



INDIAN EDUCATION SYSTEM WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF NATIONAL EDUCATION POLICY 2020

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The Government of India introduced the National Education Policy 2020 with the goal of transforming the education system and addressing its persistent issues. According to the findings, NEP 2020 aspires to position India as a prominent global hub of knowledge, fostering worldwide connectivity in the process. The another aim of this policy to ensure inclusive equitable quality education to the youth of India. Conclusion of the study reveals that NEP 2020 marks a profound renovation of the Indian education system, aligning it with global standards. By emphasizing holistic learning, technology integration, and inclusivity, it positions India for a brighter, more competitive future, empowering students for success in the 21st century education system. Moreover, this policy's emphasis on creativity, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills, alongside vocational integration, subject choice, and a commitment to research and innovation, sets the stage for a more adaptable and globally competitive educational landscape. The introduction of a flexible credit system and Academic Bank of Credit (ABC) further enhances educational opportunities and mobility, paving the way for a brighter educational future in India.

Keywords: *New Education Policy, Global Knowledge Superpower, SDG4.*



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1. INTRODUCTION

The new education policy (NEP) 2020, announced by the government of India on July 29, 2020, marks a significant shift in the country's education system. The primary objective of the NEP 2020 is to provide holistic and comprehensive development for students. One of the key changes in the policy is the renaming of the Ministry of Human Resources as the Ministry of Education, emphasizing the focus on education in the country. Another

important feature of the NEP is the unification of the higher education system under a single body, excluding legal and medical education. This move aims to streamline and ensure consistency in the higher education sector.

The policy also emphasises the inclusion of sports, music, yoga, and other co-curricular activities as part of the main curriculum, rather than considering them as mere additional or supporting subjects. This reflects the recognition of the importance of holistic

development and the potential benefits of integrating these activities into the regular curriculum. In 2015, India embraced the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goal 4 (SDG4) as part of its global education development agenda. By 2030, India is striving to achieve comprehensive and high-quality education. The national SDG4 agenda in India seeks to ensure universal access to education and encourages continuous learning opportunities for everyone. It is essential to rejuvenate and restructure the Indian education system in order to meet these significant objectives.

Another noteworthy aspect of the NEP is its target to increase total spending on education to 6% of the gross domestic product (GDP). Currently, expenditure on education is around 4.43% of the GDP. This increased investment aims to enhance the quality and availability of education in the country. The NEP also advocates for the use of the mother tongue as the medium of instruction from the first to the fifth grade. This measure seeks to strengthen the foundation of students' language skills and ensure better understanding and comprehension of subjects. The overarching goal of the new education policy is to provide world-class, high-quality education to all students in India. It seeks to foster the development of cognitive capacities and problem-solving skills among students. Besides academic growth, the NEP also focuses on cultivating social, moral, and emotional capacities in the youth of India. It is important to note that the NEP is not solely aimed at benefiting students but also intends to improve the entire education system, including teachers and the overall infrastructure.

The policy aims to enhance the quality of education through the integration of technology, artificial intelligence, and data science. It also aims to establish a comprehensive training and assessment model to recruit and nurture the best teachers in the teaching profession. Following the announcement of the NEP, there have been mixed reactions from the general public and the education community. While some have praised the policy's emphasis on holistic development and the use of technology in education, others have expressed concerns about the implementation and impact of the changes. Moreover, the new education policy of 2020 in India marks a significant shift towards holistic development, quality education, and the adoption of modern teaching methods. Its successful implementation will play a crucial role in shaping the future of education in the country.

2. OBJECTIVE

- To study the Indian education system in the context of national education policy 2020.

- To study the main features of NEP 2020 in the Indian education system.

3. RESEARCH QUESTIONS

- What is the education system of India in the context of national policy on education in 2020?
- What are the main features of NEP 2020 in the Indian education system?

4. METHODOLOGY

In this study, the researcher utilised secondary sources of data to evaluate the Indian education system in the context of NEP 2020 and the main features of NEP 2020 in the Indian education system. The sources incorporated for this study encompassed research articles, websites, UGC reports, magazines, government reports, research papers, etc.

5. INDIAN EDUCATION SYSTEM AND NATIONAL EDUCATION POLICY 2020

The policy will prove to be very helpful in completely preparing the students for the future. In this policy multidisciplinary courses will be designed and students will be focused on progressing on the basis of their interest. By strengthening the skills of children, they will be prepared to find employment in the future. With the help of this policy children will become more skilled that the country can also develop. According to this multidisciplinary education and research universities as per IITs and IIMs will be established in the country.

According to this outline learning will be promoted on a large scale to prepare students for future pandemic situations. This policy has depended on the vision but its success will depend on that government is launching a policy like digital India is capable to being integrated in an effective manner. To make the vocation education courses successful it is very important to make people aware about the skill India program. This would be a remarkable achievement in itself. Make it truly path-breaking.

