

A COMPARATIVE STUDY BETWEEN THE DIFFERENT NATIONAL EDUCATIONAL POLICIES (1968, 1986 and 2020) IMPLEMENTED IN INDIA

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ABSTRACT:

The full sentence of the word NEP is (full form) NATIONAL EDUCATIONAL POLICY. The main goal of this NEP is the overall development of India's education system. There have been three NEPs in independent India, namely in 1968, 1986 and 2020 respectively. **The NEP 1968**, the first post-independence education policy, focused on 1) radical restructuring of the education system 2) offering equal educational opportunities and 3) achieving national integration. India's second **NEP 1986** Education Policy focuses on 1) Equality of opportunity in education 2) Social justice 3) Relationship of education with development. The NEP 2020 education policy, currently completed in **NEP 2020**, focuses on 1) aligning with the ambitious goals of the 21st century 2) developing good human beings capable of rational thought and action 3) creating an inquiry-driven, discovery-based, learner-centric, flexible and enjoyable education system.

In other words, the main objective of the three NEPs is to improve India's education and build a well-educated and technologically literate society.

The present study provides a comparative review of the three NEPs and highlights the salient issues of 2020 and reviews and recommendations on the shortcomings of the NEP 2020 i.e. National Education Policy.

Key Words: -Inquiry-Driven, Discovery-Based, NEP, Learner-Centric

INTRODUCTION

NEP stands for NATIONAL EDUCATION POLICY in full, providing an important opportunity to shift Indian education from choice and selection to human development that enables every student to develop to their highest potential.

The National Education Policy is basically written based on the basic principles of the Constitution. Its aim is that all the students of the country will get equal quality education up to a certain level. It will have a national standard curriculum. One of the objectives of the National Education Policy is education for equality. The first National Education Policy completed in independent India was NEP 1968 under Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, the second National Education Policy NEP 1986 under Rajiv Gandhi and the third National Education Policy NEP 2020 under Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Apart from the NEPs mentioned here, some other national education policies have been organized in independent India such as Rammurthi Committee, POA (PROGRAM OF ACTION) to meet the

shortcomings of the NEPs mentioned above (NEP 1968,1986). The National Education Policies completed in India which brought massive and significant changes in education planning in India directly and indirectly brought massive changes in the education sector in India. In this study a comparative phased discussion of the above mentioned National Education Policies is discussed. As a result, it will be understood how periodic changes and evaluations have been carried out in the education system and education planning in order to keep India in line with the developed countries of the present world.

STATEMENT OF THE RESEARCH PROBLEM

A COMPARATIVE STUDY BETWEEN THE DIFFERENT NATIONAL EDUCATIONAL POLICIES (1968, 1986 and 2020) IMPLEMENTED IN INDIA

A discussion of the evolution of the National Education Policy recommendations can give an idea of the upgradation of India's education system.

OPERATIONAL DEFINITION OF TERMS USED

DISCOVERY LEARNING -Discovery Based learning is an approach that allows students to be in control of their learning through hands an emphasis on memorizing and repeating concepts, but to learn through unique experience.

INQUIRY DRIVEN -Inquiry based learning that starts by posing questions, problems or scenarios. It contrasts with traditional education.

NEP-Stands for National Education Policy. The national education policy aims for India's future educational system.

LEARNER CENTRIC APPROACH -Learner Centric Education or learning known as learner centred education, broadly encompasses methods of teaching that shift the focus of instruction from the teacher to the student.

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE PROBLEM

If we compare the recommendations of the three major NEPs (1968, 1986, 2020) completed in India, we can understand the gradual progress in education in India and how India as a developing country compares with other developed countries in the world and the progress in science and technology. The NEP proposes recommendations on future education systems for protection

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

National Education Policy (1968)

In India, the Social Work Education was commenced in the year 1936, with the establishment of Tata Institute of Social Sciences. In the post-independence reforms, education was given prominence. In the year 1966, first education policy was announced. This was aimed at “Radical Restructuring” and aimed at equal education opportunities in order to achieve

complete education with national integration. This policy aimed at promoting the significance of education among the Indians, primary education and secondary education is given priority and the establishment of schools in both rural and urban areas.

National Education Policy (1986)

The NEP of 1986 aimed promoting minority education, education for women equality, education of SC, ST and backward sections and emphasis was more given towards equal education opportunities and education to all sections of the society. This new education policy has given highest priority in solving the problem of school dropouts and adopts an array of meticulously formulated strategies based on micro planning and applied at the grass root levels of all over the country. A national mission was launched for the achievement of this NEP 1986. Based on the literature review of education policy of 1966 emphasized on equal education to all and the NEP of 1986 gave prominence to women education and promoting minority education and reducing dropouts from the schools.

