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# National Education Policy 2020: Impact on Libraries

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## Abstract:

*This article tries to identify the standards for libraries and information studies summaries in NEP 2020. NEP changed the education system by raising awareness of multidisciplinary education and by merging technology system into the classroom. The vital role plays by the library which NEP recognizes that by sufficient resources such as books and digital resources to all the people giving access the resources through various level including preparatory, middle education as well as post-graduation, research and continuous learning. This paper also discussed the benefits, limitations and the advanced technology distribute for implement the policy. These study highlights the importance for libraries in higher education to act as centers of support for learners and researchers, in addition to performing a role in sustainable custodianship. However, the adaptation of ICT in distant locations poses numerous challenges, such as inadequate internet connectivity, infrastructure limitations, and limited device accessibility, which need to be addressed. The Digital India Campaign is playing a pivotal role in revolutionizing education nationwide, emphasizing a more technology-oriented approach.*

**Keywords:** National Education Policy (NEP), Academic Libraries, Lifelong Learning, Cognitive Abilities, Digital Literacy.

## 1. Introduction:

To modify in various and different level from primary to higher education in India NEP 2020 was initiated on 29<sup>th</sup> July, 2020. Dr. K. Kasturirangan(2019)<sup>1</sup> the former chairman of ISRO, guided the committee and submitted the draft proposal to then MHRD in 2019. The MHRD is now rename as Ministry of Education, GOI. In replacement of earlier education 1986 the union cabinet approved the NEP 2020. The policy focuses to expresses India as a on enter in global educational hub through delivering quality education which revived the glorious history of Indian education. For establishing the connection between knowledge and students the role of libraries in academic domain is essential.

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<sup>1</sup> Ministry of human resource development. (2020). *National Education Policy 2020*. [https://www.education.gov.in/sites/upload\\_files/mhrd/files/NEP\\_Final\\_English\\_0.pdf](https://www.education.gov.in/sites/upload_files/mhrd/files/NEP_Final_English_0.pdf)



## 2. Literature Review:

The library cell information Centre and the national education policy for 2020. Chaudhari(2023)<sup>2</sup> highlights the basic education, secretary education, middle education, and lifelong learning, as well as libraries with high-quality collections of digital resources for mass communication and quality education at different levels. Jayamma(2023)<sup>3</sup> identifies the detailed and critical role of that libraries which assist the children to develop their critical thinking skills, knowledge and the access of resources. Lawande(2024)<sup>4</sup> highlighted the necessity for reformation of education system of India by 2040. This study also discussed the knowledge that is beyond local and indigenous in context of NEP 2020. Pathak(2023)<sup>5</sup> discussed different application and services including e-sodh-sindhushala, e-pathshala, e-sodh-gangotri, e-sodh-ganga, the National Digital Library, Koha open-source software, etc which initiated by Govt of India. This study also focused the role of libraries in teaching extension and research activities. Pathak and Babu(2023)<sup>6</sup> pointed out the advantage, features and vision of National education policy. The paper also highlighted the necessity of libraries in higher education system. Patil(2020)<sup>7</sup> highlights the significance of e resources and online resources which are necessary for the development of libraries and infrastructure. Satpute(2022)<sup>8</sup> highlights the value of books and libraries by focusing on a number of topics, such as the creation of entertaining and motivational books in Indian languages, the accessibility and availability of books in public and school libraries, the improvement of libraries, and the promotion of reading as a national culture. Soni(2023)<sup>9</sup> discussed the necessary evaluation for educational system of National education policy 2020.

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<sup>2</sup> Chaudhari, Y. S. Mr. (2023). National Education Policy 2020 and Changing Role of Libraries. *Library Philosophy and Practice*, 7860, 1–18. <https://digitalcommons.unl.edu/libphilprac/7860>

<sup>3</sup> Jayamma, K. V., Mahesh, G. T., & Kotur, M. (2023). Role of Libraries in Implementing the New Education Policy 2020 in Higher Education in India. *Asian Journal of Information Science and Technology*, 13(2), 66–71. <https://doi.org/10.51983/ajist-2023.13.2.3748>

<sup>4</sup> Lawande, R. S. (2024). National Educational Policy (NEP 2020) and Role of Libraries. *International Journal of Humanities Social Science and Management*, 4(4), 235–237. [https://ijhssm.org/issue\\_dcp/National%20Educational%20Policy%20NEP%202020%20and%20Role%20of%20Libraries.pdf](https://ijhssm.org/issue_dcp/National%20Educational%20Policy%20NEP%202020%20and%20Role%20of%20Libraries.pdf)

<sup>5</sup> Pathak, N. K. (2023). (N.E.P. 2020) role of Libraries in the Field of higher Education. *TechnoLearn: An International Journal of Educational Technology*, 13(1), 9–12. <https://doi.org/10.30954/2231-4105.01.2023.2>

