

# New Education Policy India 2020: A Vision for the New Millennium

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**Abstract**— The union cabinet of India had approved the National Education Policy 2020 on 29 July 2020. It was one of the historical move towards vision for new India and education system. The new policy replaces the previous National Policy on Education, 1986. It has been designed and formulated under complete and compressive framework which includes fundamental to higher education along with vocational education in both rural and urban areas. National Education policy 2020 was long awaited and came to existence almost after 35 years by replacing National education policy 1986. The peculiar aim of newly formulated education policy is to transform Indian education system by 2040. Therefore, the present study has critical analyzed and explored each dimension of the policy thoroughly and extensively. Both primary and secondary data has been collected in order to highlight the major standing plans of new education policy with reference to past educational policies. Findings of the research suggested that there are multiple phases and dimensions of the policy, which have addressed different class, stage and level of education. Moreover, it has also been emphasized that how would this policy transform the Indian education system in all around in the coming years. On the basis of research findings various recommendations and suggested were also made towards understanding, awareness and implementation of the new education policy 2020.

**Keywords:** Education, Education system, National Education Policy (NEP)

## I. INTRODUCTION

In order to achieve full human potential, development of an individual, society and nation, education is the most important and fundamental thing to conduct. It is also key to India's continued ascent through providing universal access of quality education. Better quality education leads to economic growth, scientific advancement, social justice, national integration, equality among people, cultural preservation and conservation. Maximizing our country resources which are good of the individual, society, nation and world and rich talent there is need of universal high-quality education. Our future of country will be determined by the ability to provide high quality education to the young population, which is highest in the world over the next decade. The goal number 4 of sustainable development goals (SDGs) talks about of universal access and development of quality education by 2030. Indian government has also adopted the same agenda in the year 2015, in order to ensure inclusive and equitable quality of education and fostering learning opportunities to all throughout the life by 2030. This is much required goal to achieve by any nation and to transform education system so that all critical challenges, targets and goals would get achieved. Because of modernization and information communication and technologies the entire education system of world is being changed dramatically, scientifically and technologically. This

all could have been possible due to raising in database, online learning, artificial intelligence, skilled jobs and technological advancement. Furthermore, computer science, skilled workforce, modern mathematics and data science are keep integrating with multidisciplinary areas such as social sciences, sciences and humanities. We also need advancement and transformation in strategies related to increasing pollution, climate change, depleting natural resources like energy, water, food and sanitation, in the disciplines i.e. physics ,biology, chemistry and agriculture etc. There is most required necessity of collaborative research, management and development of vaccines for pandemics like COVID-19, other infections and diseases which are out breaking on regular basis. As India keep moving towards one of the largest economy of the World and developed country, growing demand would also keep increasing for transformation in education system, quality of education, infrastructure of teaching institutes and standards of teachers. Therefore, present National Education Policy 2020 has been placed on record by keeping all things stuffs in mind. It is the sole education policy which is going to address all the growing concerns, challenges of the nation in 21st century and heighten up developmental imperatives of our country. The main aim objective of this policy is to revamping and revision every dimension education system, students and governance. The policy focuses on, to create a modern education system aligned with 21st century education model along with taking care of values and traditions India's.

## II. BACKGROUND

The all previous educational policies such as National Policy on Education 1986, which had further amended in 1992, mainly focused on accessibility and equality of education to everyone in the societies. Since after the 1992, there was no such policy and modification took place in the field of education. In the year 2009, an education act was passed which provided right for free and compulsory education to all the children and formulated legal underpinnings in view of achieving universal elementary education. It was the year 2020 when new education policy has been formulated after 35 years by replacing National Policy on Education 1986. The consultation process for the New Education Policy 2020, was started in January 2015 under chairmanship of former Cabinet Secretary T. S. R. Subramanian. Further, in June 2017 committee has prepared a complete report and later in 2019 the draft having 484 pages of nation education policy 2020 was submitted by the committee headed by former chief of Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) Krishnaswamy Kasturirangan. MHRD had accepted the proposal for final draft, after receiving over two lakh suggestions from 676 districts, 6,000 Urban Local Bodies (ULBs), 6,600 blocks and 2.5 lakh gram panchayats.

### III. NEW EDUCATION POLICY A VISION FOR MILLENNIUM

The new education policy 2020, has been included and focused on each dimension of the education system in context of students, teachers, parents, quality education, career options, formal and informal education and transformation of education system. Following are the major highlights of the policy;

