

A CRITICAL STUDY ON NEW EDUCATION POLICY 2020 IN INDIA

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Abstract:

Education system in each country is the base for its growth and development. In India, New Education Policy 2020 has launched on 29th July, 2020 in India which still need to be implemented. Education system is very important part of this policy. As a result, this NEP 2020 will serve as a base of reform in India which will lead to establishment of new reformed education system in the country and improving these economic and social indicators. That requires further development. New NEP 2020 has focused on having superior higher education through independent universities and institutions. In present study we have thoroughly analyzed the policy with a view to making it more strengthen in terms of its relevance. To promote economic and social advancement in education, schools and colleges require to have well defined structure and strategy according to the future needs. By considering various cultural and traditional approaches in education system, NEP has focused on such areas which must be beneficial to the students, colleges and universities at their different life stage. On the basis of recommendations from a group of experts, the Indian government recently revealed a new education strategy. Many education experts didn't foresee the changes that NEP 2020 has recommended. Although the education policy has an impact on both high school and college education, this article mainly focuses on new education policy 2020 and its influence on higher education. The main NEP components are also covered in this essay, along with their effects on the contemporary educational system.

Keywords: *New Education Policy (NEP), Higher Institutions, Education system, Learning*

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Introduction:

"Education is a key to success and this success can be attained by the appropriate implementation of the policy,". In any country, framework of education system serves as a roadmap for growth of that nation. And such framework was introduced in the year 1968 by the recommendation report from Kothari commission. This policy was treated as radical reform as it provided opportunities to both urban and rural sector to achieve more economic development and excellent culture. The choice to make Hindi the official language of India, has generated debate. In order to promote Hindi as a language spoken by all Indians, the policy encouraged its usage and study. The NEP - 2020 is recently adopted by Ministry of Human Resource based on recommendation of expert committee chaired by Dr. Kasturirangan, former chairperson of Indian Space Research Organization. This policy has replaced 34-year-old education policy in India. NEP 2020 is essentially a broad framework for guiding the advancement of education across the country. A review and updating of this framework took place in 1986 after it was first recognized to be necessary in 1968. This was reevaluated and updated in 1992 to match the circumstances. Since then, both the world as a whole and the sector as a whole have undergone considerable changes. In order to make these policies more attractive and appropriate to the educational environment in 2020, the government opted to modify them.

The new NEP was introduced in an effort to formally recognize systemic advancements from K–12 to college/university levels. Future educational material will focus on important concepts, ideas, applications, and problem-solving positions in light of the changing scenario. In a manner similar to this, NEP has introduced various adjustments and ground-breaking initiatives in the higher education sector. It is believed that the National Education Policy will have positive and enduring effects on the nation's higher education system. The government made a commendable choice in allowing foreign colleges to open campuses in India. It's a good idea to have a backup plan just in case. A renewed focus on all academic fields will arise from the creation of multifunctional institutions. By implementation of NEP, 2020 a new paradigm in higher education is evolved since its establishment and India looks its position at top in the world by offering top notch education at competitive price.

New paradigms in higher education have arisen since the NEP's beginning, and India aims to establish itself as a top study destination by 2020 by offering excellent education at reasonable prices. The NEP covers significant subjects like high-quality research, comprehensive, multidisciplinary, and futuristic education, as well as equitable technology utilization for better educational outcomes. New paradigms in higher education have arisen since the NEP's beginning, and India aims to establish itself as a top study destination by 2020 by offering excellent education at reasonable prices. The NEP covers significant subjects like high-quality research, comprehensive, multidisciplinary, and futuristic education, as well as equitable technology utilization for better educational outcomes.

Objective of the study:

- To study the impact of New Education Policy 2020 on Higher educations
- To highlight the salient features of New Education Policy 2020
- To compare current New Education Policy with New Education Policy 2020.

Research methodology

The nature of this research study is descriptive. Required secondary data was collected from a variety of sources, including a variety of websites, comprising those owned by the Indian government, periodicals, journals, and other publications. The data was then evaluated and processed in order to make the inferences and get to the conclusions.

Literature Review:

The economics, social standing, amount of technological adoption, and positive human behaviour of a country are all strongly influenced by higher education. The country's education ministry is in charge of improving GER so that all citizens can access opportunities for higher education. The National Education Policy of India 2020 is working towards achieving this goal by enforcing strict quality controls in all higher education institutions, opening up higher education to the private sector, and implementing innovative policies to improve higher education's quality, accessibility, and supply (Aithal & Shubhrajyotsna, 2020).

NEP 2020 is anticipated to change the educational landscape in the near future, which will undoubtedly strengthen India's case for future superpower (Kaurav, Rahul & Suresh, K & Narula, Sumit., 2020).

If the recently passed National Education Policy, 2020 is implemented effectively, it will propel India into the top countries in the world. The central government has approved changes to the Indian education system, which must be updated to meet contemporary demands (Dr. Verma & Adarsh Kumar, 2021).

Scientific learning and value-based education will be supported by the NEP2020 advanced framework. It will replace the obsolete "curriculum" that is rigid and unable to change with the times because doing so would necessitate an onerous bureaucratic framework (Dr. Ruchi Rani, 2022).

