

## Education Update

### **AP Government to build 2,500 schools in**

#### **FY12**

**PTI** Jun 18, 2011, 08.25pm IST

The Andhra Pradesh government will be building 2,500 schools in the current financial year, school education minister K Pardhasaradhi said Saturday.

Each school building will cost Rs 35 lakh. Land has been already acquired for 500 of these schools, he said.

In addition to the buildings, toilet facility will be provided by using funds from the union rural development ministry under its Total Sanitation Scheme, he said.

In the previous fiscal, 1067 school buildings, costing Rs 313 crore, had been completed, he said, adding 355 model schools will be set up at a cost of Rs 1070 crore.

Pardhasaradhi expressed unhappiness over the literacy rate in the state and said it must go up. He said dropout from schools will be continuously monitored and necessary steps will be taken to reduce the rate.

Source : [http://articles.timesofindia.indiatimes.com/2011-06-18/education/29673963\\_1\\_school-building-model-schools-literacy-rate](http://articles.timesofindia.indiatimes.com/2011-06-18/education/29673963_1_school-building-model-schools-literacy-rate)

### **Rules to Check Unfair Practices in Private School- 5<sup>th</sup> August 2011**

To promote transparency and accountability of the educational system towards its primary stakeholders i.e. children and their parents, Central Advisory Board of Education (CABE) in its meeting held on 7th June, 2011 has recommended for a legislation to prevent and prohibit adoption of unfair practices in school education. It was also recommended to constitute a CABE Committee comprising Minister, members of Civil Society as well as educationists, which will prepare a preliminary draft, for the proposed bill.

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/erelease.aspx?relid=73986>

### **Rajya Sabha passes teachers' education council bill**

August 27, 2011

New Delhi: The Rajya Sabha on Thursday passed a bill for re-creating a national body to regulate schools and teachers.

The National Council of Teachers Education (Amendment) Bill, 2010 was passed by the upper house, restoring the powers in the National Council of Teachers Education (NCTE), a central body whose powers were curtailed by a Supreme Court order in 2008.

The NCTE, which was established in 1995 to regulate schools and teachers and lay out standards for qualification of teachers, was reduced to a teacher's training body by the apex court, which in its 2008 judgment left the responsibility of determining teacher's quality to states.

"There was a fear that if this judgment were to be acted upon, we would have a situation arising in the country where different states would have different qualifications for their teachers, which, of course, is not acceptable," Human Resource Development Minister Kapil Sibal said, introducing the bill in the house.

The bill was then brought to parliament last year, and sent to a parliamentary standing committee.

The amendment will now give NCTE the power to govern and lay down principles for teacher's appointment in all schools.

The amendment has been made in tune with the right to education (RTE) act.

The provisions of this bill shall apply to teachers in institutions and schools providing pre-primary, primary, upper-primary, secondary, and senior secondary or intermediate education recognised by the central or state governments or any other authority. IANS

[http://indiaedunews.net/Delhi/Rajya\\_Sabha\\_passes\\_teachers'\\_education\\_council\\_bill\\_14629/](http://indiaedunews.net/Delhi/Rajya_Sabha_passes_teachers'_education_council_bill_14629/)

## **Bringing Pre-School Learning under RTE Act**

August 05, 2011

New Delhi: The National Advisory Council (NAC) has recommended the addition of primary section in all government schools. NAC has recommended that this will pave the way of examining, over time the feasibility of bringing pre-school learning under the purview of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009. The Planning Commission has constituted an Inter-Ministerial Group for restructuring and strengthening of the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS)

Source: <http://www.indiaedunews.net/Delhi/Bringing-Pre-School-Learning-under-RTE-Act-14543/>

## **Govt schools getting nudged out from Old City**

**TNN** Aug 26, 2011, 01.58am IST

HYDERABAD: In the last five years, the number of government schools in the Old City has shrunk by half. If in 2007, there were 815 government schools in this part of Hyderabad, there are 462 now. Filling the gap are an estimated 350 private schools, many of them not even recognized by the government. While the quality of education they offer is debatable, they are the only choice for scores of parents who send their children here, despite the high fee structures.

A recent study carried out by an NGO in the slums of Old City reveals that 64 per cent of school-going children are enrolled in private schools, with the remaining studying in private unrecognized schools and in government schools in almost equal numbers. Activists who work in this area note that the major reasons for government schools to close are poor student strength and non-payment of rents. Nearly half of the state-run schools were operating from rented buildings. They say that 15-20 years

ago, private schools were practically non-existent here but the government's indifferent attitude towards the field over the years indirectly led to privatization of education. With private schools mushrooming in every lane and bylane of Old City, the exploitation runs high. Parents are aware that even recognized private schools do not have adequate infrastructure and are being run as a business venture. There are several lanes in Old City where there are two to three private schools operating giving stiff competition to each other. Activists allege that several teachers working in these schools have not even cleared their Intermediate.

Masood Ahmed, headmaster of a government school in Old City, says there are numerous needy localities in this part of the city that lack government schools. He goes on to make a rather pertinent point about the education department's flawed planning— despite a large chunk of students in the Old City being Urdu-speaking, there are many Telugu medium government schools. Predictably, parents move their wards to private schools.

The demand for English medium education has also contributed to the closure of government schools. Residents here say few state-run schools offer English medium education. Besides, parents feel that private schools are better than government ones. "My elder son was studying in a government school. Telugu is a compulsory subject but the school did not have a Telugu teacher. He failed in the subject in Class X. Several government schools do not have adequate number of teachers and this is a big problem for students as most of them are Urdu speaking here," says Mohammed Basha, a resident of Moghalpura. Basha has now enrolled his younger son in a private school near his house.

Most govt schools run from rented buildings have shut down due to non-payment of rents and poor student strength. Parents are forced to send their children to private schools that involve huge costs.

[http://articles.timesofindia.indiatimes.com/2011-08-26/hyderabad/29932454\\_1\\_private-schools-government-schools-govt-schools](http://articles.timesofindia.indiatimes.com/2011-08-26/hyderabad/29932454_1_private-schools-government-schools-govt-schools)



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