

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION  
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION & LITERACY

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**STARRED QUESTION NO- 20**  
ANSWERED ON 24/07/2024

**Focus areas of New Education Policy**

**20. SHRI KARTIKEYA SHARMA:**

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the key focus areas of the New Education Policy (NEP) and the National Curriculum Framework (NCF);
- (b) whether there is any timeline for implementation of NEP and the NCF, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether State Governments have been consulted for implementation of NEP;
- (d) whether the same shall be implemented across all Government run school education programmes/schemes; and
- (e) the total financial outlay planned for implementation of NEP?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF EDUCATION**

**(SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN)**

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) TO (e) OF THE RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 20 FOR REPLY ON 24.07.2024 ASKED BY SHRI KARTIKEYA SHARMA, HON'BLE MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT REGARDING FOCUS AREAS OF NEW EDUCATION POLICY**

(a) The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 was announced on 29<sup>th</sup> July, 2020. It is the first education policy of the 21st century and founded on the five guiding pillars of Access, Equity, Quality, Affordability and Accountability. NEP 2020 envisions a massive transformation in school education through– “an education system rooted in Indian ethos that contributes directly to transforming India, that is Bharat, sustainably into an equitable and vibrant knowledge society, by providing high quality education to all, thereby making India a global knowledge superpower.”

The key focus areas of NEP 2020 in the context of School Education are as follows:

- i. Ensuring Universal Access at All Levels of schooling from pre-primary school to Grade 12;
- ii. Ensuring quality early childhood care and education for all children between 3-6 years;
- iii. New Curricular and Pedagogical Structure (5+3+3+4);
- iv. No hard separations between arts and sciences, between curricular and extra-curricular activities, between vocational and academic streams;
- v. Establishing National Mission on Foundational Literacy and Numeracy;
- vi. Emphasis on promoting multilingualism and Indian languages; The medium of instruction until at least Grade 5, but preferably till Grade 8 and beyond, will be the home language/mother tongue/local language/regional language;
- vii. Setting up of a new National Assessment Centre, PARAKH (Performance Assessment, Review, and Analysis of Knowledge for Holistic Development);
- viii. Equitable and inclusive education - Special emphasis given on Socially and Economically Disadvantaged Groups (SEDGs);
- ix. Robust and transparent processes for recruitment of teachers and merit-based performance;
- x. Integration of Skill Education programs into mainstream education;
- xi. Ensuring availability of all resources through school complexes and clusters;
- xii. Setting up of State School Standards Authority (SSSA).

As a follow up of NEP 2020 and to provide the roadmap for the implementation of the vision of NEP 2020, National Curriculum Framework for the Foundational Stage (NCF-FS) and National Curriculum Framework for School Education (NCF-SE) have been developed. The overarching objectives of the NCFs is to help in positively transform the school education.

Few important focus areas of NCFs are: -

- i. The NCF-SE 2023 addresses the age group 3 to 18 years across the four Stages in the 5+3+3+4 Curricular and Pedagogical restructuring of School Education as envisioned in NEP 2020.
- ii. While emphasising on holistic development through Early Childhood Care and Education, NCF-FS provides roadmap to strengthen foundational literacy and numeracy skills.

- iii. It emphasises upon education in mother tongue and promotes multilingual education.
- iv. It is integrative and holistic with equal status to all subjects and learning domains from Mathematics to Sports.
- v. It integrates Skill Education in all stages; also, there is integration across subjects in all classes.
- vi. Equal emphasis on Arts and Physical Education and Health & Well-being right from the Foundational Stage with adequate time allocation for these subject areas from Grade 3 onwards.
- vii. It speaks directly to Teachers, practitioners, and syllabus and content developers through illustrations and examples from the field.

(b) Implementation of NEP 2020 is a continuous process and its implementation requires multiple initiatives and actions, which are taken by concerned bodies/ stakeholders in a synchronized and systematic manner. In pursuance of the goals and objectives of the NEP 2020 and to assist States, UTs and other organisations, the Department of School Education & Literacy has developed an indicative and suggestive **NEP Implementation Plan for School Education, 'Students' and 'Teachers' Holistic Advancement through Quality Education (SARTHAQ)** and is available on the links mentioned below:

[https://dse.education.gov.in/sites/default/files/SARTHAQ\\_Part-1\\_updated.pdf](https://dse.education.gov.in/sites/default/files/SARTHAQ_Part-1_updated.pdf)

[https://dse.education.gov.in/sites/default/files/SARTHAQ\\_Part-2\\_updated.pdf](https://dse.education.gov.in/sites/default/files/SARTHAQ_Part-2_updated.pdf)

The major achievements of NEP 2020 include:

- National Initiative for Proficiency in Reading with Understanding and Numeracy (**NIPUN BHARAT**) launched on 5<sup>th</sup> July 2021.
- **4-year integrated Teacher Education Programme (ITEP)** has been notified by NCTE vide gazette notification dated 22.10.2021. For academic session 2024-25, 23 institutions have been recognized by NCTE for Phase 2 Piloting of ITEP.
- National Curriculum Framework for Foundational Stage (**NCF FS**) launched on 20th October, 2022.
- Based on NCF, Learning Teaching Material (**Jadui Pitara**) and Textbooks for classes I and II launched on 20<sup>th</sup> February, 2023 and 5<sup>th</sup> July, 2023 respectively. **Digital version of the Jadui Pitara** also launched on 10<sup>th</sup> February, 2024.
- National Curriculum Framework for School Education (**NCF-SE**) released on 23rd August 2023. Textbooks for classes 3 and 6 for the academic year 2024-25 as per NCF-SE (2023) have been released.
- **PARAKH** (Performance Assessment, Review, and Analysis of Knowledge for Holistic Development) has been set up on 8<sup>th</sup> February, 2023, to fulfil the objectives of setting norms, standards, guidelines and implement activities related to student assessment.
- For Competency Based Assessment for Holistic Development, the **Holistic Progress Card (HPC)** for the Preparatory, Foundational, Middle and Secondary stage have been prepared and shared with all states and UTs.

