

NEP- A Bird's Eye View

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Abstract: We might have experienced a lot of improper teaching and learning process while we were kids. This situation was a way back a decade. We have always had a thought as to there must be some changes yet to happen in the education system. This was because we had always given importance for reading the content in the book and scoring good marks in exams. We never knew that a word called research exist in each and every subject. NEP is a one ray of hope which will throw light on this field. Hopefully our future generation concentrate more on acquiring practical knowledge than just mere by-hearting the lesson. Education must aim in development of knowledge in all the subjects. NEP's objective is to create India a global knowledge hub where the students across the world can learn here and our country students can go abroad for learning.

Keywords: Cognitive Skills, Digitization, Creativity, Vocational Education, ECCE

Research Methodology: This article has been written by reviewing the different blogs in the internet. A in-depth research on NEP's key factors, features and other areas have been studied. I have tried to write a compact form of NEP and its implications on Indian Education System. The main source of data is collected from internet to write this article.

Our PM's vision on education system of our country has been far reaching. The old education Policy was implemented in the year 1986, after a long gap of 36 years the new education policy has been implemented. On August 23, 2020 Karnataka became the pioneer in implementing this NEP. This policy will help nearly two crore+ students to study and learn new and emerging ideas through its curriculum. The distinct features of this NEP is that it has changed the system of 10+2 to 5+3+3+4 curriculum. 3 years of Anganawadi education has also given importance in developing the cognitive skills among toddlers.

Academic streams are having not major changes but the stress has been given to the extra curricular aspects, professional stream in schools/colleges, providing basic education among the poor children and simple mathematical calculations to all the children of our country has been stressed into it. Regional language has been given utmost importance in NEP until 5th grade. Infact, it is made compulsory to teach in mother tongue up to 5th grade. Vocational education will be given to the students starting from grade 6. It is made sure that the complete 360 degree assessment of the child is to be reflected in his/her progress card. There is a special set up in tracking the performance and progress of the child to achieve the learning outcomes.

In Karnataka a panel of experts with former ISRO chief Kasturirangan as the lead was created. They have deeply discussed the issues, pros and cons of implementing NEP on the Indian Education system from school to college and also on the employment opportunities for the qualified people of the state & the country as a whole.

Key features of New Education Policy:

- ❖ Due respect and importance has been given to the regional culture, values and language with context to curriculum, pedagogy, and policy.
- ❖ Conceptual understanding is more important and effective than the rote learning. NEP stresses to provide the conceptual clarification to the using by taking help of effective teaching-learning aids.
- ❖ Equity and inclusion is also given importance in NEP.
- ❖ Identifying the unique and extraordinary talent among the students.
- ❖ Ensuring that the students are capable indulging of critical thinking and creativity ideas among themselves.
- ❖ At the same time encouraging the philanthropic, private and all over community participation in educational and development activities n education.
- ❖ Use of digital aids like internet, LCD learning through projectors etc.
- ❖ Removal or eradication of language barriers with respect to planning and implementation of educational activities.
- ❖ Regular and timely review of students, teacher's performance in improving the teaching- learning.
- ❖ Universal access to early childhood care & education popularly called as ECCE. This mainly includes the free access to children below 6 years of age buy providing them early childhood learnings like Balvatika/ Anganwadis/ Pre-school and also ensuring their safety and high-quality education for toddlers.

❖ The Learning is made fun by including activity based, play based and flexible learning to toddlers so as to create interest of learning among these children.

Expected results of the NEP are here under:

- ✓ To create equality and inclusion of all category of students.
- ✓ Universal access to ECCE to secondary education.
- ✓ To retain all children in school until their completion of secondary education.
- ✓ To reduce the drop-outs of students.
- ✓ Focus on updated learning and developing advanced skills among students so that they can withstand the rapidly changing scenarios in the recent and future generation.
- ✓ Effective governance by including digitization and fully automated technological tools.
- ✓ Overcoming the language barriers in teaching- learning.
- ✓ Sharing the available resources.
- ✓ Common standards for public and private institutes.

