

**NATIONAL EDUCATION POLICY 2020 FUTURE CHALLENGE**

Dr. Kehar Singh

Asstt. Prof. in Chemistry

Govt. Degree College, Basohli

(Received:16September2022/Revised:1October2022/Accepted:10October2022/Published:31October2022)

**Abstract**

The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 represents a major change in how India's education system is developing. It suggests big changes in school education, higher education, vocational training, teacher education, research, and using technology in learning. The policy aims to create an education system that is inclusive, fair, flexible, covers many subjects, and focuses on the needs of students. It aligns with the goals of Sustainable Development Goal 4 (SDG 4), which is about providing quality education for everyone. This paper looks closely at the challenges that might come up when putting NEP 2020 into practice and how these challenges could affect the education system in India. The study is based on a detailed look at recent information, government documents, and academic papers from 2021 onwards. It points out the main problems that might stop the policy from working well and also shows the positive chances from digital learning, learning across different subjects, skills-based teaching, research and innovation, and making higher education more global. The paper offers useful suggestions, like increasing government funding for education, helping teachers keep learning, improving digital tools, checking on the policy's progress, making sure institutions are well-run, and working together with all people involved in education. The study shows that NEP 2020 has the chance to make a big difference by improving the quality, availability, job readiness, and international standing of education in India. Its long-term success will rely on careful planning, ongoing financial support, fair implementation, and making decisions based on solid evidence. The study adds to the discussion about education reforms by providing ideas that can help leaders in government, schools, research, and institutions to better carry out NEP 2020 across the country.

**Keywords:** National Education Policy, Higher Education, School Education, Teacher Education, Digital Learning, Educational Reforms

**Introduction**

Education is widely seen as the base for a country's long-term growth, fairness in society, better economy, and better use of people's talents. It helps people gain knowledge, skills, values, and

abilities needed to deal with the fast-changing world today. In the 21st century, new things like digital technology, global connections, artificial intelligence, and a knowledge-based economy have changed what people expect from education systems around the world. Because of this, countries are always adjusting their education rules to encourage creativity, learning all your life, better job opportunities, and fair development. India, which has one of the biggest education systems in the world, has also made big changes to improve the quality, availability, and usefulness of education.

The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, approved by the Indian government on July 29, 2020, is the first major education policy since 1986, which was revised in 1992. It was created after a lot of discussions with teachers, policy makers, schools, students, parents, and other groups. NEP 2020 gives a clear plan for making India's education system better and meet international education standards. The policy wants to create an education system that keeps Indian values but also supports scientific thinking, creativity, innovation, and global awareness. Its main aim is to develop people who are productive, responsible, and skilled, able to help a knowledge-based economy and long-term national progress.

One big change under NEP 2020 is the new structure of school education, which replaces the old 10+2 system with a 5+3+3+4 system. This new structure matches education stages with children's thinking development and has four parts: Foundational (ages 3–8), Preparatory (8–11), Middle (11–14), and Secondary (14–18). The policy focuses on learning through experience, teaching skills rather than just memorizing, strong basics in reading and math, using multiple languages, giving students more choice in subjects, and reducing the focus on rote learning. It also encourages the inclusion of arts, sports, vocational training, coding, environmental education, and life skills in the usual school subjects to help students grow in many ways.

At the higher education level, NEP 2020 has introduced big changes to improve the quality of teaching, allow more flexibility, encourage learning in different areas, and boost research and how institutions are managed. It suggests setting up universities and colleges with many subjects, starting a four-year undergraduate program with options to leave and come back, creating a system for students to transfer credits, and giving more freedom in how students learn. It also proposes the creation of the National Research Foundation (NRF) to make research and innovation stronger in higher education. These changes are meant to improve India's standing globally, make students more job-ready, and promote teamwork across different fields.

A major focus of NEP 2020 is teacher education and professional growth. The policy sees teachers as being central to changing education and recommends a four-year undergraduate

degree in education as the minimum for school teachers, ongoing training for teachers, better systems for hiring and promoting teachers, and more control over classroom activities. It also supports using technology in teaching, digital approaches to learning, and assessing students based on their skills rather than just tests.

