GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1940
ANSWERED ON 06.08.2025

Assessment of implementation of NEP, 2020

1940 **Shri Ravi Chandra Vaddiraju:**

Will the Minister of *Education* be pleased to state:

(a) the current status of implementation of key provisions of the National Education policy (NEP), 2020 across States/UTs;
(b) the steps taken to ensure uniform rollout in rural and tribal regions; and
(c) whether any independent impact assessment of NEP implementation has been conducted till date?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
(DR. SUKANTA MAJUMDAR)

(a) and (b): National Education Policy 2020 (NEP 2020) aims to ensure that no child loses opportunity to learn and excel because of the circumstances of birth or background. It has taken into account the concerns of the Socio-Economically Disadvantaged Groups (SEDGs) which includes female and transgender individuals, Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, OBCs, minorities and other categories. This policy aims at bridging the social category gaps in access, participation, and learning outcomes in school and Higher education. Accordingly, a number of transformative changes have taken place both in school and higher education.

In School Education several initiatives have been taken such as PM SHRI (PM Schools for Rising India) for upgradation of schools; Samagra Shiksha for providing quality education with an inclusive and equitable classroom environment for all children; National Initiative for Proficiency in Reading with Understanding and Numeracy (NIPUN Bharat) for ensuring foundational literacy and numeracy by the end of Grade 3; Vidya-Pravesh–Guidelines for Three-month Play-based School Preparation Module; PM e-VIDYA to unify all efforts related to digital/online/on-air education to enable coherent multi-mode access to education, DIKSHA (Digital Infrastructure for Knowledge Sharing) as One Nation One Digital Platform having e-Books and e-Contents, launch of National Curriculum Framework for Foundational Stage (NCF FS) and Jadui Pitara for play-based learning teaching material tailored for children between the age group of 3 to 8 years; PARAKH (Performance Assessment, Review, and Analysis of Knowledge for Holistic Development); NISHTHA (National Initiative for School Heads' and Teachers' Holistic Advancement) 1.0, 2.0 and 3.0; Vidya Samiksha Kendra; Integrated Teacher Education Programme; National Professional Standards for Teachers (NPST); National Digital Education Architecture (NDEAR) for creating a unifying national digital infrastructure to energise and catalyse the education ecosystem, implementation of a scheme "New India Literacy Programme or ULLAS" targeting all non-literates age 15 years and above, etc.

In Higher Education, various initiatives / reforms have been carried out such as National Credit Framework (NCrF) and National Higher Education Qualification Framework (NHEQF) in conjunction with guidelines / regulations like Curriculum and Credit Framework for Undergraduate Programme; Multiple Entry and Exit in Academic Programme offered by Higher Education Institutions; Transforming HEIs into multi-disciplinary Institutions; pursuing two Academic Programme simultaneously; Automated Permanent Academic Account Registry (APAAR ID) of individual student which will act as lifelong identity to track their educational journey and achievements from, pre-primary to higher education; introduction of PM-Vidyalaxmi scheme to provide financial support to meritorious students inter-alia enabling collateral free, guarantor free loan through a simple, transparent and student-friendly and entirely digital application process; revised regulation of ODL / Online Education; permitting up to 40% credits in regular courses using SWAYAM platform; launch of new SWAYAM Plus portal with aim to enhance skill and upskilling and reskilling of existing manpower employed in different sectors; Integration of technology in administration of HEIs from admission to grant of degree through SAMARTH; guidelines on Professor of Practice to enable HEIs to work with industry experts; guidelines for supernumerary seats for admitting students from abroad in Indian HEIs; enhanced reputation of the Indian HEIs in international ranking; embedding of Indian Knowledge system in the education etc.

(c): After announcement of the National Education Policy 2020 (NEP 2020), several impactful reforms and initiatives have been taken by various stakeholders and during the course of implementation in last five years, NEP 2020's impact is visible in policy corridors and classrooms across School Education and Higher Education. Marking five years of NEP 2020, India has witnessed significant transformation in education. NEP has empowered students with flexibility, foundational literacy, and future-readiness, supporting India's vision as a global knowledge superpower.

"PARAKH Rashtriya Sarvekshan 2024" was conducted across India on 04.12.2024, to understand the baseline performance in development of competencies among the students at the end of the Foundational, Preparatory, and Middle stages (Grades 3, 6, and 9 respectively). Nationwide over 21.15 lakh students and 2.70 lakh teachers from more than 74,000 schools across 781 districts from all States/UTs participated in the survey. In the Sarvekshan 2024, overall 63% of participating students were from rural areas, ensuring strong and inclusive representation of rural and tribal regions in the large-scale assessment. National, State and District level report cards for PARAKH Rashtriya Sarvekshan 2024 are available at https://dashboard.parakh.ncert.gov.in/en.

