Original Research Paper

Education

NEP 2020: IMPLEMENTATION CHALLENGES AND IMPACT ON STUDENT AND TEACHERS

Dr.Mahesh Donthula | Assistant Professor. Bennaiah Christian College of education, Burugupudi Rajamahendravaram A.P.

ABSTRACT The new National Educational Policy 2020 introduced on 29 July 2020, solicits to introduce and implement a sea of changes across all levels of education in India, including the basic apprehension of education in the country. Among additional aspects, the NEP has rechristened the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) as the Ministry of Education, Government of India a pointer of the country's changing the centre of attention on education. Prime Minister Narendra Modi expressed his views as "The policy is based on the pillars of "access, equity, quality, affordability, accountability" and will transform India into a "vibrant knowledge hub", soon after it was unveiled. Education is the foundation stone of the nation as it plays a powerful role in the growth and development of the country and its citizens. One cannot deny the fact that education is a powerful tool and based on the recommendations by a panel headed by Dr Kasturirangan former chairman of Indian space research former Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO), the New Education Policy has been drafted that focuses on equity, quality, affordability, and accountability of education in our country. In this paper, the author is going to explore about issues and the challenges in the implementation of various policies mentioned in national education policy 2020, the key areas that remain missing, and the complexities involved. Last but not the least, the paper also discusses the impact on students and teachers its related to the possible challenges due to the changes in the new education policy have been analyzed in the forthcoming sections of this paper.

Introduction:

The Union cabinet in July 2020 approved the New Education Policy (NEP), which aims at universalization of education from pre-school to secondary level.NEP would transform the education sector in the country as it focuses on making education accessible, equitable, inclusive but only if implemented at all levels.India has a long and varied history of implementing educational policies at the local, state, and national levels. Over the centuries, the country has seen many changes and developments in its educational system, with the aim of providing access to quality education for all its citizens. Education is one of the fundamental rights of any individual, it helps individuals to become responsible and productive members of the society. It fosters critical thinking, develops skills and knowledge, and makes a person more responsible towards the society as they contribute to the economy of the nation and participate fully in civic life. It plays a very crucial role in promoting personal and social development. It helps to build strong communities and a stong democracy, and it is essential for the ongoing and development of our world The new NEP is expected to focus on several key areas, including increasing access to education, improving the quality of education, and promoting equity and inclusiveness. It is also likely to prioritize the use of technology in education and the integration of vocational and skill-based training into the education system. One of the major goals of the NEP 2023 is to increase access to education for all. This will involve expanding the reach of the education system, particularly in rural and remote areas, and ensuring that all children have access to quality education from an early age. The policy is also likely to focus on increasing enrollment and reducing dropout rates, particularly among girls and underprivileged groups.To improve the quality of education, the NEP 2023 is expected to focus on teacher training and professional development. This will involve providing teachers with the skills and knowledge they need to effectively teach and support their students. The policy is also likely to emphasize the importance of teacher-student interaction and the use of technology in the classroom. The NEP 2023 is also likely to focus on promoting equity and inclusiveness in the education system. This will involve addressing issues such as gender and socioeconomic disparities, and ensuring that all students have equal opportunities to access quality education. The policy is also likely to prioritize the inclusion of the disadvantaged groups, such as children with disabilities and those from unobserved communities.

Another key area of focus for the NEP 2023 is the integration of vocational and skill-based training into the education system. This will involve providing students with the opportunity to acquire practical skills that can be used in the workforce, and ensuring that the education system is aligned with the needs of the economy. The policy is also likely to promote the use of technology in education and support the development of new and innovative educational technologies.

Overall, the NEP 2023 is expected to bring about significant changes to the education system in India. By focusing on access, quality, equity, and inclusiveness, the policy aims to ensure that all children in India have the opportunity to receive a high-quality education that prepares them for the challenges of the 21st century.

Highlights of NEP 2020

The new education policy is a positive re-imagination of India's existing education regime. It has some very impressive and appreciable propositions. The policy envisions a model of holistic learning that is integrated, engaging and immersive. Scientific temper and evidence-based thinking will be inculcated alongside aesthetics and art.

