

PREFACE

The Right of Children to Free & Compulsory Education Act, 2009 (RTE) provides a justifiable legal framework that entitles all children between the ages of six – fourteen years free and compulsory admission, attendance and completion of elementary education. The Act was implemented w.e.f. 1 April 2010.

The audit was conducted through test check of records of the Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Human Resource and Development, and state implementing agencies in 28 states (excluding Jammu and Kashmir) and seven Union Territories for the period from April 2010 to March 2016. Further, data of the Unified District Information System for Education (U-DISE)/School Report Card data and records at National Commission for Protection of Child Rights were analysed.

There is no separate budget for RTE, rather it is subsumed in Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) budget. The present audit report notes that the budget proposal for SSA in the Centre as well as in the States is not based on the inputs received from the implementing agency. The Ministry has no mechanism to ascertain the out of school children (OoSC) as there is a shortfall in conducting the regular house hold survey by the States. The U-DISE/School Report Card data has inconsistencies; is incomplete and is not being validated at appropriate levels. The infrastructure, as prescribed, which was to be in place, within three years of the implementation of the Act (March 2013), has still not been fully created. Advisory council (National Advisory Council) on implementation of the provisions of the Act, is non-existent since November 2014.

The report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India containing the results of audit of Implementation of Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 has been prepared for submission to the President under Article 151 of the Constitution of India. The audit has been conducted in conformity with the Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India.

