

7-Day Workshop
on
'Decoding National Education Policy (NEP) 2020'
A Report

The idea of this 7-Day workshop on 'Decoding National Education Policy 2020' was floated by our worthy Principal Dr. Maneesha Kohli. This was the first such initiative in the 9 years history of this college. The Internal Quality Assurance Committee (IQAC) of the college was given the mandate to implement the idea. Initially it seemed unrealistic courtesy the lack of inadequate infrastructure and other facilities, but they accepted the challenge and the outcome is for everyone to see. The workshop was intended to identify and deliberate upon various issues and challenges with regards to NEP 2020 and finding practicable solutions to make the policy a functional document. It was organized to discuss on a few pertinent questions such as- Does the policy promise to provide equality of opportunity? What provisions of expenditure are made for the implementation? Does it vouch for innovative changes in the curriculum at different levels? Is there any need for structural changes in the existing regulatory bodies? How far will it plug privatization and commercialization of education? Does it address the question of employability of the literate? And is the government serious for its implementation or is it a merely political gimmick?

To discuss on these pressing issues the IQAC planned to incorporate all the perspectives to understand and make sense of the policy document- linguistic, economic, social, historical, political, administrative and other related ones. To this end it roped in all the faculty members including the Superintendent of the college who schooled the faculty on service rule literacy.

The workshop commenced on 16th December 2023 with the lighting of lamp and seeking blessings of Goddess Saraswati. Dr. Maneesha Kohli, principal of the college was the chief guest on the occasion. In her inaugural address the chief guest congratulated the IQAC for organizing the workshop and urged the students to utilize all the resources during the next seven days. In his keynote address on the first day of the workshop, the IQAC convener Dr. Ajay Kaith stated at the outset the broad framework of the policy in a simplified manner. After a brief historical background to the NEP 2020 he elaborated on the four stages of learning- Foundation stage of 3-8 years, Preparatory stage of 8-11 years, Middle stage of 11-14 years, and Secondary stage of 14-18 years. He highlighted the focus of the policy document on prioritizing mother tongue as the medium of instruction during the preparatory stage of learning as mother tongue is the first language that a child understands. Understanding newer concepts will be made much easier when the instructions are passed in the mother tongue. Talking about the provisions of NEP 2020 for the higher education, Dr. Kaith underlined some of the key features of NEP such as multiple entry and exit, semester based, certificate, diploma and degree certifications, abolition of M.Phil,

KEYNOTE ADDRESS BY THE CHIEF GUEST OF THE WORKSHOP, THE HON. CONVENER OF IQAC, DR. AJAY KAITH

focus on research and innovation, compulsion of value addition course, multi-stream flexibility, multidisciplinary education and research universities (MERUs), mainstreaming of Sanskrit among others.

The second talk of the day was delivered by Sh. Prem Sharma on *Library Management System in NEP 2020*. He underscored the importance of library and information science(s) (LIS) that deals generally with organization, access, collection, and regulation of information in physical or digital forms. He informed the audience about the availability of community center libraries, tehsil, district and state libraries in Himachal Pradesh. He also talked about the five principles of library science proposed by the father of modern library science Dr. S R Ranganathan- books are for use, every person his or her book, every book its reader, save the time of the reader, and a library is a growing organism. He exhorted the students to inculcate the habit of frequenting the college library.

The second day of the workshop began with report reading of the inaugural day by Anjali. This day was scheduled to understand NEP 2020 from linguistic viewpoint. In his talk titled *A Peep into the Past Through Oral Traditional Forms: A Riddle Contest* Prof. Vishal Rangta reflected on the language question that the national education policies of 1968, 1986 and 2020 have been grappling with, with a little or no substantive success. He underlined the inequality of treatment meted out to different regional languages of India in comparison to English. He also exposed the real intent behind the imposition of English in India and stressed for the promotion of mother tongue, especially the younger generation. In the second part of his talk he invited three of his students- Priyanka, Muskan, and Minakshi- to organize a riddle contest. The riddles for the competition were collected by another student Niharika along with these young researchers from their Dādis. Nānis, Būās and their male counterparts. The students enjoyed the activity as it embarked them on a journey to their cherished past.

The same sentiments were expressed by Prof. Bobija Sharma in her lecture on *Rāṣṭrīya Śikṣhā Nīti Evaṃ Bhāratīya Kṣhetrīya. Bhāṣāeṃ: Ek Samagr Viśleṣaṇa*. She focused her talk on three main aspects of NEP 2020- Multi-lingual approach, its significance, and the practicability of the policy- how effective and rational and useful it is to implement it. She emphasized on the oral medium of instruction in the absence of script for any regional language and standardization of existing age old scripts like Tāṃkrī that we in Himachal Pradesh have. At the end of her talk she noted some of the drawbacks of NEP- lack of script for certain dialects, lack of good translations, employability in regional languages.