- 1) School Education; previously practiced 10+2 structure got replaced by 5+3+3+4 model under following stages;  
Foundation Stage: which includes first three years as a preschool followed by first and second standard. In this stage mainly focus given on activities based learning and cover 3 to 8 years of age group of kids.  
Preparatory stage: This stage focuses on writing, reading, speaking, physical education, languages and learning art, science and mathematics. It includes 3 to 5<sup>th</sup> classes and 8 to 11 years of childhood.  
Middle Stage: More focus given on abstract concepts related to mathematics, sciences, social sciences, arts and humanities. It includes 6 to 8 standard and cover 11 and 14 age group.  
Secondary Stage: This stage cover 9 to 12 classes and 14 to 19 year of age group where more emphasizes on multidisciplinary studies, critical thinking and provided various options.
- 2) Higher education: It included 4 years multidisciplinary graduation course with multiple exits options at any stage along with various professional and vocational programs. It have provision of certificate, diploma and degree for completing 1, 2, 3, and 4 years respectively. M.Phil. (Master of Philosophy) course has been discontinued. There are various council and bodies been designed to look after higher education such as; Education Council of India (HECI), National Higher Education Regulatory Council (NHERC), National Accreditation Council (NAC), Higher Education Grants Council (HEGC), General Education Council (GEC), National Higher Education Qualification Framework (NHEQF) and professional standard setting body (PSSB).
- 3) Teacher Education: The NEP 2020 puts forward many policy changes when it comes to teachers and teacher education. To become a teacher, a 4-year Bachelor of Education will be the minimum requirement needed by 2030. The teacher recruitment process will also be strengthened and made transparent. The National Council for Teacher Education will frame a National Curriculum Framework for Teacher Education by 2021 and a National Professional Standards for Teachers by 2022. The policy aims to ensure that all students at all levels of school education are taught by passionate, motivated, highly qualified, professionally trained, and well equipped teachers.
- 4) Other Changes: As per National Education Policy 2020, legislative permission have been given to various new educational institutes, university, college and other bodies. These are as follows;
  - Prime Minister of India headed the National Education Commission (NEC).

- Credit bank has been established for academics, through academicians would get credit scores on the basis of their performance.
- In order to improve research and innovation, National Research Foundation (NRF) has been established.
- For promoting and uplifting the underrepresented group in disadvantaged regions, Special Education Zones (SEZs) have been formulated.
- In view of ensuring education to women and transgender children, a Gender Inclusion Fund (GIF) has been generated.
- For facilitating exchange of ideas, technologies and improving learning, a National Educational Technology Forum (NTF) has been established.

### IV. VISION OF THE POLICY

As discuss earlier, National Education Policy 2020 is multi-faceted and dimensional as it has addressed every issue related to education system and all set to transform the education system of the nation in coming decades with the help of following procedures;

- 1) Unique capabilities of each student are recognize, identify, foster and ensure holistic development which includes both academic and non-academic domain.
- 2) On the basis of achievements of foundational Literacy and Numeracy, students would get promoted and prioritized all by Grade 3.
- 3) There is full flexibility and choices for students so that they can choose, adapt and make their careers based of interests, talents and most suitable courses they like.
- 4) As per new education policy, there is no such separation between arts and sciences on the basis of curricular and extra-curricular activities. Harmful hierarchies and silos among students will have been completely eliminated.
- 5) Across the sciences, social sciences, arts, humanities, and sports, multidisciplinary and holistic education must be promoted in order to established unity and integrity among these disciplines.
- 6) Emphasizes on reasoning and conceptual based teaching and learning rather than rote learning and understanding.
- 7) Encourage critical, logical, decision-making, innovation and creativity thinking.
- 8) Focus on Constitutional, ethics and human values such as respect for public property, empathy, cleanliness, respect for others, courtesy, responsibility, spirit of service, pluralism, democratic spirit, scientific temper, liberty, equality, and justice.
- 9) Need to promote multilingualism and teach the importance of different languages in teaching and learning process.
- 10) Foster the skills such as cooperation, communication, teamwork, and resilience.
- 11) As compare of summative assessment, more focus to be given on formative assessment and evaluation in view of enhance leaning outputs.
- 12) Ensure the maximum and extensive use of ICT in teaching and learning activities, increases accessibility of education for Divyang students and remove the language barriers.

- 13) Respect all kind of diversity in curriculum, policy and pedagogy, as it would provide enormous opportunities to learn towards others culture, languages and people.
  - 14) Ensure active participation of all the students in teaching and learning activities so that they would get to know, learn and participate maximum.
  - 15) Established the synergy among all the levels of education from early childhood care, primary education, and school education to higher education.
  - 16) Ensure the timely recruitment, continuous professional development, positive working environments and service conditions for the teachers as they are main component of and heart of education system.
  - 17) A fully transparent and light but tight regulatory framework in education must be followed in order to ensure integrity, empowerment, good governance, autonomy, efficiency in educational system, innovation and out-of-the-box ideas.
  - 18) Promote the outstanding research and development in education and development.
  - 19) Ensure continuous review of progress been done through new education policy through regular assessment by educational experts.
  - 20) Education must be considered a basic right of every child as it is a public service and constitutional right of every child.
  - 21) Establishing educational workforce task, in order to address all the challenges, issues and problems being faced while implementing new education policy 2020. On the basis of suggestions, required changes would also be made on regular basis.
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