<sup>6</sup> Pathak, U., & Babu, M. S. (2023). Role of national education policy (2020) in academic libraries in India. *International Journal of Applied Research*, 9(10), 17–20. <https://www.allresearchjournal.com/archives/2023/vol9issue10/PartA/9-10-6-802.pdf>

<sup>7</sup> Patil, D. R. (2020). National Education Policy-2020 and Value of the Libraries. *Journal of Emerging Technologies and Innovative Research*, 7(11), 7–10. <https://www.jetir.org/papers/JETIR2011430.pdf>

<sup>8</sup> Satpute, L. M. (2022). National Education Policy 2020 and Libraries. *Electronic International Interdisciplinary Research Journal*, 11(2), 170–174. <https://aarhat.com/download-article/2820/>

<sup>9</sup> Soni, M. (2023). A Literature Survey on National Education Policy 2020 (NEP 2020) and Libraries. *Journal of Learning and Educational Policy*, 3(4), 13–23. <https://doi.org/10.55529/jlep.34.13.23>



Thapa(2022)<sup>10</sup> discussed the knowledge-based society in the changing context and the mentioned the adults changing in India. It also mentioned the changing principals in the education system of India. The necessary steps that should be implemented for technology-integrated libraries it also discussed here.

### 3. Research Gap:

The academic libraries have been undergoing a significant change over decade. In this current electronic environment library professionals must acquire new skills, competencies in IT to discharge their professional responsibilities. A study by for this study by Pathak (2023) observed that most librarians lacked the requisite technical skills. Hence this study is important because it aims to assess the impact of libraries in delivering the services to their users.

### 4. Immergence of the Problem: Objectives:

Objective of the study are as follows:

- i) To analyses the academic libraries significance in NEP 2020.
- ii) To analyses the different ways of academic libraries in NEP 2020.
- iii) To identify the limitations that is faced by the academic libraries in New Education Policy 2020
- iv) To find out the necessary suggestion for academic libraries of NEP 2020.

### 5. Methodology:

The study is carried out of an extensive analysis of NEP2020 by the Govt of India. To conduct this study various published literature which was released from 2020 have been browsed in this context.

### 6. Analysis of Collected Data:

**6.1 Digital India and National Education policy:** This education policy strengthens many portions of education system where government of India must have contribution in execution of monitoring on teaching training, evaluation of fund utilizations, curriculum developments. This policy emphasizes investing in digital infrastructure, creating online teaching platforms,

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<sup>10</sup> Thapa, N. (2022). NEP 2020: Pivotal Role of Libraries in Achieving the Goals. *International Journal of Research in Library Science (IJRLS)*, 8(4), 168–175. <https://www.ijrls.in/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/ijrls-1587.pdf>



developing virtual labs and digital repositories, training teachers to produce high-quality online content.

**6.2 Libraries in the Context of NEP 2020:** The NEP recognizes the importances of libraries, functioning as learning centers, research works, information centers and encouraging critical thinking.

**6.3 Libraries and Teacher Education:** It recommends that all teacher education institutions should have a well-maintained library including digital resources which enables users of these institutions to access the latest scholarly works.

**6.4 Libraries and Higher Education:** The NEP acknowledges the essential role of libraries in higher education, recommending that all higher education institutions should provide well-equipped libraries with access to digital resources. It also suggests for the development of research libraries which can provide specialized resources to assist research in various disciplines. Further, it is the duty of the government to furnish appropriate infrastructure for the adult and lifelong learning and foster the community learning from reading materials in regional format.

**6.5 Libraries as Centers for Research Support:** This policy acknowledges the libraries' role in building interdisciplinary collections and research, where it recommends the incorporation of digital resources with the assistance of digital resources and the internet. The research librarian must have competency in statistical analysis, open-source technologies, administrative knowledge, and reference services, which need substantive investments for the development of the libraries. The NIRF (National Institutional Ranking Framework) provides rankings of institutions based on their research activities. The IRINS (Indian Research Information Network System) builds a scholarly network among the research scholars and organizations. The research librarians act as a nodal officer for updating research-related information for individual institutions. Moreover, the Vidwan profiles are also updated by the institutions' librarian as nodal officer.

**6.6 Libraries as a Platform for Lifelong Learning:** Academic institutions having well equipped libraries impart formal education to the users without discriminating on the basis of caste, creed or gender orientation. The libraries of these institutions usually maintain those study materials that supports the students' academic syllabus from elementary to higher education levels. Factors such as career aspirations, work, experience, personal goals and interest can



influence the need for lifelong learning. Therefore, libraries have an essential role in fostering lifelong learning in our society.

**6.7 Infrastructures for the Library:** Development of library rooms may be sanctioned in the annual work plan and budget proposal of the States/UT in schools which do not have them. The proposal may include the cost for civil work, furniture, almirah, racks, fixing and fittings. School complexes and public libraries with facilities of information and communication technology can help in imparting adult education and community engagement activities. Libraries should be strengthened by providing adequate reading materials like books, journals and other teaching and learning materials.