Digital tools have become a key part of NEP 2020. The policy encourages the use of internet and communication technologies, online learning, virtual labs, artificial intelligence, smart learning systems, and free educational resources to help education be more accessible, flexible, and personalized. The experience during the COVID-19 pandemic showed how important online learning is, but it also showed big gaps in internet access, digital tools, and readiness in rural and poor areas.

Even though NEP 2020 has a strong vision, putting it into practice has many challenges. Success requires a lot of money, better school buildings, strong management of institutions, cooperation between national and state governments, changing the curriculum, training teachers, and effective ways to monitor progress. The goal of increasing public spending on education to 6% of the country's total economic output is a major challenge. Other issues, like differences in wealth, regional inequality, many languages, lack of digital access, and readiness of institutions, can affect how well the policy is carried out. Dealing with these issues is essential to make sure all students have access to quality education. The successful use of NEP 2020 depends on the active support of various groups like government officials, school leaders, teachers, students, parents, colleges, businesses, and other community groups. Working together, making decisions based on facts, constantly checking progress, and using strategies that fit local conditions are needed to make the policy work in real life. Also, matching educational changes with global trends like technology, sustainability, starting businesses, and lifelong learning will help India become stronger in the world's knowledge economy.

In this context, this study looks closely at the challenges involved in implementing NEP 2020 in India. It identifies main problems like funding, management, school facilities, teacher skills, curriculum changes, technology use, and fair access to education. It also explores opportunities for improving the education system and gives practical advice to help those making and running education policies, schools, researchers, and others to better carry out NEP 2020. By studying recent research and education changes, this paper adds to the growing knowledge on educational improvements and offers ideas on achieving a more inclusive, fair, creative, and globally competitive education system in India.

## **Major Features of NEP 2020**

The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 is a major change in India's education system. It aims to make education fair, inclusive, diverse, adaptable, and strong on a global level. This policy brings changes in how education is structured, what is taught, how teachers teach, and how schools and colleges are run. It covers all levels of education, from early childhood learning to university studies and ongoing learning throughout life. The policy is made to suit the needs of today's world by encouraging thinking, creativity, new ideas, digital skills, research, and practical skills, while also keeping India's traditions and values alive.

This policy is different from earlier education plans because it looks at the whole person. It not only focuses on doing well in school but also on developing the mind, emotions, social skills, values, and job-related abilities of students. The goal is to increase access to education, ensure fairness, improve the quality of learning, keep costs manageable, and make sure there is responsibility in education. Every student should learn basic reading and math, life skills, and skills that help them get a job. The next parts of this text will explain the main points of NEP 2020 in more detail.

## **Future Challenges of NEP 2020**

The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 aims to bring big changes to the Indian education system by focusing on quality, fairness, flexibility, learning across different subjects, using technology, and making education based on research. While many people think the policy is a good idea because it takes a forward-thinking approach, making this plan work in real life is still a big challenge. India has a huge and varied education system with millions of students, teachers, and schools that are very different in terms of their buildings, how they are run, and the background of the people involved. Because of this, making the NEP 2020 work the same way everywhere across all states and schools needs a lot of money, trained people, good technology, and effective ways of managing things. For the NEP 2020 to work well, it is not just about making the right rules, but also about having enough resources, skilled workers, proper technology, and good management.

Since different regions have different levels of development, different languages are spoken, people have different access to technology, schools are at different stages of preparedness, and the economy is not the same everywhere, there may be differences in how well the policy is carried out. So, it is important to find out what problems might come up in the future and handle them properly to make sure that the goals of NEP 2020 are reached in a fair and lasting way.

