THE CONSTITUTION (EIGHTY-SIXTH AMENDMENT) ACT, 2002

India

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Act 086 of 2002

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An Act further to amend the Constitution of India. .BE it enacted by Parliament in the Fifty-third Year of the Republic of India as follows:-

1. Short title and commencement.-

(1) This Act may be called the Constitution (Eighty-sixth Amendment) Act, 2002. (2) It shall come into force on such date as the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, appoint.

2. Insertion of new article 21A.-

After article 21 of the Constitution, the following article shall be inserted, namely:-Right to education.-"21A. The State shall provide free and compulsory education to all children of the age of six to fourteen years in such manner as the State may, by law, determine.".

3. Substitution of new article for article 45.-

For article 45 of the Constitution, the following article shall be substituted, namely:- .Provision for early childhood care and education to children below the age of six years."45. The State shall endeavour to provide early childhood care and education for all children until they complete the age of six years.".

4. Amendment of article 51A.-

In article 51A of the Constitution, after clause (J), the following clause shall be added, namely:-"(k) who is a parent or guardian to provide opportunities for education to his child or, as the case may be, ward between the age of six and fourteen years.".[The Constitution (Eighty-sixth Amendment)

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Act, 2002, provides certain important provisions to strengthen the educational system of the country. It ensures that children under the age of 14 have the right to free formal education and mandates the state to provide suitable schooling and educational opportunities for them. This amendment is a significant step toward ensuring that all children from the age of six to fourteen receive a free primary education, while also protecting their rights to attain quality education in a safe environment. Also Refer]