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PM SHRI Schools- The Laboratory of New Education Policy

Why in news?

On Teachers Day, PM Modi announced the Pradhan Mantri Schools for Rising India (PM-SHRI) Scheme to transform 14,500 schools into model institutions to achieve the objectives of National Education Policy, 2020.

To know more about National Education Policy 2020, click [here](#)

What is the scheme?

- Under the scheme, a total of 14,500 schools across the country to **empower student with 21st century skills**.
- The scheme will provide high-quality education in an equitable, inclusive environment that takes care of the diverse background, multilingual needs and different academic abilities of children.
- These state-of-art schools will be the laboratory of the new education policy.
- It is a **centrally sponsored scheme**, in which the cost of implementation is mostly split in a 60:40 ratio between the Union government and the states/UTs.

What are the key features of the scheme?

- Improvement of school infrastructure
- Early childhood care and education – Balvatika, foundational literacy and numeracy
- Development of **Green schools**
- Modern facilities including ICT
- Counselling focused on well-being and career
- Sports and arts for every child
- Appropriate infrastructure for girls and those with special needs
- Encourage mother tongue and local languages
- Adopting holistic, integrated and learner-centred methods by teachers
- A '**School Quality Assessment Framework**' to measure the progress and performance of these schools
- Connecting the schools with the local entrepreneurial ecosystem and higher education institutions

A few States like Tamil Nadu, Chhattisgarh and West Bengal have opposed the new NEP for imposing a centralised education system when education is a

Concurrent subject.

What about the procedure for selecting the schools?

- All elementary schools, secondary and senior secondary schools that are managed either by the Centre, State, UT, local bodies and have a UDISE+ code can apply.
 - **Step 1-** Schools will be considered only if the State government agrees to implement the NEP in its entirety.
 - **Step 2-** Schools that fulfil the minimum benchmark will be shortlisted.
 - **Step 3-** Teams from States, Kendriya Vidyalaya or Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya schools will visit the applicant institution to inspect and recommend the selected schools to the Ministry of Education.
- The ministry will select a maximum of two schools from a block or urban local body, as applicable.
- The final decision will be taken by an expert committee.

Unified District Information System for Education (UDISE) initiated in 2012-13 is one of the largest Management Information Systems on School Education.

How will the PM SHRI scheme benefit schools and students?

- **Model schools-** Institutions developed under PM SHRI will become model schools and will encapsulate the full spirit of NEP.
- **Holistic nature-** Pedagogy adopted in these schools will be more experiential, holistic, integrated, toy-based, discovery-oriented, learner-centred, discussion-based and enjoyable.
- **Mentorship-** PM SHRI Schools will mentor other existing schools in respective regions to spread the NEP Policy at a larger level.
- **Tech driven-** The PM SHRI Schools will incorporate environment-friendly tools along with being technology driven.
- **Conceptual understanding-** Assessment for children will be based on conceptual understanding and application of knowledge to real life situations and will be competency-based in every grade.
- **Quality assessment-** A School Quality Assessment Framework (SQUAF) will assess the resources available and their effectiveness.
- **Employment-** The PM SHRI scheme will cater for internships by collaborating with Sector Skill Councils and local industry thus providing better employment opportunities.

References

1. <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/education-scheme-pm-shri-nep-policy-details-model-schools/article65865846.ece?homepage=true>
2. <https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/pm-shri-education-scheme-national-educati>



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