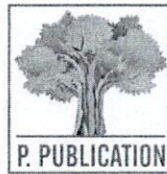


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Higher Education in New Education Policy : Challenges and Future Prospects in India

*Shraddha Singh**

India is the largest democracy as well as world's largest and oldest continuous civilization. Despite vast diversity in India, it always stands single and consolidated as one nation with high spirit and patriotic feeling. Science and Technology have always been an integral part of Indian culture and growing very fast as well. Indian software skill and industry has proven intellectual power all over the world. Today Bharat is fastest growing economy and has self sufficiency in food production and exports various food grains. Now we are self-reliant in manufacture and production of many goods/scientific equipments which is mostly based on our indigenous technology. The globe is feeling the upsurge of Bharat again. Political freedom is the first step but the society must be aware of its continual intellect and cultural treasure to work hard to rejuvenate the glorious past. It is the time to reconsider and resurge the idea behind the Indian philosophy, its real strength and identity and enthuse one and all borne on Bharat bhoomi with "*Utho Singh Putron*" for rejuvenating *Bharatiya Sanskriti and Gyan Parampara*. The New Education policy of India would be a landmark in the history of education by reviving and rejuvenating its traditional knowledge system in the 21st century. The policy reasserts the importance of Indian knowledge and *lokvidya* along with scientific methodologies in curriculum and pedagogy. Indian culture and philosophy have had a strong influence on the world. These rich legacies to world heritage must not only be nurtured and preserved for posterity but also researched, enhanced, and put to novel uses through our education system. The Committee for Draft National Education Policy (Chair: Dr. K. Kasturirangan) submitted its report on May 31, 2019. The report proposes an education policy, which seeks to address the challenges of: (i) access, (ii) equity, (iii) quality, (iv) affordability, and (v) accountability faced by the current education system.

The New Education Policy (NEP) has generated highly appreciable responses among the academia. The academia considers it's a complete overhauling of the entire dysfunctional education system. The policy document begins with the challenges India's higher education system faces: how to nurture highly skilled workforce rooted in Indian ethos at a time in human history when man is about to be outmoded by the machines. Higher education, based on the principles of access, equity, and quality, which promotes "positive learning outcomes, including increased creativity and innovation, critical thinking and higher-order thinking capacities, problem-solving abilities, teamwork, communication skills, more in-depth learning and mastery of curricula across fields, increases in social and moral awareness" leading to holistic education capable of developing "intellectual, aesthetic, social, physical, emotional, and moral capacities of individuals in an integrated manner." The document places equal emphasis on both the Indianisation and Internationalisation of Indian education system. Rejecting the popular bureaucratic hierarchies of arts, sciences and technology, it envisions to move towards more holistic education with more harmonious multi-disciplinary dialogue between arts and humanities, and sciences and engineering. Value-based education is its philosophical core and it principally aims at "developing humanistic, ethical, oral and universal human values of truth (*satya*), peace (*shanti*), non-violence (*ahimsa*), righteous

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