Moreover, the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 in India represents a comprehensive overhaul of the education system, encompassing a series of transformative reforms from school to higher education levels. Some of the key initiatives include the establishment of a single regulatory body for higher education (HEC), the introduction of a flexible multiple entry and exit system for students, the expansion of e-courses in regional languages, the implementation of a common entrance examination (CUET) for colleges, and the opportunity for foreign universities to set up campuses in India.

The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 in India is indeed a comprehensive and transformative document that aims to revamp the country's education

system and address various challenges. Let's delve into the key aspects of NEP 2020 and its objectives in detail.

5.1. Holistic Education: NEP 2020 places a strong emphasis on holistic education, moving beyond mere memorization. It promotes the development of critical thinking, creativity, and problem-solving abilities. The policy's primary goal is to nurture well-rounded individuals who can make meaningful contributions to society by fostering a more comprehensive approach to learning.

5.2. Early Childhood Education: The policy acknowledges the significance of early childhood care and education (ECCE) and strives to provide high-quality ECCE services for all children up to the age of six. This foundational stage is deemed vital for fostering cognitive and social development, highlighting the policy's commitment to early childhood education as a cornerstone of a child's holistic development.

5.3. School Education: NEP 2020 introduces a new structure for school education, known as 5+3+3+4. This arrangement includes 5 years of foundational education, followed by 3 years of preparatory schooling, 3 years of middle school, and 4 years of secondary education. The curriculum will prioritize flexibility and aims to streamline content to focus on essential knowledge, reflecting the policy's goal of enhancing the quality and relevance of school education in India.

5.4. Multilingualism and Cultural Integration: NEP 2020 acknowledges India's linguistic diversity and advocates for the use of mother tongues and local languages as the primary medium of instruction. The policy is committed to preserving and celebrating the nation's diverse cultural and linguistic heritage, promoting a sense of cultural integration through education.

5.5. Technology Integration: NEP 2020 recognizes the pivotal role of technology in education and endeavors to harness its potential for improved learning outcomes, teacher training, and assessment methods. The policy places an emphasis on expanding digital infrastructure in schools and colleges, reflecting its commitment to integrating technology as a catalyst for educational advancement.

5.6. Vocational Education: NEP 2020 underscores the integration of vocational education starting at the school level. Its primary objective is to equip students with practical skills and knowledge, ensuring they are well-prepared for the workforce, promoting a seamless transition from education to employment.

5.7. Higher Education: The National Education Policy (NEP) of 2020 aims to create a versatile and interdisciplinary higher education system, introducing the idea of a unified governing body for higher education, known as the Higher Education Commission

of India (HECI). The primary objectives of this commission include the enhancement of quality, autonomy, and innovation within higher education institutions.

5.8. Research and Innovation: NEP 2020 places a strong focus on research and innovation within higher education. It seeks to boost research funding and cultivate a culture of innovation in academic institutions, emphasizing the importance of original research and creative thinking. This policy is geared towards enhancing India's standing in the global research landscape and driving advancements in various fields through a renewed commitment to research and innovation.

5.9. Inclusivity: NEP 2020 is firmly dedicated to ensuring inclusive and equitable education for all. It acknowledges the significance of catering to the requirements of students with disabilities and marginalized communities. The policy places particular emphasis on early identification and intervention for children with disabilities, emphasizing the importance of providing every learner with the opportunity to thrive and succeed in the educational system.

5.10. Globalization: NEP 2020 recognizes India's potential to evolve into a global knowledge hub and actively encourages globalization of education. It places a strong emphasis on internationalization, aiming to establish world-class educational institutions that can draw students from across the globe. By fostering collaborations with foreign institutions, the policy seeks to create a dynamic and diverse academic environment in India. This approach not only enriches the learning experience but also positions India as an attractive destination for international students, ultimately contributing to the nation's stature as a global knowledge superpower.

5.11. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): India's dedication to the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goal 4 (SDG4) is central to its educational vision. NEP 2020 is in alignment with SDG4, which strives to deliver inclusive and high-quality education to everyone by 2030. The policy's core objective is to provide quality education that transcends societal boundaries, catering to all segments of the population. By endorsing this global goal, India is taking significant steps to bridge educational disparities and create a more equitable and inclusive educational landscape for its citizens, ultimately contributing to its progress as a nation.

Moreover, NEP 2020 is a comprehensive effort by the Government of India to revitalize and reconfigure the education system to meet the needs of the 21st century. It aims to provide quality education, promote inclusivity, leverage technology, and align with global education development goals, ultimately making India a knowledge superpower and equipping

its youth for a bright future. The successful implementation of the policy will play a crucial role in the socio-economic development of the country.

