

NATIONAL EDUCATION POLICY, 2020 IN INDIA: A SEARCH

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Abstract

Education is a basic right for each and every child in their life, by which these individuals can contribute to personal growth and economic development of the nation. National education policy is important for the development of the educational structure in India. The four phases of education system will be developed by the new education policy to provide a quality education. 15 years of educational life will be managed by this particular policy, by which 3 years of students get an opportunity to enter an education life. Students get an opportunity to identify their career options successfully in India with the help of this education policy. Curriculum and extracurricular activities by students are also dictated through National Education Policy. The mission of NEP is to enhance Gross Enrolment Ratio by 50% within a year of 2035. This is also helpful for the Indian educational system to provide better education among all students from 3 years to 18 years. Usage of modern technology is enhanced after applying this particular policy in India where students can easily enhance their skills with the help of modern technology. Higher education institutes are benefitted through NEP in India, by which the Indian education framework is developed significantly. Hence, a complete search on the NEP has been done in the article with the help of secondary sources.

Keywords: NEP, Higher education, Gross Enrolment Ratio, India.

1. INTRODUCTION

Education is the most powerful weapon that can be used to address the most significant and fundamental challenges of society and change the world for the better. Education broadens the mindset of people and increases standards of living by eliminating poverty and promoting equality [1]. A higher literacy rate contributes directly to the economic development of a nation by empowering people, promoting good citizenship and capable governance. Hence, education policies are developed by nations across the globe to educate their population and improve their literacy rate for further growth and development. In this context, India has a long and varied history of developing and implementing policies within the education sector at the national, state and local levels [2]. India has seen significant development and changes in its educational system over the centuries. Education was seen as a privilege in ancient India with the elites only having access to formal education while the medieval period saw an introduction of new forms of educations like Western-style schools for English and literature and madrasas for Islamic studies [3]. The development of the modern Indian state led to a shift in focus which involved universal access to education in the nation. Education was recognised as the fundamental right for the people of India in the Constitution of India, which was adopted in

1950. Various measures were taken by the Government of India along the way to modernise the system and make education more inclusive such as the establishment of CBSE and NCERT.

The last two decades have further seen the implementation of various policies by the government of India to further improve the education system of India. The Right to Education (RTE) Act was passed in 2009 and provided the right to free education for all children between the age of 6 and 14 [4]. The Sarva Siksha Abhiyan was launched in 2014 to provide universal access to education for all children especially ones from disadvantaged backgrounds. Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) is a scheme launched in 2009 for the improvement of secondary education quality in India. The National Curriculum Framework (NCF) was further revised in 2005 to establish the need for a learner-centric and inclusive education system. Among all these policies and schemes being developed by the government of India, National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 was launched on July 29, 2020, which brought significant changes to the national education policy that was being followed for the past 34 years [5]. It was held as an integral moment in the entire educational structure of the country and the implementation of these policies would lead to significant progress in the education field in India. NEP is being considered a comprehensive policy framework that strives to completely transform and revitalise the education system of India while emphasising the importance of equitable and inclusive education.

2. AIM OF THE ARTICLE

The Indian education system has long been criticised for its mundane curriculum and lack of purpose with critics from across the globe pointing out the flaw. The education system has been found to be quite rigid and did not fulfil the requirements of the ever-changing job environment while limiting the innovative capabilities of the student. The Indian has been found in complete misalignment of the skills that are required by individuals to achieve success in the market. The NEP has been developed by the Government of India with the goal to solve most of these problems and get rid of the rigidity of the system. Hence, it is only logical to get a complete idea of this new education policy of India. Hence, the aim of the article is to conduct a search on NEP 2020 to discuss all the various aspects and elements related to it.

3. MATERIAL AND METHODS

Methodology of a research paper helps to collect and analyse relevant data about a particular topic. Different types of techniques and processes are available such as: research design, research philosophy, research approach, and data collection method. In this study, a qualitative research design has been used to maintain a smooth work process. A blueprint of research work is managed with the help of this research design. Different types of tools and methods are used by this qualitative research design to finish a research work within a given deadline. Different types of research problems and issues are faced by researcher during research work. A qualitative research design is helpful to mitigate all issues related to this research work [7]. A deep understanding of feelings, thoughts, and actions of a researcher is offered with the help

of this qualitative research design. A qualitative research design is helpful to maintain an open-ended research approach for this study.

