

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 122
ANSWERED ON 04.12.2023**

National Education Policy

122. **DR. AMAR SINGH:**

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the country's National Education Policy (NEP) aims to transform higher education to include liberal arts and merge it with professional degrees;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the initiatives taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to understand China's experience in implementing liberal arts education as well as the challenges in outlining the goals for this form of education?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
(DR. SUBHAS SARKAR)

(a) & (b) National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 inter-alia provides for reforms in higher education to include liberal arts. It emphasizes the importance of providing students with a holistic and multidisciplinary education. It encourages the integration of subjects from various disciplines, including liberal arts, humanities, sciences, and professional courses. The goal is to offer students a more well-rounded education that fosters critical thinking, creativity, and interdisciplinary knowledge. The policy aims to develop critical thinking, problem-solving skills, and creativity among students by exposing them to diverse perspectives through liberal arts courses. This approach is seen as essential for nurturing well-rounded individuals capable of adapting to rapidly changing global environment and to meet the challenges of the 21st-century global workforce.

(c): National Education Policy 2020 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.

Promotion of Indian Knowledge by way of several initiatives aims to include knowledge of ancient India, its contributions to modern India in its successes and addressing challenges, with a clear sense of India's future aspirations in the field of education, health, environment etc. The vision of the Policy is to instil 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.