6. MAIN FEATURES OF NEP 2020 IN INDIAN EDUCATION SYSTEM

The National Education Policy (NEP) of 2020 represents a comprehensive strategy to revamp the education system, champion inclusiveness, leverage technology, and synchronize with worldwide educational objectives. Multiple entry and exit program: The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 introduced a flexible multiple entry and exit system, eliminating rigid constraints associated with diploma or degree programs. Under this system, students have the freedom to discontinue their course at any point, with the option to transfer their earned credits. The National Education Policy 2020 (NEP 2020) is a landmark reform in the Indian education system, featuring several key aspects. It introduces a 5+3+3+4 structure, transforming school education by redefining the stages as foundational, preparatory, middle, and secondary. NEP 2020 focuses on holistic education, nurturing critical thinking and creativity, and promoting vocational training from an early age. It places great importance on mother tongue and local language instruction, preserving India's linguistic and cultural diversity. The policy encourages technology integration for enhanced learning outcomes and teacher training, alongside significant emphasis on research and innovation in higher education. NEP 2020 is committed to inclusivity, addressing the needs of students with disabilities and marginalized groups, and aims to make quality education accessible to all. It also supports internationalization of education to position India as a global knowledge superpower, aligning with UN's Sustainable Development Goal 4 (SDG4) for quality education. This comprehensive policy seeks to transform the educational landscape in India, fostering well-rounded individuals who can contribute effectively to society. Some of the features are as under;

- E-courses to be available in regional languages: The New Education Policy 2020 has expanded e-learning opportunities by offering courses in eight different languages. This policy has significantly influenced higher education by making diverse linguistic options available to students.
- Common Entrance Examination for all colleges: NEP 2020 introduces the Central University Entrance Test (CUET) for both undergraduate and postgraduate programs, streamlining the admissions process. This move is expected to simplify the application process for students, reducing the need for separate applications and multiple exams. As a result, it will save students valuable time, energy, and financial resources.

- Foreign universities to set-up campuses in India: Under NEP 2020, a statutory framework will allow the world's top 100 universities to establish and operate campuses in India, enhancing the country's global educational standards and opportunities for students.
- Affiliation and autonomy will be provided to college in posted manner: A proposal is on the table to provide colleges with increased autonomy while gradually introducing an affiliation system. As part of this plan, universities would be limited to affiliating with a maximum of 300 colleges.
- Detailed analysis of impact of NEP 2020 on higher education: NEP 2020 was implemented to institutionalize reforms spanning from the school level to the college and university levels. It includes significant recommendations for higher education, and here are some of the key ones.

Moreover, the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 in India represents a comprehensive overhaul of the education system, encompassing a series of transformative reforms from school to higher education levels. Some of the key initiatives include the establishment of a single regulatory body for higher education (HEC), the introduction of a flexible multiple entry and exit system for students, the expansion of e-courses in regional languages, the implementation of a common entrance examination (CUET) for colleges, and the opportunity for foreign universities to set up campuses in India. Additionally, there's a move toward greater autonomy for colleges and a phased affiliation system. The NEP 2020 also aims to substantially increase the gross enrolment ratio in higher education, setting a target of 50% by 2035. These measures collectively seek to modernize and enhance the quality of education in India, making it more inclusive and globally competitive.

Furthermore, the vision of the National Education Policy 2020 envisions a transformative future for the Indian higher education system. It aspires to create a flexible and holistic education ecosystem that empowers students with the skills and knowledge needed to excel in a rapidly evolving global landscape. The policy emphasizes multidisciplinary learning, encourages research and innovation, and promotes the internationalization of education. By fostering an inclusive and equitable approach, NEP 2020 aims to ensure that education is accessible to all, regardless of socio-economic backgrounds. It also seeks to develop a culture of critical thinking and problem-solving, nurturing individuals who can contribute not only to India's development but also to the world at large. NEP 2020 is a visionary roadmap that seeks to elevate the

quality and relevance of higher education in India, making it a beacon of knowledge and innovation.

7. CONCLUSION

The purpose of present study is to explore the Indian education system in the context of NEP 2020. The National Education Policy 2020 in Indian education is a transformative initiative that focuses on preparing students for the future through multidisciplinary courses and skills development. It aims to create a more skilled workforce, promote learning at a large scale, and establish research universities. The success of this vision depends on effective implementation, similar to the Digital India program. Furthermore, NEP 2020 represents a comprehensive overhaul of the education system, with key reforms, including a single regulatory body for higher education, a flexible entry-exit system, e-courses in regional languages, and increased autonomy for colleges. These changes are geared toward modernizing and enhancing the quality of education, making it more inclusive and globally competitive. Additionally, there's a move toward greater autonomy for colleges and a phased affiliation system. The NEP 2020 also aims to substantially increase the gross enrolment ratio in higher education, setting a target of 50% by 2035. These measures collectively seek to modernize and enhance the quality of education in India, making it more inclusive and globally competitive. Conclusion of the study reveals that the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 introduces a sweeping transformation of the Indian education system. Its core tenets, ranging from holistic education to technological integration, and from early childhood development to research and inclusivity, all converge to create a forward-looking, inclusive, and globally competitive educational landscape. NEP 2020 sets the stage for a promising future where Indian education caters to the evolving needs of society and empowers students to thrive in the 21st century.

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