

## NEP-2020 IS AN ENLIGHTENMENT TO THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY EDUCATION ERA- A GAME CHANGER FOR THE STUDENTS



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### ABSTRACT

*NEP -2020 has brought a renaissance in the traditional Indian Education System after a very long period of 34 years, challenges that Government must address to expedite education reforms. The core objective of The National Education Policy 2020 intends to bring flexibility for learners to choose their own learning objectives, a holistic change in the educational system of India and also focus on equal promotion of arts, sciences, Physical and vocational education.*

In broader sense aiming at the Skill India fostering Artificial Intelligence and Innovation Ambassador starting from the Primary Level the Indian Education System must need to change its methodology of traditional teaching practice as well as the curriculum. The present society and the need of the today's generation for the Future Nation is highly recommending reformation in education system. The development in learning rather than teaching is highly essential now. The teaching approach and methodology require a change.

The National Education Policy (NEP: 2020) is designed to reform in *“how to teach & what to learn.”* The vision and mission of the NEP 2020 is to empower the targeted learner group from

the age group of 3-18 (KG to Sr. Level) to foster on the needs of the 21st Century with the objective of preparing them well to face the national and global challenges.

NEP 2020 is a magnificent transformation in the entire education system of India right from *Early Childhood Care and Education* (ECCE) to higher education. It focuses on making education more experiential, holistic, integrated discovery- oriented, character- building and learner center, flexible, go by self desire, child-centric and above all more joyful and playful.

### **VISION OF THE POLICY:-**

NEP 2020 is the first education policy of 21<sup>st</sup> Century,

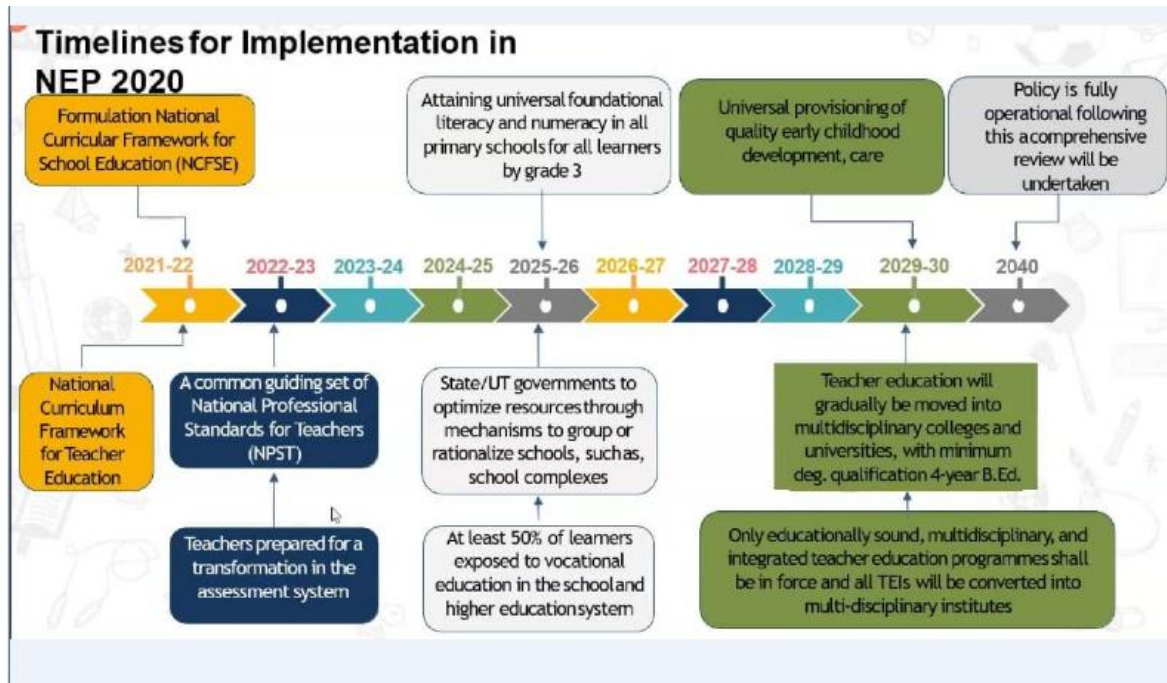
- To create a new system aligned with the
- ❖ Inspirational goals of 21<sup>st</sup> century education,
- ❖ Consistent with India's traditions and value systems.