National Education Policy (2020)

NEP 2020 refers to the National Education Policy 2020, which is a policy document released by the Government of India in July 2020. The NEP 2020 aims to transform the education system in India by focusing on holistic and multidisciplinary education, promoting research and innovation, and incorporating technology into the learning process. In terms of libraries, the NEP 2020 recognizes the crucial role that libraries play in promoting a culture of reading and lifelong learning. The policy emphasizes the need to strengthen school and public libraries by providing them with adequate resources, including books, digital resources, and trained librarians. Furthermore, the NEP 2020 recognizes the need to incorporate technology into library services, such as providing access to e-books, e-journals, and other digital resources. The policy also highlights the importance of promoting local and indigenous knowledge through the development of community libraries. Overall, the NEP 2020 envisions libraries as vital institutions that can contribute to the promotion of a knowledge-based society in India.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

- ❖ To be aware of the progress of each National Education Policy completed in independent India.
- ❖ A gradual review of earlier education policies to upgrade the education system of developing India to that of developed countries.
- ❖ To be aware of the various practical aspects of implementing the recommendations of the National Education Policy.

RESEARCH QUESTION

- Have each of the successive National Education Policies in India been completed able to address the gaps in the previous policies?

- Is every educational policy implemented in India compatible with the current India and socio-economic conditions of India?
- Are the education policies implemented in India compatible with the education system of other developed countries of the world?

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The article is based on secondary data collected from various journals, newspapers and websites. The methodology consists of a conceptual discussion on the highlights of the NEP 2020 and the focus of this article is on the comparison of NEP 2020 with the current educational policy of India.

TOOL

In this study books, various journals, articles and newspaper is prepared for collecting the required data.

PRESENTATION OF DATA AND ANALYSIS OF DATA

MAIN AIM OF THE NEP

Sl.	National Policy of Education 1968	National Policy of Education 1986	National Policy of Education 2020
1	Educational Opportunity	Equality of opportunity in education	Implement various improvements in the Indian education system from school level to college level
2	National Integration	Social justice	Provide free and compulsory high quality education to children aged 3-18 years
3	Social Justice	Relationship of education with development	

STRUCTURE OF EDUCATION

Sl.	National Policy of Education 1968	National Policy of Education 1986	National Policy of Education 2020
1	It was recommended to have a uniform education structure across the country. 10+2+3 education structure was proposed	The National Education Policy proposed to implement the previous education structure 10+2+3 education structure	The National Education Policy proposes a new education system for the entire country. Where students will strengthen their foundation for 5 years,

			preparatory stage will be 3 years, middle stage will be 3 years and secondary stage will be 4 years i.e. the new education structure will be 5+3+3+4.
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PRIMARY EDUCATION

Sl.	National Policy of Education 1968	National Policy of Education 1986	National Policy of Education 2020
1	As per Article 45 of the Constitution, efforts should be made to make education of all boys and girls up to the age of 14 immediately compulsory and free of charge	All boys and girls aged 14 years should be admitted to school and they should not drop out until the end of schooling	The New system will include 12 years of formal education and three years of Angaanwadi / Pre-School education
2	Appropriate programs should be adopted for wastage and underdevelopment at the primary level	Improvement in the quality of education, corporal punishment should be eliminated from schools with complete abolition of the system of underachievement for failure to succeed in examinations.	Education for children of age 3-6 years will be considered mandatory
3	After admission to school, students As if he should finish his prescribed curriculum and focus on that		Replacing the 10+2 structure with a 5+3+3+4 model
4			3 Years of Angaanwadi / Pre-School+ 2 years in primary school in Grades 1-2; both together covering ages 3-8

SECONDARY EDUCATION

l.	National Policy of Education 1968	National Policy of Education 1986	National Policy of Education 2020
1	Social change is largely dependent on the expansion of secondary education, in those areas where secondary education is not available, secondary education should be expanded immediately	Students should be introduced to various aspects of science, humanities and social sciences	NEP 2020 proposes a change in the structure of curriculum and pedagogy, with a 5+3+3+4 approach, expanding to 5 (foundation) + 3(preparatory) + 3 (middle) + 4.(secondary)
2	Technical and vocational education should be expanded along with secondary education	At this level students are made aware of historical consciousness, national context constitutional responsibilities and duties hence it is proposed to study all these subjects.	Secondary stage – grades 9-12 in two phases, i.e. , 9 and 10 in the first and 11 and 12 second, covering ages 14-18

