

Right to Education Act 2009

A Primer



Azim Premji
Foundation

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In 1893, the king of Baroda, Maharaja Sayajirao Gaekwar, implemented compulsory primary education in a small taluka in Amralli district. In this nine-village cluster, children from the ages of seven to 12 were educated. This tiny experiment was a great success and was extended to all 52 villages in the district. Eventually, compulsory primary education was extended to the entire state. This was India's first recorded attempt at compulsory education. (Forbes, March 10, 2010)

One hundred and sixteen years later in 2009, the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 was passed by Parliament. The legislation came into force on April 1, 2010. The Act has made education a fundamental right for children between the ages of six and fourteen years. The RTE Act is one of the most important social legislations in India. It has the potential to create a far-reaching impact on the education of millions of children across the country. Apart from guaranteeing a right to elementary education the legislation also tries to create a barrier-free and stress-free environment in schools.

Although the legislation has been in force for close to two years, there is not much awareness about its provisions among children and parents, the legislation's primary beneficiaries. This booklet has been created to help in creating this awareness. Through illustrations and simple text we are trying to spread the message of right to education to various parts of India.

Azim Premji Foundation



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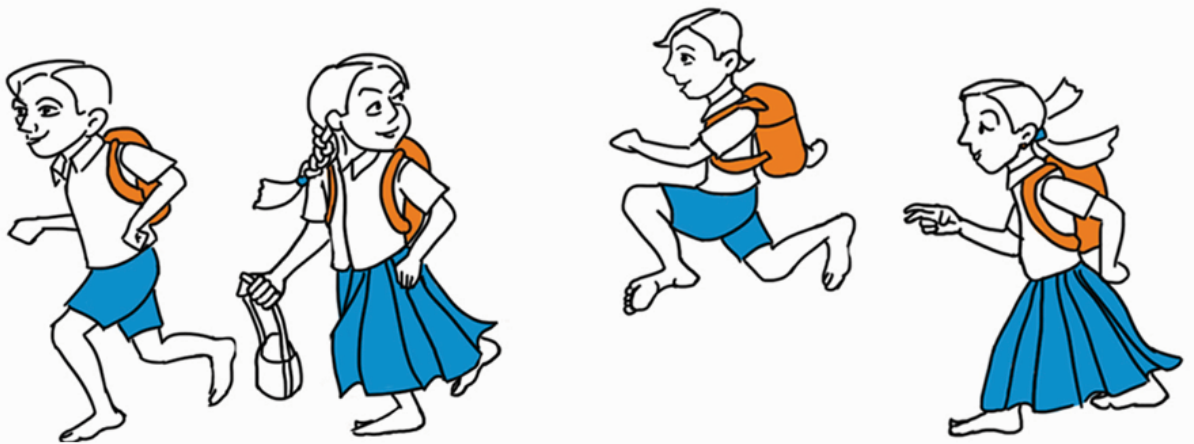
- It is the responsibility of the government to ensure that all children between 6 and 14 years receive education.

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All children between 6 and 14 years have the right to elementary education in a government school.



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- No child can be denied admission for lack of proof of age.
- No child can be denied admission if the child seeks admission after the prescribed period.
- Special training will be provided to children who are above the age of 6 years and have not been to school before.

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Every child between the ages of 6 and 14 years has the right to be admitted in a government school in an age-appropriate class, irrespective of his age.

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- Hitting, kicking, scratching, pinching, biting, hitting with a cane, duster, shoe etc. and making children assume uncomfortable positions are treated as corporal punishment.
- Mental harassment is also prohibited. Mental harassment includes calling the child names using humiliating adjectives, ridiculing his background or social status.

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NO MORE



CORPORAL PUNISHMENT

Corporal punishment is banned in school.

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- No child has to write a Board exam till the completion of class 8.

