



Critical analysis of NEP 2020: Challenges and benefits

Sakil Mahaldar¹, Taibul Hoque², Kunal Das³

¹ Research Scholar, Department of Education, Himachal Pradesh University, Shimla, Himachal Pradesh, India

² Guest Lecturer, District Institute of Education and Training, Uttar Dinajpur, West Bengal, India

³ Research Scholar, Department of Education, CIE, Delhi University, Delhi, India

Abstract

After 34 years, NEP 2020 was adopted on July 29, 2020. It is launched by the MHRD (renamed the Ministry of Education). Dr. K. Kasturba has prepared a draft of NEP 2020. NEP 2020 emphasizes the holistic development of students. It is drawing potential abilities from children's inner minds. Education provides equal opportunity for all, irrespective of caste, creed, race, or color. It addresses all marginalized groups. It focuses on competency-based assessment. This paper discusses the advantages and disadvantages of NEP 2020 and the challenges faced in implementing NEP 2020.

Keywords: NEP 2020, principal, objectives, challenges and benefits

Introduction

The National Education Policy aims to develop 100 percent literacy and adult education. Education will be research-based, where the student will innovate with his new thinking. Moulana Abul Kalam Azad emphasised the need for robust governance by the Centre over education throughout the country by implementing a uniform educational system. There are four stages: the preparatory stage, the middle stage, the secondary stage, and the higher secondary stage. It introduces technology-based education. It promotes critical and problems solving scale development among students. It reduces examination anxiety from students. It adopts continuous professional development and training for teachers. It emphasizes on inclusivity and equality in educational institutions. This policy has transformed it into a center of rich knowledge, and the foundation of this policy is: Access, Equity, Quality, Affordability, and Accountability. (Thokura, 2025) ^[9]

Objectives of the study

1. To study about objective of NEP 2020
2. To study about significance of NEP 2020
3. To study about challenge face in implementing NEP 2020

Objectives of NEP 2020

1. Holistic Development

Holistic development is the key factor for every person. And National Education Policy 2020 focuses on the holistic development of the child, including emotions, physical, social, mental, spiritual and cultural development. If a child is weak in any of this area, then he will naturally lag in his personal and social life. Therefore, he will not able to become a contributing member of society and the country.

2. Non-formal Education

Education is not only under four walls of a room. Only formal education is a narrow term, so we need to work on formal education and also non-formal education. Where students enrol as per their own wishes. It makes students more independent.

3. Equitable and Inclusive Education

The main goal of current education should be that, no students falls behind physically or mentally. It promotes equitable and inclusive education. It provides education to all without any discrimination based on religious caste, creed, colour, economic disadvantages, etc. In few years ago in India is not too much opportunity for include all students in one classroom but now it's possible. Therefore, National education policy 2020 working on this.

4. Digital Education

Digital education or technology in education is very important for learning by keeping the students senses aware. Students can learn through online classes. Students develop their skills in technology. As a result, their standard of education can be increased a lot.

5. Vocational Education

According to NEP 2020 vocational education will be start from class vi. India as a developing country it's important to skilled pupils for his or her financial freedom. It is all about the development of the economic system in the country. Education will enhance economic skills and awareness of economic relations among students.

6. Qualitative Education

Indian education always works upon qualitative education not only quantitative education. And again NEP 2020 enhances qualitative education. It provides for all children, which is progress for our society as well as our country.

7. Assessment and Examination

NEP 2020 changes the assessment and examination of the education system. NEP 2020 encourage to ongoing evaluation system i.e, during the class. PARAKH is an assessment centre. It stands for Performance Assessment, Review, and Analysis of Knowledge for Holistic Development.

8. Language

Language develops thinking power and thinking developed our personality. Language is the main factor for adjustment

in society, and understanding concepts in school. According to NEP 2020, education is provided through mother tongue in primary stages class 5 and continuous class till 8. And according to this policy Students should learn three languages.

9. Free and Compulsory Education

After independence many commission and committee talk about free and compulsory education but we have not been able to achieve that so far. Therefore, NEP 2020 has made various recommendations for working on it. It aims to provide free and compulsory elementary education to all children to age group of 6-14 years within 2030.

10. Socio-Economically Deprivation group:

Nep 2020 mentions about SEDg. It's stands for Socio-Economically Deprivation group. The National Education Policy 2020 has ensured that children from disadvantaged communities receive equal opportunities in every educational institution.