- **National Professional Standards for Teachers (NPST)** document that outlines the competencies that teachers should possess to effectively perform their roles released on 9<sup>th</sup> March 2024.
- **National Mission for Mentoring (NMM)- ‘Bluebook on NMM’ released on 9<sup>th</sup> March 2024-** talks about the creation of a large pool of outstanding professionals willing to provide mentoring to school teachers.
- Under **PM e-VIDYA, DIKSHA is the one nation, one digital education infrastructure.** All states/UTs have been onboarded in DIKSHA. This infrastructure is also being utilized for creating Energized Textbooks (ETBs) and presently 422 ETBs of the NCERT and 6025 ETBs of States and UTs are published on DIKSHA. There are a total of 3,53,566 total e-contents available on DIKSHA and eContent is available in 84 Languages (77 Indian languages +7 Foreign Languages).
- **Samagra Shiksha**, an overarching programme extending from pre-school to class 12 aims for improving school effectiveness measured in terms of equal opportunities for schooling and equitable learning outcomes. The scheme is in accordance with Sustainable Development Goal for Education (SDG-4) and has been fully aligned with the recommendation of the National Education Policy 2020.
- **DIET- Centre of Excellence:** The NEP 2020 recognises the reinvigoration of DIETs to change the capacity and work culture of these institutions and develop them into vibrant institutions of excellence. Financial assistance under Samagra Shiksha is being provided to States/UTs for physical upgradation of all 613 functional DIETs in the country in a phased manner in the next five years. In the FY 2023-24, 125 DIETS across 33 States/UTs with an approximate budget of Rs. 92,320.18 Lakhs have been approved.
- Pradhan Mantri Poshan Shakti Nirman (**PM POSHAN**) Scheme has been revamped and extended to cover students of Balvatika in addition to students of Classes I-VIII in Government and Government-Aided Schools. It encourages setting up of School Nutrition Gardens (SNG) and strengthening of community participation through ‘**Tithi Bhojan**’.
- **PM SHRI (PM Schools for Rising India) scheme** launched on 07th Sep 2022. A central share of 1216.70 crore has been released to 6207 PM SHRI schools in 27 States/UTs along with KVS/NVS in the financial year 2023-24. The first and second phase of selection of PM SHRI Schools has been completed and a total of 10,080 schools have been selected from 31 States/UTs/KVS/NVS. The third phase of selection of PM SHRI Schools has commenced from 15.04.2024.
- **Nav Bharat Saksharta Karyakram or ULLAS (Understanding of Lifelong Learning for All in Society)** provides life-long learning opportunities to all non-literates in the age group of above 15 years. 1,49,93,987 learners and 37,02,943 volunteer teachers have registered on the Mobile App launched on 30.7.2023.

(c) to (e) During the formulation of NEP 2020, a large number of consultations were held with different stakeholders including State/UT Governments. Before finalizing the policy, a highly participative, inclusive and multi-pronged consultation process, through online, grassroots and thematic expert consultations, involving State Governments was carried out.

After announcement of NEP 2020, a series of workshops have been held with Union Ministries / Departments, States/UTs, implementing agencies, other stakeholders, etc. to discuss

innovative ideas for NEP implementation. Accordingly, Ministry of Education, State & UT Governments, education-related Ministries, the regulatory and implementing agencies/ stakeholders have started taking initiatives for implementation of NEP 2020.

Department of School Education and Literacy (DoSEL) organised national/regional workshops - A one-day National workshop and 2 regional workshops were organised with all States and UTs to deliberate on above themes and get their suggestions. The participants included State Secretaries, State Programme Directors of Samagra Shiksha, Director SCERT, and many other State level educational administrators.

The Department held five physical workshops with all states/UTSs on Foundational Learning - The participants were drawn from district, block and school level, including Teachers, DIETS, etc. All five themes were discussed in these workshops to obtain suggestions.

The Department constituted 5 thematic groups headed by senior School Education Secretaries - After incorporating the suggestions given by the states and UTs, 5 thematic groups comprising of 7-8 states/UTs each were constituted by DoSEL. Each of these groups was chaired by an ACS (Education) of State. These groups included Education Secretaries, State Project Directors, Director SCERTs of various states/UTs, outside Experts and DM/DC of 2-3 districts.

Moreover, a teacher's fest, 'Shikshak Parv' was especially organized from 8th to 25th September 2020 for discussing various recommendations of NEP 2020 and its implementation strategies, which attracted around 15 lakh suggestions.

In addition, the States/UTs are also undertaking different activities like training of teachers, development of toy-based Learning- Teaching Material (LTM) as per their local context and requirements, etc.

Department of School Education and Literacy has completely aligned the existing scheme i.e, Samagra Shiksha, with the recommendation of NEP 2020 and budgetary allocations to the States/UTs are made under this scheme to incorporate the recommendations of NEP 2020. In addition, a centrally sponsored scheme, PM SHRI has been conceived and is being implemented to develop 14,500 exemplar schools which would act as a template for schools. However, implementation of NEP is not confined to School Education but it envisions a broader horizon extending to Skill Education and Higher Education.

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