



National Education Policy 2020

*Siddesh and Gajendra T H

Department of Agricultural Extension Education, KSNUAHS, Shivamogga, India

*Corresponding Author's email: siddeshmpatil@gmail.com

Education is fundamental for achieving full human potential, developing an equitable and just society, and promoting national development. India has the highest population of youth in the world over, and our ability to provide high-quality educational opportunities to them will determine the future of our country. The sustainable development goal (SDG4) proposes that “ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all” by 2030. This Policy proposes the revision and revamping of all aspects of the education structure, including its regulation and governance, to create a new system that is aligned with the aspirational goals of 21st century education, building upon India's traditions and value systems. The Government claims that these changes will help to transform India into a “Global Knowledge Super Power”. The vision of National Education Policy 2020 envisions an India centered education system that contributes straight to transforming our nation sustainability in to an equitable and vibrant information society, by providing high-quality education to all.

Objectives

- To understand the concept and salient features of National Education Policy (NEP) 2020
- To comprehend the National Education Policy in agricultural education framework
- To explore limitations and implication of NEP 2020
- To review the research studies related to National Education Policy 2020

Important changes in the NEP 2020

Human Resource Development Ministry has been renamed as Ministry of Education. GDP investment in education sector to be increased from 3 - 6 per cent and focus is on increasing Gross Enrolment Ratio to 100 per cent in secondary school and 50 per cent in higher education.

Goals of National Education Policy 2020

Universalization of education, achieving global standards of education, no difference between government and private education, to achieve universal foundational literacy and numeracy in primary school by 2025, Pupil Teacher ratio 30:1 in each school, increased focus on reading, writing, speaking, counting, arithmetic & mathematical thinking are the goals of NEP.

Features of National Education Policy 2020

The NEP proposes to change the school's academic structure from (10+2 years) of schooling format to (5+3+3+4 years) format. There will be no hard separations between arts and sciences, between curricular and extracurricular activities, between vocational and academic stream.

Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE), vocational courses, mother tongue to be medium of instruction till 5th grade, reforms in higher education structure, changes in curriculum, technology in education, focusing on socio-economical disadvantaged groups are some of the features of NEP

Implementing strategies

Legislative interventions, NEP Implementation Standing Committee, developing credibility through transparent actions and participation of all stakeholders, close monitoring and involvement in implementation at all levels are the strategies involved in implementing NEP. “My NEP- India speaks about NEP” is an innovative initiative for aiding implementation of NEP.

Opportunities and limitations for implementing NEP

ECCE, school education, higher education, curriculum, vocational education, language, multidisciplinary system, special education zones, National Scholarship Portal, internationalization of education are the opportunities, whereas, criticism of primary education in mother tongue, less focus on job opportunities, faceless intervention of the Higher Education Commission of India (HECI), privatization, challenge of being multidisciplinary are some of the limitations for implementing NEP.

Review of the related studies

Aithal *et al.*, (2020) elucidated the various innovations and predicted implications of NEP 2020 on the Indian higher education system along with its merits and some suggestions are proposed for its effective implementation towards achieving its objectives.

B.Venkateswarlu (2021) reported critical study on NEP 2020 and elicited the opportunities, challenges and criticism for its effective implementation of the policy.

Conclusion

The new National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, is a good policy as it aims at making the education system holistic, flexible, multidisciplinary, aligned to the needs of the 21st century and the 2030 sustainable development goals. The intent of policy seems to be ideal in many ways but it is the implementation where lies the key to success.

References

1. Aithal P.S. and Shubhrajyotsna Aithal, 2020, Analysis of the Indian National Education Policy 2020 towards achieving its objectives. *International Journal of Management, Technology, and Social Sciences (IJMTS)*, 5 (2):19-41.
2. B. Venkateswarlu. (2021). A critical study of NEP 2020: Issues, approaches, challenges, opportunities and criticism. *International Journal of Multidisciplinary Educational Research*, 10(2): 191-196.