In his concluding remarks Dr. Ajay Khurana, the chief guest of the day, emphasized on the importance of mother tongue by equating it with ones mother. Our existence is not possible without the both. He also deplored the lack of seriousness on the part of our political class as far as the question of language(s) is concerned. He concluded by quoting a world renowned writer Amitab Ghosh on the significance of mother tongue where he says, "The first sentence that comes to my mind early in the morning is in my mother tongue".

The third day of the workshop started with report reading by Rishika followed by a talk on *Emerging Trends in Commerce* by Dr. Ajay Kaith. He began his lecture by the changing nature and purpose of education. Initially education was linked to learning, then the focus shifted to self-employment and NEP 2020 aims at employment generation. He highlighted some of the innovative and technological advancements of the contemporary society and urged the students to think out of the box and work on those ideas. During the course of his talk he introduced certain new terminologies related to his topic such as Incubation Centers, Fintec Disruption i.e. the application of technology in commerce, Business Process Outsourcing (BPO), Knowledge Process Outsourcing (KPO), E-tailing, Crypto currency, Chat Bot, Artificial Intelligence etc.

Immediately after, Dr. Susheel Kumar began his discussion on *Emerging Trends in Indian Economy with Reference to NEP 2020*. He introduced the audience with certain economic related terms like Gross Domestic Product (GDP), Goods and Services Tax (GST), Aggregate Demand, Demographic Dividend etc. He also talked about the state of Indian economy in relation to the major economies of the world and assumed it to achieve new heights if it keeps on growing consistently. He also reviewed emerging trends in economy in the area of digital transformation, innovation, renewable energy transition, economic reforms, manufacturing, skill development and education, research and development etc.

In her concluding speech the chief guest Dr. Maneesha Kohli informed the students about the availability of Biotechnology Incubation Center in Himachal Pradesh University (HPU) which provides financial assistance and technological know-how to a start-up or new idea and urges the students to avail this opportunity. She also encouraged the students toward the cultivation of medicinal plants along with the importance of multidisciplinary learning.

Day four of the workshop began deciphering NEP with sociological lens after the usual report reading, this time by Ashish. Dr. Amrit Mehta spoke on the topic *Sociology of Education with Reference to NEP 2020*. He invoked the teachings of Swami Vivekananda and Mahatma Gandhi- the eminent social reformers who shaped generations in their own fashion. He credited the changes in social order for the emergence of NEP 2020 document. He further asserted that our society is suffering from the menace of social disparity and NEP addresses this aspect. NEP also aims at social mobility of the under privileged. He concluded his talk by invoking girl students to choose non-traditional fields and focus on skill development and life-long learning.

In his talk on *Play for Life: (Unveiling) the Lifelong Benefits*, Prof. Harinder Thakur regret the condition of physical and sports science in India and in Himachal Pradesh. He noted with pain that only 2% of the Indians are involved in competitive sports in India. Lamenting on the investment on sports, India spends about 0.07% of its GDP. In terms of absolute money India spends Rs. 24/- per person per annum as compared to Rs. 1000/- per person per annum in Australia and Rs. 5000/- per person per annum in England. He stated that the NEP 2020 aims at fulfilling the objective of 'to do to know' and this holistic development is not possible without promoting sports science. He cited various reasons for the lack of interest among youth for

choosing a career in physical education- lack of physical infrastructure and facilities, lack of availability of physical education teachers and research material, focus on theoretical rather than practical aspects, lack of scientific approach to physical education etc. He concluded his discussion by detailing several initiatives of the state and the central governments like the Fit India Movement, Khelo India Games, Target to Podium Scheme (TOPS), National Sports Development Fund (NSDF) etc. To underline the importance of physical exertion he quoted GB Shaw- "We don't playing because we grow old. We grow old because we stop playing".

In addition to appreciating the efforts of both the resource persons, the chief guest Dr. Maneesha Kohli stressed the importance of change. She urged the students to avail opportunities and focus on positivity and avoid negativity.

In the series of lectures on Decoding NEP 2020, day five was listed for historical and political perspectives. In this series the first talk of the day was delivered by Dr. Subhash Kaptia, but not before Priyanka, President of the College SCA presented the report. He presented his views on *Ancient Phase of History with Reference to Ancient Civilization* where he made foray into the ancient civilizations of the world such as Egyptian, Mesopotamian/ Sumerian, Babylonian, Indus Valley, Vedic, Chinese, Roman, Maya etc. He made a detailed presentation about their historical past and their innovations and contributions which affect us even today in various aspects of our life such as agriculture, craftsmanship, script invention, architecture, mathematical calculations, town construction and many other fields.