### **NATIONAL EDUCATION POLICY 2020 TO BUILD**

- ✓ Global best education system
- ✓ Rooted in Indian ethos and
- ✓ Aligned with the core principles
- ✓ To transform India into a global knowledge superpower.

### **FOUNDATIONAL PILLARS OF THIS POLICY**

- Access
- Equity
- Quality
- Affordability
- Accountability
- Develop good human beings with values
- As citizens of building society



**NEP 2020 PLUS POINTS:-**

- Excellent document
- Precise & forceful
- Visionary-Innovative disruptively
- Rooted in both ancient and modern India
- End of Macaulay Era
- Student centric
- Formative Assessment
- Teacher Empowerment
- Socially Sensitive
- Autonomy & Self governance
- Reducing Regulations

**A. Nep Implementation Plan**

SARTHAQ (Students’ and Teachers’ Holistic Advancement through Quality Education)

**B Samagra Shiksha**

2. Continuation of Samagra Shiksha
3. Bringing Back Out of School Children

4. Guidelines for parent participation in home-based learning during school closure and beyond

5. Out of School Children Bridge Course by NCERT

#### C Foundational Learning

6. National Initiative for Proficiency in Reading with Understanding and Numeracy (NIPUN Bharat)

7. Vidya Pravesh

#### D Curriculum reforms & Joyful learning

8. Learning Outcomes Based Item Bank

9. Performance Grading Index

10. Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat

11. Participation by Schools in Toycathon/Hackathon

12. Art Integrated Education

13. Promoting Storytelling

14. Mapping toys with grade-appropriate skills

15. Introduction of Experiential Learning Pedagogy

16. School Innovation Ambassadors

17. School Bag Policy 2020

#### E Equity & Inclusion

18. CwSN e-content Guidelines

19. Standardization of Indian Sign Language (ISL)

20. MANODARPAN

21. Inclusion in Board exams

## FUNDAMENTAL LITERACY AND NUMERACY: AN URGENT AND NECESSARY PREREQUISITE TO LEARNING.

The key function of the school is to define and design the methodology of Teaching and Learning Process.

The teaching of literacy and numeracy is a core responsibility of schools. The school must have to emphasize and focus on the cognitive development as well as the all-round development of the students. The teaching methodology should have pragmatic, evidence based practices to improve student literacy and numeracy outcomes.

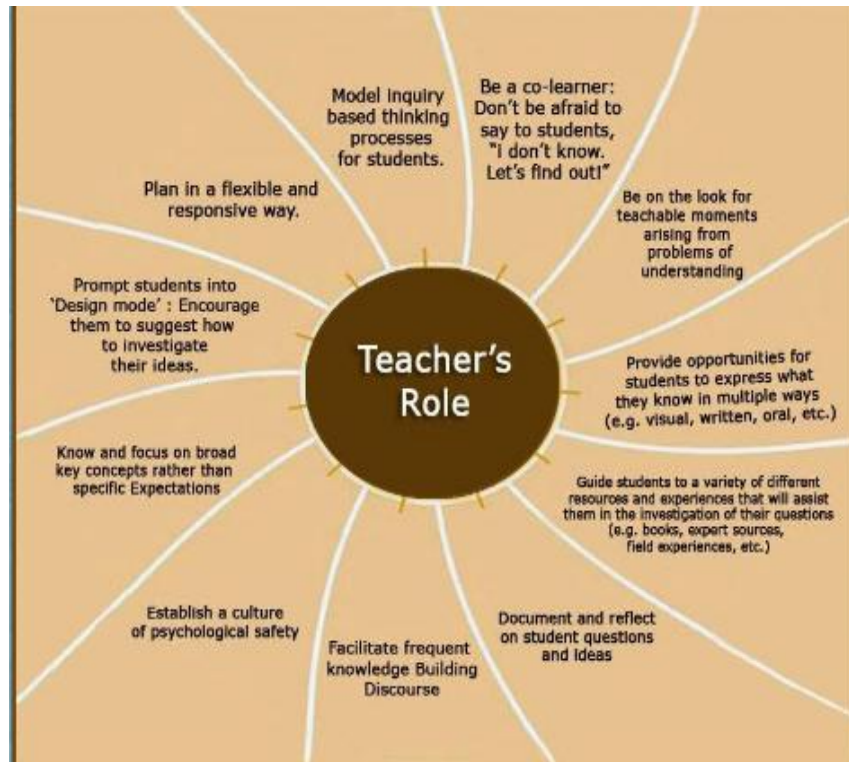
### SOME SUGGESTIVE MEASURES:

