

## **National Education Policy 2020 of Higher Education System in India**

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### **Introduction:**

Chairperson of The National Education Policy 2020 was Dr. K. Kasturirangan. The committee have 9 members. The commission started 2017 and submitted its report on May 2019 and after reviewing the suggestions the policy introduced on July 2020. The National Education Policy 2020 envisions an education system rooted in Indian ethos that contributes directly to transform India, sustainably into an equitable and vibrant knowledge society, by providing high-quality education to all, and thereby making India a global knowledge superpower. NEP 2020 introduced the curriculum pattern for foundational stage, preparatory stage, middle stage, secondary stage and higher education. Here we will discuss about Higher Education.

### **Higher Education:**

The Indian Constitution envisages an India with democratic, justice and socially conscious, civilized and human nature. An India where the values of equality, freedom, fraternity and justice are respected. The role of higher education is very important in building such a nation. Also, the contribution of higher education is important in the economic development of the individual and the nation. Therefore, higher education has been considered in various aspects in this policy. In regards of 21<sup>st</sup> century, the following things are expected to be achieved through higher education,

- 1) To develop good, thoughtful, versatile and creative people.
- 2) The person should be able to acquire knowledge of one or more subjects according to his interest and ability.
- 3) Ethical and constitutional values as well as intellectual curiosity, scientific approach, ingenuity, good character, service spirit should be inculcated in the individual.
- 4) Through higher education, students should develop the ability to achieve personal success as well as productive contributions to society.
- 5) Higher education should contribute to the national economy by generating knowledge and innovation.
- 6) Higher education should create a vibrant socially engaged, collaborative community and a harmonious, civilized, productive, progressive and prosperous nation.

7) Along with professional and economic development, higher education is entrusted with the responsibility of creating a civilized society and a vibrant society with progressive thinking.

Therefore, colleges and universities have the responsibility to inculcate moral values in the students along with the study of traditional subjects. Also, if a person wants to be able to lead his own career through higher education, then it is necessary to give him professional education along with traditional philosophical subjects. Considering the needs of 21st century, it is necessary to try to develop scientific approach in students not only from science subject but from every subject. This policy has introduced many new aspects for higher education. This policy has introduced many new aspects for higher education.

1) Each district will have a large multidisciplinary university and college and the medium of learning and teaching here will be the local Indian language. Various education experts have said this before, but still every parent thinks that if their child is going to live in the society as a citizen of tomorrow, he must learn a foreign language.

2) Having a multidisciplinary approach to undergraduate education. For that, colleges should give flexibility to teachers in teaching. Also, teachers should prepare to teach those subjects by studying other subjects related to their subject.

3) This policy suggest autonomy towards faculty and institution.

4) Reconstructing curriculum, Pedagogy, evaluation pattern, different assessment pattern for students' progress. Also developing the different educational experiences for the progress of student.

5) Students also need assistance in solving academic and personal problems. For that every college and university should have counseling system.

6) The quality of the institution and the faculty will depend on the teaching of faculty, research work and service rendered by the faculty.

7) Establishing a National Research Foundation to support research and promote active research in universities and colleges.

8) Governance of HEIs by high qualified independent boards having academic and administrative autonomy.

9) "Light but tight" regulation by a single regulator for higher education. Currently various organizations like University Grants Commission, AICTE, NCTE, Bar Council are regulating the higher education system. But with the new policy bringing higher education under one roof, it is felt that as various specializations of different subjects

emerge, the experts in the field will be able to think about them carefully and take appropriate decisions regarding them.

10) For disadvantage and under privilege students make available many good opportunities for outstanding public Education, scholarship by private/ philanthropic University and also increase access, equity and inclusion in education.

11) Making available and accessible online education, and Open Distance Learning (ODL); and all infrastructure and learning materials to learners with disabilities.

