



Budgetary Constraints In Implementing The National Education Policy2020

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ABSTRACT

The Union Budget 2022–23proposes a step forward towards the implementation of the National Education Policy 2020by invoking the increased use of information and communications technology as a policy instrument to repurpose education towards skill formation and to globalize Indian higher education.

The education budget 2022 has been allotted Rs 1, 04,278 crore -- a rise of Rs 11,054 crorefrom the previous year. The education budget allocation for 2021-22 was Rs. 93,223 crores, which was reduced by 6% as compared to the year before. The revised estimate was Rs 88,002 crores.

The biggest ask from education experts this year was an increase in the overall allocation and the Government has delivered with a 11.86% increase, to the revised 2021-22 gross allocation of Rs 93,223 crores. The objective of this research is to study the impact of Budget 2022-23 on New Education Policy 2020. This study is based on secondary data. The policies and schemes that have been proposed in the Union Budget 2022, we are expecting more robust growth in the year ahead.

Education budget 2022 nowhere near 6% of GDP, The National Education Policy, 2020 (NEP) calls for public investment on education to 6% of GDP. India’s education budget has never touched this number yet.

Key Words: -Education Budget 2022, Budget allocation for Major Schemes, Budget estimates, Budgetary constraints

1. Introduction: -

National Education Policy 2020 envisions an India-centric education system that contributes Directly to transforming our nation sustainably into an equitable and vibrant knowledge societyBy providing high-quality education to all.”

The National Education Policy 2020, making way for large scale, transformational reforms in both school and higher education sectors. This is the first education policy of the 21st century and replaces the thirty-four-year-old National Policy on Education (NPE), 1986. Built on the foundational pillars of Access, Equity, Quality, Affordability and Accountability, this policy is aligned to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and aims to transform India into a vibrant knowledge society and global knowledge

superpower by making both school and college education more holistic, flexible, multidisciplinary, suited to 21st century needs .

Holistic and multidisciplinary education should strive in an integrated way to improve all human capacities- mental, cultural, social, physical, emotional, and moral. In the long term, such a comprehensive education shall be the method for all undergraduate programs, including those in medical, technical, and vocational disciplines. Optimal learning environments and support for students offer a holistic approach including adequate curriculum, interactive pedagogy, consistent formative assessment, and adequate support for students.

Institutional restructuring and consolidation aim to end the fragmentation of higher education by transforming higher education institutions into large multidisciplinary, creating well-rounded and innovative individuals, and transforming other countries educationally and economically, increasing the gross enrolment ratio in higher education, including vocational training, from 26.3% (2018) to 50% by 2035.

2. Objectives of the study: -

The primary objective of this research is to study the impact of Budget 2022-23 on New Education Policy 2020. The study also outlines the salient features of Budget 2022-23 and analyses how they affect the existing education system.

3. Research methodology

This research is a descriptive study. The necessary secondary data was collected from various Websites including those of Government of India, magazines, journals, other publications, etc. This data was then analyzed and reviewed to arrive at the inferences and conclusions.

4. Union Budget 2022-23: -

The successful execution of key initiatives requires availability of adequate financial resources for decades. In this regard, the NEP has stated that to realize the goals of the new policy, the country has to raise public spending on education to 6 percent of GDP. This is a daunting task if one considers the past promises and their actual realization. For instance, the 1968 National Education Policy had recommended 6 percent of GDP be allocated towards education. However, in all these decades, the public spending on education has not gone beyond 3 percent. A similar recommendation was made by Kothari Commission a few decades ago but the highest allocation ever has been around 3.1 percent only.

The education budget 2022 has been allotted **Rs 1, 04,278 crore** -- a rise of Rs 11,054 crore from the previous year. The education budget allocation for 2021-22 was Rs. 93,223 crores, which was reduced by 6% as compared to the year before. The revised estimate was Rs 88,002 crore.

For 2022-23, the budget for school education spending is **GBP 6 bn (INR 63,449 crore)** and has increased by 22 per cent over its previous year's revised allocation. The higher education budget has also increased by 13 per cent over its previous year's allocation and is **GBP 4 bn (INR 40,828 crore)**

With the policies and schemes that have been proposed in the Union Budget 2022, we are expecting more robust growth in the year ahead. The government's planned interventions aimed at establishing centers of excellence, democratizing access to education, bridging the digital divide, promoting skilling, and up skilling, and facilitating quality content and world-class education is welcoming., we believe that education is the key to becoming truly self-reliant (Aatmanirbhar) and that it is critical to invest in education, skilling, and lifelong learning.