As part of NEP 2020, India's higher education system will be modernized. The participation and expertise of several global communities will be utilized. Under NEP 2020, higher education will be given in Indian institutions and colleges that will also integrate information communication technology to satisfy the needs of education in post COVID era. Now there is no purpose in trying to keep up with the outdated educational system. To meet the demand for qualified professionals around the world, the Indian government will need to make considerable changes to the higher education curricula. As a result, implementing NEP 2020 would be quite challenging. Unquestionably, the policy will result in innovative and ground-breaking advancements (Kumar, A., 2021).

Singh, A. & Singh, S. (2020) analyze NEP 2020's emphasis on skill development and its potential impact on enhancing employability. The policy's focus on vocational education, internships, and industry-academia collaboration is seen as pivotal for bridging the gap between education and employment, thereby boosting economic productivity.

Mahajan & Kaur, (2021) explore NEP 2020's provisions for enhancing teacher training and professional development. The policy's initiatives to improve teacher education curriculum, promote continuous learning among educators, and incentivize quality teaching are discussed as crucial for raising educational standards.

Kaur & Kaur, (2022) analyze NEP 2020's strategies for promoting internationalization and global engagement of Indian higher education. The policy's provisions for encouraging collaborations with foreign universities, facilitating student and faculty exchanges, and promoting research partnerships are highlighted as pivotal for enhancing global competitiveness and attracting international students.

Key points of NEP 2020:

The main aim of this NEP 2020 policy is to have at least 50% increase in current gross enrollment ratio by 2035. This NEP 2020 policy will help the nation to become more equitable, sustainable, and more efficient (S., Suresh Kumar P. M & Aithal P., 2019).

These and many more fields are covered in NEP 2020 for their further improvements and research. Some of the major key points of NEP 2020 are as follows:

- The goal is to offer a liberal education that is both transdisciplinary and interdisciplinary.
- The 10+2 old structure format is being abandoned. Additionally, a standard 5+3+3+4 educational frameworks will be employed.
- All UG and PG admissions of public HEIs (higher education institutes) will depend on Indian national testing agency marks conducted at the national level.
- A single authority will oversee all forms of higher education.
- Curriculum and evaluation decisions are made by all higher education institutions, including colleges.
- Faculty members in HEIs are viewed as partners and mentors who help students to become creative thinkers and inspire them to conduct research.
- Pupils are free to choose courses from both outside and inside their field of study.
- A Ph.D. degree is compulsory to become an Assistant Professor.
- Research grants awarded by the National Research Foundation and other bodies will be allocated equitably, subject to a just assessment of the proposed research.

- Online or digital library including e-content, e-books, and online journals will be compulsory.
- Only multidisciplinary colleges and universities are promoted.
- Single discipline colleges will be converted into public libraries or monuments if they are failed to convert themselves into multidisciplinary colleges.
- Top-ranked foreign universities will be welcomed to function in India.
- National Research Foundation (NRF) will be formed.
- The Higher Education Commission of India (HECI) will be formed by the merger of many controlling, regulating, and monitoring bodies such as UGC, INC, AICTE, MCI, DCI, etc. into a single regulator.
- The National Accreditation Council, or NAC, will take the position of NAB and NAAC.
- HEIs that meet the highest standards of excellence will receive additional incentives from the government.
- The competency-based credit system, which is creative and adaptable, will replace the current CBCS system. The National Scholarship Portal will be strengthened financially to support merit-based students' financial needs.
- More focus on artificial intelligence, machine learning, 3-D prototyping, big data analysis, biotechnology, nanotechnology, neuroscience, etc.
- Multi-lingual education for lawyers and judges. etc.

How NEP affects higher education

With regard to improving the quality of Higher Education Institutions (HEI), positioning India as a worldwide center of education, and nearly doubling the GER in higher education from 26.3 percent (2018) to 50 percent by 2035, the NEP 2020 has set an ambitious aim. Through an interdisciplinary approach with many points of departure during the course of a four-year undergraduate degree, the key objectives are to enable research, improve faculty support, promote internationalization, and provide a flexible curriculum. The creation of the Higher Education Commission of India (HECI) for the whole higher education sector will be one of the fundamental shifts. The HECI will serve as a single regulatory body, with independent verticals handling a number of tasks such as academic standard-setting, funding, and accreditation. These

organizations will eventually take the place of previous regulatory authorities like, All-India Council for Technical Education and the University Grants Commission (UGC) (AICTE).