HIGHER EDUCATION

Sl.	National Policy of Education 1968	National Policy of Education 1986	National Policy of Education 2020
1	Research and library and other facilities should be examined in any college or university	Special measures should be taken to prevent deterioration in quality of education in higher education	Disciplinary Rigidity: The panel raised concerns about the rigid separation of disciplines, which can hinder interdisciplinary learning and innovation
2	Special attention should be given to the organization of courses at the postgraduate level and improvement of the quality of research and teaching at this level	Initiatives should be taken to establish more number of self-governing colleges in the country	Limited Access in Disadvantaged Areas: Access to higher education in socio-economically disadvantaged regions remains limited, impeding the equitable distribution of educational opportunities.
3	Centers of advanced	Text to make foreign	Language

	education should be strengthened. And attention should be paid to the fact that research is of the highest quality at night	education more effective. The sequence will be changed.	Barriers: There's a dearth of higher education institutes (HEIs) that offer instruction in local languages, potentially excluding a substantial section of the population.
4		Special importance should be given to linguistic education.	Faculty Shortage: A scarcity of qualified faculty members is plaguing the higher education sector, adversely impacting the quality of education.
5		Special attention will be given to new research and its development in higher education.	Lack of Institutional Autonomy: Many institutions face a lack of autonomy, hindering their ability to adapt and innovate
6			Research Emphasis: The panel noted a diminished emphasis on research within the current higher education system.
7			Ineffective Regulatory System: The regulatory framework governing higher education was deemed ineffective, requiring comprehensive reform.
8			Concern Related to Multiple Entry Multiple Exit Programme: The panel expressed concerns that implementing the MEME system in Indian institutions, while flexible in theory, may not align effectively due

			to unpredictability in student entry and exits. This unpredictability could disrupt the pupil-teacher ratio.
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TEACHER

Sl.	National Policy of Education 1968	National Policy of Education 1986	National Policy of Education 2020
1	Adequate importance should be given to teacher education during the period of service	The overall restructuring of education depends on the quality of teachers	Teachers can join the teaching profession after completing four years of training
2	The success of the national effort will depend a lot on the qualifications, professional skills, personal and character qualities of the teachers	So that the teacher understands the subject well and then can present it to the students in a simple way	Teachers will be trained on how to include students with special abilities in the education field and acclimatize them to the general classroom.
3	The conditions of service should be satisfactory so that the teacher gets a respectable place in the society.	Salary and employment conditions should be arranged very nicely so that the young generation of the country will be motivated to take up this profession	
4	Teachers will have the right to study and research independently.	National organizations of teachers will prepare a code of conduct for teachers at the national level with the help and cooperation of the government	
5		In this education policy, it is proposed to establish an All-India Education Service. has been.	

CURRICULUM

Sl.	National Policy of Education 1968	National Policy of Education 1986	National Policy of Education 2020
1	Establishment of a linkage of technical education in agriculture, technical education, commerce, medicine, handicrafts, handicrafts, secondary education	Up to 10th standard, science and maths will be taught to students	Social science, language, physical education, mathematics, humanities, holistic development of the child
2		Arts and science education will be provided	
3		Mother tongue, regional language, Hindi and English will be taught	

LANGUAGE

Sl.	National Policy of Education 1968	National Policy of Education 1986	National Policy of Education 2020
1	Attention should be paid to the implementation of trilingual system at the secondary level.	supported the Language Education Policy of 1968 and emphasized that the implementation of the policy was incomplete and that the policy was implemented enthusiastically	It is proposed to preserve the languages of different regions and tribes
2	Importance should be given to English language education so that it can easily reach the world court		Special emphasis is laid on Sanskrit language learning
3	Importance should be given to Sanskrit language in adopting Hindi language as medium of education. Must be encouraged		It is said that language learning should be used for conversation and teaching-learning rather than confining it to grammar and literature and vocabulary
4			Special scope and cooperation should be provided in the university in the field of

			teaching Prakrit, Pari, Parsi languages etc.
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VOCATIONAL EDUCATION

