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A Review on Implementation of National Educational Policy

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Abstract: The successful implementation of the NEP 2020 requires addressing several challenges, including funding and infrastructure, political will and administrative support, curriculum development and teacher training, language barriers, and socio-economic disparities. To overcome these challenges, the government and all stakeholders must work together to develop effective strategies for implementing the NEP 2020. The NEP 2020 has several merits that have the potential to transform the education system in India, including a focus on holistic development, flexibility in education, emphasis on critical thinking and problem-solving, promotion of multilingualism, and integration of technology. The successful implementation of the NEP 2020 has the potential to prepare students for the challenges of the 21st century and make them globally competitive.

Keywords: NEP 2020

I. INTRODUCTION

The National Education Policy 2020 (NEP 2020) is a comprehensive document that seeks to revamp the education system in India. The policy aims to transform the education system by making it more flexible, multidisciplinary, and holistic, aligned with the 21st century needs of the country. It was approved by the Union Cabinet on July 29, 2020, after extensive consultations and feedback from various stakeholders. The NEP 2020 covers all levels of education, from pre-primary to higher education, and proposes several reforms and innovations to improve the quality, access, equity and affordability of education in India. Some of the key features of the NEP 2020 are:

- A new 5+3+3+4 curricular structure for school education, replacing the existing 10+2 system.
- A shift from rote learning to experiential learning, with emphasis on critical thinking, creativity and problem-solving skills.
- A reduction in the syllabus and textbook content, and an integration of co-curricular and vocational subjects.
- A promotion of multilingualism and mother tongue as the medium of instruction up to Grade 5.
- A universalization of early childhood care and education (ECCE) for all children aged 3 to 6 years.
- A revamp of the assessment system, with a focus on formative and competency-based evaluation.
- A facilitation of multiple entry and exit points, credit transfer and academic bank of credit (ABC) in higher education.
- A creation of multidisciplinary institutions, with greater autonomy and accountability.
- A recognition of online and digital education as an alternative mode of delivery, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- A strengthening of the teacher education and professional development system, with a four-year integrated B.Ed. degree as the minimum qualification for teaching.
- The establishment of a National Research Foundation (NRF) to foster a culture of research and innovation in all fields.

The NEP 2020 is a visionary document that has the potential to transform the Indian education system and make it more relevant, responsive and resilient to the changing needs and aspirations of the 21st century learners. However, its successful implementation depends on various factors, such as political will, financial resources, institutional capacity, stakeholder participation and public awareness. This review aims to examine the progress, challenges and opportunities

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301 Volume 3, Issue 16, May 2023

of the NEP 2020 implementation in India, based on the available data, reports and literature. It also intends to provide some recommendations and suggestions for improving the implementation process and outcomes of the NEP 2020.

II. IMPLEMENTATION OF NEP 2020

Since its announcement in July 2020, the implementation of the NEP 2020 has been underway. The government has taken several significant steps to implement the policy. Some of the critical changes and initiatives taken under the policy are:

2.1 Revision of the School Curriculum

The NEP 2020 proposes to revise the school curriculum to make it more comprehensive and flexible. The focus is on critical thinking, problem-solving, and experiential learning. The curriculum aims to promote multidisciplinary learning by integrating various subjects, including art, music, and sports. The National Curriculum Framework for School Education (NCFSE) has been developed to guide the revision of the curriculum.

2.2 Undergraduate Degree Program

The NEP 2020 proposes to introduce a four-year undergraduate degree program with multiple exit options. Students can exit the program after one year with a certificate, after two years with a diploma, and after three years with a bachelor's degree. The program will offer a broad-based education with an emphasis on critical thinking and problem-solving. A common entrance exam for universities has also been proposed to ensure a level playing field for all students.

2.3 National Educational Technology Forum

The NEP 2020 proposes the establishment of the National Educational Technology Forum (NETF) to promote the use of technology in education and encourage innovation. The NETF will act as a platform for sharing best practices and developing new technologies to enhance teaching and learning.

2.4 National Research Foundation

The NEP 2020 proposes the creation of a new apex body, the National Research Foundation (NRF), to promote and fund research in various fields. The NRF will fund research projects in science, technology, social sciences, humanities, and arts. The foundation will also encourage collaboration between researchers, institutions, and industry.

2.5 Multilingualism

The NEP 2020 emphasizes promoting multilingualism by providing opportunities for learning in regional languages. The policy recognizes the importance of regional languages in promoting a better understanding of local culture and heritage. The government has proposed to establish a National Institute for Pali, Persian, and Prakrit, and to develop Sanskrit language universities and schools.

2.6 Teacher Training and Professional Development

The NEP 2020 emphasizes the need for teacher training and professional development to improve the quality of teaching. The policy proposes to establish a National Mission for Mentoring and Professional Development of Teachers to enhance their skills and competencies. The government has also proposed to develop a new National Curriculum for Teacher Education (NCTE) to guide the training of teachers.

2.7 Assessment System

The NEP 2020 proposes a new assessment system that focuses on formative assessment and continuous evaluation. The system aims to promote a deeper understanding of the subject matter by assessing the student's understanding and skills rather than rote learning. The government has proposed to establish a National Assessment Centre, PARAKH, to develop and implement the new assessment system.

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III. CHALLENGES

While the NEP 2020 is a significant step towards transforming the education system in India, several challenges remain in its effective implementation. Some of the challenges are:

- **Funding and Infrastructure**: The effective implementation of the NEP 2020 requires adequate funding and infrastructure. The government will need to invest in new technologies, provide necessary facilities, and recruit and train teachers to deliver the proposed changes effectively.
- Political Will and Administrative Support: Implementation of the NEP 2020 will require the political will
 and administrative support of both central and state governments. Effective coordination and collaboration
 between various stakeholders such as policymakers, educational institutions, and teachers will be crucial to the
 success of the NEP 2020.
- Curriculum Development and Teacher Training: The successful implementation of the NEP 2020 requires
 a comprehensive and flexible curriculum that promotes critical thinking, problem-solving, and experiential
 learning. Adequate teacher training and professional development are necessary to enable teachers to deliver
 the new curriculum effectively.
- Language Barriers: The NEP 2020 emphasizes the importance of multilingualism and promoting learning in
 regional languages. However, the effective implementation of this aspect of the policy faces several
 challenges, including the shortage of qualified teachers in regional languages and a lack of adequate teaching
 materials in regional languages.
- Socio-Economic Disparities: The effective implementation of the NEP 2020 may face challenges in
 addressing the existing socio-economic disparities in the education system. Ensuring equal access to quality
 education for all students, including those from disadvantaged backgrounds, will require significant efforts and
 resources.

IV. CONCLUSION

he NEP 2020 has several merits that have the potential to transform the education system in India. It promotes holistic development, flexibility, critical thinking, problem-solving, multilingualism, and the integration of technology in education. These merits, if implemented effectively, can prepare students for the challenges of the 21st century and make them globally competitive.

The successful implementation of the NEP 2020 will require significant efforts and resources. However, if implemented effectively, the NEP 2020 has the potential to transform the education system in India and prepare students for the challenges of the 21st century.

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