



## NEWSLETTER

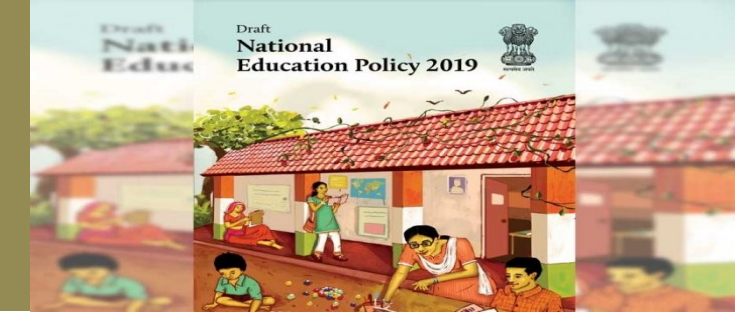
July 2019

### **Glimpses of the much awaited National Education Policy 2019**

*The Committee for Draft National Education Policy (Chair: Dr. K. Kasturirangan) submitted its report on May 31, 2019. The Committee was constituted by the Ministry of Human Resource Development in June 2017. NEP 2019 is a collaborative effort, reaching stakeholders to the block level to understand the changes required in the educational structure. The draft Policy provides for reforms at all levels of education from school to higher education. It seeks to increase the focus on early childhood care, reform the current exam system, strengthen teacher training, and restructure the education regulatory framework. It also seeks to set up a National Education Commission, increase public investment in education, strengthen the use of technology and increase focus on vocational and adult education, among others. The report also proposes renaming MHRD to Ministry of Education. Here are the key suggestions of the Draft NEP 2019.*

- *The Draft National Education Policy 2019 is focused on Access, Equity, Quality, Affordability, and Accountability of the education system of the country.*

- *It proposes expansion of the RTE Act. It aims to cover the three years of preschool before Class 1. NEP suggests the extension of the Right to Education or RTE to cover all children from 3 to 18 years of age. At present it covers students till the age of 14 years. A 5+3+3+4 curricular and pedagogical structure has been proposed which is based on the cognitive developmental stages of the children rather*



than their ages. This further divides the K12 years into Foundational Stage (age 3-8 yrs): 3 years of pre-primary plus Grades 1-2, Preparatory Stage (8-11 years): Grades 3-5, Middle Stage (11-14 years): Grades 6-8 and Secondary Stage (14-18 years): Grades 9-12.

- The Committee proposes for massive transformation in Teacher Education by shutting down sub-standard teacher education institutions and moving all teacher preparation/education programmes into large multidisciplinary universities/colleges. The 4-year integrated stage-specific B.Ed. programme will eventually be the minimum degree qualification for teachers. Enormous focus on Teacher Education and improvement of the quality of the educators. The committee has proposed multiple multidisciplinary programs for teachers which would be included into large universities.

In terms of areas for further reform within the education component of the B.Ed. programme, multilevel, discussion-based, and constructivist learning, and a concentration on foundational literacy/numeracy, inclusive pedagogy and evaluation, knowledge of India and its traditions, and the development in students of 21st century skills such as problem-solving, critical and creative thinking, ethical and moral reasoning, and communication and discussion abilities, are among the key areas of the curriculum for teacher preparation that will be reformed and revitalised.

- The Draft National Education Policy had recommended making Hindi and English compulsory along with one Indian Regional Language to 'promote the local languages'. The draft changes the 3 language formula - bringing Hindi as a compulsory language for all.

- In higher education, a restructuring of higher education institutions with three types of higher

education institutions is proposed- Type 1: Focused on world-class research and high quality teaching; Type 2: Focused on high quality teaching across disciplines with significant contribution to research; Type 3: High quality teaching focused on undergraduate education. This will be driven by two Missions - Mission Nalanda & Mission Takshashila. There will be re-structuring of Undergraduate programs (e.g. BSc, B.A., B.Com., B.Voc.) of 3 or 4 years duration and having multiple exit and entry options.

