NEP 2020 and the Research Ecosystem: Evaluating the Impact of the National Research Foundation (NRF) on Innovation and Industry-Academia Collaborations

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Abstract: *The National Research Foundation (NRF), established by the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, aims to improve India's research environment by encouraging interdisciplinary innovation and fortifying industry-academia partnerships. The effect of NRF on research funding, innovation output, and industry participation in higher education institutions is examined in this report. The impact of NRF in fostering a sustainable research culture in India is assessed in this study using secondary data from government reports, institutional research funding, and industrial partnerships. The results show the advantages and disadvantages of putting NRF-driven reforms into practice. They also offer policy suggestions for improving research infrastructure and cooperation systems.*

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