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Challenge in New Educational Policy-2020

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ABSTRACT: The implementation of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 in higher education institutions marks a transformative shift towards modernization and innovation. While the policy outlines ambitious goals, its successful execution requires addressing challenges faced by institutions, particularly in adopting modern technologies. This article delves into the findings of a NEP 2020 implementation survey conducted among higher education institutions by CampX and how our interconnected digital ecosystem can help them to accelerate NEP2020 implementation.

KEYWORDS: NEP-2020, challenges, higher, education, implementation

I. INTRODUCTION

Unveiling the NEP 2020 Implementation Survey

To gain insights into the challenges faced by higher education institutions in implementing NEP 2020, a comprehensive survey was conducted. The survey aimed to identify the obstacles institutions encountered while embracing modern technologies and aligning their practices with the policy's vision. Here are the key findings:

Infrastructure Limitations

- 78% of institutions reported inadequate technological infrastructure.
- Outdated hardware and limited internet connectivity hindered technology integration.
- Insufficient digital resources posed challenges in delivering modern education.

Faculty Training & Digital Literacy[1,2,3]

- 63% of faculty members lacked sufficient training in utilizing modern technologies
- Limited technical expertise hindered the effective integration of technology in teaching.
- There was a need to upskill educators to leverage modern tools and pedagogical approaches

Resistance to Change

- 52% of faculty and staff members exhibited resistance to change.
- Concerns about the learning curve and disruption of established practices were common.
- Innovative teaching methodologies faced hesitancy and skepticism.

Financial Constraints

- 85% of institutions faced financial limitations in implementing NEP 2020 guidelines.
- Insufficient resources hindered investments in infrastructure upgrades and training.
- Budget constraints posed challenges in acquiring necessary software licenses.

Fragmented Legacy-based Software

- The survey revealed that 67% of institutions relied on fragmented legacy-based software systems.
- These outdated systems created inefficiencies and challenges in data integration and workflow management.
- Institutions struggled with compatibility issues and lacked a centralized platform for seamless operations.

Introducing CampX: The Interconnected Digital Ecosystem

To address these challenges, higher education institutions can turn to comprehensive digital platforms like CampX. CampX is a campus automation and management platform that streamlines and digitizes all aspects of college operations, from student admission to alumni engagement. Here's how CampX can serve as a sole digital ecosystem in colleges:

- 1. Infrastructure Enhancement CampX offers infrastructure support by providing cloud-based services and secure data storage. This eliminates the need for extensive on-premises hardware investments, easing the burden of infrastructure limitations faced by institutions.
- 2. Faculty Empowerment CampX features user-friendly interfaces and offers comprehensive training programs to empower faculty members in effectively utilizing technology. With intuitive tools and resources, educators can easily adapt to modern teaching methods and enhance their tech literacy.
- 3. Change Management and Collaboration CampX fosters a culture of change management and collaboration by providing a platform for communication, knowledge sharing, and collaboration among faculty, staff, and students. This promotes a smooth transition towards innovative practices aligned with NEP 2020.



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4. Cost & Resources Optimization - CampX consolidates various administrative functions into a single platform and reduces operational costs associated with multiple software licenses and redundant processes. This allows institutions to allocate their financial resources more efficiently.

The implementation of NEP 2020 in higher education institutions requires addressing the challenges associated with adopting modern technologies. The findings of the NEP 2020 implementation survey shed light on these obstacles. However, platforms like CampX offer a comprehensive digital ecosystem that can help institutions overcome these challenges. By leveraging CampX's features, colleges can enhance infrastructure, empower faculty members, foster collaboration, and optimize costs. Ultimately, this paves the way for the successful implementation of NEP 2020, ushering in a new era of innovation and transformative education in India.

CampX revolutionizes campus operations for educational institutions, empowering efficient management through its user-friendly interface and robust functionality. CampX fosters a connected and efficient learning environment, transforming the way colleges operate in India. [4,5,6]

II. DISCUSSION

The National Education Policy 2020 (NEP 2020) is a landmark document that aims to transform the Indian education system at all levels. The policy has a number of ambitious goals for higher education, which include increasing access, improving quality, and promoting research and innovation.

