



Nep -2020: Opportunities And Challenges In Education

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ABSTRACT:

The foundation of all development is education. National Education Policy 2020 has been enacted by the Indian government. The goal of NEP 2020 is to bring about a transformation in the educational system that will enable students to thrive in the twenty-first century, overcome personal obstacles, and advance the country. India's education system is intended to be contemporary, progressive, and equal through the implementation of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020. Improving low literacy and numeracy results linked to elementary schools is the main goal of the new program. Early childhood education will now be a component of formal education under the NEP, which aims to replace the 10+2 system with a 5+3+3+4 structure. Furthermore, the NEP 2020 prioritises curriculum reduction as a means of facilitating critical thinking and equipping students with 21st-century competencies. Thus, to achieve these ends, a complete restructuring of the curriculum and pedagogy is required. Adhering to the National curricular Framework while making curricular modifications is one of the hurdles in putting these changes into practice. Teachers also need to reconsider the learning content rubric and adjust the textbooks appropriately.

Keywords: National Education Policy 2020, Curriculum Framework & Equitable.

INTRODUCTION:

A constant process, education addresses the issue of an overpopulous population in a society that is expanding. Student learning, innovation, scholarship, research, and training are all things that the educational system must cultivate in them. The only option to overcome these issues and accelerate the nation's economic progress is through enhancing education. Although India has had robust and steady economic growth over the past few decades, the country still faces socioeconomic concerns.

The education system in India is currently among the greatest in the world, having significantly improved in recent years. Additionally, it is among the major drivers of the nation's economic growth. The role of private institutions in the growth of India's education sector, aside from government initiatives, is significant. After 34 years, the Indian government combined input from 2.5 lakh village-level stakeholders to two national legislative level committees during more than 50 months of consultations and workshops, and on July 28, 2020, the Union Cabinet of India approved the National Education Policy (NEP). It's unclear, though, how much of the recommendations have been included into the policy. The outdated [NEP] 1986 education policy has been replaced with the new education policy 2020, which offers a comprehensive framework for vocational training and higher education in both rural and urban areas of India. By 2040, the strategy seeks to completely overhaul India's educational sector.

OBJECTIVES:

- **Improve Education Quality:** Make all educational levels better overall.
- **Encourage Equity and Inclusion:** Make certain that every child has access to high-quality education, irrespective of their background.
- **Promote Flexibility and Innovation:** Support adaptable learning pathways and creative teaching strategies.
- **Enhance E-Learning:** Incorporate digital resources and technology into the educational framework.
- **Redesign the curriculum and pedagogy:** to promote a more pleasurable, stress-free, and practically applicable learning experience.

OPPORTUNITIES:-

A holistic report, as envisioned by NEP 2020, will help students understand the world from all angles by evaluating their performance across the cognitive, psychomotor, and affective domains of learning. Allowing foreign colleges to open campuses here is a good move for the nation's students and academics alike. It will provide students more options based on research, increase their competency, and eventually stop brain drain. After a break, a student can return to school using academic credit stored in a digital locker that works similarly to bank credit, as decided subsequently by the higher education commission.

- **Holistic Education:** NEP 2020 places a strong emphasis on a person's whole academic, emotional, physical, and spiritual development. The main emphasis of traditional education is on theory. NEP 2020 emphasizes students' practical as well as theoretical development. The unique growth of each student is the goal of the new education policy.
- **Vocational Education:** The goal of NEP 2020 is to enable students to select the field and career path they desire. Vocational education aids in their career selection and advancement. Not only can vocational education lower unemployment rates, but it also advances India's economy.
- **Flexibility and Multi disciplinarity:** The emphasis of this education policy is on these two elements of education. Every region of the country is granted equal opportunities under NEP. Students can choose a

course based on their interests and abilities because to flexibility. Students can select a topic from any course thanks to multidisciplinary learning.NEP 2020 places a strong focus on pupils' capacity for critical thought and problem solving. Students are given the chance to think critically and apply what they learn in NEP 2020 to real-world situations.

- **Development of skills:** Critical thinking, problem-solving, creativity, and communication are among the talents that NEP 2020 highlights as being important to cultivate. Students who receive this will be better prepared to thrive in a world that is changing quickly and become more employable.
- **Integration of technology:** NEP 2020 acknowledges the value of technology in education and encourages its application at all educational levels. This will support ongoing communication between educators and learners as well as creative and inventive learning opportunities.
- **Curriculum and Content:** The NEP mandates modifications to the curriculum and instructional approaches. Exam boards will have to reconsider how they evaluate students and what the appropriate learning content criterion is. Additionally, school textbooks will need to be realigned.
- **Innovation and Research:** NEP 2020 provides a chance to advance innovation and research. It places a strong emphasis on interdisciplinary thinking, a flexible work environment, and adequate resources for innovation and research. Establishing robust research centers is encouraged by NEP. Universities evolve becoming centers of research. This is a great chance for personal improvement, learning about creative ideas, and advancing the country's economic expansion.