- The NEP 2019 has a full section on Ethical and Moral Education. Introducing an Ethical and Moral Reasoning component to the curriculum throughout the years of school is considered extremely important in helping students to build character, grow up into moral and good human beings, lead productive and happy lives, and contribute positively to society. Incorporation of ethical and moral awareness and reasoning in the curriculum will be promoted through direct as well as indirect methods. Traditional Indian values of seva, ahimsa, swachhata, satya, nishkam karma, tolerance, honest hard work, respect for women, respect for elders, respect for all people and their inherent capabilities regardless of background, respect for environment, etc. will be inculcated in students. The process and the content of education at all levels will also aim to develop Constitutional values in all students, and the capacities for their practice.

At the same time, ideas of personal freedom and responsibility will be important to develop as well: the idea that India is a free society, but that freedom comes with responsibility for all citizens, in order for society to truly function and prosper. Basic training in health, including preventative health, mental health, nutrition, personal and public hygiene, and first-aid will also be included in the curriculum, as will be scientific explanations of the detrimental and damaging effects of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs.

Children will have the opportunity to read and learn from the original stories of the Panchatantra, Jataka, Hitopadesh, and other fun fables and inspiring tales from the Indian tradition. Excerpts from the Indian Constitution will also be considered essential reading for students, for the values of Equality, Liberty, and Fraternity that it espouses. Highlights from the lives of great Indians of history will also be an excellent way to inspire and introduce core values in India's young people -

such Indian heroes including but not limited to Mahatma Gandhi, Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, Swami Vivekananda, Guru Nanak, Mahavira Acharya, Gautam Buddha, Sri Aurobindo, Babasaheb Ambedkar, Shri Rabindranath Tagore, Dr. MS Subbulakshmi, Srinivasa Ramanujan, Dr. C.V. Raman, and Dr. Homi Bhabha, and indeed all Bharat Ratna awardees. Heroes from all over the world in various disciplines will also be studied to further inspire our youth, such as Albert Einstein, Martin Luther King, Jr., and Nelson Mandela.

In addition, a one-year course on ethical and moral reasoning will be required for all students sometime in Grades 6-8, where the subject of ethics as already described above will be discussed in a more sophisticated and deeper manner, with full class participation, and drawing from arguments of India's and the world's great philosophers and leaders. Subjects such as seva, swachhata, nonviolence, respect and safety for women, cheating, helpfulness, tolerance, equality, fraternity, etc. will again be discussed in this context. More advanced semester courses on philosophy, ethics, and moral reasoning will be available in high school as well.

- **The National Research Foundation**, an apex body is proposed for building research capacity across higher education. India needs to build its research capabilities but there is enough historical scepticism where institutions have been used to discourage research.

- A new apex body Rashtriya Shiksha Ayog is proposed to enable a holistic and integrated implementation of all educational initiatives and programmatic interventions, and to coordinate efforts between the Centre and States. A sound legal strategy to weed out poorly performing programmes and shutting them down will be put in place by the Rashtriya Shiksha Aayog (RSA), in collaboration with the National Higher Education Regulatory Authority (NHERA). It proposes the creation of several new bodies to overlook different facets of education. The new apex body Rashtriya Shiksha Aayog (RSA)/National Education Commission (NEC) will be responsible to implement educational initiatives and programmatic interventions and to coordinate efforts between the Centre and states.

Similar to the RSA, a RjSA/State Education Commission (SEC) may be constituted in each State, chaired by the Chief Minister with the Minister of Education, nominated by the chair, as Vice-Chair. The creation of the SECs in the States will facilitate

better coordination with the Centre.

- The four functions of Standard setting, Funding, Accreditation and Regulation to be separated and conducted by independent bodies: National Higher Education Regulatory Authority as the only regulator for all higher education including professional education; Creation of accreditation eco-system led by revamped NAAC; Professional Standard Setting Bodies for each area of professional education and UGC to transform to Higher Education Grants Commission (HEGC). The private and public institutions will be treated on par and education will remain a 'not for profit' activity.

### **Recommendations:**

#### **• Introducing Right to Value Education:**

The need for insertion of value education in the school syllabus was recognized by the National Policy on Education (NPE) in 1986 through the adoption of which, the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) revised the entire school syllabus for classes I-XII in 1988. The NCERT has also compiled a Value Education Framework (Education for Values in Schools – A Framework) which provides systemic guidelines for the schools to identify the areas where values need to be integrated and implement actions accordingly.

Most recently, the **draft NPE 2019** has also made its recommendations with regard to **Ethical and Moral Reasoning** component to the curriculum throughout the years of school is considered extremely important in helping students to build character, grow up into moral and good human beings, lead productive and happy lives, and contribute positively to society.

