



### A STUDY OF NEW EDUCATION POLICY, 2022-23

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#### **Abstract:**

*Education is the most effective tool for any nation to advance in all areas. Education teaches about our glorious past and amazing future advancements. It teaches about science, art, and literature. Education imparts moral values. Education, in general, shapes a person. The New Education Policy was initiated by the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) under the steering of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The National Education Policy 2020 was discharged on 29 July 2020, when it had been approved by the Union cupboard. The New National Education Policy (NEP, 2020) replaces the 34-year-old National Education Policy (NEP) that was developed in 1986. The new National Education Policy 2020 could be a step in the right direction toward improving the country's education system. It's a daring and bold policy that seeks to cause a radical transformation of the education system over future decades.*

*A significant emphasis was put on the digitization of education. Institutions like NITs and IGNOU would research how to maximize the benefits of online education. Online platforms like SWAYAM and DIKSHA will be reinforced with new content and assessments to make the experience seamless. There is also talk about creating virtual labs where students can apply in-class teaching. All in all, this is a necessity as the world goes digital.*

*One of the key highlights of NEP is the decision to make the mother tongue or regional language the medium of instruction up to Class 5. Further, the policy emphasizes the need for formative assessments and encourages a peer review system of assessment by creating an Assessment Centre and developing a system*

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*such as Performance Assessment Review and Analysis of Knowledge for Holistic Development for monitoring the achievement of learning outcomes and guide the boards of education to make learning more contemporary and suited to future needs. The long-term plan of the policy is to do away with the current system of colleges affiliated with universities, and numerous tiny colleges that are pedagogically unviable and financially costly would be merged with larger HEIs. The NEP 2022-23 aims to address various gaps*



existing in the education system of India, and through this policy, India is expected to achieve the sustainable development goal of 2030 by ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education.

**Keywords:** National Education Policy 2022-23, Higher Education Institutions, Curriculum

### Introduction:

The New National Education Policy is a complete game-changer for India's education system. After our education policy monotonously followed the same norms for 34 years, the **Ministry of Education (formerly known as MHRD)** made some serious amendments to it on 29, 2020. This policy was recently approved by the Indian government in 2023.

One of the most important changes planned by the NEP is the switch from the 10+2 education structure to a brand new 5+3+3+4 education system. Under this policy, children will spend five years in the foundational stage, three years in the middle stage, and 4 years in the secondary stage under this new system. This may allow an additional all-around and holistic education as students are exposed to a wider variety of subjects and disciplines. New education policy plans to introduce more exit options for children to have more freedom and better options.

This national education policy focuses on students' individual desires. It aims to make an additional versatile and reconciling education system that will meet the wants of scholars and, therefore, the economy. Vocational Education is an element of the new education policy in 2022. It includes teaching the natural language and regional languages up to the fifth year of schooling.

The amendments in NEP from the previous education policy strive for Research, Innovation, and Quality. For the seamless implementation of this education policy, the government is willing to

give big funds. In 2021, Nirmala Sitaraman said that funds of Rs. 50,000 crore will be given to the National Research Foundation and Rs. 40 crores to Ekalavya Schools. More details of NEP 2023 are in the rest of the article.

### Objectives of New Education Policy:

- The main aim behind the new education policy is to impart quality education. It wants to focus on the round development of a student.
- Furthermore, it aims to increase the Gross Enrollment Ratio in higher education.
- It also wants to increase the overall Gross Enrollment Ratio in Vocational Courses.
- Another focus of the education policy would be on the Universalisation of Education from pre-nursery to secondary education.

### Opportunities of NEP 2022-23:

"New Education Policy" begins with the unfinished agenda of NEP (1986). NEP (1986) was rooted in a very different India. Over the years, remarkable strides have been made in terms of access and equity. Near universal levels of enrolment at primary levels and subsequent increases in enrolment at higher education levels (GER: 26.3%) have been achieved. However, there has also been a drop in the quality of learning in public school systems, followed by an exodus of the elite and middle classes. This also led to the weakening of accountability mechanisms. Even though learning doesn't pay off well, pay structures in public systems have been slowly going up.



### 1. School Education:

1. The 10+2 structure has been updated to 5+3+3+4. This pedagogical structure includes the pre-primary years. It's a good step that will lead to the exclusion of rote learning and make way for practical-based learning.
2. NCERT will focus on the development of a new curricular and pedagogical structure for ECCE. The Policy also delves deep into the development and training of Anganwadi trainers through short-term and long-term programs. A positive thrust towards formalization of ECCE structure and delivery.
3. Focus on attaining foundational numeracy and literacy by grade 3. The Ministry of Education (MoE) will strengthen this and run it in a mission mode through a separate national mission.
4. A separate national book policy to develop libraries around the country and instill a love of reading in children. Public libraries in India are scarce. If this could be strengthened through the public education policy, it would be a plus.
5. Mid-day meals to see an upgradation in nutrition component, wherever possible, local alternatives to be provided. Eggs are still a contentious policy issue; Policy plays it safe by steering clear to avoid any unnecessary controversy.
6. Design programs and interventions to alleviate the issue of dropouts in conjunction with the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.
7. Medium of instruction section, for some reason, has received a lot of undue attention. However, the section remains somewhat flexible to avoid all sorts of controversy. Half-baked understanding and market push towards English and paternal perception of 'quality' could've led

to this flexibility. The policy also doesn't thrust/force/prefer any particular language over the other and encourages learning multiple languages. It also recommends teaching foreign languages at the secondary level: Korean, Japanese, Thai, French, German, Spanish, Portuguese, and Russian.

