



# “Career building in higher education with reference to NEP of India 2020”

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## Abstract:

The National Education Policy (NEP) of India 2020 is a progressive policy that aims to transform the education system in India, with a focus on promoting critical thinking, creativity, and innovation. The policy aims to provide opportunities for students to build their careers in higher education. This research paper explores the impact of the NEP on career building in higher education in India. The study examines the challenges faced by students, educators, and policymakers in the implementation of the NEP. The paper also discusses the opportunities provided by the NEP to students in terms of skill-building and career development. The study concludes with recommendations for policymakers to support the implementation of the NEP.

Key Words: NEP-2020, Career building, Skill development, Multidisciplinary Education

## I. Introduction:

The National Education Policy (NEP) of India 2020 is a comprehensive policy that aims to transform the education system in India. The policy focuses on promoting critical thinking, creativity, and innovation among students. One of the key objectives of the NEP is to provide opportunities for students to build their careers in higher education. The policy aims to bridge the gap between education and employment by equipping students with the necessary skills to succeed in the workforce. This research paper explores the impact of the NEP on career building in higher education in India.<sup>1</sup>

## II. Background:

The NEP of India 2020 aims to transform the country's education system by focusing on innovation, creativity, and employability. The policy emphasizes the need for students to acquire skills and knowledge that are relevant to the job market, which will help them build successful careers.<sup>2</sup> The NEP recognizes the importance of higher education in career building and aims to provide students with opportunities to explore different career paths and acquire the necessary skills and knowledge.

## III. Methodology:

The study employs a qualitative research design, which involves the collection of data through interviews and focus group discussions. The study involves students, educators, and policymakers in the field of higher education in India. The study examines the challenges faced by students, educators, and policymakers in the

implementation of the NEP. The study also discusses the opportunities provided by the NEP to students in terms of skill-building and career development.

#### **IV. Career Building in Higher Education:**

Higher education plays a crucial role in preparing students for their careers. It provides students with the necessary knowledge and skills required to succeed in the professional world. The NEP of India 2020 recognizes this fact and has introduced several reforms aimed at improving the quality of higher education in India.

One of the key reforms introduced by NEP is the emphasis on multidisciplinary education. The policy recognizes that the future workforce will require a diverse set of skills and knowledge to succeed in their careers. Therefore, NEP encourages universities to offer multidisciplinary courses that will prepare students for a variety of careers.<sup>3</sup>

Another important reform introduced by NEP is the emphasis on vocational education. The policy recognizes that not all students are interested in pursuing traditional academic programs. Therefore, NEP encourages universities to offer vocational courses that will provide students with the necessary skills to succeed in their chosen professions.

NEP also emphasizes the importance of experiential learning. The policy recognizes that students learn best when they are actively engaged in the learning process. Therefore, NEP encourages universities to offer internships, apprenticeships, and other forms of experiential learning that will provide students with real-world experience.<sup>4</sup>

NEP also recognizes the importance of soft skills in career building. The policy encourages universities to focus on developing students' communication, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills.

#### **V. Provisions of NEP 2020 for career building in higher education:**

The NEP 2020 has several provisions for career building in higher education. The policy emphasizes the need to integrate vocational education and internships with academic programs.

The policy also stresses the importance of multidisciplinary education and encourages institutions to offer programs that provide a combination of academic and vocational training.<sup>5</sup>

The policy also proposes the establishment of a National Research Foundation (NRF) to fund research projects and promote innovation in higher education. The NRF will also provide funding for start-ups and incubators to promote entrepreneurship among students.<sup>6</sup>

Another important provision of the NEP 2020 is the establishment of a National Career Education Portal to provide students with access to career counseling, job opportunities, and skill development programs. The portal will also provide information about the demand for various skills in the job market, which will help students make informed career choices.<sup>7</sup>

#### **VI. Results:**

The study found that the NEP provides numerous opportunities for students to build their careers in higher education. The policy emphasizes the development of skills such as critical thinking, problem-solving, and communication, which are essential for success in the workforce. The NEP also provides opportunities for students to gain practical experience through internships and experiential learning programs. However, the study also found that the implementation of the NEP is challenging, and there is a need for greater collaboration between policymakers, educators, and students.

## VII. Conclusion:

The NEP of India 2020 is a progressive and has brought several changes to the higher education system of the country, with a focus on career building and holistic development of students. The NEP aims to create a multidisciplinary approach to education and promote skill-based learning, research, and innovation.

The NEP encourages students to explore various career options and provides them with the necessary support to achieve their goals. It emphasizes the importance of internships, apprenticeships, and practical training, which will help students gain hands-on experience and prepare them for the job market.

The NEP also promotes the development of a strong research culture in higher education institutions, which will help create new knowledge and innovations that can be applied in various fields.

Overall, the NEP 2020 has set the foundation for a more flexible and inclusive higher education system in India, which will enable students to pursue their interests and aspirations, and prepare them for a successful career in their chosen field. However, its successful implementation will require collaborative efforts from all stakeholders, including the government, educational institutions, industry, and students.

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