

A Study on the Impact of NEP 2020 among the Learners of Maharashtra with Reference to Palghar District

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Abstract: *The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, introduced by the Government of India, aims to reform the educational landscape of India by introducing a range of progressive measures, including a focus on holistic learning, digital education, and the integration of vocational skills. The policy also emphasizes the autonomy of higher education institutions (HEIs) to provide them greater flexibility in academic governance. This abstract explores the impact of the NEP 2020 on universities in Maharashtra, assessing both challenges and opportunities presented by the policy's implementation. Maharashtra, being home to several prestigious universities, including the University of Mumbai, Savitribai Phule Pune University, and others, has significant implications for higher education. The NEP 2020 promotes interdisciplinary learning, academic flexibility, and a greater focus on research, which aligns with the existing strengths of many universities in the state. However, the shift to a more flexible and multidisciplinary approach will require substantial reorganization of curricula, faculty training, and infrastructure. The policy's emphasis on regional languages and mother tongue in education is expected to impact both urban and rural universities in Maharashtra differently. While cities with a more cosmopolitan approach to education may find the transition smoother, rural universities may face challenges in adapting to the new language-focused framework. Additionally, the NEP's focus on promoting innovation and entrepreneurship may spur collaboration between universities, industry, and government sectors, potentially leading to enhanced research outputs and technological advancements. Overall, the NEP 2020 promises to provide Maharashtra's universities with opportunities to modernize their academic offerings and align with global educational standards, but its successful implementation will depend on overcoming structural and resource-based challenges. This paper aims to analyze these impacts by examining case studies of various universities in Maharashtra and evaluating their preparedness and response to the new policy framework.*

Keywords: NEP 2020, Universities, Maharashtra

