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## Re-imagining Education and NEP 2020

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### Abstract

*In present era of global competitive world we need to re-imagine our education system as to prepare learners to face unexpected life challenges. The needs of human beings changes from time to time. They change according to age, place and time. Education should be such that it should help learner to lead his life smoothly facing all the challenges posed to him. Education should provide lifelong learning opportunities to learners at all stages of life. The aim of education for the future growth of any nation is to provide universal access to quality education. Our rich heritage and traditions should not only be nurtured and preserved but should be researched and utilized for new perspectives in our education system. Our education system should integrate employability skills and soft skills. Learners should be tech-friendly in this digital world. This paper discusses what the initiatives are taken in NEP 2020 to bring transformation to our present education systems which are necessary for progress of our nation.*

**Keywords:** Education, NEP 2020 etc.

### Introduction

Reimagining Education means to transform education system so that learners should come up with the challenges they face in their day to day life. The need of person changes at different point of times. In this competitive world all learners have to face diverse challenges to survive. All learners should have universal access to education starting from school education to higher education. There should be flexibility for students to study subjects and skills as per their interest and aptitude. Students in early childhood age should learn in their mother tongue to grasp things easily. Learners from unprivileged section of society should get equal opportunities of education. In this global world our GER should increase. There is need for internationalization of education. According to numerous advancement in different fields one of the important needs of education system is to integrate employability skills as an integral part of education system. Now a day's technology has entered in every facet of our life and to take advantage to education in this global techno world every learner must be tech friendly. The ultimate aim of education is to help individuals to full fill their needs which are dynamic in nature. According to Indian philosophy the basic aim of education is to inculcate human

values in learners and to consider whole Earth as a family - Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam. Our NEP 2020 has been designed keeping in view the needs of learners of present era. So if it is implemented properly it will in true sense re-conceptualize our education system.

### NEP 2020 re-imagines education at various levels

#### At School Level

As we all are aware that major development of a person's overall mental capability or development of brain occurs in early childhood age before 6 years. So it is the foundation of learning. Following initiatives are taken by NEP 2020 at school level

- New Education policy has introduced 5 + 3 + 3 + 4 instead of 10 + 2 + 3 system which emphasizes on early childhood education at the age of 3. It is stated in NEP 2020 that more investment will be there for Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) so that all young children especially from weak socio economical section of society will have access to education and will enjoy healthy mental development.

- ECCE will basically include play way and activity based learning so as to inculcate social aspects, good behaviour, awareness towards cleanliness, team spirit and good communication skills, language and numerical literacy.
- School Education should emphasize on holistic and integrated personality of student and students should enjoy learning. Learning should be experiential, inspire for critical thinking, inculcate art education and culture so that children should imbibe Indian traditions and ethos.
- Sports related activities at early age will help in keeping fitness as lifelong attitude and will inculcate habit of self-discipline, teamwork and responsible citizen.
- Student should have flexibility to choose subjects of their choice from various streams including physical education, art and craft and vocational skills at secondary level. There will be no separation of streams such as science, arts, vocational education etc. The children at early age will be exposed to digital literacy, coding artificial intelligence, ethical, moral values, human and constitutional values. It will help students to plan their own path of study and life.
- Every student has some inbuilt qualities. These inner talents must be recognized and should further be nurtured. It is stated in NEP that children with special talent in any area should be helped to excel in that area beyond the curriculum.
- Teacher will be empowered so as to empower the children future of our nation. Teachers will be given all opportunities to learn new innovations in their profession.

#### At Higher Education level

Role of higher education is very important in reshaping the youth of our nation who are responsible for building up a democratic, socially aware, human value based, traditionally enriched and economically stronger nation. The following initiatives are in NEP2020 to enhance education Higher Education level

- Higher education will now be multidisciplinary. Now education system will include multidisciplinary universities and colleges. There will be more Higher Education institutes. HEI will offer medium of instruction for programme in local/Indian languages. This will help in developing holistic personality of student.
- Professional and vocational education will be integrated in higher education system. This will be for all streams and all HEIs and will result in merging all institutes in one ecosystem of education.
- More initiatives for student and faculty autonomy. HIEs will be administered by independent boards having academic and administrative economy.
- Curriculum, teaching pedagogy, assessments, student support system will be modified to full fill needs and experiences for students.
- To promote research initiatives and funding for researches National Research foundation will be established.
- To promote public education, education for unprivileged section of society online and open distance learning will be promoted to large extent. All learning material will be available for students with disabilities.
- Model Public Universities called MERUs (Multidisciplinary Education and Research Universities) will be set up for holistic and

multidisciplinary education and will provide highest global standards for high quality education.

