



A theoretical analysis of national education policy 2020: Challenges and A way forward

Ajaz Ahmed Wani¹, Kewal Krishan Manhas², Muneesh Kumar³

¹ Associate Professor and Head Department of Zoology, Govt Degree College Doda, Jammu and Kashmir, India

² Head Department of Education, Govt. Degree College Doda, Jammu and Kashmir, India

³ Department of Zoology Govt. Degree College Doda, Jammu and Kashmir, India

Abstract

Education is the backbone for the economic growth, social justice and equality, scientific advancement, national integration and cultural preservation of any country. Therefore a well-defined education policy is important at school and higher level. Different countries use different education systems with due regard to culture and traditions and take different stages during their life cycle at school and college education level to make it work. The New Education Policy 2020 in India in this regard has therefore been transformed into the framework of these reforms which could help to build a new education system in the country in addition to strengthening those economic and social indicators. This article reflects the analysis of NEP 2020 with challenges and a way forward.

Key words: national education policy, schools, colleges, economic growth

Introduction

Education is the fundamental for the development of any nation and to achieve the potential of human resources. It is an important tool for equitable development of society for national development. For the economic growth, social justice and quality, scientific advancement, national integration and cultural preservation. India's effort is to provide access to quality education continued. Universal high-quality education is the best way forward for developing and maximising our country's rich talent and resources for the betterment of the individual, society, the country and the world. India will have the highest population of young people in the world. Over the next decade our ability to provide high quality educational opportunities to them will determine the future of our country.

The global education development agenda reflected in the Goal 4 (SDG4) of the 2030 agenda for sustainable development adopted by India in 2015 seeks to ensure inclusive and equitable education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all by 2030. As the world is undergoing rapid changes in the knowledge landscape and with the various scientific and technological advances such as artificial intelligence, machine learning etc.

The National Education Policy of India 2020 (NEP 2020), which was started by the Union Cabinet of India on 29 July 2020, outlines the vision of new education system of India [1]. The new policy replaces the previous National Policy on Education, 1986 [2]. The policy is a comprehensive framework for elementary education to higher education as well as vocational training in both rural and urban India. The policy aims to transform India's education system by 2030 [3]. After the release of the policy, the government clarified that no one will be forced to study any particular language and that the medium of instruction will not be shifted from English to any regional language [4]. The language policy in NEP is a broad guideline and advisory in nature; and it is up to the states, institutions, and schools to

decide on the implementation [4]. Education in India is a Concurrent List Subject [5].

Background

The NEP 2020 replaces the National Policy on Education of 1986. In January 2015, a committee under former Cabinet Secretary T. S. R. Subramanian started the consultation process for the New Education Policy. Based on the committee report, in June 2017, the draft NEP was submitted in 2019 by a panel led by former Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) chief Krishnaswamy Kasturirangan [6]. The Draft New Education Policy (DNEP) 2019, was later released by Ministry of Human Resource Development, followed by a number of public consultations [7]. The Draft NEP was 484 pages [8]. The Ministry undertook a rigorous consultation process in formulating the draft policy: "Over two lakh suggestions from 2.5 lakh gram panchayats, 6,600 blocks, 6,000 Urban Local Bodies (ULBs), 676 districts were received [9].

New education policy 2020 Phase

The phases of the new education policy are divided into four phases. The old education policy was organized on a 10 + 2 formula, but the new education policy is based on the 5 + 3 + 3 + 4 formula. The new pattern includes 3 years of pre-schooling in angwadi centres and 12 years of schooling. It has been made mandatory for government and non-government institutions to follow the new policy.

Four steps of new education policy

Foundation stage- foundation stage of new education policy

The foundation stage will consist of five years of flexible, multilevel, play/ activity-based learning. In this policy provision for 3 years of anganwadi / pre schooling is included and 2 years in primary school with grades 1-2 with an age group of 3-8 years.

Preparatory Stage

The time of this stage is kept for 3 years. This stage includes children from 8 to 11 years with grades from 3-5. In this stage of the new education policy, special attention will be focused on strengthening the numerical skills of the students. At the same time, all children will also be given knowledge of the regional language. Along with this, children will be taught science, art, mathematics, etc. through experiments.

Middle stage

The period of this stage has been fixed for 3 years. In this stage Children from 6th grade to 8th grade have been included in which subject-based curriculum will be taught and coding will also be started from the children of 6th grade. At the same time, all the children will be given opportunities for vocational testing as well as vocational internship, whose aim is to make the children eligible for employment only during school education period.