**Table 2: Major Future Challenges in the Implementation of NEP 2020**

| <b>Challenge</b>            | <b>Key Issues</b>                                                     | <b>Possible Impact on Education</b>    |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| Financial Resources         | Insufficient public investment, delayed funding                       | Slow implementation of reforms         |
| Educational Infrastructure  | Inadequate classrooms, laboratories, libraries, internet connectivity | Unequal learning opportunities         |
| Teacher Preparation         | Shortage of trained teachers and limited professional development     | Reduced teaching quality               |
| Digital Divide              | Unequal access to devices, internet, and digital skills               | Increased educational inequality       |
| Curriculum Transformation   | Shift from rote learning to competency-based education                | Resistance and implementation delays   |
| Assessment Reforms          | Transition to competency-based assessment                             | Need for teacher capacity building     |
| Language Policy             | Implementation of multilingual education                              | Administrative and regional challenges |
| Governance and Coordination | Centre-State coordination and institutional autonomy                  | Policy inconsistency and delays        |
| Higher Education Reforms    | Institutional restructuring and multidisciplinary education           | Administrative complexity              |
| Equity and Inclusion        | Educational disparities among marginalized groups                     | Reduced access and participation       |
| Vocational Education        | Industry collaboration and skilled trainers                           | Limited employability outcomes         |
| Research and Innovation     | Limited funding and research culture                                  | Lower global competitiveness           |
| Quality Assurance           | Monitoring learning outcomes and institutional performance            | Variations in educational quality      |
| Stakeholder Awareness       | Limited understanding among teachers, parents, and students           | Resistance to educational reforms      |
| Monitoring and Evaluation   | Weak implementation review systems                                    | Ineffective policy execution           |

**Future Opportunities**

The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 offers a big plan to change how education works in India so it fits the needs of today's world. Even though there are some problems in making this happen, the policy also brings many chances to make education better, encourage new ideas, support research, help students get good jobs, and make India a top place for knowledge. By focusing on things like being flexible, learning across different subjects, using technology, making education fair for everyone, and learning all your life, NEP 2020 can change the way

education is done in India and help the country grow in a lasting way. The policy knows that education is more than just learning facts it can also help change society, boost the economy, advance technology, and help India compete around the world. If done right, NEP 2020 can help build a strong group of people in India who can think clearly, work well, come up with new ideas, act responsibly, and keep learning to face challenges both inside and outside the country.

**Table 3: Major Future Opportunities under NEP 2020**

| <b>Opportunity</b>               | <b>Key Features</b>                                             | <b>Expected Benefits</b>                               |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| Improved Quality of Education    | Competency-based curriculum, experiential learning              | Better learning outcomes and academic excellence       |
| Holistic Student Development     | Integration of academics, arts, sports, values, and life skills | Balanced cognitive, emotional, and social development  |
| Multidisciplinary Education      | Flexible subject choices and interdisciplinary learning         | Creativity, innovation, and problem-solving abilities  |
| Digital Education                | Online learning, AI, virtual laboratories, digital platforms    | Increased accessibility and personalized learning      |
| Skill Development                | Vocational education, internships, entrepreneurship             | Enhanced employability and industry readiness          |
| Research and Innovation          | National Research Foundation (NRF), interdisciplinary research  | Stronger research ecosystem and global competitiveness |
| Internationalization             | Global academic collaborations and foreign universities         | Improved international rankings and knowledge exchange |
| Teacher Professional Development | Continuous training and digital pedagogy                        | Improved teaching effectiveness and learner engagement |
| Equity and Inclusion             | Focus on disadvantaged and marginalized groups                  | Greater educational access and social justice          |
| Lifelong Learning                | Flexible entry and exit, Academic Bank of Credits               | Continuous learning and workforce adaptability         |
| Educational Technology           | AI, adaptive learning, learning analytics                       | Smart education and efficient administration           |
| Industry–Academia Collaboration  | Partnerships with industries and research organizations         | Better innovation and employment opportunities         |