The main tenets of this policy are:

1. Flexibility, so that learners can choose their learning trajectories;

2. Equal promotion of arts, sciences, physical education and other extra-curricular activities so that learners can pick whatever piques their interests;

3. Multi-disciplinary approach (across the sciences, social sciences, arts, humanities and sports); emphasis on conceptual learning rather than rote learning; creativity and critical thinking;

4. Cultivating life skills like cooperation, teamwork, empathy, resilience;

5. Regular formative assessment for learning rather than the existing summative assessment.

Changes implemented through the NEP 2020

1. End number of Entrance examinations held for the students in order to get entry at different recognized universities.

2. Producing different ways of Learning like online classes.

3. Introducing digital education in an online platform.

4. Teachers to be promoted or transferred on the basis of a merit-list.

5. Transforming learning into a fun and entertaining concept.

6. Implementation of skills, understanding and new learning methods in every child.

7. More focus on practical learning rather than theoretical learning.

8. Every student can get quality education no matter caste, gender or any disability.

9. Different learning techniques and experiments used by the teachers.

10.   Freedom of choosing any subjects/streams with no boundations.

11.   Giving importance to the Indian Languages and Ethics.

12. Equality in Caste, Gender and Category.

13.   Overall Development of the Education System.

There can be four major contributors to policy failure
1.   Overly optimistic expectations: Due to over optimism there is and under estimation of cost and time for a policy to be implemented.

2.   Implementation in dispersed governance: When the policy is tailor made to fit all irrespective of their constraints.

3.   Inadequate collaborative policy making: Lack of collaboration with all the stakeholders

4.   Vagaries of the political cycle: The policy makers concentrate on the short-term results as they don't want to be tagged for the failure, and take credit of the legislation that is passed rather than its implementation.
Therefore, to implement the NEP 2020 we need to work upon a few major challenges.

Content, Curriculum & Pedagogy
The 10+2 structure of school curricula is to be replaced by a 5+3+3+4 curricular structure corresponding to ages 3-8, 8-11, 11-14, and 14-18 years respectively. The new system will have 12 years of schooling with three years of Anganwadi or per-schooling.

To implement the changes at each level a thorough restructuring of the curriculum, pedagogy and the content needs to be done as per the NCF (National Curriculum Framework) and content rubrics needs to be revisited to modify the textbooks.

Blending of technology with the teaching and learning process
National Educational Alliance for Technology (NEAT) a regulatory body will be created to use technology for better learning outcomes. NEAT aims to use artificial Intelligence to make learning more personalized and customized as per the learner's requirement. It even proposes to create national alliance with Ed-tech companies for a better learning experience.

But a big challenge here is establishing a robust digital infrastructure that even caters to the remote areas.

Assessment
The proposal to set up a national assessment centre, the PARAKH (Performance Assessment, Review, and Analysis of Knowledge for Holistic Development) is to keep a regular check on the education system. Strengthening Teaching-Learning and Results for States (STARS) project will include CERC (Contingency Emergency Response Component) will help the Government tackle the learning losses due to School closures or any such emergency that arise in the state.

NEP 2020 recognizes now the need to evaluate "higher-order skills, such as analysis, critical thinking and conceptual clarity," and hence shifting the focus of assessments from marks based to competency based. The marking system should now be different, there will be a dire need to change the questions so as they have related answers, where based on the child's aptitude he answers and based on the answers the scores could be calculated.

Teachers training and availability
The NEP 2020 talks about creating higher performance standards for teachers clearly stating out the role of the teacher at different levels of expertise/stage and competencies required for that stage. Teachers will also have to be digitally trained to blend into the digital learning processes.

How to successfully implement the NEP
1.To implement NEP successfully at all levels the government will need to create stakeholder incentives so that the implementation is smooth and uniform.

2.Formulate instruments in the form of legal, policy, regulatory and institutional mechanisms.

3.Build reliable information repositories

4.Develop adaptability across HEIs, regulatory bodies and government agencies

5.Develop credibility through transparent actions and participation of all stakeholders;

6.Develop sound principles of management

Schools will actually need to redefine the teaching and learning process for a proper implementation of NEP 2020 to actually witness a trajectory of transformation for a phenomenal outcome.

Emphasize on practical and experiential learning which will lead to instilling the 21st century skills of creativity and critical thinking in the children.