Significance of NEP 2020

The National Education Policy 2020 has played a significant role in transforming the current state of education.

1. Reduce Curriculum Burden

This policy reduces curriculum burden on students. It adopts critical thinking and problems solving skills develop among students. This policy neglects rote method or memory-based learning.

2. Flexible Learning

The policy provides flexible learning environment. It permits students that they can choice their subject according to their needs and interest. It develops individual learning, and their own interest area.

3. Teacher Training

NEP 2020 emphases on continuous Professor Development and training teachers, confirms that they are shape our future generation and provide effective education.

4. Technology Based Education

NEP 2020 focuses on technology-based education. Technology improves education system. Technology increases students' enrolment and engages students in different activities.

5. Reduce Exam Stress

NEP 2020 reduces exam stress among students. There are a lot of changes in exam systems. Nep 2020 focuses on practical skills and problems solving skills.

Challenges of Implementing NEP 2020

There are various challenges and problems to implementing National Education Policy (2020).

1. Standardization Challenge

This policy focuses on standardize education across the country may overlook regional and cultural diversities. The one-size fit-all approach might not suitable for the unique need and aspirations of the students from different states.

2. Funding

The NEP 2020 has called for an increase in the rate of spending on higher education, but it has not stated exactly how this spending will be generated.

3. Digital Connectivity

NEP 2020 has placed a lot of emphasis on digital or online education, but in rural areas, it is seen that there are many students who cannot afford devices or who often cannot join the teacher's class at the right time due to lack of internet.

4. Quality Education

NEP 2020 talks about quality education. To achieve this quality education, many changes are needed, such as teacher training, teaching methods, examination methods, and research development.

5. Lack of Training Teacher

NEP 2020 has a significant oversight in providing adequate training and supports for teachers. The absence of clear guidelines for training teachers and incentives may compromise the quality of education delivered in school, ultimately affecting students' progress.

6. Language

The three-language formula has been mentioned in the NEP 2020. As a result, language-related problems may arise in some states as a medium of education. This three-language formula may result in the loss of linguistic diversity.

Conclusion

Education is a weapon that changes the world. Teachers must be provided with training so that the education system can be improved. It emphasises all aspects of the overall development of children, including cognitive, affective, and psychomotor development. NEP 2020 makes India a global super knowledge. There are a lot of challenges faced by implementing NEP 2020 but NEP 2020 will be important for students and teachers. There are many merits in this policy. So Indian education system will be changed.

References

1. Advantages and Disadvantages of NEP 2020 for Indian Schools. LEAD School, 2024. <https://leadschool.in/blog/the-advantages-and-disadvantages-of-new-education-policy-2020/>
2. Advantages & Disadvantages of New Education Policy (NEP 2020). Next. School, n.d. <https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.nextschool.in/blog/advantages-disadvantages-of-new-education-policy-nep-2020/amp/>
3. Biswas S. OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES NEP- 2020. Researchgate, 2023. <https://www.researchgate.net/publication/370683834>
4. IndianEra. National Education Policy (NEP) 2020: Overview, Reforms, Objectives! IndianEra, 2020. <https://www.indianera.com/editors-pick/national-education-policy-nep-2020-overview-reforms-objectives/>
5. Jaswinder. NEP 2020: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES. International Journal for Multidisciplinary Research, 2025, 7(1). <https://doi.org/10.36948/ijfmr.2025.v07i01.34607>
6. Ministry of Education. National education Policy 2020. Government of India, 2020. https://www.education.gov.in/sites/upload_files/mhrd/files/NEP_Final_English_0.pdf
7. National Education Policy 2020: All You Need to Know About NEP 2020 For Schools. Mastersoft

- Accelerating Education, 2023.
<https://www.iitms.co.in/blog/national-education-policy-2020-for-schools.html#:~:text=The%20NEP%202020%20aims%20to%20provide%20a%20holistic%20and%20flexible,%20%20experiential%20learning%20and%20creativity.>
8. NEP 2020 (National Education Policy 2020) | Complete Guide. LEAD School, 2025.
<https://leadschool.in/school-owner/national-education-policy-nep-2020/>
 9. Thokura R. Benefits and drawbacks of the National Educational Policy-2020. International Journal of Creative Research thoughts,2025:13(1):1434-1439.
<https://www.ijcrt.org/papers/IJCRT2512965.pdf>