

## Overview of National Education Policy-2020

National Education Policy 2020 has been announced on 29.07.2020.

This National Education Policy envisions an education system rooted in Indian ethos that contributes directly to transforming India, that is Bharat, sustainably into an equitable and vibrant knowledge society, by providing high-quality education to all, and thereby making India a global knowledge superpower. The Policy envisages that the curriculum and pedagogy of our institutions must develop among the students a deep sense of respect towards the Fundamental Duties and Constitutional values, bonding with one's country, and a conscious awareness of one's roles and responsibilities in a changing world. The vision of the Policy is to instill among the learners a deep-rooted pride in being Indian, not only in thought, but also in spirit, intellect, and deeds, as well as to develop knowledge, skills, values, and dispositions that support responsible commitment to human rights, sustainable development and living, and global well-being, thereby reflecting a truly global citizen.

NEP 2020 inter alia includes number of recommendations which will transform the Higher Education in India. Salient features of the NEP 2020 related to Higher Education are as under:

1. Increasing GER in higher education to 50%;
2. Holistic Multidisciplinary Education with multiple entry/exit options:
  - UG Program - 3 or 4 year
  - PG Program – 1 or 2 year
  - Integrated 5 year Bachelor's / Master's
3. No hard separations between arts and sciences, between curricular and extra-curricular activities, between vocational and academic streams;
4. NTA to offer Common Entrance Exam for Admission to HEIs;
5. Establishment of Academic Bank of Credit;
6. Setting up of Multidisciplinary Education and Research Universities(MERUs);
7. Setting up of National Research Foundation(NRF);
8. 'Light but Tight' regulation;
9. 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);
10. Expansion of open and distance learning to increase GER.
11. Internationalization of Education

12. 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.
13. Teacher Education - 4-year integrated stage-specific, subject- specific Bachelor of Education
14. Establishing a National Mission for Mentoring.
15. Equitable and inclusive education - Special emphasis given on Socially and Economically Disadvantaged Groups(SEDGs);
16. A separate Gender Inclusion fund and Special Education Zones for disadvantaged regions and groups;
17. Exposure of vocational education in school and higher education system;
18. 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.
19. Achieving 100% youth and adult literacy.
20. Multiple mechanisms with checks and balances will combat and stop the commercialization of higher education.
21. All education institutions will be held to similar standards of audit and disclosure as a 'not for profit' entity.
22. The Centre and the States will work together to increase the public investment in Education sector to reach 6% of GDP at the earliest.

(Source: <https://innovateindia.mygov.in/nep2020-citizen/>)