

Role of National Education Policy (2022) in Academic Libraries in India

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Abstract-On July 29, 2020, the Indian Ministry of Education released the National Education Policy 2020 (NEP 2020). The old National Policy on Education, 1986, has been replaced with the new policy. On the Indian subcontinent, the policy offers appropriate guidance documents for all stages of education, including higher education and vocational training. This article focus on the Features, benefits, and vision of the National Education Policy (NEP 2022). It also focuses on NEP 2022 in libraries and their value in education systems. School, college, and higher education are all supported equally by the New Education Policy 2020. The main aim of this article is on NEP 2020's primary selling points, particularly its library features.

Index terms: National Education Policy 2022, Indian Ministry of Education, Libraries, School, College, Higher.

1.INTRODUCTION

HRD Minister Mr. Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank has released National Education Policy 2022 to reform and provide better infrastructure for education policies of the school, higher education for colleges, universities, and other higher educational institutions in India. The NEP 2020 Policy states that learning is important for realising one's potential as a person, creating a just and equitable society, and developing national development. The secret to India's continuous rise and leadership on the international stage in terms of economic growth, fair social treatment, scientific advancement, national integration, and cultural preservation is providing universal access to high-quality education. This new education policy aims to develop India's potential and resources while positively impacting everyone and promoting a global community and country. The government attempts to offer top-notch educational opportunities so individuals can develop holistically for themselves and society.

The SDG goal's emphasis on education is illustrated in India's 2030 plan for sustainable education development, which assures that education is inclusive and equitable to promote lifelong learning opportunities for all - including children, adults, and professionals working in the field of education. Fifty hours of Professional Development are required to ensure educators have the necessary skills, pedagogical understanding, and practices to execute the new education policy (2022).

All methods used in the library and institutions must be fair and inclusive. Being inclusive, it must include all persons from all tribes, rural areas, socially and economically disadvantaged groups (SDGs), children with special needs (CWSNs), and minorities to access library services.

2. NATIONAL EDUCATION POLICY 2022

2.1 What Is National Education Policy?

The national education policy, which has replaced the previous policy from 1986, is India's new educational system. Elementary education and vocational training are the key focus of the national education policy in rural and urban areas. The National Education Policy's primary goal is to transform the educational system for the better, starting in 2021. All Indian pupils will benefit from high-quality education thanks to the national education policy. The main focus will be on the mother tongue and regional languages preferred by the different states.

2.2 Significant Changes in New Education Policy 2022

- Students must complete a school exam administered by the authorized authority in grades 3, 5, and 8.

- The 10th and 12th-grade board exams will still be given, but they will be changed to encourage holistic growth.
- For the first five grades, this strategy strongly emphasizes the mother tongue, regional, and local language.
- Beginning in the sixth grade, students can combine mathematical reasoning with a scientific mindset.
- Sixth grade will mark the start of vocational education, including internships.
- According to India's latest educational policy, 10+2 would be replaced by 5+3+3+4.
- Under the new system, pupils will attend school for 12 years and participate in pre-school or Anganwadi for three years.
- Sanskrit is available to secondary and higher education students at all levels and consists of three linguistic formulas.
- There will also be the option to study literature in other classical languages, including India.
- No language will be required of the students.
- A four-year bachelor's degree is now required for an effective teacher.
- Any subject is available to students in higher education.
- Emphasis on online learning to lessen reliance on textbooks
- The new program will increase education spending from 1.7% to 6% of GDP. The educational system will benefit as a result of this.
- All higher education institutions (HEIs) were expected to be multidisciplinary and have at least 3000 students by 2040.
- Over the next 15 years, all college affiliations will gradually disappear.
- Every state should have a large, multidisciplinary HEI by 2030.

2.3 Benefits & Features of National Education Policy.

- The Ministry of Education will now replace the Ministry of Human Resource Management.
- The national education policy will now extend education to everyone, except for studies in medicine and law.
- Science, Commerce, and Arts streams were once available, but they are no longer available.

- Students can choose a subject based on their interests, such as accountancy and physics or the arts.
- The six standards will be used to teach students how to code.
- All educational institutions will be outfitted with digital technology;
- All content will be translated into local tongues
- Virtual labs will be created.
- Board exams will be held twice a year to lessen the student's strain.
- To facilitate learning, artificial intelligence tools will also be deployed.
- The state-determined three languages will be taught to the student in place of the M. Phil degree in higher education.
- The national council of educational research and training (NCERT) will create the national curricular framework for education.
- Numerous institutions will be created in order to implement the National Education Policy.
- The education and skills of the kids will receive special consideration.

2.4 Vision Of New Education Policy

The NEP 2022 seeks to create an education system focused on India and help the country develop into a thriving, just, and knowledge-based society by offering top-notch instruction. Because of this NEP, our nation's scientific and educational infrastructure will be reinforced. Global standards will be provided to students who have spent thousands of dollars studying abroad in India.

3.THE OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

- To increase awareness about the New Education Policy 2020;
- To highlight the Significant Changes in New Education Policy 2022
- To highlight the benefits & features of the National Education Policy.
- The role of the libraries and the librarian in the New Educational Policy 2022.

