

The New Face of Higher Education in India: NEP 2020's Vision for Curriculum and Learning

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Abstract: *The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 marks a transformative shift in India's higher education system, aiming to make it more holistic, flexible, and multidisciplinary. This policy replaces rigid academic structures with an outcome-oriented framework that promotes innovation, critical thinking, and skill development. One of the most significant changes introduced by NEP 2020 is the flexibility in subject choices, allowing students to tailor their education according to their interests and career aspirations. The policy also emphasizes multidisciplinary education, enabling the integration of sciences, humanities, and vocational subjects to create well-rounded graduates.*

Additionally, NEP 2020 advocates a departure from rote learning by restructuring curricula to focus on conceptual understanding, research, and practical application. The introduction of multiple entry and exit options in degree programs further enhances accessibility and inclusivity in higher education. With an emphasis on technology-driven learning, digital infrastructure, and interdisciplinary research, the policy fosters a dynamic academic environment aligned with global standards.

Despite its ambitious vision, the implementation of NEP 2020 presents challenges such as faculty training, infrastructural development, and alignment with industry needs. This paper critically examines the impact of NEP 2020 on higher education, focusing on curriculum reforms, subject flexibility, and multidisciplinary learning. It evaluates both the potential benefits and the hurdles in realizing the policy's objectives, providing insights into its long-term implications for students, educators, and institutions..

Keywords: NEP 2020, Higher Education, Curriculum Reform, Multidisciplinary Learning, Subject Flexibility, Policy Implementation