Table no 01:- Budget allocation for Major Schemes under Education

(Rs. in crores)

S.NO	SCHEMES	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
1	Samagra Shiksha	38750.50	31050.16	37383.36
2	National Programme of Mid-Day Meals in Schools (MDM)	11000	11500	10233.75
3	Padhna Likhna Abhiyan/NILP	----	250	-----
4	Teachers Training, Adult Education	110	250	127
5	STARS	----	485	550.00
6	National Means Cum Merit Scholarship Scheme	373.00	350.00	350.00
7	National Scheme for Incentive to Girl Child for Secondary Education	110.00	1.00	00.00
8	Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS)	5516.50	6800.00	7650.00
9	Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti (NVS)	3300.00	3800.00	4115.00
10	Exemplar Schools	--	--	1800

Source: -Department of School education & Literacy

Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan, also called the National Education Mission, this is India's biggest school education scheme. This scheme had seen a big reduction in budget allocation last year. This year's allocation wasn't able to go back to the level of 2020-21 even after a hike of Rs 6333,2 crores. PM Poshan, this scheme replaces the mid-day meal scheme this year. But the budget allocation increases 500 crores in 2021-22, but in the year 2022-23 it is lower by Rs1266.25 crore. Padhna Likhna Abhiyaan, this is another adult education scheme that focuses on basic literacy but it was not allocated any funds this year, even though the Teachers Training, Adult Education section is also allocated far less funds by 49.2% compare to previous year. Strengthening Teaching-Learning and Results for States (STARS), this new project that includes a World Bank loan aims to enhance the capability of six states -- Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Odisha. As per a World Bank statement, STARS will help improve learning assessment systems, strengthen classroom instruction, and remediation, facilitate school-to-work transition, and strengthen governance and decentralized management., for this year budget increases by Rs 65 crores. No change in this budget for National Means Cum Merit Scholarship Scheme. National Scheme for Incentive to Girls, this is a scholarship incentive scheme for girl children from Schedule Tribes and rural areas. After a major cut last year, no budget was allocated at all for this scholarship. For Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan and Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti, the education budget has increased this year by Rs 850 crores and Rs315 crores respectively. Exemplar Schools, the concept of „exemplar schools“ was first introduced in Budget 2021 in which 15,000 schools be converted to “exemplar schools” with quality education in 2021-22, for this scheme Rs1800 crores Budget is allocated, it's a first allocation for this scheme.

Table no 02: -Budget Estimates for Various Schemes

(Rs. in crores)

S.NO	SCHEMES	BE 2022-23
A	Schemes	
I	Centrally Sponsored Schemes	
1	Samagra Shiksha	37383.36
2	National Programme of Mid-Day Meals in Schools (MDM)	10233.75
3	Padhna Likhna Abhiyan/NILP	127.00
4	STARS	550.00
5	Exemplar Schools	1800.00
6	ASPIRE	600.00
	Total Centrally Sponsored Schemes	50694.11
II	Central Sector Schemes	
7	National Means Cum Merit Scholarship Scheme	350.00
8	National Scheme for Incentive to Girl Child for Secondary Education	00.00
9	National Award to Teachers	5.00
10	Operation Digital Board	00.00
11	Pradhan Mantri Innovative Learning Programme (DHRUV)	3.26
	Total Central Sector Schemes	358.26
	Total Schemes	51052.37
B	Non-Schemes	
III	Other Central Sector Expenditure	
12	Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS)	7650.00
13	Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti (NVS)	4115.00
14	NCERT	510.00
15	Central Tibetan Schools Administration	62.00
16	National Bal Bhawan	22.00
	Total Autonomous Bodies	12359.00
IV	Establishment Expenditure	
17	Secretariat	35.00
18	Directorate of Adult Education	3.00
	Total - Establishment	38.00
	Total Non-Schemes	12397.00
	GRAND TOTAL	63449.37

Source: -Department of School education & Literacy

Budget Estimates shows increase in funds for Samagra Shiksha, Strengthening Teaching- Learning and Results for States (STARS), Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan and Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti, no fund is allocated for National Scheme for Incentive to Girl Child for Secondary Education, Operation Digital Board. Besides this Rs1800 crores Budget is allocated to Exemplar schools. There is a new programme mooted, Accelerating State Education Programme to Improve Results (ASPIRE), with an allocation of 600 crore Budget Estimates for, total Central sector Schemes Rs 51052.37 crores and for total Non-Schemes Rs 12397.00 crores, total estimate of Rs63449.37 crores.