Sl.	National Policy of Education 1968	National Policy of Education 1986	National Policy of Education 2020
1	Special importance should be attached to these two educations for the development of agriculture and industry, therefore it is proposed to establish one agricultural university in each state	In the new education system all programs of vocational education should be well planned	The National Education Policy 2020 recommends that 50% of school students should be covered by scholarship oriented education by 2030
2	Practical education in technical education will be an integral part of this education	They should be linked with industrial education centers to make vocational education effective	Vocational oriented education should be given an important place through the entire education system
3	In agricultural industry and other technical education Educated manpower should always be reviewed	There should be centers or institutes for vocational education in public and private sectors	Students at all levels should have access to scholarship education You have to pay attention to that
4	There should be balance between demand and supply of manpower	Those in the society The government will take responsibility for scholarship education of neglected, deprived men or women, tribals	
5		Scholarship education program will be taken for the disabled	

SCIENCE EDUCATION

Sl.	National Policy of Education 1968	National Policy of Education 1986	National Policy of Education 2020
1	Priority should be given to science education and research to speed up the	Science education should be organized in such a way that every student	Emphasis should be placed on science education to adapt to the 21st century

	development of national economy	becomes science conscious and inquisitive	society
2	Science education should be considered as an integral part of education at school level till the end of education.	Science and Mathematics will be taught up to 10th standard	Science teachers will be characterized by – a) passionate & motivated b) Creating Class Room c) Well Qualified and Trained content d) Mentoring and Facilitator e) Pedagogy and Practice
3		Computer system is being introduced in schools. The causal relationship will become clear	In order to teach science, the teacher must have – a) Knowledge of the subject, b) Teaching-Learning Environment

WOMAN EDUCATION

Sl.	National Policy of Education 1968	National Policy of Education 1986	National Policy of Education 2020
1	Education for all has been provided	Education for all was made available and initiatives were taken to implement it through the OPRETION BLACK BOARD scheme.	Emphasis on GENDER EQUALITY
2			It is proposed to break the concept of GENDER STEREOTYPE
3			It is proposed to encourage the education of girls and adolescents by describing the success stories of women who have achieved a special place in the society. has been

TRIBAL EDUCATION

Sl.	National Policy of Education 1968	National Policy of Education 1986	National Policy of Education 2020
1	In August 1961, a conference of State Chief Ministers and Union Ministers recommended that special care should be taken to protect the education and rights of minorities.	Scheduled caste and tribal boys and girls should be ensured to complete their education from first class to tenth and twelfth class	Proposed to provide education to tribal children in the language of all tribal areas of India
2		Teachers should be appointed from among Schedule caste people	Proposed special scholarship and vocational education for tribals
3		Hostels should be set up at district headquarters for Schedule caste students	Provision of free education equipment, clothing and other facilities for tribals
4		Priority should be given to vocational education in harmony with the lifestyle of the tribals	Tribal Special attention has been recommended to ensure that people in inhabited areas can easily access higher education
5		Curriculum should be designed in harmony with the lifestyle of the tribals preserving their cultural characteristics.	

ADULT EDUCATION

Sl.	National Policy of Education 1968	National Policy of Education 1986	National Policy of Education 2020
1	Students and teachers should start a joint campaign for the elimination of illiteracy and adult education program	In order to achieve the national goal of education, a strong determination must be made to free the people aged 14-34 from the scourge of illiteracy	foundational literacy and numeracy
2	It is necessary to sign the workers of big industrial and commercial organizations as soon as	Teachers, students, youth voluntary organizations should all be involved in this effort	critical life skills including financial literacy, digital literacy, commercial skills, health care and awareness,

	possible and develop them as skilled workers		child care and education and family welfare
3	Eradication of illiteracy for the development of agriculture and creation of democratic mentality There is a special need	Various political parties and their affiliates Work to eliminate illiteracy should come forward	vocational skill
4	Youth farmers should be provided with opportunities for self-reliance in acquiring skills.	Literacy does not mean only being able to write names, literacy means gaining skills in one's work area	
5		Students should also think about the development of social and economic change	

EDUCATION FOR PHYSICALLY CHALLENGED STUDENTS

Sl.	National Policy of Education 1968	National Policy of Education 1986	National Policy of Education 2020
1	Initiatives should be taken to do something for specially abled children	If possible, provision should be made for specially abled children to be taught on par with ordinary school students	Non discrimination in schools , accessible infrastructure, reasonable accommodations, individualized supports ,use of braile and Indian sign language in teaching and monitoring have been included in NEP 2020
2		Arrangements should be made for hostels for specially abled children at the district headquarters	NEP2020 recognises the importance of creating enabling mechanism for providing children with special needs (CWSN) or dividing, the same opportunities of obtaining quality education as any other child
3		Encouragement for local voluntary organizations to take up the responsibility	

		of educating specially abled children have to give	
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SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION

