

# KETAS EDUCATION FOUNDATION

*Registered under section 8 of Companies Act, 2013 and Certificates under sections 12A and 80G of Income Tax Act.*

## REPORT ON “NATIONAL EDUCATION POLICY, 2025”

### **Introduction & Background:**

Launched in July 2020, NEP 2020 aimed to transform India's education landscape by ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education and promoting lifelong learning opportunities for all. NEP 2020 sets out a visionary roadmap, aligning closely with India's commitment to Sustainable Development Goal 4 (SDG4) which aims to reconfigure the entire education system by 2030 to support holistic, flexible, and multidisciplinary learning. NEP 2020 signifies the first comprehensive education policy update in India since 1986, reflecting broad consultations and ambitious aspiration for both school and higher education. It envisions an education system rooted in Indian ethos while being globally competitive.

### **Major Reforms Introduced:**

- **School Education:** Introduced the 5+3+3+4 curricular structure and disposed the 10+2 structure, emphasising ECCE (Early Childhood Care and Education) from age 3, and achieving universal foundational literacy and numeracy by 2025. Specially trained Anganwadi ECCE teachers will be provided to holistically develop students from age 3-6. These teachers will be expected to participate in at least 50 hours of CPD (Continuous Professional Development) every year.
- **Emphasis on Languages:** Promoted mother tongue/regional language as a medium of instruction until at least Grade 5. The three language formula will be continued to operate. High quality textbooks of native languages would be provided. Indian Sign Language standardised across the country
- **Dropout Rates:** Curtailing Dropout Rates through infrastructure support and participation by tracking students' and their learning levels.
- **Vocational Education:** Targeted integration with mainstream education and increasing vocational exposure from early grades by creating topic centered circles/clubs encouraged for students with other special/extra talents. Moreover, Internship Opportunities will be provided to learn vocational subjects.
- **Digital & Inclusive Education:** Leveraged technology and emphasized inclusivity for disadvantaged groups through declaring educationally backward SEDGs as Special Education Zones, where more schemes and focus would be provided. Providing bicycles and organizing cycling and walking groups to provide access to school has been stated to increase female participation.
- **Higher Education:** A complete emphasis towards multidisciplinary institutions by 2030, even the ITs will be imparting degrees in arts and other disciplines. Academic Bank of Credit would be established, to store academic credits. Teacher education institutions will also be improved and 4 year B.Ed. degrees encouraged.
- **Adult Education:** Promise of virtuoso adult education curriculum network, suitable infrastructure and outstanding resources also promised.
- **PARAKH Surveys:** To know the overall quality of education through student assessment.

### **Achievements & Progress:**

- The new structure of 5+3+3+4 and National Curriculum Framework for School Education promote experiential and competency-based learning. CBSE board exams now include 50% competency based questions, and subjects are offered at two levels.

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- NIPUN Bharat mission launched to fulfil universal foundational literacy and numeracy, Vidya Pravesh launched play-based school preparation. Both have reached over 4.2 Crore students across 8.9 lakh schools.
- Bhasha Sangam conducted under Ek Bharat Shreshth Bharat wherein common sentences under 22 languages of India are taught, an app has been also launched.
- Digital platforms such as DIKSHA and SWAYAM have facilitated continued learning throughout the pandemic and afterwards as well.
- A national assessment centre-PARAKH-was set up in NCERT.
- Over 1.15 lakh SEDGs students and 7.58 lakh girls enrolled in inclusive residential schools. Indian Sign Language is now a subject, with 1000+ ISL videos and talking books develop.
- The HECI (Higher Education Commission of India) was envisioned further through the NEP, 2020, to replace the UGC, AICTE and the NCTE.
- 4 lakh + teachers trained under NISHTHA, FLN and ECCE modules integrated via DIKSHA. 72% schools now have internet, and e-Jaadui Pitara brings AI multilingual learning to early grades.
- APAAR conceptualised under NEP, 2020 runs with an aim of ‘One Nation One Student ID’, and uses the system of Academic Bank of Credits.

### **Challenges & Gaps:**

- Shortcomings in teacher education and training under NEP, 2020 as it requires a huge investment on infrastructure and resources where the rural areas might struggle.
- Infrastructure Bottlenecks: According to the Annual Status of Education report, a significant proportion of government schools do not have sufficient classrooms, blackboards or furniture, also there is a lack of ECCE facilities.
- An emphasis on multilingual approach has been given but in many parts it is difficult to find teachers proficient in local languages, moreover, everyone views English as a sine qua non these days for their children to learn.
- Access for marginalised: Barriers such as economic and social awkwardness not been addressed properly.
- During the COVID, it was seen that in India just like the religion, there is a huge digital divide, so millions of people won't be able to access online education.
- Difficulties in achieving the aim of making Higher Education multidisciplinary by: 2030 as universities not ready to enroll such huge number of students and questions of a university, being specialised arise.

### **Impact Assessment:**

- Centralisation of Regulatory Bodies: The new NHEC will replace existing regulatory bodies, UGC, AICTE and NCTE streamlining the framework, a bill making the new regulatory committee has already started attracting debate in the houses of Parliament.
- Increased Gross Enrolment Ratio: GER in higher education in 2018 was 26.3% and in a press release by government, GER in 2021-2022 increased to 28.4% supporting the limitation of making GER in higher education increase to 50% by 2035.9
- Gender Inclusion Fund: GIF was rolled out and benefit to SEDGs are being provided under SamagraShiksha 2.0 by allocating dedicated resources.

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- 5+3+3+4 Structure: The new structure under NEP, 2020 has focused on basic skills and being flexible, global standards have been
- complied with emphasis on skill development and vocational training.
- Teachers training: 50 hours of CPD made mandatory and eventually essential to conduct and attend.
- Promotion of Mother Tongue: Promoting mother tongue and regional languages was promised under NEP, 2020, it still remains a challenge and parents have started to put an emphasis on their child learning English primarily. An Indian Institute of Translation and Interpretation was promised, which is yet to be established.
- Foundational literacy and numeracy: Uttar Pradesh has showed a positive impact and performance, such that the state has surpassed national averages since NEP, 2020.
- Surveys for education quality assessment: PARAKH Surveys as promised was conducted regularly, with the latest survey done in 2024, making learning gaps evident and easy to improve.
- Multidisciplinary Approach: Guidelines for transforming higher education institutions into multidisciplinary institutions were published by the UGC in 2022 and is bolstering India's move towards making higher education 100% multidisciplinary by 2030.
- Dropout Rates: In an economic survey published in 2025, it has been seen that dropout rates have steadily declined, standing at 1.9 % for primary, 5.2% for upper primary and 14.1% for secondary levels.

### **Way Forward:**

- With the rate with which the Gross Enrolment Ratio is increasing, it can be said that India is on its path to achieve its target by 2035 or even prior.
- Training must be provided to educators and teachers specifically for the new curricula, and teaching on the basis of new structure of 5+3+3+4.
- The implications of a new single regulatory body in education sector replacing the old decentralised regulation with the bill on the verge of passing.
- Teacher training programmes must be enhanced under NISHTHA (National Initiative for School Heads' and Teachers' Holistic Advancement).
- Bridge implementation gaps with targeted funding, capacity building, and monitoring.
- Prioritize inclusion for disadvantaged and remote learners, with emphasis on digital infrastructure.

### **Conclusion:**

NEP 2020 marks a bold step toward transforming Indian education. While progress is visible, particularly in curriculum reforms and digital initiatives, success depends on sustained commitment, equitable implementation, and continuous adaptation to emerging challenges.

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