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Notice Board

	ENGLISH	KANNADA	SCIENCE	E. V. S.	MATHS	RESULT
ASDV HJK	32	20	29	50	40	PASSED
BHJZDD J	85	87	79	90	94	PASSED
CCBCJDB	25	70	63	52	76	PASSED
FGJJK JH	45	60	35	18	10	PASSED
NHMJ MN	88	90	95	85	100	PASSED
PJHHM H	48	60	70	73	67	PASSED
RDFS GHJ	58	60	70	69	80	PASSED
ZGN H M	75	90	97	89	92	PASSED



No child can be held back in any class till class 8.

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Every school should have a building, playground, sports equipment, boundary wall and separate toilets for boys and girls.

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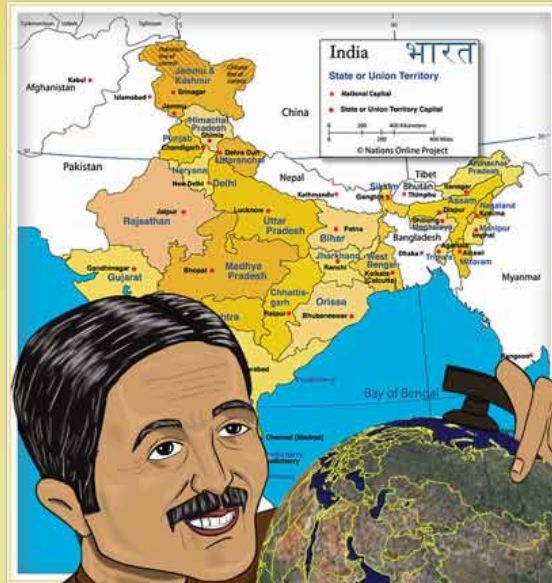
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Every school should have a library and sufficient teaching learning material.

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- The cooked mid-day meal must contain grain, lentils and vegetables
- Nutritional requirement:
 - Primary: 450 calories, 12 grams protein and adequate quantities of micro-nutrients like Iron, Folic Acid , Vitamin-A etc
 - Upper primary: 700 calories 20 grams protein and adequate quantities of micro-nutrients like Iron, Folic Acid , Vitamin-A etc
- Component-wise break up:

S. No.	Items	Primary			Upper Primary		
		Require-ment under MDM (in gms)	Energy content (in calories)	Protein Content (in gms)	Require-ment under MDM (in gms)	Energy content (in calories)	Protein Content (in gms)
1.	Foodgrains (Rice / Wheat)	100	340	8	150	510	14
2.	Pulses	20	70	5	30	105	6.6
3.	Vegetables	50	25	--	75	37	--
4.	Oil & Fat	5	45	--	7.5	68	--
5.	Salt & Condiments	As per need	--	--	As per need	--	--
			480	13		720	20.6





Every government school must serve a mid-day meal to every child on every school day

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- The School Management Committee (SMC) will consist of parents, teachers and elected representatives
- The SMC will have proportionate representation of parents of weaker sections and disadvantaged groups

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Every Government and aided school should have a School Management Committee (SMC). Three fourths of this committee should be parents and half of this committee should be women.