Research philosophy helps a researcher to guide the collection of information and knowledge about a research paper. Interpretivism research philosophy has been used for this particular study to maintain flexibility in work process. Multiple, socially constructed and subjective assumptions are gained by this particular research philosophy for this study. Interpretivism research philosophy helps a researcher to perform a specific role in observing the social world [8]. Specific thoughts and ideas related to this research paper are gained from this interpretivism research philosophy. Two types of data collection processes are available such as: primary and secondary. Secondary data has been used for this particular study to maintain authenticity. Non-numerical data are collected by this secondary data collection method. Existing data related to this particular topic are collected from online journals, websites, and books. Every research work needs a certain amount of money and time to finish this work successfully. Secondary data are helpful to save money and time for researcher for this study.

4. FINDINGS

4.1 New education policy 2020 research

New education policy helps to develop a structure of educational framework effectively. Different types of features of NEP are present to manage the school education, higher education, and as well as in technical education. Higher educational institutes are effectively essential for providing a better educational framework in the Indian environment. NEP has a responsibility to access universal aspects successfully at all schooling levels from pre-primary school to Grade 12 [9]. Early childhood care for all children should be maintained properly to provide education for all children between 3-6 years. New education policy produces a new education structure in the educational sector. The New Pedagogical and curricular structure of education policy is 5+3+3+4. This new education policy is helpful for each and every student to enhance skills and knowledge.

The same importance is provided by educational sector for arts and science students where big differences are maintained between curricular and extracurricular activities. Vocational and academic streams are not separated from each other by which students can easily select their necessary streams successfully. NEP always tries to establish a national mission on numeracy and foundational literacy. Foundational literacy and numeracy help to improve skills of all teachers significantly in remote villages in India where active involvement of local communities is managed with the help of this particular process. Universalization of elementary education is maintained by this foundational literacy and numeracy. Quality of education policy is maintained properly with the help of this particular process. National education policy always tries to promote multilingualism and the Indian language [10]. The medium of instruction provides by local language or home language or regional languages up to grade 8. Every student should follow two occasions in a given school year one main examination and one for improvement of students. As a result, students can get an opportunity to improve their academic and professional life successfully in their daily life. New National

Assessment Center is controlled by this new education policy to maintain higher and technical education effectively.

Performance Assessment, Review, and Analysis of Knowledge for Holistic Development is immensely beneficial for new education policy to guide the work process and strategy of the national assessment center. New education policy always tries to provide inclusive and equitable education to socially and Economically Disadvantaged Groups (SEDGs). The special education system is developed for disadvantaged regions and groups. A separate gender inclusion fund is managed by this NEP in different educational sectors [11]. Flexible and transparent recruitment processes for teachers are used by NEP as per merit-based performance. Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER), in higher education has been raised to 50% within the year of 2035. This is beneficial for higher education and technical education policy to maintain gender inclusion and holistic development effectively. Every student may not be able to get admission to higher education institutes in the global market. National educational policy offers an entrance exam for admission in HEIs. A holistic and multidisciplinary educational framework is effectively beneficial for maintaining multiple exit and entry options. National Research Foundation (NRF) is set up with help of the new National Education policy [12]. The internationalization of education is helpful to improve academic quality within the educational sector. The operational efficiency of higher educational institutes is managed with help of this particular process.

