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## New Education Policy 2020 and Agriculture Sector

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### Introduction

India is known in the world for its population. According to the statistics of January 2023, the population of India has increased to 1.417 billion i.e. more than 140 crores. Out of the 121 crore youth in the world, 16% of the youth population is in India. More than 250 million youth i.e. 27% of the total population of India is youth. The percentage of youth in the total population is higher than any other country in the world. The country's education system has emerged as the largest system in the world in terms of number of universities. Affiliated Colleges, Faculty and Students Currently India is considered to be the fifth largest economy in the world. But in terms of quality of education it does not compete with the education system of developed countries. It was planned to bring something new to India to compete effectively with the world. To improve the quality of education in the education system, the central government has brought a new education policy 2020. Indian students lack education like foreign students. Indian students have enormous potential. This is the ability of the youth to be utilized in the development of the country and to create opportunities for employment. To revolutionize the structure of the Indian education system based on knowledge and life skills through a new education policy to positively impact the agricultural sector. In the research paper, it is reviewed that the change in the new education policy can be a kind of revitalization to accelerate the development of the agricultural sector.

### Research Objectives:

- To study the impact of new education policy on agriculture sector.
- To study the impact on regional imbalance in agriculture sector.

### Research Hypotheses:

- 1) Agriculture sector is important in new education policy.
- 2) There is an opportunity for the development of agriculture sector in the new education policy.

### Research Methods:

Secondary sources have been used for the present research.

### New Education Policy 2020:

Since the establishment of the first agricultural university at Pantnagar in Uttarakhand in 1960, agricultural education in the country has expanded tremendously, both quantitatively and qualitatively. The education system in the country is based on the National Education Policy of 1986. The National Education Policy 1986 was reviewed for a more comprehensive, sustainable and comprehensive roadmap to transform the

education system of the country. Every country in the world needs an education policy for a better and brighter future. Because education is a major threat to economic and social progress. Different countries have adopted different education systems keeping in mind their traditions and culture. India has also ushered in an educational innovation by announcing the new National Education Policy 2020. The new education policy is a positive aspect of the existing education system of India and contains some very effective and commendable aspects. This policy lays the foundation for a model of inclusive education that is integrated, engaging as well as scientifically sound. Arts, Science, Physical Education and other co-curricular activities are included and students can choose the subject according to their interest. The new education policy will move towards holistic education and be equipped with 21st century skills. The National Education Policy 2020 which includes comprehensive reforms in the fundamental design of education, curriculum,

pedagogy and teaching learning process. Incorporating technology into education, incorporating traditional knowledge and culture, leveraging skills and employability through professional learning and assessment, the National Education Policy 2020. It is expected to bring qualitative transformation in the education sector by making it internationally competitive. The new education policy will give importance to the agriculture sector and develop agriculture in terms of research. This will create new opportunities in the agriculture sector.

The new education policy calls for structural changes in agricultural teaching methods. Keeping in view the broad mandate of the New Education Policy 2020. Agriculture to focus more on multi-disciplinary and holistic education, the structure of higher education institutions in agriculture has to be rethought. This is necessary to meet the needs of large multidisciplinary universities offering holistic education. These Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) will have to redesign their curriculum and make teaching technology more inclusive and equity-oriented by making it more enabling, skills-oriented and culturally integrated.

According to the provisions of the New Education Policy 2020, the prevailing fragmentation in higher agricultural education in the country must be ended by converting agricultural universities or colleges into large multidisciplinary universities, colleges and HEIs into clusters or knowledge hubs. Another important provision in the new education policy is to make agricultural HEIs multi-disciplinary. Therefore, multidisciplinary in higher education in agriculture must include academic programs in basic sciences, social sciences and agricultural sciences.

#### **Impact of New Education Policy on Agricultural Education:**

As this policy will lead to major changes in the education sector, some of the positive effects on the agriculture sector in India are as follows:-

#### **Changes in Agricultural Education :-**

Emphasis is placed on adopting multi-disciplinary education in agricultural education and thus it will benefit these students by having a positive effect on the education in this sector and also in terms of employment it can help in the development of this sector. As students studying agriculture

can study in other disciplines, acquiring knowledge in agriculture and other subjects can boost their overall development.

#### **Help to increase agricultural productivity:**

Farmers in India will benefit from the new education policy as it will change agricultural education with emphasis on maximum use of technology for agricultural production. As a result, it can greatly help in increasing the productivity of agriculture. Under the implementation of this policy, priority will be given to the discovery of innovative and improved seed species and its direct use, increasing the production of agriculture will be speeded up, and attention will also be given to quality production.