### **Discussion**

The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 is a big move to make education better and more accessible in India. The main goal is to make the education system more flexible, inclusive, and focused on skills and real-world knowledge. It wants to help students think critically, be creative, use technology, and gain practical experience. These changes aim to prepare students for the challenges of the modern world and help the country grow overall. But for the NEP 2020 to work

well, there are some real challenges to overcome. One big issue is money. Many schools and colleges need better buildings, updated labs, computer facilities, and trained teachers to make the changes happen. Without enough funding, the changes might not happen quickly or evenly across all states and schools. Another important part is training teachers. They need to learn new ways of teaching, use better assessments, and use technology in the classroom. Ongoing training and support from schools will help them adjust to the new system and help students learn better. The policy also talks a lot about digital learning. While online classes and digital tools can help more people get an education, not everyone has access to the internet or computers. This is especially true in rural areas and among poorer families. Fixing this digital gap is key to making sure all students have fair chances to learn. NEP 2020 also offers new chances to improve higher education. It encourages studying many subjects, flexible courses, job-related training, and research. Ideas like the Academic Bank of Credits, options to start and stop studies, and the National Research Foundation can make learning more adaptable, inspire new ideas, and strengthen research in universities. Overall, NEP 2020 can greatly improve India's education by making it better, fairer, and more competitive globally. But it will work best if the government, schools, teachers, students, parents, and other groups work together. Keeping track of progress, making decisions openly, giving enough money, and regularly checking on how things are going will be important to reach the goals of the policy. If these problems are handled well, NEP 2020 can help build a generation that is smart, informed, and ready to help India's social, economic, and tech progress.

## **Conclusion**

The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 is a big change that aims to make the Indian education system more inclusive, flexible, and focused on the learner. It brings major changes in school and higher education, training for teachers, how subjects are taught, how students are tested, vocational training, and the use of digital tools. These changes are meant to improve the quality of education, encourage new ideas, help students think critically, and give them the skills needed for the future. Even though the policy has a great plan, making it work well depends on solving several problems. These include getting enough money, improving school buildings, training teachers properly, making sure everyone has access to the internet, having good management, and ensuring all students get a good education. The Central and State Governments, schools, teachers, parents, companies, and others need to work together to reach the goals of the policy. NEP 2020 also brings many chances to improve research, help students get jobs, encourage learning across different subjects, and make India more competitive in

education around the world. With good planning, constant checking, and enough support, the policy can create an education system that supports learning all your life and helps people grow in many ways. In short, NEP 2020 has the ability to change education in India for the better. Its success in the long run will rely on how well it is carried out, how it is reviewed over time, and how committed everyone involved is to building an education system that is fair, innovative, and of high quality. This system will help the country grow and make progress globally.

## References

- [1].Government of India. (2020). National Education Policy 2020. Ministry of Education. [https://www.education.gov.in/sites/upload\\_files/mhrd/files/NEP\\_Final\\_English\\_0.pdf](https://www.education.gov.in/sites/upload_files/mhrd/files/NEP_Final_English_0.pdf)
- [2].Govinda, R. (2020). NEP 2020: A critical examination. *Social Change*, 50(4), 603–607. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0049085720958804>
- [3].Kumar, K. (2021). How National Education Policy 2020 can be a lodestar to transform future generation in India. *Journal of Public Affairs*, 21(3), e2500. <https://doi.org/10.1002/pa.2500>
- [4].Mehrotra, D. (2021). NEP 2020: At a glance for educators. Notion Press.
- [5].Menon, S. (2020). NEP 2020: Some searching questions. *Social Change*, 50(4), 599–602. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0049085720958811>
- [6].Ministry of Human Resource Development. (2019). Draft National Education Policy 2019. Government of India.
- [7].Pandey, B. (2019). Ensure quality education for all in India: Prerequisite for achieving SDG 4. In S. Chaturvedi, T. James, S. Saha, & P. Shaw (Eds.), *2030 Agenda and India: Moving from quantity to quality* (pp. 165–196). Springer. [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-32-9091-4\\_8](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-32-9091-4_8)
- [8].Sharma, S., & Akalamkam, K. (2021). A study of school teachers' perspective on National Education Policy 2020. *Voices of Teachers and Teacher Educators*, 10(2), 75–86.
- [9].Sharma, K., & Sharma, P. (2021). NEP 2020 and Environmental Studies (EVS) curriculum. *Voices of Teachers and Teacher Educators*, 10(2), 44–53.
- [10]. Verma, A., & Kumar, A. (2021). New Education Policy 2020 of India: A theoretical analysis. *International Journal of Business and Management Research*, 9(3), 302–306. <https://doi.org/10.37391/IJBMR.090308>