

Impact of New Education Policy on Indian Economy

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I. INTRODUCTION

Education is a fundamental catalyst for development in all aspects. For sustainable economic progress, countries must invest significantly in human capital. Education enhances individuals' productivity, creativity and fosters entrepreneurship and technological advancements. It also plays a pivotal role in driving economic and social advancements as well as improving income distribution. The National Education Policy (NEP) of 2020 has taken a practical and progressive approach to address employability and vocational training across all education disciplines. The policy advocates for internships in both private and public sectors for undergraduate students, providing them with valuable industry experience and aligning education with employment.

This reformist approach is a significant stride towards fostering synergy between education and jobs, making them better suited to each other's requirements. By offering internships, the NEP 2020 aims to equip graduates with the practical skills and experience needed to thrive professionally. The National Education Policy of 2020 aims to support India in achieving its UN Sustainable Development Goal 4, which focuses on ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education. This policy involves collaboration among various stakeholders, including the central government, state governments, private sector, NGOs, and educational institutions, to realise the vision of universal education. The policy also proposes increasing public expenditure on education to 6% of the GDP.

In this paper, we mainly focused on the causal relationship between education and economic growth in India. Education increases the human capital inherent in the labour force, which increases labour productivity and transitional growth towards the equilibrium level of outputs and increase in GDP.

II. OBJECTIVES

- To highlight the overview of the NEP 2020
- To highlight the various studies on new education policy in India.
- To study the education policy and economic growth in India.
- To highlight the various Impact of NEP 2020

III. METHODOLOGY

The data based on secondary sources collected from the various reputed journals, reports, articles, books, the bulletin published and unpublished Governments reports and websites.

IV. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Nikil Govind (2019) Aithal P.S, Shybhrajyotsna Aithal (2019) had analyzed the positive and negative side and suggested for further improvement in Education Policy.

Aithal Sreeramana and Aithal Shubhrajyotsna (2020), this research effort covers highlights of earlier educational policy declared in 1986 and its connection with the present new education policy. The paper also studies the innovative practices proposed in the NEP and how they can be implemented with their merits. This study also bay on the effects of new education policy on teacher's education, professional education and on private institutions. Lastly theoretical suggestions are proposed for the effective implementation of new education policy

Dr. K. Meenakshi Sundaram (2020), the article made a comparative study between National Education Policy 1986 and National Education Policy 2020. Findings of the study revealed that NEP 2020 emphasised on multidisciplinary approach in particular which had given a broader scope for the overall development of the student than NEP 1986.

Pawan Kalyani (2020), the paper investigated about the NEP 2020 & its impact on the stakeholders and brought the awareness & prospective of NEP 2020 through social media platform & analysed the data available.

B.Venkateshwarlu (2021), the paper concluded that higher education plays a significant role which decides about the progress of the economy socially, in terms of technology and healthy human behavior in every country.

Dr. Nandini Banarjee, Dr. Amarnath Das, Ms. Sreya Ghosh (2021), in this discussion paper the objectives of the study were common like other qualitative studies covered earlier in this paper. The main objectives were to highlight the features of the NEP along with its comparison with the previous educational policy of 1986 and to propose implementation strategies. This paper also mentions about the advantages of NEP especially from the perspective of higher education.

THE NATIONAL EDUCATIONAL POLICY 2020

The new educational policy designed by the government of India is a significant step in this direction. National Education policy 2020 is the third major revamp of educational policy, formulated and published by the Ministry of Human Resource Development of India. Its focus is to transform the educational scenario by 2040. Globalisation has brought new skills that have dominated the traditionally valued skills, and knowledge has become less critical.

