

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION  
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 53  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14.09.2020**

**New Education Policy**

**53. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:**

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has come out with a New Education Policy and if so, the salient features thereof;
- (b) the extent to which the new education policy aims to be job oriented rather than academic only;
- (c) the new formula of education for undergraduate courses;
- (d) the language formula set for primary classes; and
- (e) whether all the States have adopted New education Policy and if so, the details thereof and if not the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER  
MINISTER OF EDUCATION  
(SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK')**

(a): Ministry of Education has announced the National Education Policy 2020 (NEP 2020) on 29.07.2020 which is available at Ministry of Education's website at [https://www.mhrd.gov.in/sites/upload\\_files/mhrd/files/NEP\\_Final\\_English\\_0.pdf](https://www.mhrd.gov.in/sites/upload_files/mhrd/files/NEP_Final_English_0.pdf). The salient features of NEP 2020 includes :-

- (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) Assessment reforms - Board Exams on up to two occasions during any given school year, one main examination and one for improvement, if desired;

- (viii) Setting up of a new National Assessment Centre, PARAKH (Performance Assessment, Review, and Analysis of Knowledge for Holistic Development);
- (ix) Equitable and inclusive education - Special emphasis given on Socially and Economically Disadvantaged Groups (SEDGs);
- (x) A separate Gender Inclusion fund and Special Education Zones for disadvantaged regions and groups;
- (xi) Robust and transparent processes for recruitment of teachers and merit based performance;
- (xii) Ensuring availability of all resources through school complexes and clusters;
- (xiii) Setting up of State School Standards Authority (SSSA);
- (xiv) Exposure of vocational education in school and higher education system;
- (xv) Increasing GER in higher education to 50%;
- (xvi) Holistic Multidisciplinary Education with multiple entry/exit options;
- (xvii) NTA to offer Common Entrance Exam for Admission to HEIs;
- (xviii) Establishment of Academic Bank of Credit;
- (xix) Setting up of Multidisciplinary Education and Research Universities (MERUs);
- (xx) Setting up of National Research Foundation (NRF);
- (xxi) 'Light but Tight' regulation;
- (xxii) Single overarching umbrella body for promotion of higher education sector including teacher education and excluding medical and legal education- the Higher Education Commission of India (HECI)-with independent bodies for standard setting- the General Education Council; funding-Higher Education Grants Council (HEGC); accreditation- National Accreditation Council (NAC); and regulation- National Higher Education Regulatory Council (NHERC);
- (xxiii) Expansion of open and distance learning to increase GER.
- (xxiv) Internationalization of Education
- (xxv) Professional Education will be an integral part of the higher education system. Stand-alone technical universities, health science universities, legal and agricultural universities, or institutions in these or other fields, will aim to become multi-disciplinary institutions.
- (xxvi) Teacher Education - 4-year integrated stage-specific, subject-specific Bachelor of Education
- (xxvii) Establishing a National Mission for Mentoring.
- (xxviii) Creation of an autonomous body, the National Educational Technology Forum (NETF) to provide a platform for the free exchange of ideas on the use of technology to enhance learning, assessment, planning, administration. Appropriate integration of technology into all levels of education.
- (xxix) Achieving 100% youth and adult literacy.
- (xxx) Multiple mechanisms with checks and balances will combat and stop the commercialization of higher education.
- (xxxi) All education institutions will be held to similar standards of audit and disclosure as a 'not for profit' entity.
- (xxxii) The Centre and the States will work together to increase the public investment in Education sector to reach 6% of GDP at the earliest.
- (xxxiii) Strengthening of the Central Advisory Board of Education to ensure coordination to bring overall focus on quality education.

(xxxiv) Ministry of Education: In order to bring the focus back on education and learning, it may be desirable to re-designate MHRD as the Ministry of Education (MoE).

(b): NEP 2020 states that school and higher education system shall have exposure to vocational education. It is envisaged in the Policy that vocational education will be integrated in the educational offerings of all secondary schools in a phased manner over the next decade. Towards this, secondary schools will also collaborate with ITIs, polytechnics, local industry, etc. All students will participate in a 10-day bagless period sometime during Grades 6-8 where they intern with local vocational experts. Similar internship opportunities to learn vocational subjects may be made available to students throughout Grades 6-12, including holiday periods. As part of a holistic education, students at all HEIs will be provided with opportunities for internships with local industry, businesses, artists, crafts persons, etc., as well as research internships with faculty and researchers at their own or other HEIs/research institutions, so that students may actively engage with the practical side of their learning and, as a by-product, further improve their employability.

(c): As per the NEP 2020, the undergraduate degree will be of either 3 or 4-year duration, with multiple exit options within this period, with appropriate certifications- a certificate after completing 1 year in a discipline or field including vocational and professional areas, or a diploma after 2 years of study, or a Bachelor's degree after a 3-year programme. The 4-year multidisciplinary Bachelor's programme shall be the preferred option since it allows the opportunity to experience the full range of holistic and multidisciplinary education in addition to a focus on the chosen major and minors as per the choices of the student. An Academic Bank of Credit (ABC) shall be established which would digitally store the academic credits earned from various recognized HEIs so that the degrees from an HEI can be awarded taking into account credits earned. The 4-year programme may also lead to a degree 'with Research' if the student completes a rigorous research project in their major area(s) of study as specified by the HEI.

(d): As per the NEP 2020, 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.

(e): As per National Education Policy 2020, implementation of the Policy requires multiple initiatives and actions, which will have to be taken by multiple bodies in a synchronized and systematic manner. Accordingly, this Ministry has communicated to all States/UT Governments for implementation of NEP 2020 in letter and spirit. Ministry of Education is also organising 'Shikshak Parv' from 8<sup>th</sup> September to 25<sup>th</sup> September, 2020 to deliberate on various themes and implementation of NEP 2020 aimed at eliciting suggestions. Ministry has also organised a Conference of Governors on "Role of National Education Policy in Transforming Higher Education". In the conference, Governors and Lt. Governors of State and Union Territories, Education Minister of State and UTs, Vice Chancellors of State Universities and other dignitaries participated and stated that the State/UT Government have started taking initiatives for implementing the NEP 2020. There has been wide publicity with a positive and overwhelming response from stakeholders on NEP 2020.

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