

ANALYSIS ON NEW NATIONAL EDUCATION POLICY 2020 (Policy Period 2020 to 2035).

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Abstract:

The New Education Policy announced by Central Government of India (NEP 2020) was a welcoming change and fresh news amidst all the negativities surrounding the world due to the challenges posed by Covid-19 pandemic. The changes that NEP 2020 has recommended were something that many educationists never saw coming. Though the education policy has impacted education to schools and Senior Colleges and University equally, this Research Article mainly focuses on NEP 2020 and its impact on Indian Higher Education System. This paper also outlines the salient features of NEP and analyses how they affect the existing education system.

Keywords: National Education Policy, New Education Policy, Higher Education, Education System, Covid-19 Pandemics.

I. INTRODUCTION

The National Policy on Education (NPE) is a policy formulated by the Government of India to promote education amongst India's people. The firstly NPE was promulgated by the Government of India by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi in 1968, the secondly by Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi in 1986, and the thirdly by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in 2020.

The National Education Policy 2020 (NEP 2020), which was approved by the Central Cabinet of India on 29 July 2020, outlines the vision of India's new education system. The new policy replaces the previous National Policy on Education 1986. The policy is a comprehensive framework for elementary education to higher education as well as vocational training in both rural areas and urban areas in India. The policy aims to transform India's education system by 2021. It aims to increase state expenditure on education from around 4% to 6% of the GDP as soon as possible.

In January 2015, a committee under former Cabinet Secretary T. S. R. Subramanian started the consultation process for the New Education Policy. Based on the committee report, in June 2017, the draft NEP was submitted in 2019 by a panel led by former Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) Chief Krishnaswamy Kasturirangan. The Draft New Education Policy (DNEP) 2019, was later released by Ministry of Human Resource Development, followed by a number of public consultations.

The Visionary of the National Education Policy is:

"National Education Policy 2020 envisions an India-centric education system that contributes directly to transforming our nation sustainably into an equitable and vibrant knowledge society by providing high-quality education to all" India's rural and urban areas.

The main problems faced by the Indian higher education system includes enforced separation of qualifications, early specialization and student streaming into restricted research areas, less focus on research at most universities, Colleges and schools, and lack of competitive peer-reviewed

- 5) Foreign universities to set-up campuses in India:- World's top 100 foreign universities will be facilitated to operate in India through a new law.
- 6) Common entrance exam for all colleges:- The common Entrance exam for all higher education institutes to be held by National Testing Agency (NTA).

III. DETAILED ANALYSIS OF IMPACT OF NEP ON HIGHER EDUCATION SYSTEM:

Regulatory System of Higher Education:

A significant changes in NEP 2020 is properly to set up the Higher Education Commission of India (HECI), as an umbrella body for higher education, excluding Medical and Law education. This will usually bring out a question that what will happen to the present UGC and AICTE. HECI is aiming at reforming the higher education sector, this Bill will separate the Academic and Funding aspects of the sector. The funding processes which were handled by the University Grants Commission (UGC) will be taken care by the Ministry of Education, previously known as the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD). This changes however is expected to clear the regulatory mess in India's Higher Education system. HECI is expected to have four independent verticals - National Higher Education Regulatory Council (NHERC) for regulation, General Education Council (GEC) for standard-setting, Higher Education Grants Council (HEGC) for funding, and National Accreditation Council (NAC) for accreditation.

Graded Accreditation and Graded Autonomy :

The concept of "Empowerment and Autonomy to innovate" is one of the key features in NEP 2020 which supports a "Phasing out" strategy from Affiliated Colleges to Autonomous Institutions. The increased flexibility offered to autonomous institutions also gives hope in curriculum enrichment. It also says that with appropriate accreditations, Autonomous degree Colleges and grant aided Colleges could evolve into Research-intensive or Teaching-intensive Universities, if they so aspire. The announcement of setting up Multidisciplinary Education and Research Universities (MERU's) in the country gives more hope. These institutions will be at par with the existing IITs and IIM's and will aim to showcase multidisciplinary education for the Indian students.

Another important change the NEP 2020 suggests that the National Testing Agency will serve as a premier, expert, autonomous testing organization to conduct entrance examinations for undergraduate and graduate admissions and fellowships in Higher Education Institutions.

Internationalisation at home:

NEP 2020 also allows foreign universities and Senior Colleges to come to India and this brings out a challenge for the native institutions to improve the quality of education provided by them. The Indian higher education sector is buzzing all around as the opportunity of paving the way for foreign universities to set up campuses in the country. India has one of the largest networks of higher education systems in the world, with more than 900 universities and 40,000 colleges. But GER (Gross Enrolment Ratio) of India in higher education is 26.3%, which is significantly low when compared to other countries like Brazil (50%) or China (51%), and very much lower when compared with European and North American nations which would be more than 80%. India must achieve a significant growth in the area of global higher education for obtaining a sustainable economic growth and development, which should not be driven by natural resources, but by knowledge resources. As per the reports, India will need another more than 1,500 new higher education institutions in 2035 to accommodate a huge inflow of students, that's why the Indian

academic research funding and large affiliated universities leading to low levels of undergraduate education.

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 60% by 2035.

Objectives of the study :

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

Research methodology:

This research is a descriptive study. The necessary secondary data was collected from various websites, magazines, journals, other publications, etc. This data was then analysed and reviewed to arrive at the inferences and conclusions.

II. SALIENT FEATURES OF NEP RELATED TO HIGHER EDUCATION SYSTEM:

The new NEP has been introduced with an aim to formalise changes in the system from school level to college and university level. Keeping in mind the developing scenario, education content hence forth will focus on key-concepts, ideas, applications and problem-solving angles. The National Education Policy is expected to bring positive and long-lasting impact on the higher education system in India. The fact that foreign universities will be allowed to open campuses in India is a commendable initiative by the government.

The introduction of single common entrance test is another positive step which will reduce the stress of multiple competitive exams and ease off the pressure of preparing for so many of them. It will also ensure a level playing ground for all student applicants going forwards. Establishing Academic Bank of Credit (ABC) is definitely a robust idea to store the academic credits that students earn by taking courses from various recognised higher education institutions.

The new higher education regulatory structure will ensure that distinct administrative, accreditation, financing, and academic standard-setting roles are performed by separate, autonomous, and empowered bodies. India's Higher Education Commission of India (HECI). There are a lot of reforms and new developments which have been introduced by NEP in the higher education sector. Some of the salient features are:

- 1) Single regulatory body for higher education :- The NEP aims to establish Higher Education Commission of India which will be the single regulatory body excluding for Law's and Medical education.
- 2) Multiple entry and exit programme:- There will be multiple entry and exit options for those who wish to leave the course in the middle.
- 3) Tech- based option:- Quality Tech- based option for adult learning through apps, TV channels:
- 4) E-courses to be available in regional languages:- The e-content to be available in regional languages, starting with 8 major languages - Kannada, Odia, Bengali among others to join the e-courses available in Hindi and English.

government wants to promote FDI's (Foreign Direct Investments) and open up the ECB (External Commercial Borrowing) route to strengthen the capital investment for the education sector.



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