This policy aims to revolutionize the Higher education system, making it more inclusive and relevant to the 21st century. The policy focuses on areas such as access, equity, quality, affordability, and accountability in education. The New Education Policy (NEP) 2020 is a landmark policy in the history of Indian education. It was approved by the Union Cabinet of India on July 29, 2020, and replaces the previous National Policy on Education that was enacted in 1986. The NEP aims to transform the Higher education system by focusing on access, equity, quality, affordability, and accountability in education. The policy is designed to address the challenges facing the Higher education system, such as low learning outcomes, inadequate teacher training, and limited access to quality education. The NEP proposes a comprehensive and holistic approach to education, emphasizing the importance of critical thinking, creativity, and problem-solving skills. It also promotes multilingual education and the integration of technology in the classroom. The policy is intended to create a flexible and inclusive education system that accommodates the diverse needs of students and prepares them for the rapidly changing global economy. Overall, the NEP 2020 represents a significant step forward in the modernization of the Higher education system and provides a roadmap for the future of education in India.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS OF NEW EDUCATION POLICY 2020

The National Education Policy 2020 (NEP 2020) is a comprehensive framework for the development of education in India. Here is a gist of the key highlights and provisions of NEP 2020:

1. **Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE):** NEP 2020 emphasizes the importance of early childhood education and aims to provide foundational education to children in the 3-6 age group through Anganwadis and pre-schools
2. **School Education:** The policy aims to bring a multidisciplinary and holistic approach to school education, with a focus on critical thinking, experiential learning, and reducing the emphasis on rote memorization. It promotes the use of mother tongue/local language as the medium of instruction until at least Grade 5.
3. **Curricular Reforms:** NEP 2020 proposes a 5+3+3+4 curricular structure, replacing the existing 10+2 system. The new structure includes 12 years of schooling divided into foundational (ages 3-8), preparatory (ages 8-11), middle (ages 11-14), and secondary (ages 14-18) stages. It also encourages a flexible curriculum with a wide range of subjects and promotes vocational education.
4. **Teacher Education:** The policy focuses on enhancing the quality of teachers by introducing a four-year integrated B.Ed. program and a common National Professional Standards for Teachers (NPST) framework. It aims to provide continuous professional development opportunities for teachers throughout their careers.
5. **Higher Education:** NEP 2020 proposes several reforms in higher education, including the establishment of a single regulator, a multidisciplinary approach, flexibility in curriculum, and increased use of technology. It aims to increase the Gross Enrollment Ratio (GER) in higher education and promote research and innovation.
6. **Technology in Education:** The policy recognizes the importance of technology in education and aims to integrate it effectively in teaching and learning processes. It promotes the use of online and digital resources, virtual labs, and e-learning platforms to enhance access and quality of education.
7. **Gender Inclusion:** NEP 2020 emphasizes the importance of gender inclusion and aims to provide equal opportunities for girls and transgender students. It encourages the elimination of gender-based discrimination and the promotion of gender-sensitive education.

8. **Assessment Reforms:** The policy advocates for a shift from a summative assessment system to a more competency-based and formative assessment approach. It aims to reduce the emphasis on board exams and promote holistic evaluation methods.

9. **Research and Development:** NEP 2020 emphasizes the need for increased investment in research and development in the education sector. It promotes the establishment of research institutes, collaboration with international institutions, and the creation of a National Research Foundation (NRF) to foster research and innovation.

10. **Financial Support:** The policy highlights the need for increased public investment in education and recommends the allocation of 6% of India's GDP to education. It also aims to enhance the availability of scholarships, loans, and financial aid for students.

NEW EDUCATION POLICY AND INDIAN ECONOMY

There is a growing movement to enhance the basic education of the population, fueled by the belief that everyone has the right to education. Countries worldwide are increasingly prioritising the development of education systems that can equip individuals with the skills needed in emerging industries, particularly in science and technology. The productivity of a country's economy is closely linked to the proportion of educated workers, as they are better equipped to perform tasks requiring literacy and critical thinking. However, pursuing a higher level of education also comes with its costs. A country doesn't have to establish an extensive network of colleges and universities to reap the benefits of education; even basic literacy programmes can contribute to economic improvements.

