

An in-depth analysis of The New Education Policy (NEP) 2020 - effect on different Stakeholders

Prof. K. Srinivas Rao Patnaik

Head of the Department, Department of Management Studies,
Gandhi Global Business Studies, Berhampur, 761008,
Biju Patnaik University of Technology Rourkela, Odisha
UGC NET passed Ph.D Scholar, Lovely Professional University, Phagwara, Punjab.
e-mail: srisunny@outlook.com

Abstract- Education which decides the future of a nation plays a powerful role in building the societal values. Education clears the path for deciding the destiny of a society and the people. An everlasting impact on the growth and development of a society is the direct result of the quality of education provided in that society. In contemporary world, the role of education in nation building can't be ignored. The tremendous growth and development achieved in India because of education can be measured by comparing the development in pre-independence and post-independence era. 34 years after the implementation of previous education policy, Govt of India declared a new education policy in the year 2020.

NEP2020 is the third instalment of education policies drafted and introduced in independent India. Many changes are proposed in this new education policy 2020, which is sure to affect many a stakeholder. In the present paper, the author is going to explore the NEP2020 and its many effects on the stakeholders and enquire about the overall impact of the same, with the help of a few questionnaires.

Keywords: Indian Education, NEP2020, National Education Policy 2020, Future of Indian Education, Effects on the Stakeholders, NEP 2020 - students, NEP 2020 - Teachers, NEP 2020 – Parents.

1. INTRODUCTITON

India's education system is famous all around the globe since time immemorial. The system of imparting education through Gurukul system was considered as one of the most successful example of education system. The abode of Taxila and Nalanda being the epicentres of educational hub is a fact well-known. India was a name to reckon with in the world of education from ancient times. With the passage of time, the system of imparting education changed to sync with contemporary times. Since independence, the Government of India framed education policies 3 times and the latest one is being NEP2020 [1].

The first and foremost policy on education was formed in the year 1968 and the subsequent one followed after 18 years in 1986. 34 years after the passing of second education policy, the third one was proposed and

passed in the year 2020. This particular policy, after getting the nod of Parliament is all set to come into action in its final shape, by the year 2022. After taking into the consideration of all stakeholders like Students, Parents, educationalists and everyone involved directly or indirectly with the system the policy was drafted and implemented by the Govt.

First time in India, such wider consultations have taken place for implementing a policy decision which augurs the fact that, our democracy has come of age.

In this study, the understanding and awareness of the NEP2020 and what might be the possible outcomes of the changes in the new education policy and the views of the stakeholders will be analysed.

2. INDIAN EDUCATION SYSTEM

Present system of education is prevalent since last 34 years and the times have changed radically in all these years. Govt. of India sensed to change the current system to suit the contemporary needs and introduced the NEP2020 in its present form. Starting from our ancient system of education to adopting the Macaulay education system introduced by British administration many ups and downs have been experienced by the system and continuous changes have been affected as per the need and wishes of the society [2].

The present education system which will be going into oblivion very soon follows a pattern of 10+2+3 system. This pattern will be replaced soon by 5+3+3+4 pattern in NEP2020. Another important change which will take place is that now students will be free to choose their subjects in higher education irrespective of the stream of subject as this stream wise selection of subjects coming under Arts, Science, Commerce will soon be put to rest. Changing of an existing policy is necessary to be in sync with the changed times.

At the same time, it is also necessary that the stakeholders should be aware of the changes which may take place and one must be ready to face the future changes to achieve success at personal as well as societal level. It is widely believed that, the freedom to select subject at higher education level definitely give a boost to the student community as in present stream system, a student wasn't able to get all the subjects of his liking in a single stream.

3. EDUCATION POLICIES OF INDIA

In the series of implementing education policies NEP2020 is the third such policy directed at improving the overall education system of the country. The first two policies were passed in 1968 and 1986 respectively.

The proposed change mentioned in NEP2020 is according to the societal changes and needs. Post-independence education policies of India are primarily targeted to increase the literacy rate and spread mass awareness to match the skill levels of people to that of the rest of the world. In light of NEP2020, let's discuss the different education policies introduced in India after the independence.