This was followed by a talk by Dr. Devender Chand on *How is Political Science Relevant to the Contemporary Population? With Special Reference to NEP 2020*. He started his argument by stating that NEP 2020 is merely a draft document, a vision document in public domain, not a legal document. It requires a systematic and serious not shallow discussion on the state of education system and policy in India before it acquires a legal status. He attempted to decode NEP 2020 from three angles- Nīti (Policy), Nīyat (Motive), and Rājñīti (Politics). He did not find fault with the first two aspects of the NEP 2020 as the policy document was in convention with the earlier two NEP documents of 1968 and 1986, with minor changes. His objections were with regards to the politics behind drafting of such a document. He ended his comprehensive deliberation by highlighting certain questions on expenditure, equity, privatization and commercialization of education, feasibility of apex governance like National Education Commission (NEC), National Higher Education Council (NHEC) and finally the implementation of the Policy. All agreed to his sentiments when he said that the "Text is good, all we need to see is the Context of it".

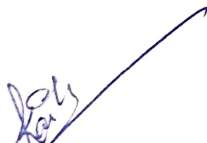
The last day of the workshop began with the report reading by Muskan followed by a presentation on *Service Rules Literacy* by Prof. Inder Prakash Negi and Sh. Naresh Sharma.

It was followed by a musical rendition/ interpretation of NEP 2020 by Dr. Kamini Shandil in her talk on *Role of Music in Human Life*.

The workshop concluded on 22nd December 2023. In her valedictory address the chief guest Dr. Maneesha Kohli, besides congratulating the college IQAC on successfully organizing the workshop, applauded the efforts put in by all the faculty members and students for their cooperation and active participation. She also introduced the gathering to the issues concerning traditional knowledge, patenting, intellectual property rights, geographic indicators and Indian knowledge system and urged the students to take interest in these areas of knowledge. She also asked the students to focus on research, innovation and adopt multidisciplinary approach which she believed is the Indian way of doing things. She concluded by invoking Swami Vivekananda where he opined that in order to make India great there is a need to educate all.

NOTICE

All the students of this college is hereby informed that the college is conducting one-week workshop on Decoding National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 w.e.f 16th - 22nd December 2023. The attendance of all students is compulsory for the workshop.


Convener

IQAC


Principal

Govt. College Chail Koti

7 Days Workshop on NEP 2020

Organized by IQAC Cell

Starting from 17-12-2023 to 22-12-2023

Day	Date	Subject	Resource Persons
1	16-12-2023	Introduction to NEP 2020 and library Management System	Dr. Ajay Kumar & Sh. Prem Sharma
2	17-12-2023	SUNDAY HOLIDAY	
3	18-12-2023	Hindi & English	Dr. Ajay Khurana . Prof. Vishal Rangta & Prof. Bobija Sharma
4	19-12-2023	Commerce & Economics	Dr. Ajay Kumar & Dr. Susheel
5	20-12-2023	Sociology & Physical Education	Dr. Amrit Singh Mehta & Prof. Harinder Thakur
6	21-12-2023	History & Political Science	Dr. Subhash Kapta & Dr. Devender Singh
7	22-12-2023	Mathematics & Music	Prof. Inder Negi & Dr. Kamini Shandil

Patron

Dr. Maneesha Kohli

Principal

GDC Chail Koti

Convenor

Dr. Ajay Kumar

IQAC –Co-Ordinator



16-12-2023

Sh. Purn Sharma

18-12-2023

Prof. Vishal Kamra

19-12-2023

-Dr. Ajay Kumar

-Dr. Sucheel Kumar

20-12-2023

-Dr. Anuraj Singh Mehra

-Prof. Harinder Thakur

21-12-2023

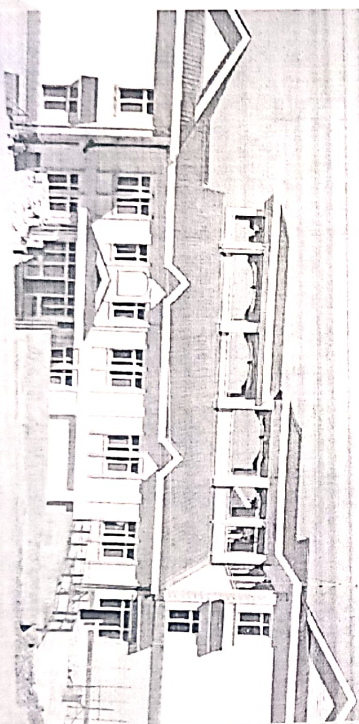
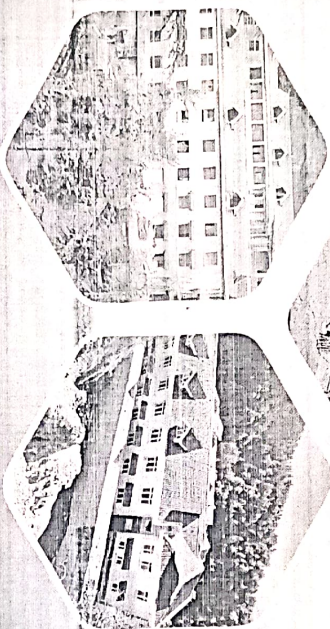
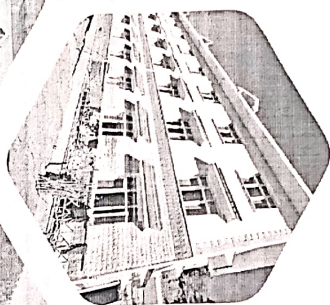
-Dr. Subhash Kapra

