

A Study of NEP -2020: Challenges of New Education Policies

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Abstract

In the current research, the challenges of the new education policy have been highlighted, the purpose of which is to make the institutions, research students aware of the challenges, the New Education Policy (NEP-2020) has been released in India. This is the first and most comprehensive policy of the 21st century for the education sector. For the first time after 1986, a policy document with multiple objectives was put forward for the education world. There is no doubt that India's education sector is currently passing through a period of crisis. Therefore, there is a challenge in front of the new education policy to overcome these problems. It can be said that in the new education policy, where opportunities have been provided to the students and institutions, on the other hand, many challenges will also be present in front of them like a huge mountain.

Keyword – challenges, education , institutions , document , research



Figure – 1: New Education Policy 2020

Introduction

Let's talk about the beginning of important activities related to NEP. In NEP- 2020, special emphasis has been laid on mother tongue and local languages. That's why teaching of these subjects in local

languages has been started in many states as an experiment. Along with this, the Ministry has also started the famous Academic Bank of Credit. This program will provide multiple entry and exit options to the students of higher education. Apart from these, many other programs related to the new education policy have also been started. These include Nipun (NIPUN) Bharat Mission, Vidya Pravesh, Diksha (DIKSHA) and Nishtha (NISHTHA). The NIPUN India Mission aims to improve children's reading, writing and arithmetic skills and sharpen their learning by the time they complete class III. Vidya Pravesh is designed keeping in mind the children of class I. In this course of three months, children are made ready for school education. DIKSHA is a program related to providing e-content. In this, educational material is being made available through the portal. While Nishtha (NISHTHA) is a program related to the training of secondary level teachers.

Objectives

1. To study of challenges for students in NEP-2020
2. To study of challenges for institutions in NEP-2020

Research methods used – In the present research, research method in used Internet surveys

Major problems of higher education system in present day India

1. Severely fragmented higher educational ecosystem
2. Less emphasis on the development of cognitive skills and learning outcomes
3. A rigid division of subjects, pushing students into specialist and niche areas of study too early
4. Limited access, especially in socio-economically disadvantaged areas with only a few universities and colleges that teach in local languages
5. Limited Teachers and Institutional Autonomy
6. Inadequate mechanisms for merit-based career management, advancement of faculty and institutional leaders
7. Very little emphasis on research in most universities and colleges and lack of transparent and competitive review research funds across disciplines
8. Lack of governance and leadership in higher education institutions
9. an ineffective regulatory system
10. Too many affiliation universities, resulting in low standards of undergraduate education

Major Challenges

1 - In view of the huge size of a country like India and the diversity of the education world, implementing any new initiative is like climbing a mountain, for example, we can only take the size of

the school education system, in terms of size India's education system is the second largest in the world, with more than 1.5 million schools, more than 250 million students and about 8.9 million teachers.

The system related to higher education in the country is also very big. In the 2019 report of AISHE, all the data related to higher education in India has been presented. According to the report, 3.74 crore students are pursuing higher education in India. There are about one thousand universities, 39,931 colleges and 10,725 independent institutes in the country. It is obvious that the exercise related to the implementation of the new education policy across the country is huge. In this, many characters of state, district, Tehsil and block level are included. There is a lot of diversity in India at the level of states and districts. Certainly, creating a shared pattern of responsibilities and ownership status among all these actors along with the private sector is a huge challenge.

2 - The whole exercise of achieving the goals of NEP is related to the capacity of the state power. The chairman of the committee that drafted the NEP, Dr. K. Kasturirangan has also pointed this out, he thinks that India's education system is a victim of scarcity. Bureaucracy is dominant here. There is a lack of the necessary ability to innovate and raise the bar. However, under NEP, a target has been set for radical changes in the education world. The internal capacity within the Ministries of Education (at the Center and in the States) and other regulatory bodies is grossly inadequate to accommodate such changes.

Under the NEP, the goal is to move away from the existing education system based on pre-determined materials and rote techniques, towards an education based on experiential learning and critical thinking. For this revolutionary change has to be brought in the thinking of the people running the education world. Along with this, it is very important to bring changes in the behavior of teachers, students and parents. Which is a challenging task. Because there are no teachers according to the new education policy, then it can be challenging to be effective. By the way, nothing is impossible, but now all this will be a challenge for the country.