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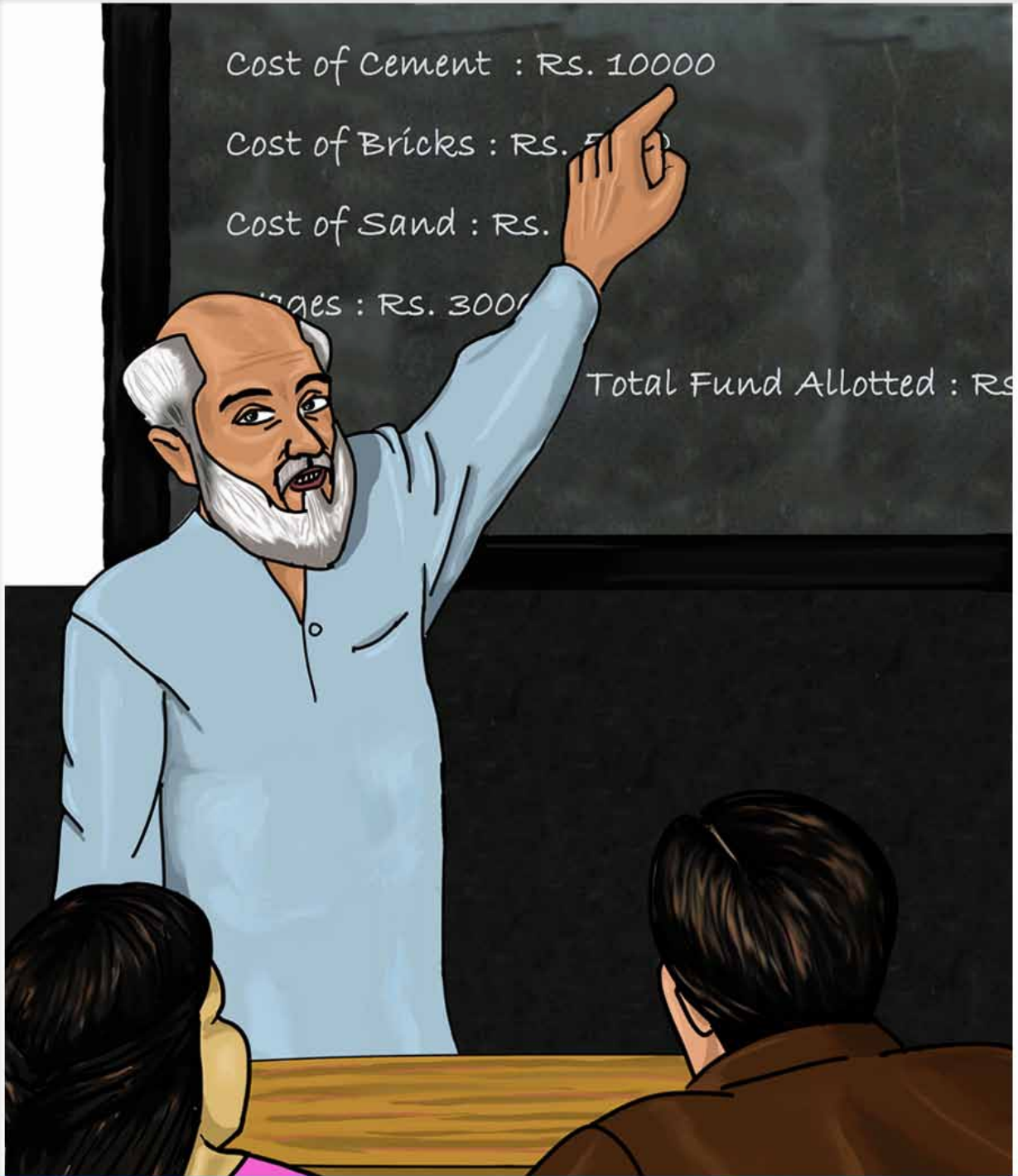
The SMC has to

- Monitor the working of the school
- Prepare and recommend School Development Plan (SDP)
- The School Development should assess the current situation, identify needs and find solutions keeping in mind ground realities in the following areas:
 - Access to the school
 - Coverage of the school, out of school children
 - Physical infrastructure
 - Teacher requirement
 - Learning levels of students
 - Retention

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SMC has to prepare a School Development Plan for the school.

