



A DESCRIPTIVE STUDY ON THE NEW EDUCATION POLICY - HIGHLIGHTS HIGHER EDUCATION REFORMS.

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Abstract:

After independence, the nation has already witnessed national policies like NEP-1968; NPE-1986 and its revised version POA-1992. The Indian government replaced the old National Policy on Education, framed in 1986, with the New Education Policy (NEP) of 2020 on last July 2020. India, under the dynamic leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in the past eight years has gained a special place for itself at the international arena. NEP 2020 provides for quality higher education through multidisciplinary universities and autonomous colleges. The current paper describes the analysis of the higher education reforms in NEP 2020.

Keywords: *New Education Policy · Higher education Reforms*

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Introduction: Education

Education plays a vital role for the development of potentialities of an individual. The awareness that enriches life and improves its dignity comes through education. In the changing socio-economic, cultural and political milieu, one cannot adjust oneself properly without good and proper education. Education has been rightly accepted as one of the important variable particularly in developing countries to assess the growth and development of society in economic, social and technological perspective. It would not be an exaggeration to treat education as the guiding way in which the civilization of a nation is reflected to its right direction.

National Education Policy:

The National Education Policy is a framework that guides the development of education in the country. As a policy of education, it not only guides the development of education but also provides directions for regulating and promoting education in the country. The education policy covers education at all the stages including early childhood care and education, school education, higher education, teacher education and vocational education. NEP, 2020 was released on 29th July, 2020 in India.

Objectives of the Study:

1. To study the reforms in new education policy in higher education
2. To analyze the importance of NEP 2020 in higher education system
3. To know the in-depth informative new policy in NEP with respect to higher education

Research Methodology:

The study is based on secondary data which is collected through various books, articles and research papers



published in different national, international journals, websites.

Higher Education in NEP 2020:

The NEP 2020 was conceived to raise the Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) from the current 26 percent to 50 percent by 2030 in the higher education space. It aims at building the overall personality of students by strengthening infrastructure for open and distance learning, online education and increasing the use of technology in education. NEP, 2020 aim to increase the GER to 100% in preschool to secondary level by 2030 whereas GER in Higher Education including vocational education from 26.3% (2018) to 50% by 2035. Higher education, according to the 1986 Policy, provides people with an opportunity to reflect on the critical social, economic, cultural, moral and spiritual issues facing humanity. It contributes to national development through dissemination of specialized knowledge and skills.

By 2035, the Gross Enrolment Ratio in higher education will have increased to 50%.

Four bodies of Higher Education of Commission (HECI):

- National Higher Education Regulatory Council (NHERC): It will act as a regulator for the higher education sector including teacher education.
- General Education Council (GEC): This will create the framework of expected learning outcomes for higher education programs, that is, their standardization work.
- National Accreditation Council (NAC): These institutions are accredited, Will function primarily based on basic criteria; public self-disclosure, good governance ,and results.
- Higher Education Grants Council (HGFC): This body financing work for colleges and universities.

Research and Innovation in Higher Education:

One of the key thrust areas of NEP 2020 is to encourage high R&D investments from government and private sectors. This will encourage innovation and innovative mindsets. To facilitate the same, there is a need for a strong industry commitment and close intervention with academia for industry led skilling / up skilling/ reskilling.

NEP for Higher Education _ key highlights:

1. Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) in higher education to be raised to 50% by 2035
2. Around 3.5 crore seats to be added in higher education.
3. Undergraduate education can be 3 or 4 years with multiple exit options and appropriate certificate at different stages.
4. Academic bank of credits to be established to facilitate transfer of credits for lateral admission to other institutions.
5. Multidisciplinary Education and Research Universities (MERUs), at par with IITs and IIMs, to be set up as models of best multidisciplinary education of global standards in the country

Challenges in Higher Education in India:

Higher education in India has achieved a remarkable level since independence. In terms of the number of institutions, quality of education and enrolments' things have improved drastically.

- Supply-Demand Imbalance



- Less focus on Vocational courses
- Rhetoric Strategy and Poor implementation
- Slow sanction and under-utilization of Funds
- Proper recognition of quality research
- High place of Nepotism in Selections

Suggestions for Improving the System of Higher Education:

- In higher educational institutes Industrial co-operation must be their for the development of curriculum, organizing expert lectures, internships, live projects, career counseling and placements.
- Higher educational institutes need to improve quality, reputation and establish credibility through student exchange, faculty exchange programs, and other collaborations with high- quality national and international higher educational institutes.

Conclusions:

The new National Education Policy, 2020, which has been approved by the central government to change the Indian education system to meet the needs of 21st century India, if it is implemented successfully, this new system will make India one of the world's leading countries. Equivalent Under the new education policy, 2020, children from 3 years to 18 years have been placed under the Right to Education Act, 2009. The aim of this new education policy, which came after 34 years, is to provide higher education to all students, which aims to universalize pre-primary education (age range of 3-6 years) by 2025.

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MJPS/AK (Release ID: 1847066) Visitor Counter : 34377

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Author(s): Dr. Hemlata Verma and Adarsh Kumar Received: 12 Apr, 2021; Accepted: 07 May, 2021; Published: 30 Aug, 2021; e-ISSN: 2347-4696;

Paper Id: IJBMR-2021-090801; Citation doi.org/10.37391/IJBMR.09030

Amar Ujala 31 July 2020; now studying till 5th, an examination for admission in mother tongue till graduation.

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Cite This Article:

* **Mr. Chetan Bugade, (2022).** *A Descriptive Study on the New Education Policy -Highlights Higher Education Reforms, Educreator Research Journal, Volume-IX, Issue- VI, Nov -Dec 2022, 13-15.*