



Standing Committee Report Summary

The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (Amendment) Bill, 2010

- The Standing Committee on Human Resource Development (Chairperson: Shri Oscar Fernandes) tabled its 223rd Report on 'The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (Amendment) Bill, 2010' on July 30, 2010. The Bill was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on April 16, 2010.
- The Bill seeks to include children with disabilities within the ambit of the law. However, the Committee found that dyslexia is not covered within the definition of disability. Therefore, it recommended that dyslexia and any other type of disability, if existing also needed to be included in the definition.
- The Committee recommended that the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection and Full Participation) Act, 1995 be redrafted at the earliest since it had become obsolete.
- The Committee proposed that for children with disabilities, the option of going to a school that can cater to their specific needs should be available irrespective of it being a neighbourhood school or at a distance.
- The Committee pointed out that for better coverage of children with disabilities, Block Resource Centres/Cluster Resource Centres for a specified number of schools need to be specially resourced to cater to the needs of children with disabilities such as Braille, sign language, other adapted learning materials.
- The Committee recommended that there should be option of better equipped schools for disabled children, especially in rural areas. Yoga classes and naturopathy may be used to benefit the children.
- The Committee is of the opinion that elementary education should not be made compulsory for children with severe or multiple disabilities.

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