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## Draft National Education Policy 2019

### Why in news?

The draft of New National Education Policy has been recently submitted by the Committee led by the Chairman Dr. Kasturirangan on education policy.

### What is the new education policy for?

- The extant National Policy on Education, 1986 modified in 1992 required changes to meet the contemporary and futuristic needs of India's large youth population.
- A New Education Policy is designed to meet the changing dynamics of the requirements in terms of quality education, innovation and research.
- The policy aims at making India a knowledge superpower by equipping students with the necessary skills and knowledge.
- It also focusses on eliminating the shortage of manpower in science, technology, academics and industry.
- The Draft Policy is built on the foundational pillars of Access, Equity, Quality, Affordability and Accountability.

### What are the key changes proposed?

- **Ministry** - The committee has proposed to rename the Ministry of Human Resource Development as Ministry of Education (MoE).
- **Curriculum** - In school education, a major reconfiguration of curricular and pedagogical structure was proposed.
- The policy calls for an Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) as an integral part of school education.
- A 5+3+3+4 curricular and pedagogical structure based on cognitive and socio-emotional developmental stages of children was proposed.
- It consists of -
  1. Foundational Stage (age 3-8 yrs): 3 years of pre-primary plus Grades 1-2
  2. Preparatory Stage (8-11 years): Grades 3-5
  3. Middle Stage (11-14 years): Grades 6-8
  4. Secondary Stage (14-18 years): Grades 9-12

- The policy also seeks to reduce content load in school education curriculum.
- There will be no hard separation of learning areas in terms of curricular, co-curricular or extra-curricular areas.
- All subjects, including arts, music, crafts, sports, yoga, community service, etc will be part of the curricular.
- Thus, schools will be re-organized into school complexes.
- The policy promotes active pedagogy to focus on the development of core capacities and life skills, including 21st century skills.
- **RTE Act** - The committee recommends Extension of Right to Education Act 2009 to cover children of ages 3 to 18 (currently, 6-14).
- **Teacher education** - The committee proposes for massive transformation in teacher education.
  - It calls for shutting down sub-standard teacher education institutions.
  - It proposes 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.
- **Higher education** - A restructuring of higher education institutions with three types of higher education institutions was proposed -
  1. Type 1: Focused on world-class research and high quality teaching
  2. Type 2: Focused on high quality teaching across disciplines with significant contribution to research
  3. 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 such as BSc, BA, BCom, BVoc of 3 or 4 years duration and having multiple exit and entry options.
- **Institution** - A new apex body Rashtriya Shiksha Ayog is proposed.
- This is to enable a holistic and integrated implementation of all educational initiatives and programmatic interventions.
- The body will also coordinate efforts between the Centre and states.
- The National Research Foundation, an apex body, is proposed for creating a strong research culture.
- It will help build research capacity across higher education.
- The four functions of Standard Setting, Funding, Accreditation and Regulation will be separated and conducted by independent bodies.
- National Higher Education Regulatory Authority will be the only regulator for all higher education including professional education.
- The policy proposes to create an accreditation eco-system led by a revamped NAAC (National Assessment and Accreditation Council).

- Professional Standard Setting Bodies for each area of professional education was proposed.
- UGC is to be transformed 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.
- Besides the above, the committee also recommended several new policy initiatives for -
  - i. promoting internationalization of higher education
  - ii. strengthening quality open and distance learning
  - iii. technology integration at all levels of education
  - iv. facilitating adult and lifelong learning
  - v. enhancing participation of under-represented groups
  - vi. eliminating gender, social category and regional gaps in education outcomes
- **Language** - Promotion of Indian and classical languages and setting up three new National Institutes for Pali, Persian and Prakrit were proposed.
- Indian Institute of Translation and Interpretation (IITI) has been recommended.
- The policy called for the proper implementation of the three-language formula (dating back to 1968) in schools across the country.
- Accordingly, students in Hindi-speaking states should learn a modern Indian language, apart from Hindi and English.
- In non-Hindi-speaking states, students will have to learn Hindi along with the regional language and English.
- The controversial three language provision was, however, dropped after protests against it in many states.
- The draft was revised by the committee making the changes in this regard. Click [here](#) to know more

**Source: PIB**



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