8. Policy inserts a new term called SEDGs (socio-economically disadvantaged groups). This hasn't, to date, been used as a social category in technical documents. Though later sections highlight categories such as caste, tribe, disability, and transgenders and have passing references to the term "minority." Technical criticism aside, the Policy envisages ample initiatives to be targeted at these groups to increase enrolment and retention.
9. PARAKH, a new body to focus on assessments such as NAS (National Achievement Survey) and SAS (State Achievement Survey). PARAKH could be an important instrument to look at learning gaps and target various ministry goals and programs.

### 2. Higher Education:

It's important to view the policy in the context of what has been happening in public universities and the recent debacle of universities of eminence.

- The policy also argues against the commercialization of Education. However, the same breadth allows for foreign universities to come to India. There has been a significant increase in the number of private universities by Indian providers. If the idea was to increase competition, it would make sense. However, the insertion of the statement doesn't.



- Focus on a futuristic curriculum makes sense, and a separate body dedicated to focusing on integrating technology in institutions is a necessary direction.
- National Research Foundation is another great idea. However, if these spaces get filled by individuals who are driven by ideological agendas, little could be expected.
- Indian Universities will be allowed to set up campuses elsewhere in the world — there is a strong potential for this to develop in gulf - markets. There is a huge demand for quality education by the Indian diaspora.
- One of the most controversial aspects of the policy is the enforcement of language. Under the new rule, students will have to learn three languages: Hindi, English, and the language of their home region. This has caused confusion and delays as schools scramble to find qualified teachers for all three languages.
- Another major disadvantage of the new policy is the delay in teaching English. English is now being taught as a second language, after Hindi, in most schools. This delay is likely to cause problems for students who want to study English at a higher level or use it in their future careers.

### Benefits of the New Education Policy:

1. The new education policy will be way more flexible for the students than the previous education policy.
2. It will help students work on their inner capabilities rather than learn unnecessary stuff.
3. The new education policy will give more importance to the practical knowledge of students than theoretical knowledge.
4. The NEP will focus on the analytical and rational abilities of students.
5. Since NEP will encourage foreign educational institutions to set up their campuses here, it will be beneficial for those students who cannot afford to go abroad.
6. It also aims to bring down the school and college dropout rate of students.

It is an important opportunity to move the Indian education system from "sorting and selecting" to "human development" to allow Indian students to develop their maximum potential.

### Disadvantages of New Education Policy:

- Finally, the new education policy of 2020 is heavily focused on digital learning. Students will spend more time in front of screens, which can harm their physical and mental health. It also means that students from low-income families might not be able to get the same quality of education because they can't afford the technology they need.

### New Education Policy (NEP) Highlights:

The New Education Policy aims to provide quality and equitable education to all children in India. Some of the key highlights of the policy are as follows:

- The policy emphasizes providing quality, affordable, holistic, and multidisciplinary education to all children in the age group of 3-18 years. The education system will change to 5+3+3+4 rather than conventional 10+2
- Testing will be based on how well a student can apply a concept rather than rote learning.
- It emphasizes that the three-language formula will be followed in schools, focusing on the regional language, Hindi and English.



- To make it easier for students to learn regional languages, instruction in the first five grades will be taught in those languages instead of English.
- The school curriculum in India has been updated to incorporate more core concepts and vocational education.
- It envisages a system where there is no distinction between rural and urban areas, and all children have access to quality education.
- The policy proposes several measures to improve the quality of teaching, such as mandatory teacher eligibility tests, teacher professional development programs, and teacher education programs at the elementary, secondary, and tertiary levels.
- The policy proposes to set up a National Higher Education Regulatory Council to oversee the regulation of higher education institutions.
- The policy also seeks to provide greater autonomy to higher education institutions and promote academic mobility. As a result, the public and private universities will both be governed by the same regulations.
- It aims to increase the Gross Enrolment Ratio in higher education to 50% by 2035.
- The Government has announced that all higher education institutes (HEIs) will be governed by a single regulator, except the Medical and Law Colleges. HEIs now have to answer to a new body, the Office for Students.
- The UG Courses will be for 4 years.
- The minimum qualification to apply for the post the teacher will be a 4-year integrated B.Ed Course.
- There will be an introduction of a Common Entrance Test for admission to HEIs.
- There will be no substantial distinction between arts, science, academic, vocational, curricular, and subjects of extracurricular streams.
- The Standards for Board Exams will be set by the body PARAKH (Performance Assessment, Review, and Analysis of Knowledge for Holistic Development)

### Conclusion:

To revolutionize the Indian educational system, the new education policy is a very positive beginning. It will aid in lowering the rate of high school and college dropouts. It encourages students to pursue their chosen field of study. This education policy will aid students in finding employment because it promotes vocational education. Thus, the new educational policy will result in a positive, fulfilling, and forward-moving life.

The policy will put an emphasis on practical knowledge and abilities. Additionally, concept application will be used in the evaluation process rather than memorization. The mother language will be a primary medium of instruction up through class 5, per the new education policy. Children will learn more about the subjects because of it. The government's new education policy has an admirable vision, but its ability to successfully integrate with other government policy initiatives like Digital India, Skill India, and the New Industrial Policy, to name a few, in order to bring about a cogent structural transformation, will determine how strong it is. To deal with changes and disruptions that happen quickly, we also need to make more decisions based on facts. NEP has reassuringly provisioned real-time evaluation systems and a consultative monitoring and review framework. This will empower the education



system to constantly reform itself instead of expecting new education policies every decade for a shift in curriculum. This, in itself, will be a remarkable achievement. The NEP 2020 is a defining moment for higher education. Effective and time-bound implementation is what will make it truly path-breaking

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