CHALLENGES:

- **Implementation:** The primary obstacle facing the NEP 2020 is its implementation. While NEP 2020 places a greater emphasis on experiential and holistic learning, traditional educational policy emphasizes a theoretical approach. So it is pretty tough to be theoretical to experimental and holistic. These educators stuck to the conventional techniques of instruction, and they are finding it hard to adopt new ones for NEP 2020.NEP directs us to plan activities for the pupils, emphasizing as many hands-on activities as possible.
- **Multiple Languages:** NEP 2020 places a strong emphasis on using regional language as the primary language of teaching up to a certain point. However, beyond that point, pupils learn a second language, which is extremely challenging to acquire because they are only familiar with regional language. NEP 2020 places a strong emphasis on developing teachers' capabilities and training them in order to raise educational standards. It anticipates implementing fresh educational strategies and technological advancements. They may encounter difficulties implementing new technologies, such as the Zoom app, PowerPoint presentations, smart classroom instruction, etc.
- **Education reform:** the figures are as alarming Reintegrating 2 crore out-of-school children is the goal of the National Education Policy 2020. Either way, to do this in 15 years, over 50 new schools must be opened each week.
- **The economy and health care:** are slowing down the pace of execution. Economists have advocated for large stimulus packages up to double-digit percentages of GDP notwithstanding the pressure on the budget.
- **Skilled educators:** The plan calls for a significant structural overhaul of the curricula in schools, which is a really good step. But we need teachers who have been trained in and comprehend the pedagogical needs in order to present this program adequately. Teachers and parents need to make major mental adjustments in order to implement many of the curricular revisions.

- **Language policy:** NEP-2020 has put forth a three-language formula that has caused criticism in a few states. There's a worry that the strategy will force a certain language on people and erode the nation's linguistic variety.
- **Assessment system:** The policy suggests a new evaluation method that emphasizes pupils' overall growth. There is worry, though, that the new assessment system's implementation would be difficult, particularly in rural areas with little resources.
- **Infrastructure for Evaluation:** As part of the NEP, exams are encouraged to change to a culture of assessment with ongoing monitoring of learning objectives, an emphasis on foundational and higher order skills, and progress tracking software powered by artificial intelligence to help students choose their careers. Education institutions and educators must come up with novel assessment strategies and tasks that provoke students' thinking and demand effort in order to implement continuous assessment.

SUGGESTIONS:

The curriculum and pedagogy of education programs and courses should be reviewed and revised by policy makers to ensure that they are in line with learning outcomes, national and international needs and expectations, and the interests and aspirations of the students.

- **Increasing Access to Education:** Getting an education is one of the biggest problems facing the Indian educational system, particularly for underprivileged groups. The government may solve this by increasing financing for education, particularly for rural schools. In order to enhance school resources and facilities, the government can also promote private sector involvement in the educational process.
- **Increase Teacher Training:** One of the biggest issues facing the Indian educational system is the caliber of instruction. The government can fund subject-specific training, technological integration, and pedagogy-focused teacher preparation programs to solve this. A four-year integrated B.Ed program is suggested by NEP 2020, and it may contribute to raising the standard of teaching in the nation.
- **Encourage Holistic growth:** Physical, social, and emotional growth are all included in the holistic development that is emphasized by the NEP 2020. The government can solve this issue by allowing extracurricular activities like athletics, the arts, and music in schools. Additionally, schools can offer pupils mental health support programs like counseling.

CONCLUSION:

In many aspects, India's National Education Policy 2020 is exactly what the country needs as it prepares to become the largest labor market in the world in the near future. We will need to overcome significant execution challenges over the course of many years, if not decades, in order to achieve the dreams it embodies. India's educational system is about to undergo a transformation thanks to NEP 2020. It has provided pupils with several possibilities to try to overcome the issues and difficulties of the previous educational policy. The policy places a strong emphasis on practical learning, research and innovation, critical thinking, and holistic education. It provides information on how to handle complicated issues that come up in the twenty-first century. Moreover, this approach offers a great deal of optimism to people who are less fortunate. NEP 2020's student-centered approach should have improved the workforce and educational system by 2030.

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