NEP 1968

A national commission for education, popularly known as Kothari commission was set up to advice the Govt. of India on streamlining the educational sector of the country. Based upon the recommendations of this commission, the Govt. of India announced its first education policy in the year 1968. This policy was quite innovative and radical in its way during those times.

It called upon the total restructuring of educational system, which proposed an equal opportunity to all in order to achieve the one India objective as well as achieving the overall growth and development in cultural as well as economical activities. The policy suggested for compulsory education up to the age of 14 and also suggested specialization in the field of teaching.

It also emphasized on learning of regional languages based upon three language formulas with English, Hindi and the regional language of the state where the educational institution is based upon.

The policy also highlighted on spread of Hindi across the states and importance was given to learn the ancient language of Sanskrit. NEP1968 advised the Govt. to spend 6% of national income for educational sector.

NEP1986

18 years of introducing its first education policy, the govt. of India realised the need of a revamp in its education policy and introduced its 2nd national education policy in the year 1986. This policy put a special emphasis on the removal of disparities in educational opportunities and focused on equalization of educational opportunities to people from SCs, STs and women with the general category people. More emphasis was given on recruitment of teachers from SC and ST community and guidelines made for introduction of certain incentives to lure people from SC and ST community as well as girl child to schools as well as to colleges.

This policy gave importance on child centred education. As part of this policy, the Open University model of education was introduced for the first time and IGNOU (Indira Gandhi National Open University) was established in the year 1985. Spread of education to rural areas was also another feature of this policy. This policy was slightly modified in the year 1992 to introduce a common entrance examination for different branches Engineering as well as Architecture courses. Hence the system JEE was introduced [2].

NEP2020

In June 2017 the Ministry for HRD constituted a draft committee for evolution of new education policy, which was headed by Dr. K. Kasturirangan. This committee submitted its report on 31st May 2019. This report discussed many aspects including that of reducing content curriculum reduction and adopting a more holistic approach of learning to enhance the skill-based learning. It also talks about the revamp of existing 10+2+3 system and introduce 5+3+3+4 system of curriculum.

The draft proposal was accepted by the cabinet on 29th July 2020 after a number of consultations with peer groups and stakeholders. The primary objective of NEP2020 is to sync the system of education with changed types. Although the year 2020 will etch in the

memories of people for the ill effects of Covid19 pandemic, this year will also be remembered for the radical changes introduced in the field of education through NEP2020.

The measures proposed in the policy are sure to effect different stakeholders like students, teachers, parents, academicians, educational institutions etc. As education system is the foundation of any society, it's important to look after it. Many developed countries prospered because of adoption of a fool proof system of education. India as one of the ancient civilized nation was the centre educational hubs.

In contemporary world, India as one of the vibrant democracies can lead the world educational movement. Hence the need of new methods and setups is necessary to adapt the changed scenario of the society [3].

4. PRINCIPLES OF NEP 2020

The basic purpose of any education system is to develop a complete and skilled human being who can serve the society in any capability. A good educational institution as well as a well-planned educational system can help to achieve this goal. The guided principles which will bear the torch to guide the institutions as well as individuals are as follows.

- From Recognizing to fostering new talent: The Primary objective of the educational policy is to recognise the talent of students at individual level and then foster the growth of such talent.
- Achieving foundational Literacy: Another objective of this policy is to achieve the foundational literacy among children by the time they enter into grade 3.
- Flexibility: Flexible study options, so that a student may not miss out his favourite topic. For example, as the stream system will be done with, a student can select the subjects of his choice at higher educational level, irrespective of a particular stream like Arts, Science and commerce.
- Holistic Education: A Multi-disciplinary system of education will come into action where a holistic approach will be adopted and a student can learn from a variety of topics like different sciences, cultures and ethos.

