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Q4(d)

Empowerment through 'Right to Education'

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2016 · Sociology GS 2 · 10 marks · Perspectives on the study of Indian society
Perspectives on the study of Indian society: Indology (G.S. Ghurye); Structural functionalism (M.N. Srinivas); Marxist sociology (A.R. Desai).

Core demand of the question

- Empowerment through 'Right to Education'
- Keep the note to a 10-mark length

Revision summary

RTE makes elementary school a legal right.

Enrolment gains are the first empowerment, especially for girls and deprived castes.

Learning quality and classroom caste decide if the right is real.

Private markets still organise advantage.

It is a floor of citizenship, not the whole of equal education.

Flow diagram

Right to Education -> Enrolment claim

Enrolment claim -> Empowerment if learning dignity

Private split -> Limit

Conclusion

- RTE empowers as a floor. It does not by itself equalise Indian education.

RTE empowers by turning school into a right. Full empowerment needs quality, non-stigmatising classrooms, and a public system that the middle class does not abandon.

Facts & figures**Article 21A**

Constitutional right that RTE implements for 6-14 years.

25 percent clause

Reservation in private unaided schools as a limited inclusion tool.

Ambedkar

Education as a weapon of social democracy, which RTE partially institutionalises.

ASER-type gaps

Evidence that being in school is not the same as learning.

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