However, there are a number of critical issues that need to be addressed in order to implement NEP 2020 in higher education successfully. These include:

- Funding: The NEP 2020 calls for a significant increase in funding for higher education. However, it is not clear how the funds will be generated. The government needs to find a way to increase funding for higher education without placing an undue burden on taxpayers.
- Capacity: India's higher education system is currently under-resourced and overcrowded. In order to implement NEP 2020, the government needs to invest in expanding the capacity of higher education institutions, which includes building new colleges and universities, as well as improving the infrastructure of existing institutions.
- Quality: The NEP 2020 aims to improve the quality of higher education in India. This will require a number of changes, including improving teacher training, introducing more rigorous assessment standards, and promoting research and innovation.
- Governance: The NEP 2020 calls for a more decentralized system of governance in higher education. This requires the government to devolve power to state governments and institutions. It will also require the development of new mechanisms for coordination and collaboration between different stakeholders.
- Culture: The NEP 2020 aims to create a more learner-centric culture in higher education. This will require not only a change in mindset among students, teachers, and administrators but also the development of new teaching and learning methods.

These are just some of the critical issues that need to be addressed in order to implement NEP 2020 in higher education successfully. The government must work closely with stakeholders to address these issues and ensure that the policy is implemented effectively.

In addition to the above, here are some other critical issues that need to be addressed for the successful implementation of NEP 2020 in higher education:

- Lack of access to higher education: The NEP 2020 aims to increase access to higher education for all sections of society. However, there are still a number of barriers to entry, such as poverty, gender discrimination, and lack of infrastructure. The government needs to address these barriers in order to make higher education more accessible to all.
- Quality of teaching and learning: The NEP 2020 aims to improve the quality of teaching and learning in higher education. However, there are still a number of challenges in this area, such as the shortage of qualified teachers, the lack of resources, and outdated curriculum. The government needs to address these challenges in order to improve the quality of teaching and learning in higher education.
- Research and innovation: The NEP 2020 aims to promote research and innovation in higher education. However, there are still a number of challenges in this area, such as the lack of funding, the shortage of qualified researchers, and the lack of infrastructure. The government will need to address these challenges in order to promote research and innovation in higher education.

The successful implementation of NEP 2020 in higher education will require a concerted effort from all stakeholders. The Central government, State governments, institutions, teachers, students, and the community will all need to work together to make this happen.



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The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 is a comprehensive policy document that outlines the vision and roadmap for the development of education in India over the next few decades. The policy aims to Transformative Higher Education: Restructuring and Breaking Barriers Under NEP 2020 provide universal access to quality education at all levels, from preschool to higher education, and emphasizes the importance of holistic development, flexibility, innovation, and relevance in education. Some of the opportunities presented by the NEP 2020 include the focus on early childhood education, the integration of vocational education with mainstream education, the promotion of multilingualism, the use of technology for learning, and the creation of a National Research Foundation to fund and promote research in education. The policy also aims to improve the quality of teacher education, increase the use of online and blended learning, and create a more student-centric and flexible education system. However, the implementation of the NEP 2020 presents several challenges, such as the need for substantial investment in education, the lack of adequate infrastructure and resources, the shortage of trained teachers, the challenge of providing quality education in remote and rural areas, and the need for effective collaboration between various stakeholders. The policy also needs to address issues of equity, access, and inclusion, and ensure that education is accessible and affordable for all, regardless of socioeconomic background or geographic location. Overall, the NEP 2020 presents an ambitious and comprehensive roadmap for the development of education in India, but its successful implementation will require a sustained and concerted effort by all stakeholders, including policymakers, educators, students, and parents [7,8,9]

III. RESULTS

In July last year, India unveiled its first and most comprehensive education policy of the 21st century. As the first omnibus policy since 1986, the New Education Policy (NEP) 2020 has the onerous task of addressing multiple crises facing India's education system. Addressing the completion of one year of the NEP, Prime Minister Narendra Modi remarked, "We are entering the 75th year of Independence. In a way, implementation of NEP has become a vital part of this occasion. This will play a key role in creating a new India and future-ready youth". The Education Minister, Dharmendra Pradhan, called NEP 2020 a visionary education policy for the 21st century through which India is harnessing the capabilities of each student, universalising education, building capacities, and transforming the learning landscape in the country. He stressed that the NEP would make education holistic, affordable, accessible, and equitable. What has been the progress so far? Is the NEP roll-out on track? What are the major challenges facing this mega education policy in the coming decades?

