

Architect of RTE : *Physics*' Vinod Raina

New Delhi: In the winter of 2008, with barely a few months left of UPA-I, even officials of the HRD ministry had given up hope that Right To Education would see the light of day. The only person who would shrug off all cynicism with a wave of his hand was the mild-mannered Vinod Raina, the eternal optimist, who spent hours chiselling away at provisions of the historic legislation.

Raina's optimism emanated from his deep-seated belief that no government could afford to ignore a social intervention like RTE. *This was typical Raina, part of the sixties set and a romantic to the core*, who had **relinquished a cosy Delhi University job as a Physics teacher** to move to Madhya Pradesh to develop what came to be known as the Hoshangabad Science Project.

It was not an effort to make science teaching easier but to develop a new pedagogy not only of science but of other subjects also. As Apoorvanand of DU says, "It developed into an educational thought that later became Eklavya and a precursor to the National Curriculum Framework of 2005."

Dr Raina was also a member of the International Council of the World Social Forum.



Vinod Raina

Teacher of Physics 1985

Executive Committee Member Bharat Gyan Vigyan Samiti

National Advisory Council for Right to Education

Passed away 12 .09. 2013