There needs to be a tectonic shift in the pedagogical structure where the outcome of learning should not be based on the completion of course but on the understanding of the topic.

The NEP, which is designed to ease the burden of classroom teaching and examination on students, will play an important role in creating the future of the country. It's success, however, lies in uniform and transparent implementation at all levels, with an equitable distribution of resources. This mammothic task can be realized only when there is a 100% cooperation and collaboration between the Central, State Government and the Ministry of Education.

Impact on Students:
NEP 2020 will open up new learning opportunities to the students. Its biggest impact would be the change in the learning environment and the learning process for the students. The new education policy will:

*   Increase focus on the skill improvement and competency development of the students.
*   Make the students future-ready by building 21st-century skills.
*   Make students focus on both academic and non-academic pursuits.
*   Provide various learning opportunities for pre-primary, open, and distance-learning students.
*   Give access to counselling and other services for students.

Therefore, this new national policy on education will also provide multiple exit options for mid-term drop-out students with 1 year of training or 2 years of Diploma.

Impact on Teachers
Therefore, the Government of India has decided to make their teachers more skilled and equipped with futuristic teaching skills. See what teachers will get from the new education policy:

*   Introduction of professional teaching standards.
*   Clearer outlined roles and responsibilities.
*   Training to monitor and improve their capabilities.
*   More focus on 21st-century teaching skills.
*   A transparent recruitment and selection process for teachers to motivate them and improve their performance.

Teachers not only guide the students for their academic excellence but also mentor them in taking the right career decisions. Therefore, they should equip themselves with new-age teaching methods.

Conclusion:
The drafting committee of NEP 2020 has made a comprehensive attempt to design a policy that considers diverse viewpoints, global best practices in education, field experiences and stakeholders' feedback. The mission is aspirational but the implementation roadmap will decide if this will truly foster an all-inclusive education that makes learners industry and future ready. National Education Policy is a comprehensive set of guidelines and recommendations for the Indian education system. It aims to make education more inclusive, relevant, and engaging for all students, and to foster the development of critical thinking and problem-solving skills. By implementing these recommendations, the NEP aims to ensure that all students have the opportunity to receive a high-quality education and reach their full potential. In conclusion, the New Education Policy represents a major

shift in the way education is delivered in India, and it has the potential to bring significant benefits to the education system. Though it has faced a lot of criticism from students as well as educators and learners who are in the mid of the course which will no longer be considered a degree (like an M.Phil). However, its success will depend on effective implementation and adequate resources, and it will require continued effort and commitment from the government, educators, and the wider community.The New Education Policy 2020 that has been proposed last year is yet to be implemented. It is an ambitious move to revive the Indian education system with a modern approach. No matter how good this may look, the implementation of any policy has its own importance. An efficient implementation can make a policy a huge success and on the other hand, if the implementation is not good, it can be a huge disaster.

REFERENCES:
1. Aithal, P.S; Aithal, Shubhrajyotsna (2019), Analysis of Higher Education in Indian National Education Policy Proposal 2019,
2. British Council, 'India's New Education Policy 2020: Highlights and Opportunities', International Education Services, British Council, August 24, 2020.
3. Chopra, R. 'Explained: Here are the key takeaways of India's National Education Policy', The Indian Express, November 19, 2020.
4. Dr. Maram, H. K. 'National Education Policy 2020 – Execution Challenges', Education Post, September 5, 2020.
5. KPMG, Impact of National Education Policy 2020 and Opportunities and Stakeholders, 2020, pp 3 - 28
6. Narayan, B. 'NEP 2020: Teaching students in mother tongue will help inculcate human values in them', Outlook, July 31, 2020.
7. National Education Policy 2020, Ministry of Human Resources and Development, Government of India, p.7.
8. Prasad, H., National Education Policy 2020: Major Impact on Your Child's Curriculum & Future, Univariety, August 3, 2020.
9. Ralhan, B. D. 'Challenges in implementing the National Education Policy 2020', Entrepreneur India. October 16, 2020.
10. Vedhathiri, Thanikachalam (January 2020), Critical Assessment of Draft Indian National Education Policy 2019 concerning National Institutes of Technical Teachers Training and Research, Journal of Engineering Education, 33