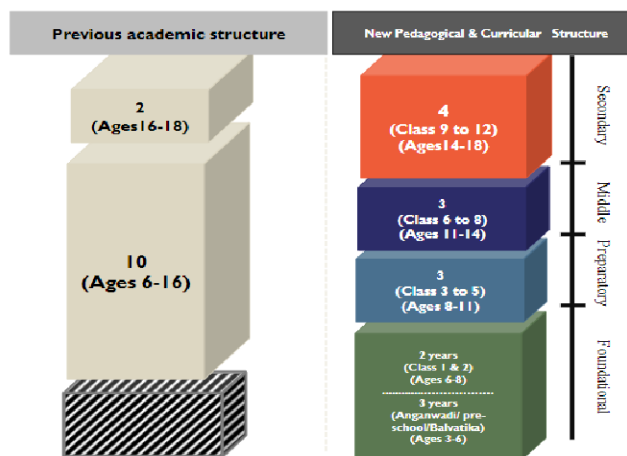
This policy divides the whole education system into 4 parts. Viz.

1. School Education
2. Higher Education
3. Other Key areas of Focus
4. Making it Happen

School Education

In the existing education structure, a pattern of 10+2 has been followed, whereas in the new structure it has been changed to 5+3+3 pattern up to senior secondary level.

The difference between the existing course structure and the proposed structure in NEP2020 can be studied from the following diagram.



As part of revamping the Higher education course structure, the main thrust is to end the fragmentation of higher education by transforming the higher educational institutions into large multidisciplinary universities, colleges and HEI clusters or knowledge hubs and each of such hubs will aim to have 3000 or more students.

National Council of Educational Research and Training or NCERT will develop a National Curricular and Pedagogical Framework for Early Childhood Care and Education (NCPFECCE) for children up to the age of eight. NEP 2020 calls for setting up of a National Mission on Foundational Literacy and Numeracy by the Education Ministry.

States will prepare an implementation plan for attaining universal foundational literacy and numeracy in all primary schools for all learners by grade 3 by 2025. A National Book Promotion Policy is to be formulated.

All students will take school examinations in Grades 3, 5, and 8 which will be conducted by the appropriate authority. Board exams for Grades 10 and 12 will be continued, but redesigned with holistic development as the aim. A new National Assessment Centre, PARAKH (Performance Assessment, Review, and Analysis of Knowledge for Holistic Development), will be set up as a standard-setting body. NEP emphasizes on setting up of Gender Inclusion Fund and also Special Education Zones for disadvantaged regions and groups.

Every state/district will be encouraged to establish "BAL Bhavans" as a special day time boarding school, to participate in art-related, career-related, and play-related activities. Free school infrastructure can be used as Samajik Chetna Kendras.

A common National Professional Standards for Teachers (NPST) will be developed by the National Council for Teacher Education by 2022, in consultation with NCERT, SCERTs, teachers and expert organizations from across levels and regions. States/UTs will set up independent State School Standards Authority (SSSA). The SCERT will develop a School Quality Assessment and Accreditation Framework (SQAAF) through consultations with all stakeholders.

An Academic Bank of Credit is to be established for digitally storing academic credits earned from different HEIs so that these can be transferred and counted towards final degree earned.

Multidisciplinary Education and Research Universities (MERUs), at par with IITs, IIMs, to be set up as models of best multidisciplinary education of global standards in the country. Public and private higher education institutions will be governed by the same set of norms for regulation, accreditation and academic standards. Affiliation of colleges is to be phased out in 15 years and a stage-wise mechanism is to be established for granting graded autonomy to colleges.

A new and comprehensive National Curriculum Framework for Teacher Education, NCFTE 2021, will be formulated by the NCTE in consultation with NCERT.

By 2030, the minimum degree qualification for teaching will be a 4-year integrated B.Ed. degree.

Stringent action will be taken against substandard stand-alone Teacher Education Institutions (TEIs). A National Mission for Mentoring will be established, with a large pool of outstanding senior/retired faculty who would be willing to provide short and long-term mentoring/professional support to university/college teachers. The National Scholarship Portal will be expanded to track the progress of students receiving scholarships.

5. EFFECT ON THE STAKEHOLDERS

NEP2020 will have an effect on different stakeholders which include Students, teachers, parents, educational institutions among others.

Students

As far as the effect of NEP2020 on students is considered, we find that 10+2 system is going to be replaced by 5+3+3+4 system, in which there are some new things like introduction of vocational courses from class sixth and removal of the stream system. These are some radical changes that will shape the students in a new way.

Earlier the system was going to teach students what they have in their hand not by choice of the students, they are having three choices Arts, Commerce and Science in that a very few combinations that are mostly opted by the students and many of the available subject combinations are remain untouched.