- By integrating vocational education into higher education, it is anticipated that at least 50% of students will have access to it by 2025.
- Building top-notch HEIs in aspirational districts and Special Education Zones will increase equity and inclusion. By 2030, there will be a significant multidisciplinary HEI in or close to every district.
- Transition to multidisciplinary and integrated teacher education programs; by 2030, a four-year integrated B.Ed. degree will serve as the prerequisite.
- Increased institutional autonomy through an independent Board of Governors (BoG); phase-out of the affiliated college structure. All autonomous professional education establishments will be interdisciplinary by 2030.
- By 2030, independent professional institutions will become multifunctional HEIs. Every HEI that enrolls more than 3,000 students must be multidisciplinary.
- An institutional architecture with three tiers. Tier I: Universities for Research; Tier II: Universities for Teaching; and Tier III: Autonomous Colleges. By 2035, all colleges must receive accreditation and become independent, degree-granting institutions.
- The focus of NEP 2020 is on fostering transdisciplinary education and expanding the scope of HEIs.
- Internationally renowned universities should be encouraged to establish campuses in India
- A flexible curriculum with various entry and exit points to open up new opportunities for lifelong learning; career advancement pathways for faculty based on teaching, research, and service to faculty and institutional leadership
- A stronger emphasis on Open Distance Learning (ODL) and online learning as essential tools for enhancing inclusion, equity, and access.
- The National Research Foundation, which will organize funds for research and provide it to exceptional, peer-reviewed studies.

- The National Higher Education Regulatory Authority (NHERA), the National Accreditation Agency (NAA), the General Education Council (GEC), and the Higher Education Grants Council (HEGC) would all function under a single regulator (HECI) for higher education.
- Increased information sharing for public monitoring and accountability

Significance of National Education Policy 2020 with respect to HEIs

- A commendable aspect of the programme is how vocational courses and an internship are combined. This might encourage members of society's most vulnerable groups to enroll their children in school. Additionally, it would help in achieving the goal of the Skill India Mission. Through the effective use of the enormous potential of online teaching and learning strategies, the policy also seeks to increase gross enrollment in higher education.
- According to the policy, the institutions will make transparency, upholding high standards, and promoting a positive public image their top priorities in order to raise their standards overall, despite sporadic inspection. A super-regulator for education is also intended to be established by the policy, who will be in charge of India's higher education standards, funding, accreditation, and regulation.
- In fifteen years, the process of affiliation of colleges with universities will be eliminated by giving them autonomy. They will be made fully autonomous and will award degree by their names or will attach to a university.
- The top globally ranked universities will be allowed to open its branches in India with a view to shape education like international education. Due to this initiatives, Indian students will not have any requirement to go abroad to get admission in world's best college and universities.
- The goal of establishing the National Research Foundation is to conduct research and foster a culture of higher education through research.
- The establishment of education centers for impoverished communities and the gender inclusion fund is prioritized in the new education policy.
- The student's instructor and a classmate will evaluate the student's report card based on his behavior and mental capacity using a 360-degree assessment.

Issues Related to NEP 2020

- The knowledge and skills taught and the jobs offered consistently don't match up. One of the biggest issues the Indian educational system has faced since Independence is this. Since NEP 2020 makes no mention of education in rapidly developing technological areas like artificial intelligence, cyberspace, nanotechnology, etc., it was unable to verify this.
- A lofty goal of 6% of GDP for public spending has been established. Because of low ratio tax-GDP ratio and conflicting demands on the national exchequer from the national defense, healthcare, and other important sectors, mobilizing financial resources will be very difficult.
- The policy needs to have placed greater importance on how to educate rather than what to teach.
- As NEP 2020 is based on recommendation from expert to execute country but there is a problem of infrastructure and fund required for such infrastructure.
- NEP 2020 is silent about Right to Education.
- Due to longer duration in schooling, there no answer about funding cost for school.
- In this policy regional languages are given more emphasize rather than giving importance to English language.
- As many states in Southern India have multiple regional languages, this strategy will also have a negative impact on parents whose occupations require frequent relocations. Therefore, a move would interfere with the child's schooling.
- At present, there is scarcity of skilled teachers in this education system. In such a situation, the implementation of NEP 2020 will be little bit difficult.

Conclusion:

In India, NEP-2020 will be very effective and successful due to its innovative policy which ultimately leads to enhance education quality in nation. The corruption at HEIs will be reduced on all fronts by NEP 2020. The most recent national education policy contains excellent guidelines for regulating and strictly upholding educational quality. Scholarships and free ships are promoted for students admitted on the basis of merit.

The upcoming academic years, will mark the beginning of changes to the Indian education system. The NEP 2020 plan calls for achieving all of its goals by 2030. The emphasis in Indian education is shifting from instructor to student, from exam to experimental marks and skills, from knowledge to information, from learning to research, and from competency to choose.

The current educational strategy allows for flexibility to address high dropout rates through transferrable credit banks. In the primary level, placing a focus on the mother tongue or regional language would undoubtedly reduce dropout rates and improve students' ability to learn. The emphasis on Indianization, which will result in the creation of better people for the nation, is the most significant aspect of this new programme.

Also, the NEP 2020 plans ahead to equip certain young, eager students with the necessary skill set. The key to its prosperity will be in how it is executed properly. It will continue till grade V. NEP 2020 is anticipated to change the educational landscape in the near future, which will undoubtedly strengthen India's case for future superpower status. It is a noble move on the part of the government to allow foreign universities to open campuses in India. Because of this, the children will have the opportunity to receive an excellent local education on comparable to international standards.

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