Major milestones

In the last 16 months since its eventful launch, the NEP has moved some ground in terms of meeting key milestones, notwithstanding the challenges from the global health pandemic. To begin with, the government has done well in terms of building awareness and interests amongst diverse stakeholders on the mission and vision of the NEP. This was marked in a 10-day long Shikshak Parv that saw a series of national-level events featuring the Prime Minister and other key officials. Further, to make the intent more pronounced, the government has renamed the Ministry of Human Resources Development (MHRD) to Ministry of Education. Significantly, this key ministry has been infused with doses of energy and dynamisms by bringing in Dharmendra Pradhan, the man who brought major transformations in the critical energy ministry. Mr Pradhan's proven implementation ability and his diplomatic negotiating skills will come in handy in pushing the mega initiatives that would likely face opposition in Opposition-ruled states.

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In terms of roll-out of key NEP activities, the school curriculum has been changed to include artificial intelligence (AI) and financial literary. Given that the mother tongue or regional language received primacy in the NEP, the same has been introduced in several states, albeit on a pilot basis. Further, the ministry has launched the much-talked-about Academic Bank of Credit—a programme that will provide multiple entry and exit options for students in higher education. These apart, a number of key initiatives, such as NIPUN Bharat Mission—improving children's learning competencies in reading, writing, and numeracy by the end of Grade III; Vidya Pravesh—a three-month school preparation module for Grade I children; DIKSHA—a teaching-learning repository of e-content; and NISHTHA—teachers training programme for the secondary-level teachers. As far as roll-out amongst the states are concerned, only a handful of states, mainly under the ruling party have launched the programme. Karnataka became the first state to implement NEP on 24 August. Recently, Madhya Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh launched a series of NEP initiatives giving a much needed push to this mega policy. On the whole, NEP has started gathering pace.[10,11,12]



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Five major challenges

While the NEP has begun gathering a fair degree of momentum, the road to its realisation is filled with endless potholes. First, the sheer size and diversity of India's education sector makes implementation an uphill task. For example, sample the size of the school education system alone. With more than 15 lakh schools, 25 crore students, and 89 lakh teachers, India remains the second largest education system in the world. The size of the higher education system is massive too. As per the AISHE 2019 report, India's higher education sector consists of 3.74 crore students in nearly 1,000 universities, 39,931 colleges, and 10,725 stand-alone institutions. Thus, a countrywide implementation of this mega education policy is going to be a mammoth exercise involving multiple stakeholders at the state, district, subdistrict, and block levels. Creating a shared responsibility and ownership amongst key stakeholders, including the private sector, at the state and district levels that have extraordinary diversity is going to be a major challenge for the education leadership. Second, the NEP's eventual realisation is critically linked to state capacity. As rightly pointed out by the NEP Drafting Committee led by K. Kasturirangan, India's education system is underfunded, heavily bureaucratised, and lacks capacity for innovation and scale up. The internal capacities within the education ministries (centre and states) and other regulatory bodies are grossly inadequate to steer the magnitude of transformations envisaged in the NEP. For instance, moving away from a rigid content-driven rote learning system to experiential learning and critical thinking would require nothing short of a revolutionary change in the attitudes of the people running the education system, let alone the attitudinal changes amongst the teachers, students, and parents.