- ❖ Teaching objective must be defined
- ❖ Enable practical learning base teaching method
- ❖ Vision and goal must be transparent
- ❖ Availability of Resources to be taken into concern
- ❖ Child Centric learning
- ❖ Learning objective should be achievement oriented
- ❖ No discrimination among the students
- ❖ Inclusive education
- ❖ Continuous and comprehensive assessment and monitoring

### The role of the Teachers:-

The teachers need to provide the opportunity to “Think, Re-think and Do”.

Teachers truly shape the future of our children - and, therefore, the future of our nation. In our Ancient Indian culture the teachers were regarded as gurus, even greater than the God and what they pass to their disciples as knowledge, skills, values and ethics that were counted as the achievement of the complete education. But in the present society the place of the teachers is something different. The quality of teacher education, recruitment, deployment, service conditions, and empowerment of teachers is not where it should be, and consequently the quality and motivation of teachers does not reach the desired standards. The high respect for teachers and the high status of the teaching profession must be restored so as to inspire the best to enter the teaching profession. The motivation and empowerment of teachers is required to ensure the best possible future for our children and our nation.



## CURRICULUM AND PEDAGOGY IN SCHOOLS:

### LEARNING SHOULD BE HOLISTIC, INTEGRATED, ENJOYABLE AND ENGAGING:

#### Transforming assessment for students development

- ✓ Board examination will also be made 'easier', in the sense that they will test primarily core capacities rather than memorization
- ✓ Students can take Board Examination on up to two occasions during a year one main examination and one for improvement.
- ✓ Greater flexibility , students choice and best -of multiple attempts assessments that primarily test core capacities
- ✓ Annual/semester/modular Board Examination
- ✓ Board Examination could have two parts- one part of an objective type with multiple - choice questions and other of a descriptive type.
- ✓ Assessment system by 2022-23 academic sessions.

#### ➤ Suggestive Measure:-

1. As per students age play, exercise, mental ability based games/activities.
2. Education through AVI media.

3. Pomes, stories and cartoon movies as per curriculum.
4. Flexibility in language.
5. Social and moral values.
6. Focus on Physical and mental health.

Only bookish language in exams may fetch good grades. Quoting a very famous line from Gulzar's song from the movie Mere Apne- "B.A. kiyaa, M.A. kiyaa, lagta hai woh bhi anwai kiya" (Despite having great degrees, everything seems to be futile).

