Literature in NEP framework

Dr. Dipankar Chakrabarti
Govt. Degree College Kamalpur

It may be safely affirmed that Nation Education Policy is the outcome of an insightful study on Indian Education system. An effort for reviving the ancient status of India as the leader of academic field and highlighting India as the progenitor of the concept of academic hub— are evident in the document. Major subject and co-curricular activities are placed with equal importance. Skill based studies are encouraged. Technology will be of extensive use in the area like learning, planning, assessment and administration. With the declaration of the policy by the union cabinet the countrywide debate has become a fashion with changing banners. From NGO to University - all are busy to discuss the issues related to the NEP. This type of thread break discussion is a new phenomena in academic field. Keeping the needs of twenty-first century a host of corrective measures has been adopted in the NEP. An all out effort has been taken to address the merit, choice and need of the students all sections. It appears that NEP favours active pedagogy and quality enhancement by addressing the lacunae of the existing Educational policy. Familiarisation of vocational education is stressed to ensure earning livelihood. Democratisation of education is one the guiding principles of the policy. To breed a future-ready generation is the ultimate goal. The policy appears to be comprehensive and willing to address the students of KG to PG and hence some structural change was allowed. Education, like before, will not provide a degree but it will generate a community fully self reliant and technically equipped.

But it is to be noted here with concern that the materialisation of the proposals should be strictly monitored. Adequate budgetary and administrative support are to be provided. Stake holders from KG to PG should be properly trained before holding their respective chairs. Teaching faculties of all categories should be properly oriented to their academic activity and hence refresher/orientation course should be made mandatory one in every two years. Important portfolios of any academy related department should be headed by an academician.

It for the first time multi disciplinary combination of subjects are designed as the main constituent of syllabi. a student may opt for Chemistry with English literature along with Economics and Music as his preferred subjects. Literature can also be studied in local language or in the mother tongue at the preliminary stage as far as practicable. It is evident that respectability for individual subjects is honoured in the policy. A student has the right to prosecute his higher studies in his preferred subjects choosing the curricular component from any stream- which is not possible as per the existing academic system.

In case of a student studying at technical colleges LITRATURE in English were taught as a foundation subject. We came across many students having genuine interest in Literature but he/she was not allowed to continue studying his preferred subject as the subject is discontinued from the next Sem. In some cases, his valued friends discourage him to study the subject as it does not have any bearing to his grading. He is encouraged to maintain a good rapport with his Science Teacher than to his teacher who teaches him literature. Though unfortunate, some times a Teacher of language or literature is debunked by his colleagues also. In that case neither the Teacher nor his student gets motivation for studying the subject meticulously. In most of the technical institutions researcher in language / literature gets a second rate treatment. Even at the higher secondary level of study, Literature is
neglected. Even the guardians, in many cases, de-motivate their wards to lay proper emphasis to the study of literature. An infatuation in the main stream subject is much preferred to a guardian. Some guardians, even, do not allow their wards to continue their studies of language for the higher education.

But it remains our experience that a lot of technocrats or learner of literature or language are able to create first-rate artistic piece or became an active connoisseur of art. Many a times a man from science background had been rewarded for his art/creativity. We heard, a decade back, the best creative passage had been bagged by a physician for a passage in his book on human ocular vision. Perhaps a teacher of Chemistry or Biology is more attracted to literary creation. Even a technocrat when he discovers something he is inspired by the same creative spirit as a literati creates an immortal piece of art.

A student with a better communication skill is always preferred and loved by his companion. Moreover, a student of literature is doubly blessed. He may study immortal stories as the part of his subject for examination purpose.

In our consideration National Education Policy 2020 is committed to empower teachers by the process of restructuring their recruitment rule, transfer policy, service condition, career progression etc.

In NEP 2020, there remains a scope to study literature with the same priority with a science or technical subject. In that case the subject of our present priority will get an opportunity to grow equally. And naturally, the poor language teachers in technical institutions may regain their ground to be academically and institutionally alive.