Secondary stage

The period of this stage is 4 years. 9th grade to 12th standard students are included covering ages 14-18 years. In this, intensive study of the subjects will be done. Within this stage, the educational curriculum of 8th to 12th standard courses has also been started and also with the alternative educational courses. Students can choose their subjects according to their choice, not within a specified stream. Under the new education policy, students have been given the freedom to choose subjects. Students can study the subjects of science as well as the subject of Arts simultaneously. Due to the earlier 10 + 2 system, there was no pre-schooling in government schools.

Board on students of 10th and 12th, keeping in mind the goal of development before the students the format of board examinations will also be changed to reduce the burden of examinations. Improvements such as a semester or multiple-choice questions will be included. The examination will be conducted 2 times a year. There will be objective and subjective tests once a year. The main emphasis in the board examination will be on the test of knowledge so that the tendency of rote among students can be eliminated. From this point of view, this thinking of the government must be appreciated.

Assessment as a standard prescribing body for the assessment of the progress of students a new national assessment center will be established.

Artificial intelligence" based software will be used to evaluate the progress of the students and help the students to take decisions related to their future.

Provisions related to higher education

Gross enrollment ratio in higher educational institutions under National Education Policy 2020 has been targeted to increase from 26.3 percent (the year 2018) to 50 percent, also 3.5 crores new seat will be added in higher educational institutions. The gross enrollment ratio is the number of total eligible population at an education level who has taken admission in educational institutions. For example, the total number of students in the age group eligible for admission to higher education is 100 but if the admission is taken by 70, then this ratio will be 70 percent. For all types of higher education except medical and legal education institutions, a

Higher Education Commission of India will be set up which will replace the UGC. A multidisciplinary education and research university equivalent to IITs and IIMs will be made. These institutes will be world-class. For admission in these, there will be a general entrance test, which will be conducted by the National Testing Agency. It will be an elective for all students, there will be no compulsory subject under this, the subjects of Arts and Humanities will also be taught in technical institutions. There will be no division like Arts, Science, and Commerce. Students can choose any subject of their choice. All the institutes of the country including IITs will adopt a holistic approach. This policy has kept the provision of Common entrance test for admission in UG courses.

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, i.e 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. Currently, higher education bodies are regulated through bodies like University Grants Commission (UGC), All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) and National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE).

There are multiple entries and exit in the undergraduate curriculum in the National Education Policy 2020. The system has been adopted under this policy, in a three or four-year undergraduate program, students will be able to leave the course at different levels and they will be awarded degrees or certificates accordingly. Like, Certificate after one-year, Advanced Diploma after two years, and Bachelor's degree after three years after four years, Graduate Certificate with research. Students doing four years degree will be able to do Ph.D. with masters in one year. M. Phil program has been abolished in the new education policy. The Academic Bank of Credit will be formed through this policy. In this, the digit or credit received by the students will be kept digitally.

Protection of linguistic diversity

In the new education policy, many options have been kept regarding languages. From Class 5 to class 8 Priority has been suggested to study mother tongue or regional language as a study. Students will be able to take foreign language from secondary level i.e. 9th grade.

It will be mandatory to have at least two Indian languages in the tri language formula. In this, preference will be given to the choice of state region, and student. For example, students studying Urdu and English languages in Jammu

and Kashmir will have to study a third language. No student will be affected by the choice of language, in the educational curriculum; there is an option to read Sanskrit and other traditional and ancient languages.

Physical education

Under the new education policy 2020, along with the education of students, skills will also be developed. In which all students from the minimum class will be given training in subjects like Horticulture, Yoga, Music, Dance, Sports, and Sculpture, etc. so baby Proficient in physical activities as well as other types of skills.

Recommendations related to the educational system

Teachers' promotion will be arranged based on performance from time to time through the new education policy.

The National Council for Teacher Education will develop a professional standard for teachers by the year 2022.

National level educational for teacher's education on the advice of NCERT Course content of the course will be prepared.

Four-year B.Ed. degree for teaching in the new education policy by 2030 will be made mandatory.

Provision for differently-abled children

Changes in the educational curriculum for PWD through a new education policy have been done. For these, regular from basic stage to higher education will be enabled to participate fully in the education process.

Funding education

Emphasis is to invest up to 6 percent of GDP in the education sector. Present it is 4.43 percent of GDP.

Financial aid to students

Efforts will be made to encourage the qualification of students belonging to SC, ST, OBC, and other specified categories.

