



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF
GOA

**The Goa School Education (Amendment)
Bill, 2026**

(Bill No. 6 of 2026)

(To be introduced in the Legislative Assembly of the State of Goa)

GOA LEGISLATURE SECRETARIAT
ASSEMBLY HALL, PORVORIM
JANUARY, 2026

The Goa School Education (Amendment) Bill, 2026

(Bill No. 6 of 2026)

A

BILL

further to amend the Goa School Education Act, 1984 (Goa Act 15 of 1985),

5 BE it enacted by the Legislative Assembly of Goa in the Seventy-sixth Year of the Republic of India, as follows:—

1. Short title and commencement.— (1) This Act may be called the Goa School Education (Amendment) Act, 2026.

(2) It shall come into force at once.

10 2. Substitution of section 18 — In the Goa School Education Act, 1984 (Goa Act 15 of 1985), for section 18, the following section shall be substituted, namely:—

“18. Admission to recognized schools:-

15 1) A child who has not attained the age of six years on or before the 1st day of June of the year in which the admission of such child is sought, shall not be admitted to class I or an equivalent class or any class higher than class I, in a recognized school:

20 Provided that for the academic year 2025-2026, any child who has attained the age of five years and six months on or before the 1st day of June of that academic year, shall be admitted to class I or an equivalent class, in a recognized school.

25 2) A student seeking admission for the first time in recognized school in a class higher than class I shall not be admitted to that class if his age reduced by the number of years of normal school study between that class and class I or an equivalent class, falls short of six years.

3) Admission to a recognized school or to any class thereof shall be regulated by rules made in this behalf.”

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The Bill seeks to substitute section 18 of the Goa School Education Act, 1984 (Goa Act 15 of 1985), so as to provide for enhancement of age for admission to standard I so as to be in consonance with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 and the provisions of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 (Central Act 35 of 2009) wherein minimum age mentioned for admission to class I in recognized school is six years.

This Bill seeks to achieve the above object.

FINANCIAL MEMORANDUM

No Financial implications are involved in this Bill.

MEMORANDUM REGARDING DELEGATED LEGISLATION

Clause 2 of the Bill empowers the Government to make rules for regulating the admission to a recognized school or to any class thereof.

This delegation of normal character.

Assembly Hall,
Porvorim–Goa
12-January, 2026

Dr. Pramod Sawant
Hon'ble Chief Minister

Assembly Hall,
Porvorim-Goa,
12-January, 2026

Namrata Ulman
Secretary to the Legislative
Assembly of Goa

ANNEXURE

**EXTRACT OF THE GOA SCHOOL EDUCATION ACT, 1984
(GOA ACT 15 OF 1985)**

18. Admission to recognized schools.— (1) A child who has not attained the age of five years on or before the 5th Day of September of the year in which the admission of such child is sought shall not be admitted to class I, or an equivalent class or any class higher than class I, in a recognized school.

Provided that a child who has not attained the age of five years on or before the 1st day of June of the year two thousand and one, shall not be admitted to class one or an equivalent class or any class higher than class I in a recognized school in the year two thousand and one;

Provided further that from the 1st day of June of the year two thousand and two, a child who has not attained the age of five years and six months, on or before the 1st day of June of the year in which the admission of such child is sought shall not be admitted to class I, or an equivalent class or any class higher than class I, in a recognized school.

(2) A student seeking admission for the first time in a recognized school in a class higher than class I shall not be admitted to that class if his age reduced by the number of years of normal school study between that class and class I or an equivalent class, falls short of five years.

(3) Admission to a recognized school or to any class thereof shall be regulated by rules made in this behalf.

