



NEP 2020 AND THE VISION OF VIKSIT BHARAT: TRANSFORMING INDIAN EDUCATION FOR A DEVELOPED NATION BY 2047

N. S. Mahadevaswamy

Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, Sree Siddaganga Evening College of Arts and Commerce, Tumakuru.

Paper Received On: 20 AUGUST 2025

Peer Reviewed On: 24 SEPTEMBER 2025

Published On: 01 OCTOBER 2025

Abstract

*The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 marks a transformative shift in India's educational philosophy, policies, and practices. Introduced after more than three decades, it aims to revamp the Indian education system to make it more inclusive, flexible, multidisciplinary, and skill-oriented. The overarching goal is to equip learners with the knowledge, values, and skills necessary to thrive in the 21st-century global landscape. Simultaneously, the Government of India's vision of **Viksit Bharat (Developed India)** by 2047 reflects the nation's aspiration to become an advanced, equitable, and knowledge-driven economy. This paper critically examines how NEP 2020 aligns with and supports the realization of this vision. It delves into the policy's vision, key components, implementation strategies, and their alignment with national development goals. The article also discusses the challenges in policy execution, recommends actionable solutions, and reflects on the broader implications of an education-led national transformation. The success of NEP 2020 will play a decisive role in shaping India's journey toward a developed nation status by its centenary of independence.*

Keywords : NEP 2020, Viksit Bharat, Education Reform, Skill Development, Equity in Education, Multidisciplinary Learning, Digital Education, India 2047

1. Introduction

India's socio-economic future is closely tied to its educational transformation. As the world's most populous country with a median age of around 28 years, India possesses a demographic advantage that can be a catalyst for national development—if appropriately harnessed through education and skill development. The vision of **Viksit Bharat (Developed India)** by 2047, envisioned by the Indian government, aims to position India as a globally leading economy that is inclusive, sustainable, and knowledge-based.

The **National Education Policy (NEP) 2020** serves as a cornerstone for this vision. It proposes a paradigm shift in how education is delivered and perceived—moving from rote memorization to competency-based, value-driven, and skill-oriented learning. NEP 2020 recognizes education as the foundational requirement for achieving social justice, economic growth, environmental sustainability, scientific advancement, and cultural preservation—all of which are critical for India’s development trajectory.

This paper explores the synergy between NEP 2020 and the broader national vision of *Viksit Bharat*. Through detailed examination and policy analysis, the article aims to provide a roadmap for how education reform can catalyze national transformation.

2. Review of Literature

Kasturirangan Committee Report (2019)

The NEP 2020 is largely based on recommendations made by the Dr. Kasturirangan Committee. It emphasized the need to overhaul the existing system by focusing on foundational literacy and numeracy, early childhood education, equitable access, and teacher training. The report argued for a shift toward learner-centric education that fosters creativity and critical thinking.

NITI Aayog Reports

The think tank NITI Aayog has consistently highlighted the role of education in realizing India’s demographic dividend. Its *Strategy for New India @ 7* outlines key interventions in education as essential for economic growth, skill enhancement, and global competitiveness.

World Bank and UNESCO Studies

According to the World Bank, India faces a learning crisis, with millions of students lacking basic literacy and numeracy. UNESCO reports emphasize that unless foundational gaps are addressed, India will struggle to meet SDG 4 (Quality Education). These findings validate the urgency of NEP 2020.

Academic Analyses

Peer-reviewed studies published in journals like the *Indian Journal of Educational Technology* and *Economic and Political Weekly* point to both the potential and pitfalls of NEP. While the focus on digital learning and flexibility is praised, concerns are raised about feasibility, teacher preparedness, and rural access.

3. Vision: NEP 2020 and Viksit Bharat

The **Vision of NEP 2020** is to create an education system that contributes directly to transforming India into an equitable and vibrant knowledge society, by providing high-quality education to all. This aligns seamlessly with the **Viksit Bharat 2047** vision which includes:

Universalization of Education

NEP seeks to achieve 100% Gross Enrollment Ratio (GER) in school education by 2030 and significantly improve enrollment in higher education. It includes foundational education from age 3 through the new 5+3+3+3 curricular structure.

Multidisciplinary and Holistic Education

A move away from silos in education is advocated, with students being allowed to mix arts, science, and vocational subjects. This approach supports innovation and critical thinking, aligning with the needs of a future-ready workforce.