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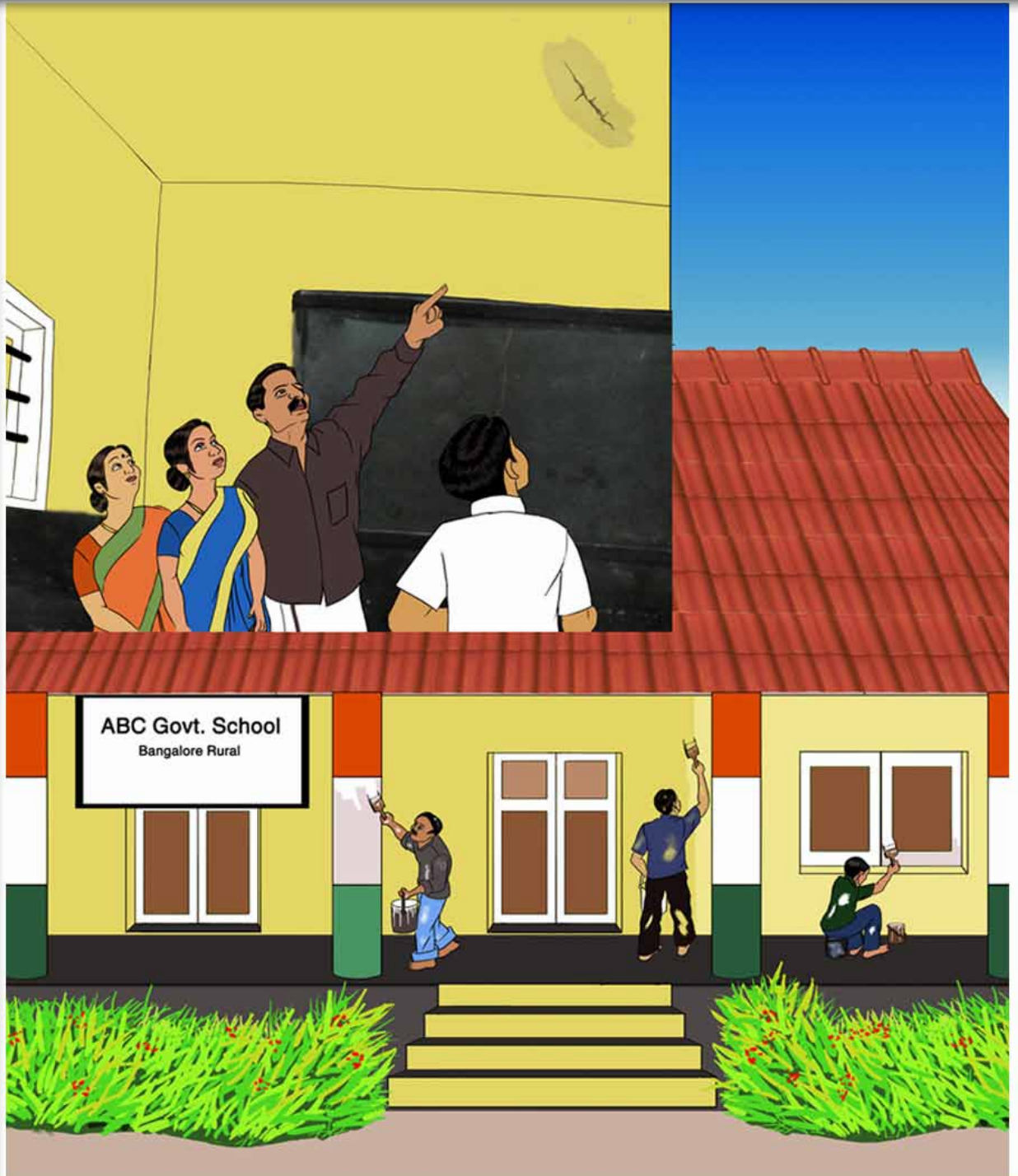
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SMC has to monitor utilisation of funds by the school.