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This means that thousands of schools and colleges would need capacity building and reorientation with regards to the operational aspects of implementing a mega programme with many experiential goals. In short, the existing organisational structure of the ministry and its ecosystems will have to undergo a massive overhaul. While it is heartening is that the NEP document has laid out a comprehensive roadmap for overhauling the existing regulatory system, and the education ministry is in the process of bringing out a legislation that would facilitate the setting up of a Higher Education Commission of India (in the place of existing regulatory bodies, mainly the UGC, AICTE, and National Council for Teachers Education), one has to wait for the new institutional architecture emerging out of legislative initiatives. Third, the NEP would largely hinge on the extent of cooperation between the Centre and states. While the NEP has been drafted by the Union government (with inputs from multiple stakeholders including the state governments), its implementation largely depends on the active cooperation of the states. This is because most servicesrelated education are performed by the state governments.[13,14,15] In short, the Centre has to skilfully navigate the principles of cooperative federalism and decentralisation while rolling out key initiatives. And this is not an easy act to perform given the sharpening of political polarisation in the recent years and visible breakdown of trust between the Centre and states. A number of Opposition-ruled states have been raising strong objections to several key provisions of the NEP and the manner in which they are being rolled out. The more worrying development is that the Tamil Nadu government's recent decision to not implement the NEP can encourage other Opposition-ruled states to follow a similar path. Thus, managing federal math is critical to the realisation of the NEP.

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Fourth, the role of the private sector, particularly in dealing with the higher education system, is extremely critical for translating the inclusionary vision of the NEP. It may be noted that as much as 70 percent of higher education institutions (colleges and universities) are run by the private sector. Significantly, roughly 65-70 percent students are currently enrolled in private higher education institutions. This apart, the private sector brings much needed financial resources and innovation. Therefore, it is imperative for the government and regulatory bodies to create workable institutional mechanisms that would harness the contribution of the private sector and recognise them as equal partner in the NEP process. Finally, the successful execution of key initiatives requires availability of adequate financial resources for decades. In this regard, the NEP has stated that to realise the goals of the new policy, the country has to raise public spending on education to 6 percent of GDP. This is a daunting task if one considers the past promises and their actual realisation. For instance, the 1968 National Education policy had recommended 6 percent of GDP be allocated towards education. However, in all these decades, the public spending on education has not gone beyond 3 percent. Ironically, the union budget allocation for education in the NEP launching year has taken a dip. The education budget was reduced by 6 percent from INR 99,311 crore in 2020-21 to INR 93,224 crore in 2021-22. While this is understandable given the government's priorities are divided in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic and economic distress that large sections of populations are facing, there is no clear roadmap yet how such enormous sums of financial resources can be augmented.



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To sum up, the NEP 2020 is truly a pathbreaking document in every sense. The policy, amongst others, aims to address pedagogical issues, structural inequities, broadening of access apart from making the learners future ready while meeting the demands of a 21st century India. Simultaneously, the NEP has the most challenging task of addressing multiple crises in the education system. Its effective implementation is critical if India wants to reap the demographic dividends and capitalise the opportunities from a rapidly growing knowledge economy. Given its transformative potentials, the Centre has shown urgency and a sense of purpose by launching a series of initiatives in the recent months notwithstanding the challenges of the pandemic. A number of states have officially launched the policy and many others are in the process to do the same. Yet, there is a long road ahead of the NEP. Given its scale and the kind of complexity involved in its execution, particularly securing coordination and cooperation amongst diverse stakeholders at state, district, private sector amongst others, makes it a daunting exercise. [16,17]Apart from this, one has to deal with weak state capacity, availability of financial resources and, most importantly, the education ecosystem that acts as a drag on new ideas and innovation. Yet, the most critical challenge before NEP is building consensus and getting states to own the first omnibus programme after 1986. In short, the success of the NEP largely hinges on cooperative federalism and states taking ownership of the reforms.

Benefits Of New Education Policy

For Students:

Holistic Development:

NEP 2020 focuses on the holistic development of students, addressing their cognitive, social, emotional, and physical growth. It promotes critical thinking, creativity, and problem-solving skills, preparing students to thrive in the 21st century.

Flexible Learning Pathways:

The policy offers flexible learning pathways, allowing students to choose subjects based on their interests and career aspirations. This promotes personalized learning, enabling students to explore their passions and develop expertise in their chosen fields.