### **Institutional Restructuring**

The Kasturirangan Committee recommended that there should be large multidisciplinary Universities will be established. There should be three types of Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) namely "Research intensive university", "Teaching intensive university" and "Autonomous degree granting college". These multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary Universities will have various fields of study like Art, Science, Commerce, Education, Law as well as Engineering, Medical, Sports etc. In addition to teaching and research, Universities of higher education have responsibilities such as community engagement and service, contributions to the curriculum, teacher development for the higher education system, and support for school education. Out of this, such Universities have to set up their own systems for teacher development or take the help of other organizations to complete various trainings for teachers. This is why the Kasturirangan Committee has suggested that every university should have an education department and that department should take responsibility for the professional development of teachers in that university. The aim will be to increase the Gross Enrolment Ratio in higher education including vocational education from 26.3% (2018) to 50% by 2035. While a number of new institutions may be developed to attain these goals, a large part of the capacity creation will be achieved by consolidating, substantially expanding, and also improving existing HEIs. Efforts will be made to integrate humanities and arts in the subjects of mathematics, science, technology, Engineering in undergraduate education. Also, emphasis will be placed on the development of skills required in the 21st century. Creative and flexible curriculum design will make it possible to make creative combinations of various branches for study. To promote multidisciplinary Indian education and departments of languages, literature, philosophy, art, dance, drama, education, mathematics, numeracy, sociology, economics, sports, translation will be established in all HEIs.

## **Curricular structure for higher education**

In this policy, it is expected to introduce courses in various sciences and arts on the basis of ancient university curricula in India. Therefore, there will no longer be uni-faculty universities. Just as the 64 arts were taught in the past, the policy states that "all branches of creative human endeavor, including mathematics, science, business subjects, vocational subjects, and business skills, should be considered arts." Holistic multidisciplinary education aims to develop the human capacities in an integrated way, intellectual, aesthetic, social, physical, emotional, and moral in graduate education. Multidisciplinary universities and colleges are expected to provide opportunities for holistic and multidisciplinary education of high quality. For that, to study subjects such as mathematics, science, language, literature, art, music, philosophy, dance, drama, sociology, economics, sports, etc., you have to take the support of the credit system. That is why the credit system is recommended in this policy and it is considered necessary for the students to do internship and apprenticeship in local industry business arts etc. during this period.

A very big change is suggested in this policy for the degree course. The degree course will be of three or four year's duration. A student can start his studies at any time and can drop out at any time. This means that a student who takes admission in BA first year and then due to some difficulty fails to study after one year, he can now come out with one year certificate course of BA and after two years with diploma course. Presently, the educational qualification of such outgoing students was considered as 12th pass. Now this will not be a problem. He will graduate after three years. If he wants to do special study and research in his subject, he can do it in fourth year and then he will get degree with honors. Since all these courses are in credit system, if a student has completed or acquired some credits from a college and after some time he has to go to another college or university, he does not have to repeat the study as the credit acquired earlier has been credited to his account. Also, if a science student is interested in music, he can acquire some credits in music. This credit will be deposited in the credit bank created by the University Grants Commission. Students who complete the four year course can complete the postgraduate course in just one year. That means currently M.A. as it used to take five years to happen, it will also take now. If you want to get a M. A. degree, it will be a four-year degree course, and a one-year post-graduation course, while those who have a three-year degree will have a two-year post-graduation course. Ph.D. Candidates must have completed a four year research degree course. That is, Master's degree will not be mandatory for Ph.D. admission. Also, now M.Phil. will no longer exist.

According to this policy, students can choose one major course and one minor course according to the curriculum pattern. There will be 50% credit for major course and 20% credit for minor subject and 30% credit for other courses. A course of minimum 20 and maximum 22 credits has to be completed in each semester. In major

courses, the student has to choose one subject from the discipline in which he/she wants to study. For example, in Science stream he has to choose a subject from Physics, Chemistry, Botany, Biology etc. While in minor courses, a subject in the same discipline can be selected as a minor course. For example, if he chose Physics as a major subject, he will now choose Chemistry or any other subject as a minor course. Apart from this, 30 percent credits will consist of various types of courses. Generic Elective Courses are courses for more in-depth study of the subject that the student has chosen and in which he is going to graduate. Open elective courses are courses in other faculties other than the one chosen by the students. These 30 percent credits include professional skills development courses, capacity building courses, research projects, internships, apprenticeships, community engagement and services courses, etc. It is recommended that 30% of this should be determined by the Board of Studies of the respective faculty of that university.

For holistic and multidisciplinary education IITs, IIMs etc., ideal government universities (Multidisciplinary Education and Research universities) will be established under the name MERU. It will be used by private universities, autonomous colleges to set standards for their system and curriculum. Apart from this, startup incubation centers, technology development centers, centers of key areas of research will be established in each institution. It seems necessary to create a mechanism to see the quality of research. Researches that are otherwise done would require someone to get a Ph.D. Will be limited to awarding degrees only.

### **References-**

- 1) National Education Policy 2020
- 2) National curriculum framework – Foundational stage
- 3) National curriculum framework –School Education