In short, there is a need for a complete overhaul of the existing organizational structure of the Ministry and its entire eco-system. However, a pleasant thing in this regard is that in the document related to NEP, a comprehensive roadmap has been presented to bring radical changes in the existing regulatory system. Along with this, the Ministry of Education is engaged in the process of bringing a law regarding the formation of the Higher Education Commission of India. This commission will replace the existing regulatory bodies like UGC, AICTE and National Council for Teacher Education. However, we will have to wait for the new institutional framework that will be created in the coming times from these legal initiatives.

3 - The implementation and success of NEP will largely depend on the cooperation between the Center and the States. Even though the draft of the NEP has been prepared by the Central Government (based on the suggestions received from all the concerned parties, including the State Governments), its implementation will depend on the active participation of the States. This is because most service-based education is provided by state governments. One thing in a hundred is that while starting all the programs related to the new education policy, the center will have to move forward efficiently according to the principles of cooperative federalism and decentralization. However, this whole exercise is not easy. The chain of trust between the center and the states seems to be breaking. Many

states ruled by opposition parties have raised strong objections to several important provisions related to NEP and the manner in which they are to be implemented. In this regard, the latest step of the Tamil Nadu government is worrying. Tamil Nadu government has decided not to implement NEP in the state. This is a big challenge for the country.

4 - The role of the private sector (especially in the higher education system) is crucial in realizing the inclusive vision of the NEP. It is worth mentioning that about 70 percent of the institutions (colleges and universities) associated with higher education are being run by the private sector. About 65-70 percent of the students pursuing higher education are taking education in private sector educational institutions only. In fact, the active private sector in the field of higher education brings with it the necessary financial resources and innovation. Therefore, governments and regulatory bodies will have to consider the private sector as an equal partner in the entire process related to NEP. Along with this, an executive institutional arrangement will also have to be made to facilitate the contribution of the private sector.

5 - In the end, one important thing is that for the successful implementation of all the programs related to NEP, adequate financial resources will be needed for many decades to come. In this regard, it has been clearly stated in the NEP that to realize the goals of the new policy, public expenditure in the field of education will have to be taken up to 6 percent of GDP. This is a tough challenge. At least it seems so in the light of the promises made and the actual achievements made in the past. In this connection, we can take the example of the National Education Policy of 1968. In that policy also, 6 percent of GDP was recommended to be allocated for the education sector. However, even after so many decades, public expenditure on education has not been able to exceed 3% of GDP. It is a strange irony that in the same year the NEP was launched, there was a reduction in the allocation for the education sector in the Union Budget. The education budget of the Center was Rs 99,311 crore in 2020-21, which was reduced by 6 percent to Rs 93,224 crore in 2021-22. However, due to the Kovid-19 epidemic this year, there has been a change in the priorities of the government. A large section of the country is struggling with the economic problems caused by the pandemic. The cut in the education budget is understandable due to the increase in government's welfare spending due to COVID-19. However, to take the expenditure on education to 6 percent of GDP, huge financial resources will have to be mobilized. This will be a very challenging task for a country.

6 – The quality of teaching in higher education is continuously falling, the main reason being that most of the institutions of the country are involved in the business of corruption, who play the game of selling degrees instead of teaching students. And a huge lazy student class is helping them to promote them. In such a situation, it is a big challenge to implement the new education policy.

7 – A new change that students are now given the freedom to choose subjects from all the arts stream, science stream, there can be a choice where only arts stream college is operated if the student keeps such demand there. That I have to take science subjects also, this work will be challenging for such an institution. Because science teachers will not be available there, then how the teaching work will be done is a big challenge.

Conclusion

Overall, NEP 2020 is really a revolutionary document in every respect. Under this policy, emphasis has been laid on addressing educational issues and structural disparities, among other issues. In this, keeping in view the needs of India in the 21st century, a blueprint has been drawn to make education comprehensive and accessible and to prepare students according to future demands. Along with this, NEP also has a difficult challenge to deal with many problems of the education world. India certainly wants to take advantage of its young population. At the same time, we want to take advantage of the opportunities arising in the rapidly growing knowledge-based economy. In such a situation, it becomes very important to implement the new education policy effectively. NEP has the potential to transform the country. This is the reason that in spite of all the challenges related to the epidemic, the Central Government has taken several steps immediately, understanding its seriousness and purpose. This is certainly a very difficult task due to the sheer size and complexities involved in the implementation. India's educational system does not readily accept new ideas and innovations. Therefore, there will be a need for concrete initiative on this front as well. However, the biggest challenge is building a consensus on the NEP. In short, the success of the NEP largely depends on cooperative federalism. For this, the states will have to lead the reform process.

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