



Detention no cure: on RTE Act amendment

Posted at: 26/07/2018

The amendment to the Right to Education Act will only undermine its intent

Highlights

- In fact, in 2016 the NITI Aayog found, based on a study in Punjab, that bringing back detention in elementary schooling would increase the dropout rate, impacting the poor and Dalits the most as they depended on government institutions.
- Besides, the proposed 'cure' may make another problem worse: when parents are unable to ensure regular attendance of children due to social circumstances, it is inconceivable that detaining them for non-performance will act as an incentive to attend school regularly.
- The move to introduce examinations as filters has not been fully thought through, and may be a hasty response to demands from State governments which want to be seen as acting firmly in favour of quality.
- Tinkering with the RTE Act without sufficient thought will erode a major constitutional achievement.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

