

efforts for evolving an international legal regime, possibly on the lines of the 1959 Antarctic Treaty.

It is time for India to evolve a definite policy and work out an action plan to ensure that what belongs to the entire world is not grabbed by a few countries simply because they happen to be the Arctic Ocean's immediate neighbours.

**Demand to amend the Right to Education Act, 2009 to address objections  
being raised by minority educational institutions**

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Goa): Minority school managements in the country have recently expressed some objections with respect to certain provisions of the Right to Education Act, 2009.

The Act prohibits screening procedure for admission of students. Minorities contend that by not allowing them to check as to whom they are admitting, there is a possibility of unruly elements and those who are totally opposed to the ideologies and value system of minority community getting into their institutions.

They also oppose the provisions in the Act which have the consequences of denying them grants if they do not comply with certain provisions of the Right to Education Act.

Minorities have opposed the composition of Management Committee under the Act. According to the Act, 75 per cent shall be from amongst parents or guardians of the children, and remaining from local bodies, teaching community and local educationists, thus making the Managing Committee majority dominated. This is what they say.

They have also said that they have established schools and also hostel facilities and, therefore, neighbourhood concept will deprive the children of tribal, the SC and the ST communities from availing school and hostel facilities provided by minority institutions.

While enacting any legislation with respect to education, the Government should examine the constitutional rights given to minorities since its inception. If legislations come in the way of such guarantees, it will lead to litigations in several courts of the country.

The Government, therefore, should amend the Act to address some of these objections.

**Demand to give option for children to get education in  
English medium in Government schools**

डा. प्रभा ठाकुर (राजस्थान): महोदय, देश में शिक्षा का व्यापक वातावरण है। आजीविका की सुलभता को ध्यान में रखते हुए अधिकांश अभिभावक अपने बच्चों को अंग्रेजी माध्यम से पढ़ाने को प्राथमिता दे रहे हैं। चतुर्थ श्रेणी कर्मचारी हो या किसान अथवा मजदूर, आर्थिक स्थिति कमजोर होने पर भी आज भारत के अधिकांश लोग अपने बच्चों को अंग्रेजी माध्यम के