#### **Increase in export of agricultural produce:**

In the present situation, the quality of Indian agricultural production in the international market is low compared to that of developed countries, so the export volume is low. As a result, the agricultural income is decreasing day by day and the proportion of agricultural sector in the national income has decreased. The implementation of the new education policy will focus on agricultural production research to identify better yielding seed species in the Indian natural environment. This will improve the quality of agricultural crops. As a result, Indian products can compete with agricultural products of other countries in the international market, which can help increase agricultural exports if demand increases and sales are increased.

#### **Promotion of agro processing industries:**

In order to develop the Indian agricultural sector, it is necessary to expand the processing industries based on it more and more In India, if the population dependent on agriculture for employment increases in the agro processing industry, the agricultural sector can grow on a large scale. Due to the change in agricultural education in the new educational policy, more importance will be given to agricultural research, so the development of processing industries based on the study of crops and their needs in various parts of the country can be promoted. Therefore, more emphasis will be placed on doing research on agriculture, and the establishment of processing industries in various parts of India will help in the development of these industries.

**Help to reduce regional imbalance in agricultural development:**

There is a huge disparity in development in India. As a result there has been an imbalance in terms of agricultural development across states in India and reducing this imbalance has become an urgent need of the moment. The number of agricultural universities in India is 64. The number of Central Agricultural Universities in India recognized by ICAR is 3 and these universities are located in Manipur, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar. Total Number of State Agricultural Universities Recognized by ICAS 64. Agricultural Universities are currently functioning in India, state-wise the number of State Agricultural Universities is 6 in Karnataka and Rajasthan, 5 in Gujarat and Maharashtra, 5 in Andhra Pradesh, Haryana, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Telangana and West Bengal respectively. 3 each, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jammu Kashmir, Punjab, Uttarakhand 2 each and Assam, Orissa 1 each. There are 4 deemed agricultural universities in India and these universities are located in New Delhi, Karnal, Bareilly, Mumbai. Establishing new agricultural universities in states where there is a regional balance in terms of agricultural universities in the country will reduce this imbalance. The implementation of the new educational policy will have a positive impact on the development of agriculture as there will be a lot of changes in the form of education in agriculture. As more priority will be given to research and other skill development in agricultural education, the quality of agricultural production can also be improved by increasing it. Similarly, since agriculture-based processing industries will get an indirect boost under this educational policy, if the agro-processing industries are started in the states which are lagging behind in terms of development, keeping in mind the local needs, the people there will get employment and help increase their income. As a result the per capita income of the state may also increase to some extent and the regional imbalance between the states in the country will accelerate.

**Vocational Education**

Vocational education is going to be a mandatory and integral part of the higher education system. Universities of Technology which are Universities of Health Sciences, Universities of Law and Universities of Agriculture will now aim to become multi-

purpose institutions. Central and state governments will work together to increase public investment in education sectors. The objective is to raise this investment to 6 percent of GDP as soon as possible.

Vocational education can be increased through agricultural colleges to develop rural areas. To provide investment opportunities to agriculture based industries on a priority basis. There should be more research based education in agricultural universities. So that the objectives of professional education can be achieved quickly.

**Help to increase share of agriculture sector in national income:**

Since 1991 when India embraced globalization, the share of agriculture in gross national income was 18.8% in year 2021-22. The growth rate of agriculture sector was 3.6 percent in 2020-21 and 3.9 percent in 2021-22. But the proportion of people dependent on agriculture is still 57% directly and indirectly and more people are working in agriculture sector for livelihood. The new education policy is likely to indirectly benefit agriculture. Through research, agricultural productivity, agro processing industry as well as the quality of agricultural products can be increased by increasing exports and increasing the income of farmers. This may increase the share of agriculture in the total national income to some extent. With the increase in agricultural income, agriculture will gain importance and more new schemes can be planned by the government for the development of agriculture. Also, since the development of the industrial sector is dependent on the development of agriculture, if the development of agriculture is given a boost, it will also help in the industrial development in good measure.

**Conclusion:**

From the above point it can be seen that the implementation of the new education policy can have an effect on the agriculture sector. The current condition of agriculture in the country is not satisfactory, but this policy will bring various changes, so the agriculture sector can benefit from it to a large extent. Also, if this education policy is successful in reducing the regional imbalance in the country through the development of agriculture, the country can be boosted to achieve the goal of sustainable development. So the new education policy can be a kind of

revival to accelerate the development of agriculture sector.

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