4.WHAT ABOUT LIBRARIES IN THE NEW EDUCATION POLICY OF INDIA?

The New Education Policy 2020 replaced the National Policy on Education (NPE), which had been in place for 34 years (NEP2020). The core pillars of Access, Affordability, Equity, Quality, and Accountability form the basis of the NEP 2020.

A national book promotion policy will be created, and significant steps will be taken to improve the availability and accessibility of educational resources in all regions and tongues.

Here are the advancements in digital libraries and school/public libraries on which the government will focus to encourage the habit of reading, maximize the use of libraries, and ensure that books are available and accessible to students regardless of their location, language, or technology.

- Developing enjoyable and inspirational books
Entertaining and inspirational books will be created for students in all regional and Indian languages. Measures will be taken to ensure that readers are accessible to those with disabilities and other special needs. The government will develop plans to raise the caliber and appeal of books with assistance from both public and private sector organizations.

- Increasing the number of books available and easily accessible in public and school libraries

The administration will strongly emphasize expanding the number of books available in public libraries and schools. The government will ensure that readers are accessible to everyone in the nation, including those with disabilities and people who are differently abled and who use contemporary ICT. The socioeconomically underprivileged communities and rural/remote places would be the main focus.

- Promoting reading as a culture across the nation
Public and school libraries will receive major improvements to expand readership and readers across the nation. The state of public libraries will be improved. There will be a sufficient supply of books that meet the requirements and preferences of communities—increasing the number of children's libraries, mobile libraries, and social book clubs around the nation to promote widespread reading and neighborhood growth.

- ICT-equipped school/public libraries in villages
ICT-equipped school/public libraries will be established to serve the local population and pupils, particularly in rural areas after school. To further encourage reading, book club facilities will be created.

- Libraries in higher education systems will be improved

The government will improve and boost the acquisition of reading materials like books, journals, and other learning and teaching resources because academic libraries are the beating hearts of institutions. There will be improvements to digital libraries and the availability of library books online. Regional language versions of the e-content will also be available.

- Adult education in public library spaces

To ensure adult education and lifelong learning for interested adults, the government will seek to provide the necessary infrastructure. Adult education classes with ICT facilities and other community involvement and enrichment activities will be conducted in the public library facilities.

- Adult education in public library spaces

The government will seek to provide the necessary infrastructure to guarantee adult education and lifelong learning to interested adults. Adult education classes with ICT support, community involvement, and enrichment activities will be held in public library facilities.

- Create a suitable CPD plan for library personnel
The government will design suitable career routes for the growth of the library staff and ensure adequate staff for optimal operation to fulfill the goal of establishing, developing, and strengthening existing libraries and meeting the requirements of all readers across the nation.

5.ROLE OF LIBRARIAN IN NEW EDUCATION POLICY 2022

Here are some key insights from a librarian's perspective on the NEP 2020 :

The librarian must work with teachers to promote the essential ideas outlined in the NEP to provide best practices to support the guiding principles of education. And one way to achieve this is to pursue curiosities and passion projects through cluster groups. The NEP emphasises that all academic members, including the librarian, maintain a service-oriented mentality. With that in mind, the library transforms into a hub for staff and digital and print educational resources.

5.1 MAPPING FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES THROUGH PASSION PROJECTS WITH THE LIBRARIAN

According to the NEP, which has outlined the following core concepts, students will be able to realise their potential through a collaborative effort to develop project work that is motivated by their interests, strengths, and choices:

1. To support each student's holistic growth in both academic and extracurricular areas by recognizing, identifying, and nurturing their unique talents and abilities
2. The versatility of learning options
3. There is a diverse and thorough education throughout the social sciences, arts, humanities, and sports when learning about India and the rest of the globe.
4. Conceptual comprehension is prioritized above memorization
5. Innovation, problem-solving, and logical decision-making are fostered through critical thinking
6. To allow people to use various technology tools, drama, writing, or service to express themselves artistically.
7. Social, moral, and emotional skills and tendencies.

5.2 THE NEP PROVIDES EXAMPLES OF THE LOCATIONS AND DISPOSITIONS OF LIBRARIES.

Schools and libraries must offer a secure, friendly environment where students can be intellectually challenged and where the library transforms into a Learning Hub to construct an individual's education. Students can be engaged and given various learning experiences at a library-learning hub, where the learning environment is present. Where the emphasis is on the 21st-century competencies with the dispositions that make up the essence of the person's personality and character

Therefore, to assist students in developing the personalities listed in the NEP, librarians' instructional strategies and curricula must incorporate a variety of dispositions in a casual context.

- Values like responsibility, pluralism, equality, empathy, respect for others, cleanliness, civility, democracy, and the spirit of service.
- Life skills like resilience, teamwork, cooperation, and communication are covered.

- A disposition toward science and evidence-based reasoning; originality and creativity; an appreciation of beauty and the arts
- Verbal and written communication, teamwork, collaboration, logical thinking, and problem-solving abilities;
- The ethical and moral sense, knowledge of and application of human and constitutional principles, and gender sensitivity.
- Digital literacy, coding, and computational thinking.
- Sensitivity to gender issues; awareness of and practice of human and constitutional principles.
- Supporting multilingualism and the value of language in education.

