

October 23rd, 2018 Sample Current Affairs

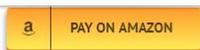
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1. 'Right to Education' vastly expanded enrolment of children: Unfortunately not enough attention was paid to the quality of the schools, the teachers and the instruction.

- How did RTE transformed education at primary level?
- What are the several unaddressed issues under RTE act?
- What is the way forward?

GS paper 2 (Issues relating to development and management of Social Sector/Services relating to Health, Education, Human Resources)

In this video, you can find detailed answers for all the above questions.

The above article has been retrieved from:

P Chidambaram. (2018, October , 23).

We have failed our children. Indian Express. Retrieved from <https://indianexpress.com/article/opinion/columns/chidambaram-congress-bjp-pollution-we-have-failed-our-children-water-scarcity-5410846/>

What is the context about?

- RTE has been seen as 'The Magna Carta of Primary education' in India. It has provided the Fundamental Right to free education till the age of 14 years or completion of primary education.
- It has also enforced the duty on the parents to ensure that they ensure the admission of the child in the schools.

- ❑ 'Right to Education' vastly expanded enrolment of children, but unfortunately not enough attention was paid to the quality of the schools, the teachers and the instruction.

How did RTE transformed education at primary level?

It has been able to expand the education at primary level in following ways:

- ❑ **Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER):** RTE has been able to achieve 100% GER at primary level due to its compulsory requirement of admission of student.
- ❑ **Gender Parity:** The gender parity at primary level is 1.05 according to U-DISE data, it has been possible due to provisions of RTE.
- ❑ **Pupil Teacher Ratio:** RTE has been able to reduce the PT ratio from 40:1 to 25:1 at primary level due to its stringent requirement of 30:1 in all schools.
- ❑ **Infrastructural requirement:** more than 98% of the schools have both girls and boys toilets, this has reduced the drop out rate at primary level.

What are the several unaddressed issues under RTE act?

- ❑ **Quality of Education:** Due to section 16 of the RTE under which there is a provision of No Detention, this has, inter-alia led to poor quality in education which has been spelled out by ASER report.

- ❑ **Educational Reach:** Still section 12 of RTE is not followed by several states, which mandates 25% of students from EWS section of the society. Several states such as AP, TN still has zero fill rate.
- ❑ Lack of proper monitoring and absence of standard to track the progress of the students
- ❑ High Teacher absenteeism and high load on teachers due to over-burden with the duties in elections, swacchta doota
- ❑ Fragmented system: more than 33% of the primary schools have less than 50 enrolments.

What is the way forward?

- ❑ Due to above mentioned issue, RTE has not been able to fulfil the mandate in its spirit. Thus there is a need of National Education Stack to digitalise education system.
- ❑ This is improve the tracking and setting up better standards for monitoring the progress of the students.
- ❑ Along with this, there is a need of diversification of primary education in sports, music and other field so that it would improve the culture, student's interest and reduce the burden at secondary and higher level.