Sl.	National Policy of Education 1968	National Policy of Education 1986	National Policy of Education 2020
1	It is proposed to introduce common schools or COMMON SCHOOL SYSTEM to eliminate social disparity and to expand national integration	Recommended to set up NAVODAYA VIDYALAYA 2) Recommended to set up OPARETION BLACK BOARD project	It is proposed to start special Bal Bhavan and boarding school in every state and district of India. These schools will be used for participation in sports career and industrial activities
2	Always strive to improve the quality of education in common schools		To provide an integrated national education policy SWADHIN RAJYA SCHOOL STANDARD AUTHORITY (SSSA) to be established which will be administered by the State or Union Territory
3	Pupils should be admitted on the basis of merit in PUBLIC SCHOOLS. To eliminate social inequality, a number of poor meritorious students will be given the opportunity to study without pay		

OPEN EDUCATION

Sl.	National Policy of Education 1968	National Policy of Education 1986	National Policy of Education 2020
1	Part-time education and correspondence education should be widely spread at the university level	Proposed to set up Open University for democratization of education	CREDIT SYSTEM is introduced or can be used by students in higher education and any fields

2	This system will benefit those sections of the society who do not get the opportunity of full-time education	Indira Gandhi Open University was established in 1985 for this purpose.	administration of graduate, post graduate and diploma courses in various subjects like arts department, science and technology is recommended
3	This education should be given equal status to full-time education		

SPORTS AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Sl.	National Policy of Education 1968	National Policy of Education 1986	National Policy of Education 2020
1	Promotion and development of sports to increase the physical capacity of students	Physical development is inextricably linked with mental development. The effectiveness of education is related to physical education	help students adopt fitness, develop life skills, promote physical and psychological well being while also enhancing cognitive abilities
2	Nationwide program of physical education and sports development	A special environment should be created for physical education and sports across the country	NEP 2020 recommend that the extra curricular activities improving the function and engagement that students so badly desire in a school children can grow physically, cognitively and socially via Play
3	Where there is shortage of sports grounds, that shortage should be eliminated on priority basis.	Attention should be given to yoga	to make physical education, sports and yoga accessible and available to masses by creation of professions in physical education sports and yoga through higher education institution. This will help every citizen of India to be healthy, fit, and stay well
4		Playgrounds, equipment, special teachers for	

		physical education etc. should be arranged for physical education and sports.	
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EXAMINATION

Sl.	National Policy of Education 1968	National Policy of Education 1986	National Policy of Education 2020
1	Tests will be reliable and valid	There will be no blind dependence of examination, it will be impersonal	It is proposed to make the examination system flexible and attractive 2) It is proposed to adapt students to the 21st century
2	Continuous assessment should be arranged	Rote system should be eliminated	Students should start COMPETENCY BASED LEARNING
3	Continuous assessment of student's daily activities instead of judging a student's quality in isolation will be the correct means of judging student's success and development	Examination will evaluate theoretical knowledge and external knowledge	Emphasis on CRITICAL THINKING
4		Examination system will be improved	Give the importance on SELF AND PEER ASSESSMENT
5		It is proposed to introduce semester system from secondary level	
6		Grade system should be introduced instead of marks	

FINANCIAL RESOURCES

Sl.	National Policy of Education 1968	National Policy of Education 1986	National Policy of Education 2020
1	6% is said to be spent on education	For the development of education, the required amount of money was not	The new National Education Policy will take 3%-6% of spending

		spent in the education sector so it was recommended to spend 6%. It should be seen that the expenditure on education development exceeds 6%	on education
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CONCLUSION

The Education Policy formulated in June-July 2020 has a target of 2040 to be fully implemented. The largest National Education Policy completed in India in 2020 has approved the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) to act as a single regulator for all schools renamed as Ministry of Education.

Due to the proactive nature of the national education policy, India's education system is particularly active in aligning itself with global education systems. The newly organized National Education Policy 2020 will have a greater impact on the lives of students in India. Not only will this educational policy have a profound impact on the lives of students, but it is also offering a variety of new curricula for future teachers that will help teachers gain deeper insights into their learning process and the context in which they teach.

RECOMMENDATION

- Emphasis should be placed on **skill-based education** system instead of **merit-based education** system.
- Emphasis should be placed on the **practical side of education** at various educational levels.
- **Problem solving approach** should be emphasized in the curriculum subjects.
- Emphasis should be placed on **heuristics method** in the curriculum.
- Curriculum should emphasize on completing various tasks in **field work method**.
- Subjects should follow **experimental method** and **learning by doing approach**.

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