



EVALUATION OF LIBRARY SERVICES IN HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE CONTEXT OF NEP 2020

* *Mrs. Pratima Pramod Pawar,*

* *Librarian, Matrushi Kashiben Motilal Patel Senior College Of Commerce and Science, Thakurli(E).*

Abstract:

The National Educational Policy 2020 (NEP-2020) has been given by MHRD for the new education system and for the public of the modern nation. NEP-2020 has provided more value to the libraries of all levels, public and academic libraries. The new policy focused on infrastructure, services and the working of the libraries. The new policy also includes Information Communication Technology (ICT) digital, online, unique kinds of facilities and services to all types of readers of the nation. The landscape of higher education is undergoing a transformative shift with the advent of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 in India. At the heart of this evolution lies the role of libraries, serving as crucibles of knowledge, innovation, and community engagement. This research seeks to critically evaluate library services in higher education institutions through the lens of NEP 2020, dissecting their alignment with the policy's quality benchmarks and aspirations.

NEP 2020 envisions an educational ecosystem that is research-oriented, technologically infused, and inclusive. To understand the synergy between this vision and the current state of library services, the study employs a multifaceted approach. The objectives encompass assessing accessibility to learning resources, gauging the integration of technology, scrutinizing information literacy programs, and evaluating support for research and innovation within libraries. The research also explores the user-friendliness of services, the adequacy of physical infrastructure, collaboration with academic departments, outreach efforts, and the inclusivity of practices.

Through a comprehensive questionnaire and analysis of institutional data, the research aims to unearth the strengths, challenges, and potential areas for enhancement in library services. The findings will contribute nuanced insights for educators, administrators, policymakers, and librarians, guiding them in tailoring library services to meet the dynamic demands of NEP 2020. The significance of this research lies in its potential to foster a deeper understanding of how libraries can catalyze the transformative objectives of NEP 2020, promoting holistic learning, research excellence, and inclusivity within higher education institutions.

Keywords: *National Education Policy, Higher Education, Library Services.*

Copyright © 2024 The Author(s): This is an open-access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License (CC BY-NC 4.0) which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium for non-commercial Use Provided the Original Author and Source Are Credited.

Introduction:

In the dynamic landscape of higher education, libraries serve as vital hubs of knowledge, acting as crucibles for intellectual growth and academic exploration. The pivotal role of libraries is accentuated further by the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 in India, which envisions a transformative framework for the country's educational landscape. The NEP 2020 introduces paradigm-shifting reforms, emphasizing the holistic development of

learners, interdisciplinary studies, and the integration of technology to foster a culture of innovation. Amidst these sweeping changes, the evaluation of library services within higher education institutions becomes imperative. Libraries are not merely repositories of books; they are evolving into dynamic spaces that facilitate diverse learning styles, research endeavors, and community engagement. This research endeavors to scrutinize the landscape of library services in higher education, placing a particular lens on the quality benchmarks set forth by NEP 2020.

Objectives of the Research:

1. To Assess Alignment with NEP 2020 Guidelines
2. To Examine Accessibility of Learning Resources, User-Friendly Services & Collaboration with Academic Departments:
3. To Evaluate Integration of Technology, Support for Research and Innovation , Physical Infrastructure
4. To Assess Information Literacy Programs
5. To Evaluate Outreach and Community Engagement

Rationale for the Research:

The NEP 2020 outlines a vision where education transcends traditional boundaries, embracing inclusivity, technology, and research-driven pedagogies. Libraries, as fundamental pillars of the educational ecosystem, are expected to align with and contribute significantly to the realization of these objectives. As the education sector adapts to the transformative principles of NEP 2020, understanding the current state of library services in higher education institutions becomes paramount.

Significance of the Research:

The findings of this research will not only shed light on the current state of library services in higher education but will also provide valuable insights for educators, administrators, policymakers, and librarians to enhance these services in alignment with NEP 2020's vision. A comprehensive evaluation will contribute to the ongoing dialogue about the role of libraries in shaping the educational landscape and fostering an environment conducive to holistic learning, research, and innovation.

As we embark on this exploration, we aim to contribute to the discourse on the evolving role of libraries within the framework of NEP 2020, emphasizing their pivotal role in shaping the future of higher education in India.