- Number of initiatives will be taken to improve student's support system and learning environment. To promote creativity among students, teachers will have full autonomy to innovate regarding matters of curriculum, teaching pedagogies, assessment etc. so as to improve the quality of education and students learning environment.
- More emphasis will be on internationalization of education. Students from India will be assisted with facilities to carry out researches at abroad and from foreign countries to India. An international student office will be set up at each HEIs to facilitate foreign students in all aspects related to their study in India.
- Education should lift up all individuals including people from underprivileged section of society. NEP ensures equitable quality education to all students fulfilling (Socio Economically Disadvantaged Groups (SEDGs))
- As teacher education programmes play an important role in shaping the future of school teachers. HEIs offering teacher education courses must ensure to provide quality education.
- To improve the status of vocational education NEP 2020 has integrated vocational education in mainstream education in all HEIs in phased manner. According to policy at least 50% of students at both school and higher education will have exposure to vocational education by 2025.
- In present regulatory system of education power is concentrated with few bodies and there is conflict of interest among these bodies. So to overcome these problems Higher Education Commission of India will be set up. It will act as regulatory body and there will be four verticals of this body. Four verticals will perform the function of regulation, accreditation, funding, and academic standard setting of Higher Education institutes.
- There will be different mechanism and efforts to stop commercialization of Education.

#### Other Areas

**Professional Education** – A good professional must have some characteristics. He must possess education in ethics and must know the importance of public purpose, education in the discipline and education for practice. To achieve these characteristics he must have critical thinking, interdisciplinary thinking, must be able to debate and discuss on relevant topic, must have inclination towards research, must be innovative. For this professional education should be integrated in all higher education institutions. Stand-alone institution in specific discipline like agriculture university, legal universities, health science universities, technical universities shall become multidisciplinary institutions offering holistic and multidisciplinary education.

#### Adult Education and Life Long Learning

In any community if members are illiterate they suffer in life. They cannot carry out financial transactions, they are not able to decide whether price paid for purchase of goods is reasonable or not, they are not able to fill form regarding application of jobs, loans etc. They cannot understand public circular and articles in newspapers etc., the cannot comprehend safety rules in roads, are not aware of citizens basic rights and duties .They are not familiar with technology and cannot make use of e-mails for communication. To promote adult education NCERT will prepare a national

education framework for adult education which will basically focus on literacy, numeracy, basic education, vocational education and many more.

### **Promotion of Indian Languages, Arts & Culture**

The traditions and culture of India is very rich and is reflected in its art culture and languages. These traditions need to be revived which will not only benefit individuals but also help India to grow globally. Many people from other countries are benefited from India's cultural wealth. The come to our country for tourism, they like to purchase India's handicrafts and handmade textiles, they enjoy reading the classical literature of India, and they know the benefits of yoga and meditation. They are inspired by Indian philosophy, they enjoy participating in India's unique festivals and watching Indian films. So Preservation of Indian culture is very important for its economy and global growth.

### **Technology Use & Integration**

Our country leads in the field of Technology. Digital campaign of India is transforming our country to become a digitally empowered society and is helping to enrich its economy. Education will help definitely in this digital transformation and NEP 2020 emphasizes to develop a forum NETF (National Educational Technology Forum) to integrate technology in education so as to provide a platform for using technology for exchange of ideas, teaching learning process, planning, administration and many more.

### **Steps for Implementation of NEP 2020 to Re-imagine Education System**

- Central Advisory Board of Education (CABE) will be strengthened to revise the vision of Education in the country on regular basis. CABE will collaborate with MHRD and other apex body of state. To focus more on education Ministry of Human Resource and Development (MHRD) will be re-designated as Ministry of Education (MOE).
- Development of a country certainly depends on its educational progress. To attain goal of education with excellence, policy recommends investing more on education sector to reach 6% of GDP. The finance will be basically to provide universal access to education, providing various learning resources, for safety of students, providing compatible and appropriate staff in number, providing high quality education to underprivileged and socio economical students of weaker section of society.
- For successful implementation of NEP 2020 many actions and initiatives are to be taken in integrated and synchronized manner. For this purpose all bodies including MHRD, CABE, Union and State Governments, Education related Ministries, State Departments of Education, Boards, NTA, the regulatory bodies of school and higher education, NCERT, SCERTs, schools, and HEIs all should work hand in hand towards the fulfillment of educational objectives mentioned in NEP 2020.

### **Conclusion**

Present era is era of globalization. In this global progressive competitive world the requirements of people are changing. To handle the challenges faced by all citizens and specially youth of our country, it is necessary to bring a total change in our education system. NEP 200 has suggested various means to bring changes to our education system right from pre schooling to schooling and higher education. Employability skills and soft skills have been integrated in our education

system. Multidisciplinary education is appreciated and a lot of emphasis has been given to technical and digital skills. NEP 2020 emphasizes on preserving and nurturing our rich heritage and culture. NEP works for holistic development of students and providing equitable and inclusive learning for all. NEP 2020 will be implemented in its true spirit by taking multiple initiatives and actions in a planned manner. These initiatives need to be taken by MHRD and educational bodies in a systematic and integrated manner with proper time management and follow-up. Successful implementation of NEP 2020 will definitely re-imagine our education system and will contribute to overall progress of our nation in all dimensions.

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