



Standing Committee Report Summary

The National Council for Teacher Education (Amendment) Bill, 2010

- The Standing Committee on Human Resource Development (Chairperson: Shri Oscar Fernandes) tabled its 224th Report on 'The National Council for Teacher Education (Amendment) Bill, 2010' on July 30, 2010. The Bill was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on April 16, 2010.
- The Bill seeks to set standards of teacher qualification in all categories of schools. However, the term "school" has not been defined in the Bill. The Committee recommended that school be defined in the law.
- The Bill does not require existing teachers to have the minimum qualifications to be laid down by the Council. The Committee suggested that an effective mechanism needed to be evolved to provide adequate training to the teachers who need it so that quality is not compromised.
- The Committee strongly felt that the Act should clarify that minimum qualification for teachers in teacher education institutions shall be specifically provided in the Act.
- Since education is in the Concurrent List, the Committee observed that any policy change should be corroborated and substantiated by the state government. Therefore, there was need to convene a meeting of Education Secretaries in all states and UTs to evaluate the problems.
- The Committee recommended that while framing regulations for prescribing minimum qualification of teachers, NCTE should undertake a consultation process with the state governments so that uniform rules could be made with some flexibility for state-specific ground realities.
- The Committee is of the view that more teacher education institutions need to be opened in areas which have acute shortage of teachers. Also, a mechanism to assess and accredit teacher education institutions is necessary to ensure that quality education is imparted.
- The Committee noted that steps need to be taken for strengthening all categories of teacher training institutions so that component of pre-service and in-service training becomes an essential part of service of school teachers.
- The Committee recommended that the Bill be passed after incorporating the recommendations.

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