

NEP AND ACADEMIC LIBRARIES

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Abstract :

The NEP 2020 outlines a vision for India's education system that is rooted in the principles of equity, access, quality, affordability, and accountability. The policy seeks to create an education system that is holistic, multidisciplinary, and learner-centered, and that promotes critical thinking, creativity, and innovation. Academic libraries play a crucial role in implementing the NEP 2020 by providing students, faculty, and researchers with access to a vast array of knowledge resources and technology-enabled learning opportunities.

Key words : Academic Library, Education, National Education Policy, NEP, Services.

NEP 2020 :

The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 is a comprehensive policy document that aims to transform India's education system. It was approved by the Union Cabinet on July 29, 2020, and replaces the previous education policy that was in place since 1986.

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Some of the key highlights of the NEP 2020 include:

1. **Universalization of Education:** The policy aims to provide access to education to all children in the age group of 3-18 years, and to achieve 100% Gross Enrollment Ratio (GER) in school education by 2030.
2. **Multilingualism:** The policy emphasizes the importance of promoting multilingualism in education, and encourages the use of mother tongue or local language as the medium of instruction up to Grade 5.
3. **Curriculum and Pedagogy:** The policy recommends a flexible and multidisciplinary curriculum, and a pedagogy that promotes critical thinking, creativity, and problem-solving skills. It also encourages the use of experiential learning, vocational education, and technology-enabled learning.
4. **Higher Education:** The policy aims to increase the Gross Enrollment Ratio in higher education to 50% by 2035, and to promote multidisciplinary and holistic education. It



also recommends the establishment of a National Research Foundation to fund and promote research in various disciplines.

5. **Teacher Education:** The policy emphasizes the importance of teacher education, and recommends the establishment of a National Mission for Mentoring to provide mentoring and professional development opportunities to teachers.

Overall, the NEP 2020 is a landmark policy document that seeks to transform India's education system and make it more responsive to the needs of the 21st century. The successful implementation of the policy will require a collaborative effort from all stakeholders, including government, educators, students, parents, and civil society.

NEP 2020 and academic library :

Academic libraries play a crucial role in implementing the NEP 2020 by providing students, faculty, and researchers with access to a vast array of knowledge resources and technology-enabled learning opportunities. The NEP 2020 emphasizes the importance of digitization of libraries, making them more accessible to students and faculty, regardless of their location. In line with the NEP 2020, academic libraries are expected to expand their services to include digital and multimedia resources, such as e-books, e-journals, databases, and online learning tools. This will not only provide students and faculty with easy access to a wealth of information but will also support multilingualism and lifelong learning. Additionally, academic libraries are encouraged to collaborate with other libraries and institutions, both nationally and internationally, to enhance the quality of their collections and services. This will foster a more interconnected and globally competitive academic community. NEP 2020 offers a significant opportunity for academic libraries to play a key role in the transformation of India's education system and to provide students, faculty, and researchers with the resources they need to succeed in the digital age.

Role of college libraries in national educational policy 2020 :

The role of college libraries in the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 is critical to the success of the policy's objectives. College libraries play a key role in promoting access to information and fostering a culture of lifelong learning. Here are some ways in which college libraries can contribute to the NEP 2020:

1. **Digital Transformation:** The NEP 2020 emphasizes the importance of technology-enabled education and the need for academic libraries to adopt digital technologies to provide access to information and resources. College libraries can play a crucial role in this transformation by providing digital resources, such as e-books, e-journals, databases, and online learning tools, to students, faculty, and researchers.
2. **Promoting Multilingualism:** The NEP 2020 emphasizes the importance of multilingual education. College libraries can support this objective by providing access to information and resources in multiple languages, promoting language diversity and cultural pluralism.
3. **Support for Research:** The NEP 2020 aims to promote a research-oriented educational system. College libraries can support this objective by providing access to research

databases, scholarly journals, and other resources needed for research. They can also provide training and support to students and faculty in the use of these resources.

4. Collaboration and Networking: The NEP 2020 emphasizes the importance of collaboration and networking among academic institutions and libraries. College libraries can collaborate with other libraries and institutions, both nationally and internationally, to enhance the quality of their collections and services and to promote information sharing and knowledge exchange.

Implementation of NEP in academic libraries :

The implementation of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 in academic libraries requires a collaborative effort from librarians, faculty, students, and other stakeholders. Here are some key steps that academic libraries can take to implement the NEP:

1. Develop a strategic plan: Academic libraries should develop a strategic plan that aligns with the objectives of the NEP. The plan should include goals, objectives, and action items that address key aspects of the NEP, such as digital transformation, multilingualism, research support, and collaboration.
2. Adopt digital technologies: Academic libraries should adopt digital technologies to provide access to digital resources and learning tools. This includes digitizing collections, providing access to e-books, e-journals, and other digital resources, and offering online learning opportunities.
3. Promote multilingualism: Academic libraries should support multilingualism by providing resources in multiple languages and offering language-learning resources to students and faculty.
4. Enhance research support: Academic libraries should enhance research support by providing access to research databases, scholarly journals, and other resources needed for research. They should also provide training and support to students and faculty in the use of these resources.
5. Foster collaboration and networking: Academic libraries should foster collaboration and networking among academic institutions and libraries, both nationally and internationally, to enhance the quality of their collections and services and to promote information sharing and knowledge exchange.
6. Provide user-centered services: Academic libraries should provide user-centered services that meet the needs of their users. This includes offering personalized assistance, providing access to relevant resources, and offering services that support the diverse needs of their users.
7. Evaluate and adapt: Academic libraries should regularly evaluate their services and resources to ensure that they align with the objectives of the NEP. They should adapt their services and resources as needed to meet changing needs and priorities.

Conclusion :

National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 provides a transformative vision for India's education system, and academic libraries can play a crucial role in its implementation. The NEP emphasizes the importance of digital transformation, multilingualism, research support, collaboration, and user-centered services, all of which are key areas where academic libraries can contribute. Academic libraries can support the implementation of the NEP by adopting



digital technologies to provide access to digital resources, promoting multilingualism by providing resources in multiple languages, enhancing research support by providing access to research databases and scholarly journals, fostering collaboration and networking among academic institutions and libraries, providing user-centered services that meet the needs of their users, and regularly evaluating their services and resources to ensure they align with the objectives of the NEP.

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