4.2 Merits and Demerits of new education policy

NEP creates a positive impact on the educational framework in India. Higher education policy and technical and school-level education policies are managed with the help of this NEP [13]. Merits of education policy are to design school structures effectively. In recent days, 10+2 school structure is followed in each and every school. This particular structure is replaced by a 5+3+3+4 pattern to reduce the burden of exams on students. These individuals get an opportunity to engage in extracurricular activities effectively. This 5+3+3+4 pattern is followed for 3 to 8 years, 8 to 11 years, 11 to 14 years, and 14 to 18 years students. 3 years of Anganwadi, pre-primary education, and 12 years of educational framework are included in this pattern. 3 to 8 years of education system is known as fundamental stage. Preparatory stage mainly focuses on 8 to 11 years students and following 3 years under the middle stage. In this particular stage, students get an opportunity to enhance their skills and knowledge effectively. Last 4 years of educational framework are in the secondary stage. Students get an opportunity to train in gardening, pottery, carpentry, and painting. NEP mainly focuses on vocational learning from grades 6 to 8 to learn practical skills and explore new interests successfully [14]. Re-design of educational structure is helpful for a student with inclusion of holistic development. NEP also introduces different types of new classes such as: computer and coding classes, which take a necessary step for improving learning process successfully. Different types of core skills and critical thinking process is maintained by students with the help of NEP. This particular policy is also helpful for maintaining education process as a basic right. Everyone has a right to gather different types of knowledge and skills. As per NEP, every teacher should have 4 years of training to improve the quality of education process.

Further, the NEP can also be criticised based on certain demerits or challenges that it give rise to for the stakeholders involved. According to NEP, government school students get an opportunity to teach the English language in grade 5. This is effectively challenging for each and every student to learn this particular language successfully. Before grade 5, students learn about different circumstances with the help of their regional or local, or mother language. These individuals are not capable enough to understand this particular language. Spoken English classes are needed for students from pre-primary education where these individuals can understand about English language. The digital learning process can easily attract all students, by which these individuals can collect more information and knowledge. Hence, government schools may not be able to maintain a strong IT-based infrastructure. Students in remote areas with low socio-economic status are not capable enough to adopt IT-based learning processes successfully. This creates a negative impact on personal and professional life of students. These individuals may not be able to know about digital learning process in their educational life. As per NEP, students can leave their school at any time and these individuals get a certificate for this particular stage of school. These are some of the demerits of the system which can be challenging during the implementation. However, implementing a new education policy takes a positive step toward academic system development in India [15]. This is beneficial for each and every student to gain proper knowledge.

4.3 Fundamental principles of new education policy

Fundamental pillars of new education policy are based on Accountability, equity, quality, access, and affordability. These pillars are helpful to achieve sustainable development in India and global knowledge superpower policy is maintained by this sustainable education policy. In order to make a flexible, holistic, multidisciplinary approach in college and school education, NEP mainly focuses on talents of a student individually. This policy mainly offers an inclusive and equitable learning environment for students in the global market. Students get an opportunity to enhance their skills and knowledge in this particular learning environment. NEP mainly focuses on making education accessible to everyone and evaluating socially and economically disadvantaged groups successfully. The importance of pedagogical approaches is mainly focused on the Indian education system to develop students' overall performance through hands-on learning. A competency-based learning method is managed with the help of the fundamental goal of NEP in different educational sectors [16]. In this particular learning method, students get an opportunity to develop their skills and knowledge in an organised manner. For this reason, students are easily attracted by this particular learning process. New education policy will help the Indian education framework to achieve sustainability. NEP mainly focuses on sustainable goals to make education accessible for each and every child within a education sector. Fundamental pillars of NEP are mentioned as follows:

Selecting, using, and recognizing the unique capabilities of students

All students are different from each other and their learning process and capacity are also different. Teachers and parents of a student have a responsibility to identify the uniqueness of a pupil that is beneficial to develop growth of a student effectively. Students can easily enhance their confidence with the help of their skills and knowledge successfully.

Maintaining fundamental literacy and numeracy

A child is capable enough to read basic texts and solve numeric problems through fundamental literacy and numeracy. In recent days, children have no basic sense of numbers and texts. One of the most important principles of NEP is to ensure the necessary understanding of numbers and texts during the time these individuals reach grade 3.

Focusing on critical thinking, life skills, and creativity

Logical thinking and innovation are promoted by National Education Policy to identify the capabilities of a student. Teachers and parents help each and every student to catalyze independent thinking and innovation. Life skills play an essential role to maintain the challenges of life. Problem-solving, communication, and perseverance are essential life skills and these skills are managed with the help of this particular policy.

Usage of necessary technology

Technology upgradation increases on a daily basis to develop teaching and learning processes effectively. NEP helps to make management better and promote the usage of necessary technology within educational sectors. Students also get an opportunity to enhance their skills and knowledge through upgraded technology.