To support and progress of students receiving student's stipends National scholarship portal should be expanded to track.

Other features

In place of UGC, AICTE, NCTE in higher education, there will now be a single regulator that will direct institution.

In 15 years, the process of affiliation with universities will be eliminated by giving autonomy to colleges. They will be made fully autonomous. They will be made autonomous colleges that award degrees or will be attached to a university.

To give international shape to education, the top global ranking university will be allowed to open its branch in India, so that the students of India will not have to go abroad to get admission to the world's best colleges and universities.

The National Research Foundation will be set up as an apex body to conduct research and to promote strong research culture and research potential in higher education.

In the new education policy, emphasis will be laid on the establishment of education centers for the gender inclusion

fund and deprived areas.

The student's report card will be evaluated based on a 360-degree assessment, keeping in mind the mental abilities of his behavior, which will be evaluated by the student's classmate and teacher.

Challenges related to NEP 2020

The need to create a large number of qualified teachers

In school education, the policy aims to redesign the curriculum structure as a very acceptable step. But in order to make this curriculum successful, we need teachers who are trained and who understand the teaching needs. Many curriculum changes require major changes in the thinking of teachers, as well as parents.

Expensive Education:

The new education policy paves the way for admission to foreign universities. Various academics believe that admission to foreign universities is likely to be expensive for Indian educational system. As a result, it can be challenging for lower class students to pursue higher education.

Cooperation

Education of states is a concurrent subject. This is why most states have their school boards. Therefore, the State Governments have to come forward for the actual implementation of this decision. Also, the idea of bringing a National Higher Education Regulatory Campus as the top controlling organization can be opposed by the states.

Language Problems

South Indian states charge that the government is trying to Sanskritise education with the trilingual formula. Many problems can arise in front of states even if the medium of education for children is in mother tongue or regional language. For example, people from different states live in a union territory like Delhi. In such a school there will be children who know different mother tongues. In which medium all these children will be educated, Whether or not English medium schools are in agreement with the vernacular concept. In primary school, in which medium the children will be able to get an education if the state changes.

Financing

Ensuring funding will depend on how strong the will power to spend the proposed 6 percent of GDP as public expenditure on education.

The numbers are no less daunting in reforms to our school system

The NEP 2020 intends to bring 2 crore children who are currently not in school, back into school system whichever way we look at it, accomplishing this over 15 years requires the setting up of around 50 schools every week.

Inter-disciplinary higher education demands for a cultural shift

In higher education, the NEP 2020 focus on interdisciplinary learning is very well come step. Universities especially in India have for decades been very and department alised.

The NEP 2020 has many initiatives to improve the quality and the broadness of the education system in India. The objection of this study on national education policy 2020 are

1. To highlights and overview the policies of the newly accepted higher education system (NEP 2020).
2. To compare NEP 2020 with the currently adopted picy in India.
3. To identify the innovations in national higher education policy 2020.
4. To discuss the merits of higher education policies of NEP 2020.
5. To predict the implication of NEP 2020 on the Indian higher education system.

Way Forward

1. National Education Policy 2020 must make specific time bond measurable committments linked with accountability about funding and expenditure concerning the grand vision.
2. It must consider linking the RTE to the goal of universilization of education at the pre-primary, middle and secondary levels without the legal backing. NEP 2020 's target wise remain unmet.
3. It must devise a collaborative strategy with the implementation of three launage formula as education is concurrent subject.
4. NEP 2020 has to keep children and parents at the centre of implentation plans and provide choice not just in letters, but also in spirits.
5. It has to devise a parallel strategy, relying on non tech inventions by leveraging existing networks of school leaders, social enterprueners and educators.
6. The robust framework for fundamental learning has been laid out, but metrics required for evaluation are missing in the document.
7. The policy must also incorporates the common school system which will ensure equal opportunities for all.

Conclusion

The NEP 2020 which has been approved by the Central Government to change the Indian education system to meet the needs of 21st century.If this policy is implemented successfully will definately make the country a leading country in education sector in the world.It gives a fresh look to the education system which is inbuilt with the flexibility and mark of quality that is capable of moulding India to a vibrant society which matches our rich cultural heritage.This policy is designed to ease the burden of classroom teaching and examination on students will play an important role in creating the future of the country.Its success however depends on the uniform and transparent implementation at all levels with an equitable distribution of resources. This remarkable task can be realised only when there is 100/ cooperation and collaboration between various stakeholders backed by institutional mechanism.

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