Table3: Major expenditure heads for Department of Higher Education, 2022-23

(Rs. in crores)

S. NO	Major head	2020-21 Actual	2021-22 RE	2022-23 BE	Annualized change
1	Universities	8,807	9,288	9,914	8%
2	IITs	6,681	8,345	8,495	-2%
3	Statutory and regulatory bodies	4,194	5,139	5,321	2%
4	NITs and IEST	3,252	3,699	4,364	6%
5	Student Financial Aid	1,834	2,089	2,078	53%
6	RUSA	165	793	2,043	10%
7	World Class Institutions	1,016	1,200	1,700	176%
8	IISERs	993	1,121	1,380	9%
9	IISc	604	622	727	19%
10	IIMs	465	651	654	2%
11	Digital India e-learning	280	368	421	-1%
12	IIITs	339	407	543	9%
13	Research	214	144	219	-4%
14	Others	3,533	2,164	2,971	-32%
	Total	32,378	36,032	40,828	2%

Sources: Expenditure Budget 2021-22; PRS

Note: Universities include grants to central universities, and Deemed Universities promoted by central government.

In 2022-23, the highest share of the departmental allocation is for universities (24%), IITs (21%), statutory and regulatory bodies (13%), and NITs and the Indian Institute of Engineering Science and Technology (11%). For higher education Rs40,828, crores central budget is allocated to grants to universities and other institutions such as IIMs, IITs, and NITs funded directly by the central government, and for central sector schemes and projects such as creating world-class institutions and interest subsidies on student loans.

5. Budgetary Constraints: -

1. **Digital Education:** -Digital infrastructure was a big demand from the union budget this year. Millions were unable to go to schools and also lacked access to mobiles, laptops or steady internet connectivity to continue online education.

2. **Learning in Regional Languages:** -The Covid-19 pandemic caused a major learning loss for Indian students. One class, one TV channel' programme of PM eVIDYA will be expanded from 12 to 200 TV channels for all states to be able to provide supplementary education in regional languages for Classes 1 to 12 to make up for the loss of formal education due to Covid-19 pandemic, especially for students from rural areas needs funds and Training facility for The concept of digital teachers in all spoken languages.

3. **Employment creation:** -Unemployment issues have been weighing heavy on India's youth. The government was targeting the creation of 60 lakh jobs in 14 sectors through PM Gati Shakti and the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme for achieving Aatmanirbhar Bharat., Startups will be promoted to facilitate „Drone Shakti“ needs fund for implementation.

4. **Higher Education:** - This policy is aligned to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and aims to transform India into a vibrant knowledge society and global knowledge superpower by making Higher education more holistic, flexible, multidisciplinary, needs funds for implementation. Sectors like the agriculture industry and the urban planning industries in India are being given more focus for better higher education. States will be encouraged to revise the syllabi of agricultural universities to meet the needs of natural, zero-budget, and organic farming, and modern-day agriculture needs fund for execution.

5. **Mental health of students:** - The announcement of the National Tele Mental Health program in Budget 2022 as a recognition of how the Covid-19 pandemic affected not just physical health but also the mental health of people of all ages, including students. The program will include a network of 23 tele mental health centers of excellence needs fund for establishment.

6. **NIPUN Bharat:** - A National mission on foundational numeracy and literacy launched earlier this year promises that all children will acquire foundational numeracy and literacy by Class 3, and children in Classes 4 and 5. This mission has already shifted the goal post by setting 2026-27 as the target date for achieving universal foundational literacy and numeracy, instead of the NEP target of doing so by 2025. Even to achieve this relaxed target, significant investments would be needed.

7. **School Education;** - Most of the substantive recommendations of the NEP for school education like the expansion of physical infrastructure, hiring of teaching and non-teaching staff, increasing resource allocation for schemes needs creation of funds for innovation and inclusions.

6. **Result:** -

Ironically, the union budget allocation for education in the NEP launching year has taken a dip. The education budget was reduced by 6 percent from INR 99,311 crore in 2020-21 to INR 93,224 crore in 2021-22. While this is understandable given the Government's priorities are divided in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic and economic distress that large sections of populations are facing, there is no clear roadmap yet how such enormous sums of financial resources can be augmented.

Education budget 2022 nowhere near 6% of GDP. As per the Economic Survey, the expenditure on education as a percentage of GDP was 2019-20: 2.8% , 2020-21: 3.1% (as per the revised estimate), 2021-22: 3.1% (as per the budget estimate) .

The National Education Policy, 2020 (NEP) calls for public investment on education to 6% of GDP. India's education budget has never touched this number yet.

7. **Conclusion:** -

A simple allocation of money towards the National Education Policy 2020 will not be enough, as the policy is a continuous, multidisciplinary process.

The NEP cannot be treated in isolation; rather it is a change of course of action. The implementation of the policy comes when there's an abundance of resources. Training of teachers takes resources, building up good schools and infrastructure takes resources. Different aspects of the NEP come from the collaboration of other governmental departments, so allocating money only for the policy will not work, because educational policy and economic growth and development are closely related and can never work in isolation.

Effective implementation requires a well thought-out plan that clearly prescribes and guides the various administrative initiatives for the development of resources and a dedicated public budget.

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