In the business realm, intellectual ability is considered an asset. This asset can be leveraged to develop and sell products and services. The more skilled and knowledgeable employees a firm employs, the greater its production potential. Economies that recognise education as an asset are often referred to as knowledge-based economies. Countries prioritising widespread access to education and ensuring that their population completes school, tend to experience faster economic growth than countries with a lower-educated workforce. Recognising this correlation, many nations allocate funding to enhance primary and secondary education to boost economic performance. In this context, education is viewed as an investment in human capital, akin to investing in improved equipment or infrastructure. According to the 2019 Skill India Report, a significant percentage of Indian graduates were employable, however, there existed a wide gap between industry requirements and the education system, due to the previous education policy that focussed primarily on rote learning rather than practical skills.

Aim To Contribute To India's Economic Growth

Given the evolving global work environment, specialising in a single field may no longer suffice, future workers will need diverse knowledge and skill sets. The National Education Policy (NEP) of 2020 has taken a practical and progressive approach to address employability and vocational training across all education disciplines. The policy advocates for internships in both private and public sectors for undergraduate students, providing them with valuable industry experience and aligning education with employment. This reformist approach is a significant stride towards fostering synergy between education and jobs, making them better suited to each other's requirements. By offering internships, the NEP 2020 aims to equip graduates with the practical skills and experience needed to thrive professionally. The National Education Policy of 2020 aims to support India in achieving its UN Sustainable Development Goal 4, which focuses on ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education.

This policy involves collaboration among various stakeholders, including the central government, state governments, private sector, NGOs, and educational institutions, to realise the vision of universal education. The policy also proposes increasing public expenditure on education to 6% of the GDP. While the Right to Education Act has been successful in ensuring almost universal enrollment in primary schools, retaining students throughout their educational journey remains a challenge. The Gross Enrolment Ratio tends to decline as students progress to higher grades, particularly affecting vulnerable groups such as women, backward classes, low-income households, individuals in remote areas, and people with disabilities. To address this issue, the policy emphasises the establishment of special funds to support these groups.

It sets a goal of doubling the Gross Enrolment Ratio in higher education institutions from 26.3% (2018) to 50% by 2035. To enhance accessibility, the policy envisions increasing digital platforms that provide open distance learning courses. The New Education Policy does indeed acknowledge the fact that India has an enormous working population under 35, and intends to improve the current education system ensuring the intellectual development of the youth.

POSITIVE IMPACT OF NEW EDUCATION POLICY

The new education policy, NEP 2020 talks about major transformational reforms in the Indian academic sector which are appreciated by many. Along with appreciation, there is also criticism which focuses on the drawbacks of this new education policy.

Holistic Development: NEP 2020 focuses on the holistic development of students, addressing their cognitive, social, emotional, and physical growth. It promotes critical thinking, creativity, and problem-solving skills, preparing students to thrive in the 21st century.

Flexible Learning Pathways: The policy offers flexible learning pathways, allowing students to choose subjects based on their interests and career aspirations. This promotes personalized learning, enabling students to explore their passions and develop expertise in their chosen fields.

Reduced Curriculum Burden: NEP aims to reduce the curriculum burden on students by emphasizing core concepts and essential learning outcomes. This allows for a deeper understanding of subjects and encourages a more comprehensive learning experience.

Inclusive Education: The policy prioritizes inclusive education, ensuring equal opportunities for students from diverse backgrounds, including those with disabilities and from marginalized communities. It promotes an inclusive and supportive learning environment, fostering empathy and understanding among students.

Skill Development: NEP 2020 emphasizes skill development, equipping students with 21st-century skills such as critical thinking, communication, problem-solving, and digital literacy. This enhances their employability and prepares them for future challenges.