In spite of various commissions, policies and frameworks, the values are not translated into actions because value oriented education is seen as an add-on programme or activity. It is important to understand that education and values are inseparable from the goals of education and it should not be seen as yet another task for schools.

Therefore, Value education must be made an integral part of our education system and hence, Right to Education need to be accepted as fundamental right of every child. FRNV is trying to make value education also a fundamental right by suitable amendments in the Right to Education Act.

### ***Water must be preserved for future!***

*-By Mr. John F Williams, Annual Member, FRNV*

Water is without any doubt one of the Most Precious resources on our Planet. A step to conserve water is the step to secure the future. The most essential among all the natural resources on earth is water.

Even our Hon'ble PM Mr. Modi has mentioned several times about the conservation of water during his speeches.

World Water Day is celebrated every year on March 22. World Water Day was first observed in 1993 by United Nations General Assembly. The idea behind observing this day is focusing on the importance of water and need to conserve it.

All animals and plants need water to survive. Human beings need water the most. Our body itself contains more than 70% of water. Some vegetables and fruits contain more than 95% of water. Melons, Watermelons & Litchis are the example. Water is the biggest necessity of life. Can we say it's necessary for every living thing, Plants, animals? Humans can't live even a day without water. If we don't drink water, one full day we start feeling dizziness. Plants wilt and ultimately can dry if they are not properly watered.

The amount of water needed by a person for drinking, washing, cooking and maintaining proper hygiene is approximately of 50 liters per person per day, i.e. amounts out to two or three buckets of water per person. If we get this amount of water we should consider our self fortunate, because in today's world many areas are suffering from the water scarcity. In some places, especially during summer months there is an acute shortage of water. Taps running dry in many areas, we can see long queues for water, people fights for their turns. It is a common sight which can be seen during summer season. But some parts or the desert areas suffer this problem throughout the year.

The Planet, where we all live, is Earth. When we see our earth from the space it appears blue in



colour. This is because 70% of earth is covered with water. There are many vast oceans, seas, rivers, lakes etc. But all these are going dry day by day. Shortage of water has become a worldwide problem, especially in the under developed countries. There are no water lines connected, yet. The people there have to walk several kilometers to fetch water. They draw water from the nearby lakes, rivers or some wells etc & they suffer a lot.

India is the biggest user of groundwater. About 89 per cent of groundwater extracted in India is used for irrigation making it the highest category user in the country. Household use comes second with 9 per cent share of the extracted groundwater followed by industry that uses only two per cent of it.

Overall, 50 per cent of urban water requirement and 85 per cent of rural domestic water need are fulfilled by groundwater. This kind of use has caused a reduction in groundwater levels in India by 61 per cent between 2007 and 2017, according to report by Central Ground Water Board (CGWB), presented in the Lok Sabha last year.

About half of India is facing drinking water crisis with Chennai and Bengaluru bearing the brunt as monsoon got delayed and arrived without a brimming bucket. A Niti Aayog report released last year predicts Day Zero for 21 Indian cities by next year. Day Zero refers to the day when a place is likely to have no drinking water of its own.

According to the Niti Aayog's Composite Water Management Index (CWMI) in 2018, Bengaluru, Chennai, Delhi and Hyderabad are among the most susceptible. The government has created a new Jal Shakti ministry to deal with drinking water crisis.

For human beings there are number of ways, they can adopt to minimize the wastage of water. Few of them can be such as turn the tap off while not in use, as while brushing or washing clothes & vegetables etc. You should not let your children to pollute the water. Don't throw the water unnecessarily. Use less water for bathing. Adopt the rain water for some purposes. Cultivate the habit of Moping the floors instead of washing which will be water saving.

There is a true proverb in Hindi (Jalhai to Kalhai) which means if there is water then only our future is safe.

