

**RESEARCH PAPER****Impact of National Education Policy- 2020 on Teacher Education: Technology Use and Integration****Chandrakant Dewangan**

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The vision for NEP 2020 is "Technology use and Integration" in order to give a pathway for the students to make India a digitally empowered society and knowledge economy around the globe. Integration of technology in education simply refers to the use of technology to enhance the student learning experience. Utilizing different types of technology in the classroom, including a virtual classroom, creates learners who are actively engaged with learning objectives. Technology empowers teachers to develop creative and interactive classrooms and gives them access to innovative resources. Effective educators understand the benefits of integrating technology in the classroom and finding new ways to make lessons meaningful.

Key words: National Education Policy 2020, Technology, Multilingualism, Accessibility, ICT, Teacher Education, strategies and its implementation

INTRODUCTION

In July 2020, India's HRD Ministry was renamed Education Ministry and it unveiled the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, a revolutionary regulation with ground breaking changes in Indian Education. This Policy, while focusing on various aspects of education, weaves in technology at every stage. The NEP has been welcomed by educators all over the country who insisted it was long due. In the last few years, India has turned itself into an information focused society and it has become the need of the hour to embrace technology in the field of education. The NEP 2020 states that one of the main drivers of the education system will be 'extensive use of technology in teaching and learning, removing language barriers, increasing access as well as education planning and management'.

It has become even more relevant in the current pandemic situation when virtual learning is the new normal, to re imagine conventional learning and teaching techniques. The Policy drafts a vision of education for the new generation which will help to build a self-reliant India.

According to the policy, a dedicated e-education unit and a National Education Technology Forum (NETF) will be set up to boost digital content, infrastructure and capacity building. Through NETF, Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, computing devices and other educational software and hardware will be incorporated into education at all levels to improve classroom processes, boost student progress, support teachers development and streamline administration and management.

OBJECTIVES

- Leveraging the advantages of technology while acknowledging the potential risks and dangers.
- Carefully designed and appropriately scaled pilot studies to determine the benefits of digital/online education.
- Optimising and expanding the existing digital platforms and ongoing ICT-based educational initiatives to meet the current needs and future challenges.
- Using technology for online and digital education adequately to address concerns of equity.

KEY ASPECTS OF NEP DEALING WITH TECHNOLOGY**1. PRIMARY EDUCATION:**

The Policy recognises the importance of technology in aiding teachers, bridging the language barrier between teachers and students, creating digital libraries, popularising language learning as

well as ensuring greater access to education (specifically for differently-abled children). It is also proposed that coding be introduced in school curriculums as an important skill that students must develop. The Policy also notes that technology can be an effective tool in facilitating teacher education and encourages the utilisation of technology platforms for online teacher-training.

2. PROFESSIONAL & HIGHER EDUCATION:

The need to embrace technology in professional education (legal/health) as well as the incorporation of technology to expedite the aim of achieving 100% literacy (by introducing quality technology-based options for adult learning) has also been put forward.

The Policy recognises the importance of technology in addressing various societal challenges and seeks to promote interdisciplinary research and innovation. For instance, Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) have been encouraged to set up start-up incubation centers and technology development centers, and a National Research Foundation is also proposed to be set up to cultivate a culture of research. The Policy envisages the establishment of the National Educational Technology Forum (NETF), which shall operate as a platform for free exchange of ideas on the use of technology to enhance learning, assessment planning and administration for school and higher education.

3. ADMINISTRATION OF EDUCATION:

- The Academic Bank of Credit is to be created, which will digitally store academic credits earned from various HEIs. These credits earned over a period of time will help to grant degrees.
- Focus on using technology to ensure efficiency and transparency of regulatory bodies like the State School Standards Authority, the Higher Education Commission of India and also its four verticals (National Higher Education Regulatory Council, National Accreditation Council, Higher Education Grants Council and the General Education Council).

4. ADAPTING TO ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE:

The Policy recognises challenges arising on account of the widespread use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and highlights the need to adopt changes occurring on account of increased use of AI across sectors. It has tasked the NETF with identifying and categorising emergent technologies based on their '*potential*' and '*estimated timeframe for disruption*' and to present a periodic analysis of the same to the MHRD, who shall then formally identify such technologies which require appropriate responses from the education system. In light of the emerging 'disruptive technologies', the Policy is pioneering as it notes the need to generate awareness as well as conduct research on various aspects of the emerging disruptive technologies, including concerns pertaining to data handling and protection.

5. DIGITAL INDIA:

The Policy calls for investment in digital infrastructure, development of online teaching platforms and tools, creation of virtual labs and digital repositories, training teachers to become high quality online content creators, designing and implementing of online assessments, establishing standards for content, technology and pedagogy for online teaching-learning. The Policy envisages the creation of a dedicated unit for the purpose of devising the development of digital infrastructure, digital content and capacity building to supervise the e-education needs of both school and higher education.

METHODS

The ministry will use the technology in education planning, teaching learning and most essentially in assessment. The ministry will develop regulation- self disclosure & minimum human interface in education sector according the new policy. It has also given priority to increase asses for disadvantaged groups of the society. It will also develop Divyang friendly education software. The new policy is eyeing to digitally equipping schools, teachers and students.

TERMINOLOGIES

Present age is digital technology-driven age and the internet is influencing the whole globe. A well defined and futuristic education policy is essential for a country at all levels due to the reason that education leads to economic and social progress. Different countries adopt different education

systems by considering the tradition and culture and adopt different stages during their life cycle at school and higher education levels to make it effective.

The present age is digital technology-driven age and the internet is influencing the whole globe. Due to which the concept of virtual classroom is already popularized across the globe. Therefore, in the modern era, the role of online technology in providing the education is vital and with its flexible nature the online educational technology has gained popularity.

The role of online learning is expected not only for delivering content to massive learners anywhere and anytime but also for promoting successful learning for the learners. Consequently this emerged role has introduced the concept of smart leaning environment.

CONCLUSION

In this regard, the New Education Policy-2020, highlights that, keeping in view the explosive pace of technological development allied with the sheer creativity of techsavvy teachers and entrepreneurs including student entrepreneurs, it is certain that technology will impact education in multiple ways, only some of which can be foreseen at the present time.

NEP 2020 is definitely a landmark policy after 34 years which is comprehensive, holistic and has the potential to play a key role in the nation's future growth and development. The policy emphasizes a holistic, learner-centered, and adaptable approach that aims to transform nations into vibrant information societies. It brilliantly mixes pride and rootedness within the country with acceptance of the best successful ideas and methods from around the world in the realm of learning. It is definitely a revolutionary document that is expected to change the way of learning of coming generation of students.

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