4.4 Impact of new education policy on higher education in India

New National Education Policy helps to promote online and digital education in higher education institutes in India. Online and digital education helps students to collect in-depth knowledge about a topic. This particular policy is helpful to promote distance and open learning processes which enhance Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) successfully.

The mission of this particular policy is to promote public investments in the Indian education sector [17]. A smooth and flexible work process is maintained by this Indian education sector in the global market to increase GER. All types of occupational education will be introduced by higher education by which vocational education is promoted within the education sector. Students also get an opportunity to grab their choice as per requirements. A single and comprehensive governing body is known as the Higher Education Commission of India (HECI) and this sector has a duty to maintain all higher education sectors except for medical and law fields.

This policy is helpful for higher education institutes to introduce holistic, flexible, and multidisciplinary undergraduate courses with multiple entry and exit options. Students can get a certificate for completing a particular course with help of this particular policy in India. Online education system in India is effectively beneficial for maintaining higher education policy effectively. Advantages of online education system in India are time management, LMS, flexibility, diverse options, and affordability.

Online education allows students to finish their entire higher education course in the online mode which helps students to complete their courses from home. Online education policy offers flexible options to their students by which these individuals can attend live lectures and

as well as recorded lectures. No time bounding is needed for a student in online education mode. NEP always tries to maintain this online education system to provide flexibility and transparency in the education sector [18]. Students get more flexible time to finish their courses effectively in India.

5. DISCUSSION

New education policy mainly focuses on the 5+3+3+4 education system in India to improve the education framework. This new updated academic structure helps to differentiate curricular and extracurricular activities in the educational sector. 4 phases of the educational framework are created by this NEP in India such as: middle, secondary, preparatory, and foundational phases. 3 to 18 years students can get an opportunity to grab proper education from different levels of schools. Every student completes 15 years of education life (3 years for pre-schooling and 12 years for complete schooling) successfully.

Universal access to school education for everyone at all levels is developed with help of this new education policy. Public investment is needed for education sector in India to improve education policy effectively. Only 3% of the GDP is accounted for in India's education sector and after applying NEP this GDP rate is expected to increase to 6%. Investment of 6% of GDP is a great deal for India by looking at the current state of Indian economy. Updated NEP provides free education to children between the age group 3 to 18 years in government institutes. Food, cloth, shelter, and education are the basic needs for everyone in India after applying this education policy. NEP helps to identify and select the uniqueness of students within an educational sector in India. Teachers and parents have a duty to provide each and every student with a space by which these individuals can easily select specific personal and professional life. Every student can easily solve any numeric problems and read basic texts through NEP in India.

Flexibility is achieved by this particular education policy, by which students can easily choose their appropriate career option successfully. One of the most important features of NEP is "ensuring Unity and integrity of all knowledge" in India. Higher educational institutes are benefitted from the help of this education policy. Digital and online education helps to maintain higher education frameworks effectively. The aim of NEP is to enhance GER from 26.3% to 50% within a year of 2035. Open and distance learning process is promoted by this NEP in India to enhance GER. This creates a positive impact on the economic development of India. After applying the NEP education system is modified successfully as per the requirements of students. Learning management systems, time management, and flexibility are essential advantages of the online education system in India.

6. CONCLUSION

National education policy is beneficial for India to maintain a better education framework by which students can easily enhance their skills and knowledge in India. These individuals get an opportunity to select their necessary career options with the help of this education policy. 10+2 education policy is replaced by the 5+3+3+4 education system in India through national

education policy. Curriculum and extra curriculum activities are managed by this NEP within an educational sector. Before applying NEP, only 12 years of education life exist for each and every student in India. 15 years of schooling life (3 years of pre-primary school and 12 years of secondary schooling) is maintained with the help of this particular policy in India. Knowledge and application-based learning are essential features of national educational policy. Core Concepts and pedagogy are introduced through school curriculum activity to enhance practical learning successfully. This particular education policy introduces vocational education from 6th grade in India, by which students get an opportunity to enhance their skills and knowledge. NEP mainly focuses on the online and digital education system to ensure a smooth educational framework in India. National Education Policy is immensely important for improving the Indian academic system and economy successfully.

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