New Academic structure:

The existing 10+2 structure has been changed to 5+3+3+4. The details of this structure have been discussed as under:

1. First stage (5years): first stage and early learning stage generally referred to as foundational stage includes 3years in Balvatikas/ Anganwadis/ Pre-school from age group 3 to 6 years. As mentioned above this stage includes activity based and play based learning where the children are attracted towards schools.
2. Second stage (3years): this is the preparatory stage from class 3rd to 5th. Which includes the discovery, play and also activity based learning with the active interaction classroom learning.
3. Third stage (3years) : the middle level for class 6th to 8th includes the experimental learning in mathematics, science, social science, art and humanities.
4. Fourth stage (4years) : the secondary stage is for class 9th to 12th. It includes the multidisciplinary study, innovative ideas generation, critical thinking, and flexibility in student selection when it comes to choice of subjects.

Important changes made in higher education:

- There is an expectation that the Gross Enrollment Ratio (GER) increases after implementation of NEP. It is expected that the additional 3.5 crores of new higher education seats are to be added to the current seats. This will bring about 50% increase in the GER.
- Students are given multiple selections of subjects which are interdisciplinary in nature. It also includes the flexible study plans and more choice of selection of subjects of their area of interest. More focus has been given to the vocational education and multiple entry and exit option has been provided to the students so that they can complete their education and leave whenever they wish to along with the accredited degree.
- Under graduation degree has been increased from 3 years to 4 years. Students are given free choice to complete their UG as per their choice. For Example, after completion of 1 year, a student may leave the course by taking a Certificate. After completion of 2 years, student may leave the course by taking a Advanced Diploma certificate. After three years he can leave by taking a honors degree certificate along with the license to enter into the research field.
- Yes, it is true... Now, a graduate student who has completed his/ her honors can now directly enter into the research field i.e. he/ she can pursue their PhD. What a wonderful opportunity! Isn't it?

Have mentioned that, another major change that has been brought into the higher education is that the regulatory system has been changed. Let us discuss the change below:

Instead of UGC, the Higher Education Commission of India(HECI) will be handling the comprehensive and coordinating authority for the higher education excluding the legal education and also medical education.

HECI consists of four segments. Those are:

1. NHERC- The National Higher Education Regulatory Council for regulation purpose.
2. GEC- General Education Council for standardization purpose.
3. HEGC- Higher Education Grants Council for funding purpose .
4. NAC- National Accreditation Council for Accreditation purpose.

HECI will operate through the technology and control the proceeding and assurance regarding their performance and ensures that the compliance are done or not.

India has been an emerging country and is predicted to become a global knowledge hub for the entire world in near future. In order to accomplish this dream our higher education system has to be improvised. The main concentration should be on the research field. All the Higher education institutes should be given scope to research work so that the new ideas and creativity developed among the future citizens of the country.

Highlights on the prospects of NEP for HEIs:

- Government ministry be it a central or state, is expected to provide funding for the purpose of research in each field for the HEIs. This is possible through the NRF (National Research Foundation).
- In order to enhance the creativity and possible interdependency of academia and industry, NEP is trying to unleash the technology developments in India. This is possible by the collaboration between academics and the Industry. To serve this purpose the Universities need to become Multi-disciplinary.
- By providing additional funds for the HEIs, the Education system needs to be improvised. NEP supports the thought that the HEIs should be given authority of graded autonomy. HEIS should work in collaboration with their Management along with the Alumni and experts in Education field.
- Government is expected to provide funding amount for the education purpose. It is expected that the Government will provide 6% of GDP fixed funds for the education purpose only. Isn't it Great?
- International Diversity, International Faculty and Students In Indian Elite Institutions, Venture Out And Open International Campuses across the world are the focus areas under NEP.
- Curriculum is reduced and mainly includes the core essential concepts necessary for the purpose of knowledge. Main concentration is given to critical thinking and creativity.
- Along with the physical well being, mental well being is also given importance. For this purpose, students are allowed to play sports, fitness, suitable infrastructure development in schools, health and hygiene, inclusive culture etc are given importance.
- For the purpose of improved teaching, educationally sound teachers are appointed. TETs are
- Conducted on all stages. Training and development programs are to be conducted for the advancement of the teacher's knowledge regularly.
- PARAKH- Performance Assessment, Reviewed and Analysis of Knowledge for Holistic development is set upon. Conducting the National Achievement Survey (NAS), Guiding for State Achievement Survey (SAS), setting standards and norms, rules and regulations for the purpose of evaluation and assessment.
- Given support and importance for the online and digital Education. Norms are set up to serve the purpose ex: SWAYAM, DIKSHA etc.

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