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IMPACT OF NATIONAL EDUCATION POLICY 2020 IN EDUCATION SYSTEM IN INDIA

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ABSTRACT
Education is fundamental for achieving full human potential developing an equitable and just society and promoting national development. Providing universal access to quality education is the key to India's continued ascent and leadership on the Global state in term of economic growth, social justice and equality scientific advancement and cultural presentation. Universal high quality education is the best way forward for developing and maximizing our country's rich talents and resources for good of individual's, the society , the country and the world. India will have highest population of young people in the world over the next decade and our ability to provide high quality educational opportunity to them determine the future of our country.

KEYWORDS: NEP 2020, Education, Assessments, Evaluation.

INTRODUCTION

National Education Policy is a comprehensive framework to guide the development of education in the country. Till date, there have been 3 NEPs:

- The first came in 1968 and the second in 1986 under Indira Gandhi and Rajiv Gandhi governments, respectively.
- The NEP of 1986 was revised in 1992 when P V Narasimha Rao was the Prime Minister.
- The third is the NEP released on Wednesday.

A panel headed by ISRO chief K Kasturirangan had submitted a draft in December 2018, which was open for public feedback. Now released, the new NEP will not just change the way a student studies but also the way examinations are conducted, and the final assessment is provided. There will be a lot more flexibility to choose subjects in schools and colleges. What needs to be noted, as a parent, is that the new policy will bring major reforms in the way the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) functions. In a way, the board is stepping up to the international curriculum options by providing holistic and skill-based learning.

OBJECTIVES

Factor include in National Education Policy 2020 :

1. Grade Division & Structure:

- Introducing 3 years of pre-schooling, the National Education Policy 2020 has taken a similar approach like Cambridge and IB, which also offer dedicated Primary Year Programs.
- Dismantling the age-old 10+2 concept, the policy pitches for a "5+3+3+4" design corresponding to the age groups 3-8 years (foundational stage), 8-11 (preparatory), 11-14 (middle), and 14-18 (secondary). This brings early childhood education (also known as pre-school education for children of ages 3 to 5) under the umbrella of formal schooling.
- The 'foundational' age-group has been recognized globally as the crucial stage for the development of children during their early years. This way, CBSE is on the same level as other international curricula. The new system will have 12 years of schooling with 3 years of Anganwadi/pre-schooling.

2. Assessments & Evaluation:

CBSE has always been known for its rote learning and memory-based assessments of students. This was a major setback for most parents like you, who have understood the growing importance of a progressive and global approach to evaluation. Moreover, it was one of the reasons why many parents shifted their children to an international curriculum. However, ending that structure, there is a major shift from summative assessment to a more competency-based regular assessment that tests analysis, critical thinking, and conceptual clarity. Like the

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IB curriculum, exams will not be conducted every year for your child. Instead, your child will take school examinations in grades 3, 5, and 8. Board exams for grades 10 and 12 will be continued but redesigned with holistic development as the aim. The idea is to instill a sense of responsibility and self-evaluation among students, especially at a tender age.

3. School Curriculum &Pedagogy :

All the efforts to make the Indian education system and curriculum more holistic will be in vain if not for the right and global-level pedagogy. Your child's education is based on the authority they interact with and learn from on a daily basis – teachers and their method of teaching. The new policy, rightly so, emphasizes on this aspect as well. The curriculum to be adapted and developed is aimed to be more skill-based. Gone are the days when universities and top companies cared about academic scores alone. It's a great thing that the government has realized this shift in global education. Thus, it is bringing it home to Indian students and parents as well. According to the National Education Policy 2020, the school curriculum and pedagogy will aim for the holistic development of learners by equipping them with the key 21st-century skills. Additionally, it also aims for reduction in the syllabus to enhance essential learning and critical thinking.

