in any discipline must be provided free of charge education by the Central and State Governments via their respective public schools, public-private partnership model (PPP), private sector, etc.

According to the 2009 Act, RTE has created points of entry and departure with a timeframe for each kid to finish their primary education. If the child has not completed this timeframe, no institution may refuse to admit them, and if the child has been enrolled in school up to that point, no one can be debarred by any cause.

The RTE Act's primary goal is to give every Indian citizen fair access to quality education.

## Benefits of RTE

### **i) Compulsory and free education**

Each child receives free and required basic schooling from the government up till class 8 at a nearby area school in India. No pupil is required to incur any fees or other costs that might hinder them from continuing and finishing their elementary education. Free education also involves the distribution of textbooks, uniforms, stationery products, and special educational materials for students with disabilities to lessen the financial burden of education expenses.

### **ii) All-round development of children**

[The Right to Education Act](#) of 2009 calls for creating a curriculum that would ensure each child's overall development; child's knowledge, abilities, and capabilities as a person.

### **iii) Creating inclusive spaces for all**

According to the [RTE](#) act, all private schools must set aside 25% of their slots for children from economically and socially disadvantaged groups. The Act's clause promotes social inclusion to create a more equitable society.

### **iv) Improving learning outcomes**

According to the [Right to Education Act](#), a child not enrolled in school must be accepted to a grade for their age and get specialised instruction to help them catch up to age-appropriate learning standards.

## Conclusion

The [RTE](#) Act is regarded as the ground-breaking law in India designed to offer free and required basic education to children aged 6-14. Under this Act, every kid who belongs to one of the economically deprived groups in society has right to get education. According to this Act, parents can enrol their children in any school of their choice, regardless of class, race, or sex,

and cannot be refused access to any school. Whether an institution is public or private, the government offers financial aid to both. A child accepted into a private school can access all government-provided amenities, including a uniform, textbooks, a midday meal, and other things.