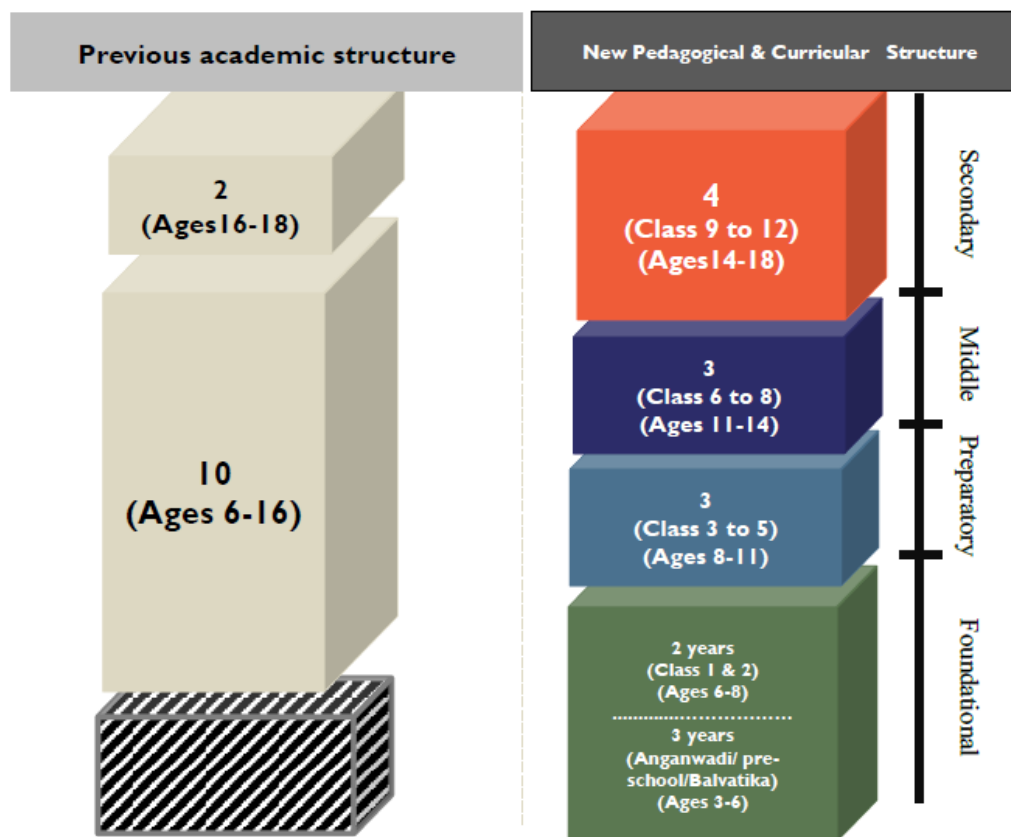
Till the date, Indian education has been plagued by the 'Russian Roulette' examination system. Russian roulette said that 'when you take a revolver, fill one of its chambers with a bullet, spinning the cylinder and pulling out the trigger while keeping its mouth on your head. The chances that one will survive are five out of six but that last will lead to a bullet in your head which is shot by you'. Unfortunately, our examination system has become like this for an age which means you will pass, you may even get decent marks but if you don't, you are out and you have a bullet in your head. Likewise, without even knowing the importance and having clarity in the subject matter, students were just expected to memorize the concepts and sit in the examination. Most of the students make it but the ones that don't and flunk become history or maybe a footnote to history. But even if you are among the five lucky ones there is no guarantee that you'll be placed in the best top shot places. In that case, where will you go with your marks?

Measures to overcome these loopholes in the education system were due for a long period. Finally, the union cabinet on 29th July, launched the new National Education Policy (NEP 2020) which aims to address many growing and developmental changes that are important for the country. The new policy proposes revising the decades old educational policy of India and revamp each and every aspect of the currently prevalent educational structure including its regulating and governing procedure, and to build a structure which is rightly in tune with the aspiring goals of the 21st century education system while keeping India's traditions as well as its value systems in consideration. It is first such policy in Thirty-four years since the last changes in the education system were made in 1986. The Government claims that these changes will help transform India into a "Global knowledge Superpower". The Government is aiming to introduce the new system in the upcoming session.

## SOME OF THE MAJOR HIGHLIGHTS OF THE NATIONAL EDUCATION POLICY 2020 ARE:

### 1. Schooling to begin from the age of 3 years:

The revised policy expands the age group of mandatory schooling from 6-14 years to 3-18 years. This new system will include 12 years of schooling with three years of Anganwadi/ pre-schooling. The existing 10+2 structure of school curriculum will be replaced by a 5+3+3+4 curricular structure corresponding to ages 3-8, 8-11, 11-14, and 14-18 years respectively.