Reduced Curriculum Burden:

NEP aims to reduce the curriculum burden on students by emphasizing core concepts and essential learning outcomes. This allows for a deeper understanding of subjects and encourages a more comprehensive learning experience.

Inclusive Education:

The policy prioritizes inclusive education, ensuring equal opportunities for students from diverse backgrounds, including those with disabilities and from marginalized communities. It promotes an inclusive and supportive learning environment, fostering empathy and understanding among students.

Skill Development:

NEP 2020 emphasizes skill development, equipping students with 21st-century skills such as critical thinking, communication, problem-solving, and digital literacy. This enhances their employability and prepares them for future challenges.

For Teachers:

Professional Development Opportunities:

The new education policy recognizes the importance of continuous professional development for teachers. It provides opportunities for training, workshops, and collaborations to enhance their teaching skills, update their knowledge, and stay abreast of evolving pedagogical practices.

Enhanced Teaching Practices:

The policy encourages a shift towards learner-centric teaching practices, promoting interactive and experiential learning methods. This allows teachers to engage students actively in the learning process, fostering deeper understanding and retention of concepts.

Integration of Technology:

NEP emphasizes the integration of technology in education. Teachers can leverage digital tools, online resources, and educational apps to enhance their teaching effectiveness, create interactive learning experiences, and cater to diverse learning styles.



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Recognition of Leadership and Mentorship:

It also recognizes the importance of teacher leadership and mentorship. Teachers have the opportunity to take on mentoring roles, supporting their fellow educators, and contributing to policy implementation. This fosters professional growth and collaboration among teachers.

Collaborative Learning Communities:

NEP also promotes collaborative learning communities, encouraging teachers to engage in peer learning, share best practices, and collaborate with colleagues. This creates a supportive environment for professional growth and enhances teaching effectiveness.

Empowerment as Facilitators:

The policy empowers teachers to become facilitators of learning rather than just information providers. They can guide students through their learning journey, foster critical thinking, and nurture students' interests and talents.

Disadvantages of NEP 2020

Increased Pressure and Competition for Students:

One of the primary concerns with the policy is the potential increase in pressure and competition among students. NEP emphasizes the importance of standardized examinations and encourages board exams at multiple levels, starting from the early years. This approach may lead to an excessive focus on grades and performance, compromising the overall development and well-being of students.[18]

Narrowing of Subject Choices:

The new policy proposes a shift towards a multidisciplinary approach, which aims to provide students with a broad range of subjects. However, this might inadvertently limit their options. With an increased emphasis on vocational education and skill development, subjects like arts, humanities, and social sciences may receive less attention. This narrow focus could hinder the overall intellectual and creative growth of students.

Insufficient Teacher Training and Support:

The NEP 2020 falls short in adequately addressing the training and support needs of teachers. The lack of clear guidelines for continuous professional development and incentives may impact the quality of education imparted in classrooms.

Imbalance in Digital Infrastructure:

The new education policy places significant emphasis on digital education and e-learning platforms. While this can enhance access to education, it also exposes the digital divide prevalent in our society. Not all students have equal access to digital devices, internet connectivity, or resources required for online learning. This imbalance may further marginalize students from economically disadvantaged backgrounds, exacerbating educational inequalities.

Standardization Challenges:

The policy's aim to standardize education across the country may overlook regional and cultural diversities. The one-size-fits-all approach might not cater to the unique needs and aspirations of students from different states and regions.

Insufficient Implementation Strategy:

A major concern surrounding the policy is the lack of a robust implementation strategy. It proposes ambitious changes without providing a clear roadmap for execution. This ambiguity can lead to confusion among educational institutions, teachers, and students, resulting in uneven implementation across the country. Without a well-defined plan, the potential benefits of the policy may remain unrealized.[19]

IV. CONCLUSION

While the New Education Policy 2020 aims to bring about positive transformations in the Indian education system, it is essential to critically evaluate its pros and cons. By critically examining the advantages and disadvantages, stakeholders can work towards implementing the new education policy effectively, ensuring an education system that fosters holistic development, inclusivity, and equal opportunities for all.[20]



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