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No teacher can be engaged in non-educational activity except disaster relief, census activity and election duty

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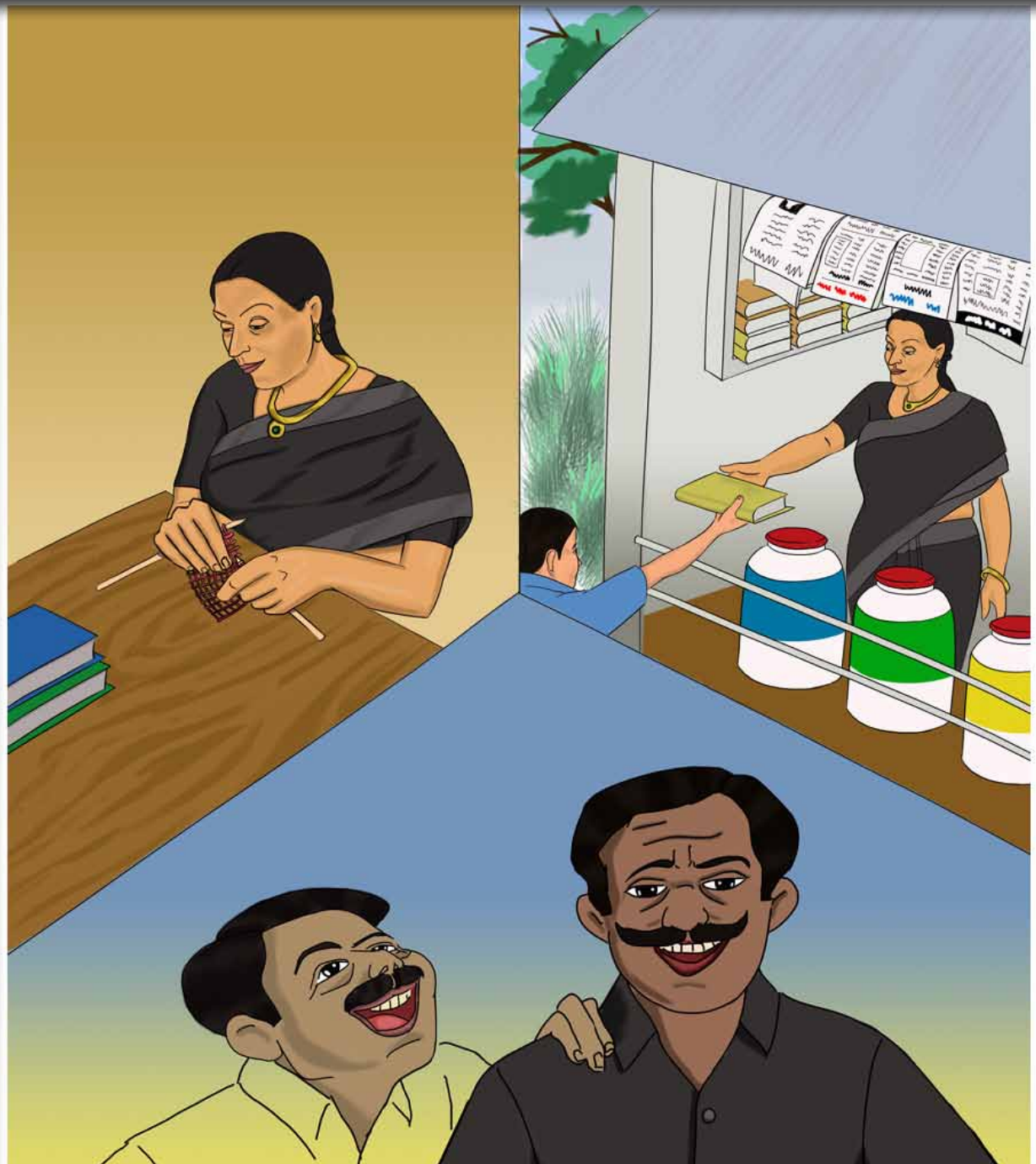
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During school hours teachers cannot run businesses or do other non-academic work not permitted by the act.

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- Every teacher must work for a minimum of 45 hours a week including preparation time.
- Teachers cannot give private tuition.

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All teachers have to teach for a minimum of 200 days (800 instructional hours) between class 1 and 5, 220 days (1000 instructional hours) between class 6 and 8.

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This school belongs to all of us and we are all responsible for it working well.

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Design & Illustration
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