4. Power of Language:

One of the highly debated topics of the National Education Policy 2020 is the multilingualism-based shift. The policy advocates for mother-tongue/local language/regional language as the medium of instruction at least till grade 5, but preferably till Grade 8 and beyond. Sanskrit will now be offered at all levels of school and higher education as an option for students including the 3-language formula. Other classical languages and literature of India also to be available as options. Justifying the move, the policy states that children learn and grasp non-trivial concepts more quickly in their home language.The major development that needs to be embraced is the increase in foreign languages offered at the secondary level. Many parents like you believe that learning a foreign language is a value-add to their child's profile, especially if the child is interested in studying abroad. So, they would give the national curriculum a skip and opt for international boards. However, the increase in foreign language options for students in the curriculum now lets you reconsider your decision.

5. Technology in Education :

We live in a tech-driven society. Almost every decision we make is influenced by technology. Many top Indian schools like Podar International School, Delhi Public School and Oakridge International School offer tech-based education. Until now, most of these schools were affiliated with international curriculum options. Only a few CBSE schools used smart boards and projectors for classroom teaching.

With the NEP's aim to increase tech-based education, the national curriculum can provide topnotch learning to its students. The policy states that an autonomous body, the National Educational Technology Forum (NETF), will be created to provide a platform for the free exchange of ideas on the use of technology to enhance learning, assessment, planning, and administration. Appropriate integration of technology into all levels of education will be done to improve classroom processes and support teacher professional development. Having a dedicated unit for the building of digital infrastructure, digital content and e-education needs of both school and higher education only take the curriculum a notch higher!

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METHODOLOGY

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S.N.	New - New Education policy 2020	Existing - National Policy on Education (NPE), 1986
1	Ministry of Education	Ministry of Human Resource Development
2	Gross Enrolment ratio - 50% (2035)	Gross Enrolment ratio - 26.3% (2018)
3	5+3+3+4 format	10+2 format
4	Break-up of age: 3-8, 8-11, 11-14, 14-18	Break-up of age: 6-16, 16-18
5	Exam - Class 3, 5, 8, 10, 12	Exam - Each year up to class 12
6	Board exam - Objective and descriptive. Twice a year.	Board exam - Descriptive. Once a year.
7	No hard seperation of Art, Commerce, Science. All will be mixed with curriculam.	Hard seperation - Art, Commerce, Science
8	Curriculum content will be reduced to its core essentials	
9	1 Vocational subject is must - class 6 to 8	Not mandatory in existing format.
10	Bag - less days encouraged	
11	Health card and checkup will be done.	Health card and supplememts programs are already running.
12	360 degree holistic report card for students including skills	
13	Coding to be taught from class 6 onwards	Not mandatory in existing format.
14	3 language - by state, region and choice of student	3 language - Hindi, English and the regional
15	Indian Sign Language students with hearing impairment - to be developed by NIOS	
16	Pre-school to be added in KVs	Starts from class 1.
17	Preparatory class Balavatika for children below the age of 5 - by ECCE qualified teacher	Not mandatory in existing format.
18	Report card to have reviewed from teachers, peers, and students as well.	Report card to have reviewed from teachers
19	NCC wings - secondry and higher secondary schools	NCC wings - secondry and higher secondary schools
20	Free boarding schools like JNVs for poor students	Free boarding schools like JNVs for poor students
21	National Scholarship portal for SC, ST, OBC and SEDG	National Scholarship portal for SC, ST, OBC and SEDG
22	Education sector to get 6% of GDP	Education sector get 4.5% of GDP
23	Minimum qualification for teaching - 4 year integrated B.Ed degree by 2030	
24	IITs will include multidisciplinary like arts, humanities etc.	
25	National Testing Agency (NTA) - It will conduct aptitude test, and exams in the sciences, humanities, languages, arts, and vocational subjects, at least twice every year for university entrance exams.	
26	E-content in total 8 languages	Lack of regional language e-content
27	Multiple entry and exit options for incomplete courses. Their credits will be transferred through Academic Bank of Credits.	This is the main difference between both the policies with credit storing for higher studies.
28	For Higher studies, 4 options are given: 1 -year diploma, 2-year Advanced Diploma, 3-year Graduation, 4-year Graduation with research.	For Higher studies, 4 options were already there: 1/2 -year diploma, 3-year Graduation, 4-year Graduation with research.
29	After graduation, Master's degree of 1 year and 2 year with research options are given.	After graduation, Master's degree of 1/2 year were already there.
30	M.Phil is discontinued. Doctorate can be pursued after Master's.	First M.Phil, then Doctorate could be pursued.
31	Best Indian universities to set up campuses in other countries and best 100 foreign universities may come to setup in India.	
32	At least 1 large multidisciplinary institution in or near every district by the year 2030	
33	Controlling Authority - HECI (Higher Education Commission of India) except Medical and Legal. Divided into 4 parts: National Higher Education Regulatory Council (NHERC) for regulation, General Education Council (GEC) for standard setting, Higher Education Grants Council (HEGC) for funding, and National Accreditation Council(NAC) for accreditation.	Controlling Authority - UGC, AICTE (Technical), ICAR (Agriculture), BCI (Legal), CCIM (Medical), ICAI, ICSI, CBSE, NCERT etc.
34	Adult learning - Tech based option through apps, TV etc.	Adult learning - Several programs are already running.
35	New academic session to begin in September- October (Delay due to Corona crisis)	