Vocational Integration

Vocational training is to begin from Grade 6, promoting practical skills alongside academic learning. This supports Atmanirbhar Bharat by producing job-ready youth.

Digital Education

Use of technology via platforms like DIKSHA and SWAYAM is central to expanding access and quality. The policy proposes a National Educational Technology Forum (NETF) to foster innovation.

Inclusion and Equity

Special provisions for disadvantaged groups (SC/ST/OBCs, minorities, differently-abled, and girls) ensure no child is left behind, aligning with the inclusive vision of Viksit Bharat.

Research and Innovation

Establishment of the National Research Foundation (NRF) aims to cultivate a culture of research and discovery from the school level to higher education.

4. Importance of NEP 2020 for Viksit Bharat

NEP 2020 plays a foundational role in achieving the goals of Viksit Bharat across multiple dimensions:

Human Capital Development

High-quality education develops skilled individuals who contribute to economic productivity, social harmony, and national innovation.

Economic Growth and Employment

By embedding employability skills and entrepreneurship in the curriculum, NEP ensures youth are prepared for a rapidly evolving job market.

National Integration

Language policy, cultural education, and moral values help promote national unity while respecting diversity.

Gender Equality

NEP promotes girl child education and proposes gender inclusion funds to ensure equity in access and outcomes.

Global Leadership

India's aspiration to be a knowledge superpower is directly supported by NEP's emphasis on global competencies, internationalization of education, and academic collaborations.

5. Challenges in Implementation

Despite its visionary outlook, NEP 2020 faces significant implementation hurdles:

Infrastructure Deficiency

Many schools, especially in rural and tribal areas, lack basic infrastructure—such as classrooms, sanitation, electricity, and digital connectivity—hindering effective policy rollout.

Digital Divide

Online education is central to NEP's strategy, but large segments of India's population lack access to digital devices and internet, exacerbating educational inequality.

Teacher Shortage and Capacity Gaps

The success of NEP rests on teachers. However, India faces both a quantity and quality challenge in teacher recruitment, training, and motivation.

Federal Structure and Policy Divergence

Education being a concurrent subject means different states may implement NEP differently, leading to inconsistency in educational standards and access.

Resistance to Change

There is institutional inertia and reluctance among some stakeholders—particularly at school management levels and teacher unions—to embrace new methodologies and reforms.

Financial Constraints

Implementing NEP will require a substantial increase in education expenditure (target of % of GDP). Budgetary constraints and economic downturns may delay progress.

6. Suggestions and Recommendations

To overcome these challenges and effectively implement NEP 2020, the following measures are suggested:

Strengthen Digital Infrastructure

Invest heavily in internet connectivity, low-cost devices, and e-learning platforms, particularly in rural and underserved regions.

Teacher Empowerment

Regular in-service training, exposure to new pedagogy, and incentivization will help teachers embrace reform and innovation.

Community and Stakeholder Involvement

Engage local bodies, NGOs, parents, and civil society organizations in planning, monitoring, and evaluating education programs.

Region-Specific Implementation

Recognize the diversity of India's regions and adopt localized, flexible implementation models that consider socio-economic and linguistic diversity.

Foster Public-Private Collaboration

Encourage private investment in education through PPPs to build infrastructure, improve quality, and offer vocational training.

Outcome-Based Monitoring

Implement strong data-based monitoring systems to track progress, address gaps, and maintain accountability.

Conclusion

The **National Education Policy 2020** is not merely an educational reform—it's a blueprint for national transformation. It promises to make India's education system more inclusive, modern, and responsive to future needs. When aligned with the broader national mission of **Viksit Bharat**, NEP emerges as a central pillar in achieving a prosperous, just, and knowledge-rich society. However, the policy's success is contingent upon effective implementation, continuous feedback loops, and active stakeholder participation. If executed with commitment and inclusivity, NEP 2020 has the potential to reshape India's future and place it firmly on the path to becoming a **developed nation by 2047**.

References

- Ministry of Education, Government of India. (2020). *National Education Policy 2020*. Retrieved from <https://www.education.gov.in>
- NITI Aayog. (2021). *Strategy for New India @ 2047*
- Kasturirangan Committee Report. (2019).
- World Bank. (2020). *The Learning Crisis in India*.
- UNESCO. (2021). *Global Education Monitoring Report*.
- Press Information Bureau (PIB). *Government of India (2020–2022)* .
- Indian Journal of Educational Technology*. (2022). Volume 18, Issue .
- Economic Survey of India (2022–2023)* , Chapter on Education.