### 2. Mother tongue to be instated as medium of instruction:

The National education policy 2020 has directed focus on students' mother tongue as the medium of instruction even as it sticks to the 'three language formula' but also mandates that no language would be imposed on anyone. The policy indicates that wherever it is possible, the medium of instruction till at least Grade 5, but preferably up till Grade 8 and beyond, will be the mother tongue/local language/ regional language, both public and private schools are to follow this norm.



### 3. **A Single Overarching Body of Higher Education:**

The Higher Education Commission of India (HECI) will now set up a single overarching umbrella body for entire higher education, excluding medical and legal education. The same set of norms for regulation, accreditation, and academic standards, to be applied to both public and private higher education institutions. The Government aims to phase out the affiliation of colleges in 15 years and a stage-wise mechanism is to be established for granting graded autonomy to colleges.

### 4. **Separation between subject streams to be blurred:**

As per NEP 2020, the rigid separations between subjects' stream will be done away with. Students will have the liberty to choose subjects they would like to study across streams. Vocational education to be introduced in schools from Class 6 and will include internships as well.

### 5. **The Return of the FYUP Programme and No More Dropouts:**

The duration of the undergraduate degree will be either 3 or 4 years. Students will also be given multiple exit options within this period. Colleges will have to grant a certificate to a student if they would like to leave after completing 1 year in a discipline or field including vocational and professional areas, a diploma after 2 years of study, or a Bachelor's degree after completing a three-year programme. An Academic Bank of Credit will be established by the Government for digitally storing academic credits earned from different Higher Educational Institutions so that these can be transferred and counted towards the final degree earned.

National education policy has managed to touch the untouched part of the education system in India. One of the bold propositions of this policy, states that either stand-alone institutions should transform themselves into a multidisciplinary mode or they will have to close. A complete freedom has been granted to state in several domains, under this policy.

We are aware that in reference to education, there has always been a bone of contention between State and Centre over the jurisdiction. The National Education Policy has taken measures to have a holistic outlook in this regard. It is important to note that education is a continuous process, and that is why it is essential to put more emphasis on connecting education to the environment. The recognition of the importance of life skills was long overdue, and the NEP has given more attention to developing life skills in the educational process.

## TAKEAWAYS FROM THE NEP 2020:

1. The policy will provide a lot of flexibility and convenience to the students. This is a crucial step even for the Institutions to place them at par with the International Higher Education Institutions.
2. The restructuring of the 10+2 school curriculum, is one of the major highlights of this comprehensive policy, and will make the education system more viable.
3. The regional languages have been given the due importance, especially in a country like ours where we are proud of our diversity; this was a step in the right direction.
4. Having a single regulatory body will make it more structured and efficient to analyze and monitor the education system.
5. The Academic Bank of Credit is a masterstroke, students at the undergraduate level will certainly benefit from this, and the flexibility it brings.

## CONCLUSION

NEP has addressed the social and gender gap in the education system. The policy has stated that there is an evident gap in the representation of the various social groups in the education system. It has emphasized on the need to overcome the same with regulated interventions. NEP also identified the gender gap in the education system and suggested a mechanism to address it. Quality of teaching is one of the primary agendas of the policy as well. Teachers are integral to the education system, and without improving the way teachers are trained, it will be difficult to improve the quality of education.

National Education Policy 2020 is an attempt to address most of the grievances of the education system, which have been pending for decades. This is certainly a historic moment for all the stakeholders involved, be it the teachers, students or parents. It is intriguing to see how the norms of this policy will be implemented, but we can be sure that this is a new age for the Indian Education landscape.

The flaws in the education system vary from generation to generation and with the vintage of a person one asks. Some of the common complaints in the system are that degrees do not fetch you jobs, therefore, half of the population of people are tagged as 'Unemployed educated

youth', India's study pattern is more of rote learning and less of practical knowledge, most of the study is irrelevant in real lives, examination system is to exam- centric and so on. Now is the time to fix India's wasteful degree exam disaster. Therefore, the Government of India introduced the new policy which includes various amendments in the present pattern.

The policy aims at making "India a global knowledge superpower". The policy also aims at "light but tight" regulation by a single regulator for higher education as well as increased access, equity, and inclusion.

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