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Technical things to implements in New National Education Policy 2020 :

The central government on July 29 announced the New Education Policy to improve the quality of education in India. The policy covers elementary education to colleges in both rural and urban India. It has several promises to keep and appears to be timely in several regards but much of it depends on how it is implemented. The National Education Policy 2020 is visionary, practical, progressive and very comprehensive. It has a wide ambit from early childhood to higher education, professional education to vocational education, teacher training to

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professional education. It is based on the ground reality of the country's education scenario that puts more emphasis on the creativity, innovation and personality development of the students rather than expecting them to score high and memorize content without conceptual understanding. The curriculum is an outcome of good preparation and rigorous research which upon implementation will minimize the stress on young students, help reduce the annual school dropout rates, produce skilled personnel who would be self-sustained and eventually lead to quality improvement in services. There are two main things that schools need to do to effectively implement National Education Policy 2020 changing the pedagogical structure and transforming the teaching-learning process.

How schools can transform the teaching-learning process :

1. Focus on core essentials

Mapping of the curriculum across grades and narrowing it to the respective core knowledge only. The focus will be on practical application-based learning. This reduction will create space for teachers to add activities related to experiential learning, creative and critical thinking skills etc.

2. Stress on the importance of literacy and numeracy skills

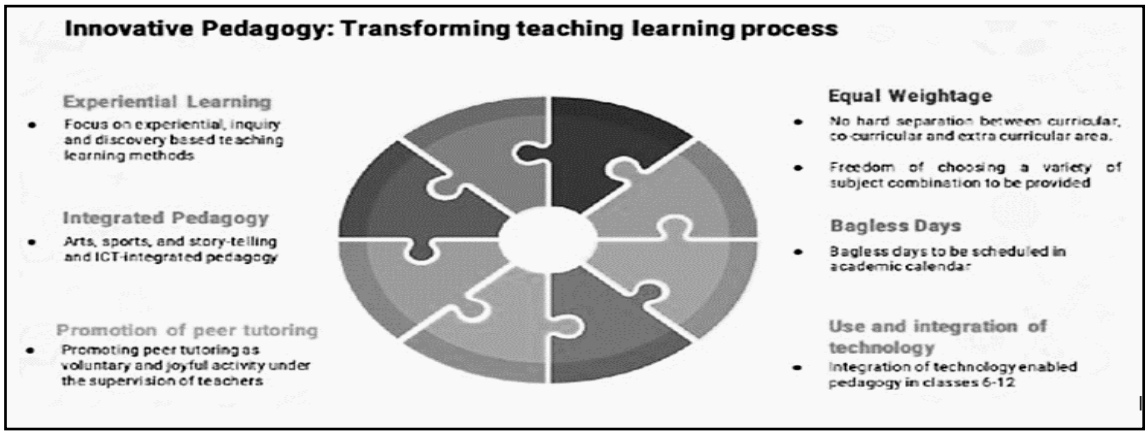
All schools will have to rework in these areas to bring about a transformation in the teaching strategies so that these foundational skills can be developed, strengthened and achieved by Grade 3.There will need to be more focus at an early age on reading, writing, and learning of basic mathematical concepts. Introducing innovative teaching would be essential to achieve this.