**6.8. Ensuring Quality Educational Resources:** A variety of reading materials such as books, journals, periodicals, research works and e-resources are kept in today's academic libraries. By offering these resources to its users, they help to deliver quality education as highlighted in NEP 2020.

**6.9 Supporting Multi-Disciplinary Education:** Academic libraries provide access to books, journals and other resources in various fields of study which is important for multi-disciplinary education. They can organize workshops and events to bring together users from different fields to promoting interactive learning. Pursuing such education has special mention in NEP 2020.

**6.10 Strengthening Digital Infrastructure:** The policy underlines the vital role of digital technologies in education. It is important for academic libraries to have a solid digital infrastructure by maintaining and providing remote access to resources like e-books, e-journals, online databases and other electronic documents. This hugely contributes in the process of e-learning.

**6.11 Fostering Digital Literacy:** The policy acknowledges the importance of digital literacy in the present world. Here, the academic libraries can aid by providing access to digital resources and tools. They can also arrange training and support to students and faculties in developing digital literacy skills.

**6.12 Strengthening Outreach and Engagement:** Academic libraries can organize cultural events and other extension activities in order to connect with their user communities. Their impact can be further extended by partnering with other educational institutions and organizations.



**6.13 Preserve national and cultural heritage:** Since the early period libraries have served as repositories of cultural heritage. They should preserve India's rich history, culture, traditional knowledge, customs, arts and languages in the form of documents that will link contemporary society to its historical past. Presently, libraries are regarded as centers for cultural expression and heritage.

**6.14 Technology Integration in Libraries:** The National Education Technology Forum (NETF) has been established as an independent body within the NEP that will aid in decision-making related to the creation, use and administration of technology in education. For making data-driven decisions, NETF uses a steady flow of data from diverse sources and collaborating with a wide range of researchers for data analysis. To manage these services effectively and meet the need of library users, qualified professionals are essential to keep pace with rapid technological changes.

**6. 15 Pedagogical Shift in Digital Learning in NEP 2020:** The digital India campaigning extended the government's initiative for the digital education system. The PM e-Vidya initiative has been launched by the MHRD to provide an online, digital, multimode education system through SWAYAM, IIT-PAL (IIT-Professor Assisted Learning), and others. Moreover, the CBSE Shiksha Vani podcast, which is introduced by MHRD, provides curriculum-related audio contents for 9-12 grade students. Moreover, the NIOS (National Institute of Open Schooling) provides learning materials to disabled students. The pedagogical shift to digital learning is initiated by NEP 2020, which is also the future of learning procedures. This digital learning environment also made an impact on traditional libraries, which transformed to digital libraries with digital resources.

## 7. Suggestions:

The MHRD builds specialized wings for the development of digital content, digital infrastructure, and capacity building to meet the requirements of all levels of education.

- i) In the present and future of this technology era, several digital equipment and technological tools are transforming the direction of the education system. Mobile platforms and internet facilities can play a vital role in the dissemination of resources to all, irrespective of socioeconomic background or geographic location.
- ii) The NEP emphasizes that there is insufficient focus on augmenting cognitive abilities which are conceptualized as mental skills that allow people to process information. Library and information centers in education sector provide additional sources on various topics that helps to increase the students' cognitive skills.



- iii) The digital collections help users to get their desired documents through the digital library websites even during the pandemic (Covid-19). The academic libraries in India makes available their digitized resources available to their users.
- iv) Technology can help digital libraries in mitigating the achievement gap between urban and rural students, reduce the financial burden on students, promote critical thinking and raise the standard of education through technology. These measures are essential towards bridging the digital divide and ensuring that students have access to high-quality educational resources, regardless of their location or socioeconomic status. Policymakers should prioritize the implementation of digital initiatives to ensure that every student has the access to quality education. In addition, policies that encourage the adoption of digital technologies in education are necessary, along with adequate training for both students and teachers. Digital libraries can help in narrowing the digital divide by providing access to resources for students in remote areas where they have limited opportunities to access digital resources.

## 9. Conclusion:

The new education policy NEP 2020 targets to enhance the library infrastructures with adequate staffing to support the education system of India. The research librarians with specialized librarianship can uplift the research activities. Libraries should focus on developing cognitive skills and promoting lifelong learning. This policy recognizes the essentiality of academic libraries and provides recommendations for strengthening infrastructure, providing regional language books, and increasing reading habits among the users. The Samagra Shiksha scheme takes the initiative to provide grants for the development of the libraries. This policy enhances the education system through the implementation of a multidisciplinary education system, multilingual learning, technology-integrated education, and training. The Digital India Campaign rebuilds the nation with a digital society and knowledge economy. However, the barriers to implementation of this policy are poor internet connection, insufficient electronics gadgets, and electricity outages.

In conclusion, the NEP 2020 acknowledges the importance of academic libraries in this digital environment, advocating the importance of innovative teaching, learning and research activities.

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