Professional Development Opportunities: The new education policy recognizes the importance of continuous professional development for teachers. It provides opportunities for training, workshops, and collaborations to enhance their teaching skills, update their knowledge, and stay abreast of evolving pedagogical practices.

Enhanced Teaching Practices: The policy encourages a shift towards learner-centric teaching practices, promoting interactive and experiential learning methods. This allows teachers to engage students actively in the learning process, fostering deeper understanding and retention of concepts.

Integration of Technology: NEP emphasizes the integration of technology in education. Teachers can leverage digital tools, online resources, and educational apps to enhance their teaching effectiveness, create interactive learning experiences, and cater to diverse learning styles.

Recognition of Leadership and Mentorship: It also recognizes the importance of teacher leadership and mentorship. Teachers have the opportunity to take on mentoring roles, supporting their fellow educators, and contributing to policy implementation. This fosters professional growth and collaboration among teachers.

Collaborative Learning Communities: NEP also promotes collaborative learning communities, encouraging teachers to engage in peer learning, share best practices, and collaborate with colleagues. This creates a supportive environment for professional growth and enhances teaching effectiveness.

Empowerment as Facilitators: The policy empowers teachers to become facilitators of learning rather than just information providers. They can guide students through their learning journey, foster critical thinking, and nurture students' interests and talents.

NEGATIVE IMPACT OF NEW EDUCATION POLICY

Increased Pressure and Competition for Students: One of the primary concerns with the policy is the potential increase in pressure and competition among students. NEP emphasizes the importance of standardized examinations and encourages board exams at multiple levels, starting from the early years. This approach may lead to an excessive focus on grades and performance, compromising the overall development and well-being of students.

Narrowing of Subject Choices: The new policy proposes a shift towards a multidisciplinary approach, which aims to provide students with a broad range of subjects. However, this might inadvertently limit their options. With an increased emphasis on vocational education and skill development, subjects like arts, humanities, and social sciences may receive less attention. This narrow focus could hinder the overall intellectual and creative growth of students.

Insufficient Teacher Training and Support: The NEP 2020 falls short in adequately addressing the training and support needs of teachers. The lack of clear guidelines for continuous professional development and incentives may impact the quality of education imparted in classrooms.

Imbalance in Digital Infrastructure: The new education policy places significant emphasis on digital education and e-learning platforms. While this can enhance access to education, it also exposes the digital divide prevalent in our society. Not all students have equal access to digital devices, internet connectivity, or resources required for online learning. This imbalance may further marginalize students from economically disadvantaged backgrounds, exacerbating educational inequalities.

Standardization Challenges: The policy's aim to standardize education across the country may overlook regional and cultural diversities. The one-size-fits-all approach might not cater to the unique needs and aspirations of students from different states and regions.

Insufficient Implementation Strategy: A major concern surrounding the policy is the lack of a robust implementation strategy. It proposes ambitious changes without providing a clear roadmap for execution. This ambiguity can lead to confusion among educational institutions, teachers, and students, resulting in uneven implementation across the country. Without a well-defined plan, the potential benefits of the policy may remain unrealized.

V. CONCLUSION

The New Education Policy 2020 aims to bring about positive transformations in the Indian education system, it is essential to critically evaluate its pros and cons. By critically examining the advantages and disadvantages, stakeholders can work towards implementing the new education policy effectively, ensuring an education system that fosters holistic development, inclusivity, and equal opportunities for all. The study had increased the information on NEP 2020 impact on the stakeholders of commerce and management discipline during a broader sense. The comparative study on the present NEP and NEP 2020 has realized the drawbacks of the present NEP that was touching the expansion of Indian economy and touching the youths in achieving their goals. The NEP 2020 leads all the stakeholders to satisfy the commercial demands at national and international level in order that the quality of living and therefore the overall economic process are achieved considerably. Any changes within the gift situation can have each positive and negative impact thence we have a tendency to should concentrate additional on the positive impacts and adopt it effectively and work expeditiously for the welfare of the country

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