## **Rainwater Harvesting: a success story !**

*Once Cherrapunji was famous because it received the largest volume of rainfall in the world It still does but ironically, experiences acute water shortages. This is mainly the result of extensive deforestation and because proper methods of conserving rainwater are not used. There has been extensive soil erosion and often, despite the heavy rainfall and its location in the green hills of Meghalaya, one can see stretches of hillside devoid of trees and greenery. People have to walk long distances to collect water.*

*In the area surrounding the River Ruparel in Rajasthan, the story is different - this is an example of proper water conservation. The site does not receive even half the rainfall received by Cherrapunji, but proper management and conservation have meant that more water is available than in Cherrapunji.*

*The water level in the river began declining due to extensive deforestation and agricultural activities along the banks and, by the 1980s, a drought-like situation began to spread. Under the guidance of some NGOs (non-government organizations), the women living in the area were encouraged to take the initiative in building johads (round ponds) and dams to hold back rainwater. Gradually, water began coming back as proper methods of conserving and harvesting rainwater were followed. The revival of the river has transformed the ecology of the place and the lives of the people living along its banks. Their relationship with their natural environment has been strengthened. It has proved that humankind is not the master of the environment, but a part of it. If human beings put in an effort, the damage caused by us can be undone.*

Source:

<http://edugreen.teri.res.in/explore/water/conser.htm>

Therefore, from today only let all of us start saving each and every drop of water. The only drop saved by each person can give life to the other person who needs it. Conserve this precious resource .We can survive without food for up to a month, but without drinking water survival is limited to a matter of days.

Most of the open wells and tube wells in coastal areas contain salty water due to seepage of sea water. Rainwater harvesting is a viable option for solving the issue of drinking water, but construction of rainwater overhead tanks is unaffordable for marginal farmers. Antoji in Kerala has innovated a cost effective method for harvesting rainwater in coastal areas. Rainwater is collected from the roof tops of houses and stored in a pressure tank on the ground and with the help of PVC pipes, water is lowered below sea level (16-24 feet). The water is retained in the underground water column which is then harvested during summer by a simple piston pump or motor by constructing a tube well in the vicinity. It has proved successful in diluting recharging ground water in coastal areas of Kerala and Antoji has installed 150 tanks in different parts of Kerala.

Source: <http://www.ecoideaz.com/expert-corner/innovative-water-conservation>




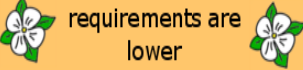





### Some tips you can adopt to make changes in your daily life.

- After washing the vegetables, use the same water to water your plants .
- The water drained from RO filters at home can be used for mopping the floor.
- We should use water from air conditioners and put them to use in other domestic work like cleaning, etc.
- Trap rainwater by installing Rain Water Harvesting systems in your house, locality and thus fight water shortage.
- While brushing & shaving do not leave your taps running.
- Collect your clothes and do the laundry when washing machines is fully loaded thus saving precious water.
- Try to bathe with one bucket of water. Install water-saving showerheads to cut down 80 per cent of your water usage.
- Check the overflow of Overhead Water Tanks.
- Intimate the neighbor at once in case there is Overflow of water from the Overhead Tanks though the neighbor may not like your call.
- Avoid washing the Car but use water soaked cloth.
- Avoid using Rubber pipe to water your Garden and Plants instead use Mug and Bucket to save the Water.

Just remember, every drop counts. Small changes will have big impact and thus we can leave a better future for our next generation to come.

Let our young generation to follow may not be deprived of Water due to our folly. We MUST leave enough Water for their daily necessity.

## How to Conserve Water!

 <p>Time your showers to be 5 minutes and save up to 3,785 L a month!</p>	<p>Wash your pets outdoors in an area in need of water.</p> 
<p>Bathe your young children together.</p> 	 <p>Don't use running water to thaw food.</p>
<p>Plant in the spring and fall when water requirements are lower</p> 	<p>Turn off the tap when brushing your teeth and save up to 15 L a minute.</p> 
<p>Water your lawn in several short sessions to allow the water to be absorbed better</p> 	<p>Turn the water off while you shampoo to save up to 550 L a week.</p> 
<p>Collect and use rain water for watering your garden.</p> 	<p>Soak your pots and pans instead of running the water while scraping them clean.</p> 
<p>Run your dishwasher only when it's full and save up to 3,785 L a month.</p> 	<p>Use one glass for drinking water each day. This will reduce how often you use your dishwasher.</p> 

*Help the world... One drop at a time.*

**Dear Readers,**

**FRNV invites stories from its readers on deep-rooted values that have helped us in our everyday lives. Some of these stories will be featured in the next issue of our newsletter. So put your thinking caps on, recall the values integral to your life which you cherish and write to us at [shilpi@valuefoundation.in](mailto:shilpi@valuefoundation.in).**