The students most likely choose the combination of their subjects by strongly suggested by their parents or under the peer pressure groups. This time students will have open options to choose the subjects without the restriction of any stream. Selection of subject or choosing what one wants to learn should be the decision of student depending on the inbuilt talent and skill set.

If a student is very good at calculation he must opt for those subjects in which logic and calculation is needed. On the other hand, if a student is very good at fine art, he/ she should go into that subject line.

It should be like that only, but in real life skipping our talent area or skill set we choose those things which are "assumed good" for students by others. The situation

is like the decision maker are others and the effect/outcome of the decision is on the student itself. Many times, as per the education structure we are somehow bonded to follow the “walls of stream” many among us are successful examples but the question is there did they use their skill set or talent actually.

Teachers

Teachers are the shape givers to the future students. They mould the unshaped student to the final perfect shape. The importance of the teachers cannot be un-ruled, in the new education policy now there is even bigger responsibility on their shoulders they have to upgrade with the latest technologies and subjects and train the students for the future. According to the NEP 2020, only candidates with four-year B.Ed. Degree and Teacher Eligibility Test pass out certificate will be eligible to apply as teachers in government schools, this will enhance the quality of education.

Parents & Educational Institutions

Parents are basic building blocks, who support students morally as well as financially. They are emotionally attached to the students; their efforts go for the success for their children. In old education policy they are bounded by stream system, they cannot suggest beyond that stream to the student now they are having an opportunity to explore the subjects' combination and choose best fit according to the skill set or talent for sure success.

6. OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

It is more than evident that, any new policy or system to be has to face some challenges during the process of implementation as people don't want to stray from the existing setup of old system as per their comfort level. But a new system is introduced in first place as the dynamics of society keeps changing [4].

New system provides an opportunity and at the same time faces some threats. Every system has its advantages as well as disadvantages as nothing is perfect in such and every system needs some upgradations. Let us discuss some opportunities here.

At a time when the whole world is affected by COVID-19 situation and its after-effects will be felt for long,

there are many points in the proposed system that requires huge financial investments and nation is not ready for the same. There are many points in the proposed scheme that can yield good results in near future and there are some areas where some clarity of thoughts is needed. There is a difference between learning and being literate, where child is admitted into a school, a child is expected to learn and gain knowledge that can be applied for defining his career.

All the time spent in schooling he is running after grades and marks, completing homework and taking extra classes forgetting maximum marks as expected by parents too. The result is clearing the exams with good marks, having graduation or post - graduation degree with mixed or confused learning.

Another thing that people usually talk about is “unemployment” after completing education many are not employed, as there is a difference in the industry requirements and what is being taught in the education system. The skill and knowledge required to survive in the corporate jungle is missing in the education system. Student takes the required skill from other players in the market after completing the regular education.

At present, the Indian education system is criticized by many due to many reasons such as its learning methods, outdated curriculum etc. India is ranking 35th in global education rankings of 2020.

“National Education Policy 2020 can completely change our education system for good because it crafted well according to the requirements of the 21st century”, this is what we can expect from the proposed policy; it is still to be implemented and tested on the real testing ground with some modification and correction as required by the time let's hope for the best outcomes.

Employment

This is a very important issue to discuss, from schooling to higher education students regularly make an effort to sharpen the skill set and after completing the studies join the bandwagon of people who are working for the organizations in India or abroad and make a successful life.

“Employment”, could be most important thing for which any person enrolls himself into any course to

study the basics and move on to the advanced stages furthermore, after gaining experience in the particular sector enjoy growth and development in his career. This is a normal scenario, but in today's competitive world there are more options and more challenges Companies and organizations want best of the best people to enrol and achieve the heights of success. From the view point of the students who wish to get success in their future life need to have specific skill set that industry wants.

The New Education Policy 2020, proposes all the tools like choosing the right subject combination to study, introduction of vocational courses at early stages, changing the exam/marking pattern, focus on learning according to the talent and many more. From this effort the industry will have the right people to fill the right position.

Self-employment

This is another part related to the employment where a person makes an effort to start his/ her own venture. "Start-up" are no-win fashion, now people are doing that in which they are the best it's not like just opening up a grocery stores in local place. It needs the skill set and keen knowledge of understanding the needs of the people requirements.

