



Information and Public Relation Department

Press Release

Ranchi, Dated-31-07-2019

Speech of Hon'ble Governor on the occasion of seminar on "New Education Policy" organized by Central University of Jharkhand on 31st July, 2019.

Dignitaries present on the dais, Prof. Nand Kumar Yadav 'Indu', Vice Chancellor, CUJ Prof. T.V. Kattimani, Vice Chancellor, Indira Gandhi National Tribal University, Amarkantak, Prof. Ram Shakar Kuril, VC. Birsa Agriculture University, Registrar, Deans, Heads, faculties, officials, staffs, media personnels and my dear students.

The last National Education Policy was released in 1986 and modified in 1992. Since, then major changes have been observed in the world and our country and education policy required to be modified as per the current scenario. So, in order to make changes and implement new policy from primary, secondary and higher education, a committee was set up to prepare a draft of a new educational policy, under the chairmanship of Dr. Krishnaswamy Kasturirangarajan.

The National Education Policy 2019 envisions an India-centred education system that contributes directly to transforming our nation sustainably into

an equitable and vibrant knowledge society, by providing high quality education to all.

The salient features of the draft are as follows:

In the sphere of early childhood education, the Policy emphasizes the criticality of the early years and aims to ensure quality early childhood care and education for all children between 3-6 years by 2025 with significantly increased investment and new initiatives. The Policy aims to achieve 100% Gross Enrolment Ratio for all school education by 2030 through various measures.

Special attention and priority will be given to districts/locations that are particularly socio-economically disadvantaged. Processes for suitable monitoring of quality and outcomes will be set up. All aspects of early childhood education will come under the purview of the Ministry of Education (as the current Ministry of Human Resource Development will be renamed), effectively linking early childhood education with the rest of school education - a transition plan will be finalized jointly by 2019 by the Ministries of Education, Women and Child Development, and Health and Family Welfare. The Right to Education Act 2009 will be extended to assure availability of free and compulsory quality education for all 3-6 year olds. The Policy has several concerted initiatives to ensure that no child loses any opportunity to learn and excel because of the circumstances of birth or background. Special education zones will also be set up to focus on this. Policy aims to achieve foundational literacy and numeracy for every student in grade 5 by 2025.

Teacher education will be redesigned to have a renewed emphasis on foundational literacy and numeracy. A National Tutors Programme and a Remedial Instructional Aides Programme will be launched. A pupil-teacher ratio under 30:1 will be ensured at the level of each school. Curriculum and pedagogy would be transformed by 2022 in order to minimize rote learning and instead encourage holistic development and 21st century skills such as critical thinking, creativity, scientific temper, communication, collaboration, multilingualism, problem solving, ethics, social responsibility, and digital literacy. This Policy envisages teachers as the 'most important members of our society and the torchbearers of change.' The success of any effort to foster quality education is dependent upon the quality of the teacher.

Women's participation and education of girls to address the gender imbalance among school teachers and girls students, education of tribal, caste and religion-based groups to ensure that children of these communities receive all the benefits earmarked for them, education of children of urban poor families in order to help students to navigate life in urban poor areas and education of children with special needs as well as transgender children with continued and renewed focus to mainstream children in neighbourhood schools from foundational stage to Grade 12 are other illustrative interventions in this Policy.

Higher Education

In the realm of higher education NEP 2019 aims at revamping the entire higher education system, create world class institutions across the country

- increase Gross Enrolment Ratio to at least 50% by 2035. A new vision and architecture for higher education has been envisaged with large, well-resourced, vibrant multidisciplinary institutions. The current 800 universities and 40,000 colleges will be consolidated into about 15,000 excellent institutions. A broad-based liberal arts education at the undergraduate level for integrated, rigorous exposure to science, arts, humanities, mathematics and professional fields will be put in place. This would have imaginative and flexible curricular structures, creative combinations of study, integration of vocational education and multiple entry/exit points.

Imaginative and flexible curricular structures will enable creative combinations of disciplines of study, and offer multiple useful exit and entry points for students, thus demolishing currently prevalent rigid boundaries and creating possibilities for life-long learning. Graduate level education will provide rigorous research-based specialization.

There will be three types of institutions based on a difference in focus - all will be of high quality

Type 1- which focus on world-class research and high quality teaching across all disciplines

Type 2- which focus on high quality teaching across disciplines with significant contribution to research

Type 3- which focus on high quality teaching across disciplines focused on undergraduate education.

This re-structuring will be done systematically and thoughtfully, by consolidating and restructuring existing institutions and building new ones. Mission Nalanda and Mission Takshashila will be launched for catalyzing this new institutional architecture. A few pace-setting institutions, the Indian Institutes of Liberal Arts/ Multidisciplinary Education and Research Universities, may be set up as part of these Missions.