5.2.1 The NEP 2022 focuses on the following aspects of collaboration between teachers and librarians:

A learning process with continual professional growth, positive working environments, and service conditions. The NEP's emphasis on libraries highlights the following points:

- Books that are inspiring and enjoyable for students of all levels are created, especially through excellent translation (technology assisted as needed)
- Building a national reading culture through public and school libraries.
- Digital libraries are to be established and serve the community during non-school hours, and book clubs may meet in public/school libraries to further facilitate extensive reading.
- A National Book Promotion Policy will take extensive initiatives to ensure the availability, accessibility, quality, and readership of books across geographies, languages, levels, and genres.

5.2.2 The National Education Policy (NEP) states that learning should be holistic, integrated, enjoyable, and engaging. As a result, learning in library classes and lessons must be inquiry-based, discovery-based, discussion-based, and analysis-based.

- The program will focus on key concepts, ideas, applications, and problem-solving.
- Sessions will include participation from the student side, and teaching and learning should be participatory.
- Combining sports and the arts

- Learning many languages

5.2.3 As advised by the NEP, the library's collection must be comprehensive and contain the following items:

- Bilingual books,
- Digital books,
- multilingual,
- multileveled,
- combine Indian literature and world literature,
- blend modern and classical literature across all languages,
- focus on inquiry, critical thinking, and problem-solving
- In addition to high-quality offerings in Indian and international languages, language learning is encouraged to help students learn about the world's cultures and enrich their global knowledge.
- Folklore and stories from different states
- Those that promote pride in India's rich, ancient, and modern traditions, cultures,
- and knowledge systems, as well as resources that promote global awareness (we cannot live in isolation)

5.2.4 Lesson plans for librarians should incorporate the following competencies

- A willingness to use evidence and a scientific mindset
- Innovation and creativity, as well as logic and problem-solving
- Aesthetic and artistic sensibility
- Written and spoken communication
- Cooperation and group effort
- Information literacy and digital literacy
- Moral and ethical considerations

5.2.5 The NEP specifies the following as part of the content:

- Knowledge of India: Ancient and Modern
- Environmental awareness, including cleanliness, hygiene, and the conservation of water and resources
- Understanding of current events and important concerns affecting local populations

- The regional specialties of every state, nation, and region worldwide
 - Native American and tribal knowledge
 - All genres of Indian and international literature
 - An all-encompassing multidisciplinary approach
- A librarian may also ask for continuing professional development in 50 hours annually as required by NEP 2020 if they develop their career to become teacher-librarians. Schools will roll out a wave of professional development opportunities for all faculty members to implement the new practices suggested by the NEP 2020. This is an opportunity for librarians to learn with other students in the classroom, changing their position from bookkeeper to the librarian.

6. ROLE OF THE NATIONAL DIGITAL LIBRARY OF INDIA (NDLI) IN NATIONAL EDUCATION POLICY (2020)

NDLI is a government-funded initiative, primarily implemented by IIT Kharagpur and was started in 2015 by the Ministry of Education. The main aim of these digital libraries is to distribute digital learning resources nationwide. While the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 emphasises enabling the education sector and utilising the potential of digital, accomplishing those goals still presents a challenge. "Implementing any project at the grassroots level is a bit difficult. In outreach, we have worked with schools, of which 90% are private, and only 10% are government schools," said Vignesh Sornamohan, Chief Strategic and Outreach Officer, NDLI. According to Telecom Service Providers (TSP) data, out of 5,97,618 inhabited villages in India, 25,067 villages lack mobile connectivity and Internet. The government has committed to a fund that would last until March 2026 with an annual budget of Rs 15 crore.

6.1 Why does creating a digital library remain a challenge for the government?

- Lack of mobile connectivity and Internet
- Infrastructure facility
- Insufficient funds and labor
- Digital transformation requires adequate cost and labour.
- To digitalise content and bring transformation, state libraries need proper monetary aid.
- Copyright or intellectual property rights issues

- To digitalise all this content across languages is a challenging
- The library must be a core part of the institution and academic curriculum.
- The digitalization of education suffers from infrastructural challenges in the rural part of the country.

7.CONCLUSION

Developing each student's creative potential is a key component of NEP 2022. It is primarily based on the idea that education must cultivate students' cognitive abilities, including their "foundational capacities" of literacy and numeracy as well as "higher-order" mental abilities, like critical thinking and problem-solving, as well as their social, ethical, and emotional dispositions. This study highlighted the emergence of the library as a hub for top-notch educational resources. This article also combines library innovation and the educational system to understand better the necessity and goal of the Government of India's NEP 2020 strategy. Additionally, through embedded librarianship, library professionals must look into other areas where they may make a stronger and more significant impact on higher education. Although the traditional role of libraries is prominently displayed and underlined in NEP, with a few notable exceptions, the precise expectations from academic libraries have not been mentioned. However, in the context of NEP, librarians must define their roles. Since research has received a lot of attention, libraries at higher education institutions need to position themselves as resources for students and researchers.

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