

REPORT ON INTERACTION SESSION ON INFORMATION ABOUT NEW EDUCATION POLICY (NEP) 2020

Dated 09th November 2023

UGC NEP CELL of the college organized an interactive session on the New Education Policy (NEP) 2020 with Nodal Officer Dr. Ranjay Vardhan and NEP SAARTHI Ms. Shweta Thakur from MAII Sociology on November 9th, 2023. During the session, Dr. Ranjay Vardhan explained the aims and implementation of NEP 2020. It is the first education policy of the 21st century and replaces the thirty-four-year-old National Policy on Education (NPE) from 1986. The policy is built on the foundational pillars of Access, Equity, Quality, Affordability, and Accountability. The policy envisions a broad-based, multi-disciplinary, holistic education at the undergraduate level, providing integrated, rigorous exposure to science, arts, humanities, mathematics, and imaginative and flexible curriculum. It encourages creative combinations of study, integration of vocational education, and offers multiple entry/exit points. The undergraduate degree will have a duration of either 3 or 4 years, with options for multiple exits and appropriate certifications. The goal is to increase the Gross Enrolment Ratio in higher education, including vocational education, from 26.3% in 2018 to 50% by 2035. Additionally, an Academic Bank of Credit (ABC) will be set up to digitally store academic credits earned from various recognized Higher Education Institutions (HEIs), allowing degrees to be awarded based on accumulated credits. A National Research Foundation (NRF) will also be established to catalyse and expand research and innovation across the country. Financial support will be provided for students belonging to SC, ST, OBC, and other Socially and Economically Disadvantaged Groups (SEDGs). Open and distance learning will be expanded to play a significant role in achieving the 50% Gross Enrolment Ratio. The policy will also facilitate the internationalization of education through institutional collaborations, student and faculty mobility, and by allowing top-ranked world Universities to open campuses in India. The policy aims to achieve 100% youth and adult literacy by 2030. To preserve, grow, and promote all Indian languages, several initiatives are planned. Both the Centre and the States will collaborate to increase public investment in the Education sector, aiming to reach 6% of the GDP at the earliest.

Ms. Shweta Thakur from MAII Sociology introduced the NEP SAARTHI initiative by UGC. NEP SAARTHI is a student ambassador initiative in India that aims to foster collaboration, mentorship, and knowledge sharing among students, alumni, and teachers. The platform serves as a medium for students to seek guidance from alumni and mentors, access learning resources, and engage in discussions related to their education and career aspirations. With the UGC's support, students will become instrumental in driving positive change and creating an environment that fosters quality, equity, and access. NEP SAARTHIs will organize awareness drives regarding the latest NEP initiatives, connect with student groups, and plan events, debates, quizzes, initiate social media activities, and set up NEP help desks at the college level. Shri Suresh Kumar, Dean of the college said that students should try to understand NEP 2020 and it will be useful in guiding siblings in selection of courses in future. The interactive session provided valuable insights into NEP 2020, emphasizing its transformative potential in shaping India's education landscape.



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