-Dr. Beverder Chand

22-12-2023

Prof. Jager Prakash Negi and Sh. Nareesh Sharma

Dr. Kamini Shandil



WORKSHOP ON Decoding National Education Policy, 2020

Organized by

IOAC

Government Degree College,
Chail-Koti, Distt. Shimla-171012
16th-22nd December, 2023

Shant THE WORKSHOP

The National Education Policy 2020 which was approved by the union cabinet of India on July 29, 2020 outlines the vision of India's new education system. The policy encompasses a broad framework for all types of education viz. elementary, higher, vocational and teacher education etc. It also seeks to strengthen adult education and use of technology among others. The new education policy looks progressive and promising with a clear objective of restructuring Indian education system. However, in India, the challenge has always been the implementation part of the policies framed.

The global education development agenda reflected in the Goal 4 (SDG4) of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted by India in 2015 - seeks to "ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all" by 2030. Such a lofty goal will require the entire education system to be reconfigured to support and foster learning, so that all of the critical targets and goals (SDGs) of the 2030 agenda for sustainable development can be achieved. The world is undergoing rapid changes in the knowledge landscape. With various dramatic scientific and technological advances, such as the rise of big data, machine learning, and artificial intelligence, many unskilled jobs worldwide may be taken over by machines, while the need for a skilled workforce, particularly involving mathematics, computer science, and data science, in conjunction with multidisciplinary abilities across the sciences, social sciences, and humanities, will be increasingly in greater demand. With climate change, increasing pollution, and depleting natural resources,

there will be a sizeable shift in how we meet the world's energy, water, food, and sanitation needs, again resulting in the need for new skilled labour, particularly in biology, chemistry, physics, agriculture, climate science, and social science. The gap between the current state of learning outcomes and what is required must be bridged through undertaking major reforms that bring the highest quality, equity, and integrity into the system, from early childhood care and education through higher education.

India's National Education Policy 2020 (NEP 2020) makes a paradigm shift in conceptualizing education as a means to equip students with skills suited for the 21st century and not just for making them employable. It calls for deep rethinking and redesigning of academic systems along with parallel changes in administrative and regulatory systems. When done with participation of all concerned – institutional leadership, faculty, administrators, and students – the policy has the potential to align the goals of quality with affordability; academic degrees with job readiness; and national ambitions with individual gains. However, if we decode the NEP 2020, there are various challenges yet to be resolved for implementation of such progressive changes in existing education system. This takes the whole policy into the parlance, where some pertinent questions propped up into the minds of people.

Important Questions on National Education Policy, 2020

- How will NEP favour students' interests?
- What should be the roadmap to realize the target of 6% GDP on education in coming years?
- What innovative changes are expected in curriculum at different levels in coming years?
- How the structural changes in Regulatory Bodies are going to impact the education system?
- Will internationalization of higher education

- help the students or it will pave the way for privatization of education and spoiling of public Universities?
- On which parameters the strength of 3000 has been decided for higher educational institutions?

Significance

The current workshop aims to train the faculty members and students in the new knowledge and skills which is required to move beyond the scope of traditional classroom and to implement novel approaches to teaching pedagogy. Thus, in order to discuss the various challenges and opportunities of National Education Policy 2020, Government Degree College Chail-Koti is organizing a Workshop on the topic "Decoding National Education Policy, 2020" on December 13-19, 2023.

ORGANISING BOARD OF THE WORKSHOP

Patron

Dr. Manesha Kohli,

Principal, Govt College Chail-Koti

Organizing Committee

Dr. Ajay Kumar,

Assistant Professor, Commerce

Prof. I.P. Negi,

Assistant Professor, Maths

Dr. Devender Sharma,

Assistant Professor, Political Science

Prof. Harinder Thakur,

Assistant Professor, Physical Education