3. Promoting multilingualism and the power of language

Wherever possible, students till Class 5 in schools should be taught in mother tongue or local language. Various studies that show young children best understand things in their mother tongue or home language. So teachers should be encouraged to be bilingual to achieve the best outcomes.

4. Changes in classroom teaching with the NEP

Moving away from rote learning and memorizing to score marks during exams to actual conceptual understanding. Schools will have to adopt the top-down approach of shifting from syllabus completion to defining learning goals, curate classroom instruction through innovative pedagogy and link assessments to these goals. Educators must look at integrating subjects, streams, and technology to create a holistic learning experience for students along with the component of digital literacy, scientific temper and computational thinking.



5. Change in the assessment pattern

Examinations will run semester wise and two exams will be held annually. Board exams won't be held in high regard like they have been for years. Board exams will be made 'easier' as they will primarily test core capacities, and competencies. The progress card will now be designed to reflect the 360-degree assessment of a student. The progress card will include self-assessment, peer assessment and teacher assessment. A multi-dimensional report card will be generated that will reflect the progress and uniqueness of each learner in the cognitive, affective and psycho-motor domains.

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6. No hard separations between subjects and disciplines

No hard separations and a multidisciplinary and holistic educational approach between arts and sciences; curricular and extra-curricular activities; vocational and academic streams etc will need to be brought in. Harmful hierarchies between different areas of learning can be eliminated by integrating the subjects and learning areas.

7. Vocational training and coding will start from Class 6

As mentioned in the NEP one bagless day can be planned for the hands-on learning of the vocational subjects.But the challenge would be how many vocational subjects are chosen, infrastructural changes and teacher availability.

Drawback in National Education Policy 2020:

1.Planning to spend 6% GDP on education :

In the previous year, the country spends less than 3% of its total GDP on education and ranked 62nd in total public expenditures on education. So the question arises how will it reach 6% from less than 3%?Most of the previous government has set the goal of 6% of GDP to be spent but failed to do so.

2.National testing agency:

The government had decided to set up a national testing agency to conduct entrance examinations after 12th to achieve higher educational institutions and the drawback here is setting an exam as an entrance will let the student remained unexplored. Might be the student is not good at studies but having an interest in other fields. Judging student calibre on the basis of the exam will serve a barrier in the way to success.

3.English as optional till class 8:

As it is not mandatory so the eminent school will anyway not give up on English and the gap would be wider between the influential and weaker sections. Government school will dismiss the language and it would be difficult for the child to grab the basics after class 8.

4.Multi-discipline:

There was a separate slot for multi-discipline in NEP which is attractive and flexible at the same time. Under this learners are allowed to opt-in a particular stream as usual and are allowed to explore in their interested options. But the options given were not enough. Some important areas are still missing such as environmental studies, women's studies, cultural studies, etc as these options must be explored and taught as well.

5.Teachers training

There must be regular teacher training as they can only frame the child and as you know teachers of India are not trained according to the need. In the NEP nothing was mentioned about the funding for teachers training which is the need for an hour. Proper funding, infrastructure must be provided in order to make the NEP worthy.

CONCLUSION

As technological advancements, rapid globalization and unprecedented developments such as the Covid-19 pandemic - transform the future of work, the existing education models need to be reassessed in keeping with the challenges of the global economy. With an aim to create a more inclusive, cohesive and productive nation, the recently unveiled National Education Policy 2020 (NEP) has come as a ground-breaking reform by the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD). Under the NEP 2020, the focus areas of the reforms seek to cultivate '21st-century skills' among students, including critical thinking, problem-solving, creativity and digital literacy. The policy has a balanced and inclusive outlook, with a diminished line of difference between arts and STEM courses, in addition to blended, multi-disciplinary learning. It recognizes the need to bridge the gap in education through technology and digitization.

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