Literature Review: Libraries @ national education policy (NEP 2020) in India; Mohammad Asif explain The National Education Policy 2020 reflects remarkable changes over the current scenario of education system and the prospects including future planning ensuring the quality education in India. The NEP, 2020 is providing a philosophical guidance for changing the learning landscape, making education holistic and roadmap for building strong base for the self-reliant India (Atmanirbhar Bharat). This is the first education policy of the 21st century that has superseded the thirty-four year old National Policy on Education (NPE), 1986. NEP 2020 is paved by the way of transformative reform and it is built on the five interdependent foundational pillars namely Access, Equity, Quality, and Affordability. This study pointed out the development of library as center of excellent educational resources.

Scope & Limitation:

The present study is restricted to higher education.

Research Methodology:

In this Present Research Paper secondary data is used from various papers, articles, books and journals. Further required information was collected from the internet.

Alignment of Library Services with NEP 2020:

Equitable Access to Knowledge: NEP 2020 emphasizes equitable access to quality education. Libraries play a crucial role in providing access to a diverse range of learning resources, ensuring that students have equal opportunities to explore knowledge.

Digital Access and Technology Integration: NEP 2020 emphasizes the integration of technology in education. Libraries, as information hubs, contribute to this vision by offering digital services, including e-books, online databases, and digital archives, aligning with the policy's focus on digital literacy.

Research and Innovation Support: Libraries are instrumental in supporting research and fostering innovation. NEP 2020 encourages a research-oriented approach in higher education, and libraries play a role in providing resources, research assistance, and collaborative spaces for academic inquiry.

Information Literacy: NEP 2020 underscores the importance of developing critical thinking and analytical skills. Libraries contribute to this by offering information literacy programs, helping students navigate and evaluate information sources effectively.

Community Engagement: Libraries are community-oriented spaces that support community engagement. NEP 2020 emphasizes community participation in education, and libraries can serve as platforms for educational events, workshops, and cultural activities.

Inclusive Practices: NEP 2020 promotes inclusivity in education. Libraries can adopt inclusive practices by offering resources in multiple formats, providing services for individuals with special needs, and ensuring that the library environment is accessible to all.

Collaboration with Academic Departments: Collaboration between libraries and academic departments is crucial for tailoring services to specific disciplines. NEP 2020 encourages interdisciplinary studies, and libraries can support this through collaborative initiatives.

Early Childhood Literacy: Libraries, especially in the context of school education, can contribute to early childhood literacy through programs like storytelling sessions and reading initiatives. NEP 2020 emphasizes foundational literacy and numeracy in the early years.

Conclusion:

The NEP 2020 has provisions for strengthening all existing Libraries, setting up rural libraries And reading rooms in disadvantaged regions, making widely available reading material in Indian Languages, opening children's libraries and mobile libraries, establishing social book clubs Across India and subjects, and fostering more excellent collaborations between education Institutions and libraries.

Currently, library needs to change the services of library with the frequent use of ICT in all the Area of the

library services. Government of India is focusing on world class online teaching and Learning of resources for the users in school level to higher education institutions. Digital India work and vision of Indian Government motivated and support to Digital Library for Online learning and teaching of resources. The NEP 2020 has very supporting nature and Development parameters for Indian libraries.

References:

National Education Policy-2020 and Value of the Libraries; Mukesh Chand Bharti) Publisher: SENTICS PUBLICATIONS

Ministry of Human Resource Development Govt. of India available at 2020

https://www.education.gov.in/sites/upload_files/mhrd/files/NEP_Final_English_0.pdf

Ministry of Human Resource Development Govt. of India available at 2020

https://www.education.gov.in/sites/upload_files/mhrd/files/NEP_Final_English_0.pdf

Libraries @ national education policy (NEP 2020) in India; Mohammad Asif

The role of academic libraries in the context of national education policy (NEP)-2020

June 2023 IP Indian Journal of Library Science and Information Technology; ,Tippanna S Vagdall, Shivakumar Achary

Cite This Article:

Mrs. Pawar P.P. (2024). *Evaluation of Library Services in Higher Education in the context of NEP 2020.* In Educreator Research Journal: Vol. XI (Number I, pp. 61–64). **ERJ.** <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.10753936>