According to Unified District Information System for Education Plus (UDISE +), between 2014–15 and 2023–24, India's school education system saw measurable improvements across key educational indicators. It has data with nearly 14.72 lakh schools and nearly 24.8 Crore students from Foundational to Secondary level from varied socio-economic backgrounds. The number of teachers increased from 85.6 lakh to 98.07 lakh, with female teachers rising from 40.2 lakh to 52.3 lakh, reflecting a more gender-balanced workforce. Dropout rates declined at the primary level to 1.9%, upper primary to 5.2%, and secondary to 14.1%, indicating better student retention. The mean years of schooling increased from 6.28 to 7.33 years, and the expected years of schooling from 11.75 to 13.36 years, while the youth literacy rate climbed from 94.6% to 97%, showcasing the impact of NEP 2020 reforms on foundational learning and access.

In higher education, an annual web based 'All India Survey on Higher Education (AISHE)' is a comprehensive data source on higher education. AISHE 2022–23 reports a 30% rise in higher education enrolment since 2014–15, reaching 4.46 crore. The enrolment of SC students is 69.13

Lakh in 2022-23 as compared to 46.06 Lakh in 2014-15, reflecting an increase of 50.1%. The enrolment of ST students has increased to 28.72 Lakh in 2022-23 from 16.41 Lakh in 2014-15, which is an increase of 75%. Total STEM enrolment stands at 99.76 lakh.

The transformative reforms in higher education has resulted in more and more HEIs being ranked in international ranking. In QS 2026, 54 Indian HEIs/Universities are ranked as compared to 28 in QS 2021. In QS 2026, there are 10 Indian HEIs in top 500. In QS World University Rankings, Asia 2025 India has second most representation, with 163 universities featured and 7 institutions in the top 100. The QS Subject Rankings for 2025 included 79 Indian HEIs, an increase of 10 from the previous year's 69, reflecting a 14% growth. Indian Institutions were represented across 533 entries, marking 25.7% increase from 424 entries in the previous edition.

According to Annual Report (2023-24) of the office of the Controller General of Patents, Designs, Trademarks and Geographical Indications, Government of India (GOI), India has shown remarkable growth in the field of intellectual property, with 92,168 patent applications filed in 2023–24 - an increase of over 115% since 2014-15. A major driver of this growth has been the contribution of educational institutions. The patent filings by domestic educational institutes have more than tripled from 7405 in 2021-22 to 23,306 in 2023-24. Educational institutions are playing an important role in promoting innovation in India. In 2023–24, they filed 23,306 patent applications, which is 25.28% of all patents filed that year. This shows their strong and growing contribution to research and new ideas.

India ranks 3rd in terms of number of PhDs awarded in Science and Engineering (S&E) as per 'Research and Development Statistics at a glance 2022-23 of Deptt. Of Science and Technology. Focus of NEP on research and innovation has propelled India's ranking in the Global Innovation Index (GII) from 81 in 2015 to 48 in 2020 and currently being ranked at 39th place in 2024.

Sustained efforts for internationalisation of Indian higher education ecosystem under the National Education Policy 2020, has enabled the entry of reputed foreign universities into the Indian education landscape. Letters of Intent have been issued to 11 globally ranked universities from countries such as the UK, Australia, the US, and Italy to establish offshore campuses in India. Notably, the University of Southampton has already operationalised its campus in Gurugram in the current academic year. Two Australian universities—Deakin University and the University of Wollongong—have commenced operations at GIFT City, Gujarat. Additionally, UK-based Queen's University Belfast and Coventry University have also received approval to set up campuses in GIFT City. Indian institutions like IIT Madras (Zanzibar) and IIT Delhi (Abu Dhabi) are expanding globally. IIM Ahmedabad and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) Government signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the establishment of the IIMA Dubai Campus in the Dubai International Academic City (DIAC).

NEP 2020 aims to meet international education levels while staying connected to India's traditions and local context. It also envisions a paradigm shift in India's education system, with a series of well-structured reforms aimed at making education more inclusive, holistic, and future-ready. NEP 2020 provides different timelines as well as principles and methodology for its implementation.

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