Open and distance learning will be expanded, thus playing a significant role in increasing the Gross Enrolment Ratio to 50%. Measures such as online digital repository, funding for research, improved student services, credit-based recognition of MOOCs, etc. will be taken to ensure it at par with the highest quality in-class programmes.

Internationalization of education will be facilitated through both institutional collaborations, and student and faculty mobility. An Inter-University Centre for International Education will be set up within selected Indian universities. Regulation will be 'light but tight' to ensure financial probity and public-spiritedness - standard setting, funding, accreditation, and regulation will be conducted by independent bodies to eliminate conflicts of interest.

The most important factor for the success of higher education institutions is the quality and engagement of its faculty. This Policy puts faculty back into the heart of higher education. Every institution will have adequate faculty, ensuring that all programme, subject and field needs are met, a desirable

student-teacher ratio (not more than 30:1) is maintained and diversity is ensured.

The prevalent approach of ad hoc, contractual appointments will be immediately stopped.

Faculty recruitment will be based on academic expertise, teaching capacities and dispositions for public service. An appropriately designed permanent employment (tenure) track system for faculty will be introduced - this will be fully functional in all institutions, including private institutions, by 2030. Faculty will be empowered to make curricular choices for their courses and pursue research with academic freedom.

All higher education institutions will become autonomous self-governing entities and the practice of 'affiliation' will be stopped. Private and public institutions will be treated at par by the regulatory regime. Commercialization of education will be stopped, and philanthropic efforts encouraged.

Transformation of the Regulatory System

Regulation will be responsive and minimalistic to ensure public spiritedness, equity, excellence, financial stability and probity, along with good governance. The National Higher Education Regulatory Authority will be the only regulator for all higher education, including professional education. All current regulatory bodies will transform into Professional Standard Setting Bodies. The current University Grants Commission will transform to the Higher Education Grants Council.

The policy aims to ensure that teachers are given the highest quality training in content, pedagogy and practice, by moving the teacher education system into multidisciplinary colleges and universities.

The Policy also aims at reintegrating professional education into higher education, revitalizing professional education. It aims at building a holistic approach to the preparation of professionals, by ensuring broad-based competencies and 21st century skills, an understanding of the social-human context, and a strong ethical compass, in addition to the highest-quality professional capacities.

Agricultural education with allied disciplines will be revived. Capacity to prepare professionals in agriculture and veterinary sciences through programmes integrated with general education will be increased sharply. Legal education programmes will be restructured. Professional education in law must be globally competitive, adopting best practices and embracing new technologies for wider access to justice and timely delivery of justice. Healthcare education shall be re-envisioned such that the duration, structure and design of the educational programmes is as much as is required for the roles that people play.

This Policy aims to provide access to vocational education to at least 50% of all learners by 2025.

Research and innovation are central to growing and sustaining a large and vibrant economy, uplifting society, and inspiring a nation to achieve greater heights. The rapid changes occurring in the world today - climate,

technology, population dynamics and so on - make a robust research system more important than ever.

The National Research Foundation will be set up through an Act of Parliament, as an autonomous body of the Government of India. It will be given an annual grant of Rs. 20,000 crores (~ 0.1% of GDP); this will be increased progressively over the next decade as the country's capacity for quality research is developed.

Further this Policy aims at appropriately integrating technology into all levels of education to improve classroom processes, support teacher professional development, enhance educational access for disadvantaged groups and streamline educational planning, administration and management. It aims to achieve 100% youth and adult literacy by 2030.

The Policy will ensure the preservation, growth, and vibrancy of all Indian languages. Focus on language, literature, scientific vocabulary in Indian languages will be enabled through strong Indian language and literature programmes across the country, recruitment of teachers and faculty, focused research, and promotion of classical languages. Existing national institutes for promotion of classical languages and literature will be strengthened. A National Institute for Pali, Persian and Prakrit will also be set up.

Rashtriya Shiksha Aayog or National Education Commission will be formed, headed by the Prime Minister - this will be the custodian of the vision of education in India.

The Policy outlines key actions led by various bodies, along with timelines and a plan for review, to ensure that the Policy is implemented in its spirit and intent, through coherence in planning and synergy across all bodies involved in education.

Thus the NEP 2019 envisages creation, transmission, use and dissemination of knowledge as a part of this continuum and aims at inclusive growth, covering all sections of society. Finally, I urge you to go through this draft and provide your valuable suggestions to make it more better.

Jai Hind! Jai Jharkhand!