Many start-ups are having their revenue in millions and getting national and international funding opportunities for future growth and development. "Flipkart" could be one of the examples, another to count the "food delivery" companies like "Zomato" and "Swiggy". NEP2020, plans to improve the skill set of the students so that they can use their skill to find the gaps in the industry to start their own venture.

7. BENEFITS TO THE SOCIETY

Education is necessary to build well developed and progressive society which in turn leads to the developed nation. All the stakeholders are the part of the society, its amoral duty to return the favour to the society.

New venture or start-up gives more employment opportunity to the job seekers, imagine how many people are directly or indirectly associated to the "Flipkart" e-commerce platform. The money is rotating in the Indian economy although some part of it is going back to the investors too.

Effect on Academia / Industry

Students with proper skill set are very successful and useful for industry, for their personal growth and development as well as for the growth of the industry. There are many new things Proposed in the NEP 2020 to get the right skill set at the right time like vocational courses along with the regular studies if the students opt the right course or subject combination according to the inborn talent the gap between industry and academia will be bridged in near future.

Anything new requires some time to yield the results. NEP2020 proposal has many new things, yet to be tested there are many areas where people need more clarification. To understand the view and reviews the author has designed series of questions which would be floated on various social platform and further analysed.

8. QUESTIONNAIRE

Author has designed questionnaire to understand the respondent's awareness and views about the various important point of National Education Policy 2020. The questionnaire was floated to all the social media and email to collect the responses from respondents. The population of respondents include students, parents, teachers and other who will be directly or indirectly associated.

Do you feel the Importance of.....?	Very Important	Important	So-So	Less Important	Not Important
Education Policy of a Govt					
Need to replace the existing Policy					
NEP2020					

Will NEP2020 be.....?	Yes, A lot	Yes	It's OK	Not really	No
Helpful					
Helpful in enhancing education					
Helpful in facing the existing dynamics					
Helpful in creating Jobs					
Helpful in overall growth					

9. ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

This was the latest topic that is heard by many people but the clear facts and figures were still requires a detailed study. NEP2020 is going to affect the life of students and working style of teachers and changes in infrastructure or facilities in educational institute.

Parents have to prepare their mindset according to the changes as they were having the past experiences of the old system of education which was in the pursuit from last 34 years. Altogether this is the being change in the education system that is coming up in near future.

To understand it deeply the author has created a series of question in the form of survey and floated all over by all possible means like e-mails, social media channels etc. to get the view and review of the respondents, do they have the awareness about the NEP 2020 and what they think about the changes that were proposed in the policy.

The survey was made in around the district of Ganjam in the state of Odisha. The respondents include the stakeholders belonging to all the groups like teachers from primary schools to Professors from professional institutions.

10. CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

To conclude this big policy that has been proposed by Indian government to improve the Indian Education System is a big task. There was the need for a big change after 34 years of education system there was the gap that could be seen between Industry and academia and this gap result into the production of the skilled and educated students that won't find their place in Industry or corporate results into unemployment scenario or if employed, they are under paid.

In both the situation a person gets frustrated and leads towards depression and similar other things. New Education policy is still a proposal may be there could be some corrections needed that could be do neither before implementing nor after seeing the outcomes of the policy in practical.

Mostly all the proposal that have been proposed in NEP2020 are having great potential to give success to all the stakeholders in future.

Introduction of vocational courses is a new concept, lowering the tension of board exams, introduction of new subjects, diminishing the wall of streams and many more positive things are proposed.

Now students can choose their subject combination, in practical sense now they will learn what they want to learn. The education system has shifted the focus from learn what the system wants to provide to learn what the students wants to learn according to their choice and preferences.

In choosing the potential areas the Dermatoglyphics can reveal students' intrinsic qualities and talents. The Fingerprints of the person remain unchanged during a lifetime of an individual. If an individual plans the selection of subjects according to the skill set and internal talent there are more chances of getting success.

To conclude with, everyone must keep in mind that every policy has its pros and cons and no policy can achieve success with immediate effect. Hence, let us give some time to NEP2020 to reap the benefits of its profits.

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