

তারিখ ... 5.12.77 ...
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Compulsory Free Primary Education

Sir—The talk of compulsory free primary education for all is being heard for the last 30 years. The programme has so long fallen far short of achieving the desired goal and hence still remains in its embryonic stage. The case is not far to seek. It is beset with so many problems.

According to a study conducted by UNICEF a great number of our children are simply deprived of the fruits of education. It is reported that 41 per cent of our children belonging to primary school-going age fail to avail themselves of this opportunity of free education. This may be attributed to inadequate number of schools, apathy on the part of parents, want of proper motivational activities on the part of the relevant agencies. To this may be added distance of the school, lack of teaching aids, dearth of teaching staff and poverty of the people and some other socio-economic conditions. In spite of their best efforts, there are parents who cannot afford to buy books for their children not to speak of other requirements such as pen, paper, ink, dress etc. To make compulsory free primary education a real success we shall have to remove the problems connected with it simultaneously —Yours etc. A. GUARDIAN