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# A Literature Survey on National Education Policy 2020 (NEP 2020) and Libraries

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**Abstract:** *NEP 2020 refers to the National Education Policy 2020, which is a policy document released by the Government of India in July 2020. The NEP 2020 aims to transform the education system in India by focusing on holistic and multidisciplinary education, promoting research and innovation, and incorporating technology into the learning process. In terms of libraries, the NEP 2020 recognizes the crucial role that libraries play in promoting a culture of reading and lifelong learning. The policy emphasizes the need to strengthen school and public libraries by providing them with adequate resources, including books, digital resources, and trained librarians. Furthermore, the NEP 2020 recognizes the need to incorporate technology into library services, such as providing access to e-books, e-journals, and other digital resources. The policy also highlights the importance of promoting local and indigenous knowledge through the development of community libraries. Overall, the NEP 2020 envisions libraries as vital institutions that can contribute to the promotion of a knowledge-based society in India.*

**Keywords:** *Library, National Education Policy, NEP, Digital, Society.*

## 1. INTRODUCTION

NEP 2020 stands for the 'National Education Policy 2020', which is a policy document introduced by the Government of India (GOI) in July 2020. The policy aims to reform the education system in India at all levels, from primary to higher education, and to make it more holistic, multidisciplinary, and flexible (Kalyani, 2020). The key highlights of the NEP 2020 include:

Replacing the existing 10+2 structure of school education with a new 5+3+3+4 structure, which includes three years of pre-primary education.

Introducing a new curricular and pedagogical framework for school education, which focuses on the development of core capacities such as cognitive, social, emotional, and ethical.

Promoting multilingualism and the use of mother tongue as a medium of instruction up-to at



least 5<sup>th</sup> class.

Emphasizing the integration of vocational education and skills training in school education.

Creating a National Education Technology Forum (NETF) to facilitate the use of technology in education.

Setting-up a National Research Foundation (NRF) to fund research in all disciplines.

Overhauling the higher education system by introducing a four-year undergraduate program with multiple exit options, allowing students to complete their education at different stages and receive appropriate certificates.

Encouraging internationalization of higher education and promoting collaboration between Indian and foreign universities.

The NEP 2020 is a comprehensive and ambitious policy document that seeks to transform the education system in India and make it more relevant to the needs of the 21st century.

NEP 2020 also recognizes the importance of libraries in education and has included several provisions to promote the development of libraries at all levels of education (Gautam, 2021; Sivankalai, 2021). Here are some of the key provisions related to libraries in the NEP 2020:

Every school will be required to have a library and a reading corner, which will be accessible to all students.

School libraries will be transformed into vibrant and interactive spaces that promote reading, critical thinking, and creativity.

Libraries will be integrated into the curriculum, and librarians will be trained to support teaching and learning.

Digital libraries and e-books will be promoted to increase access to reading materials.

Public libraries will be strengthened and modernized to serve as community learning centers.

Special libraries, such as those in universities, will be encouraged to collaborate and share resources. The National Digital Library of India (NDLI) will be expanded to provide access to a wide range of digital resources.

The NEP 2020 recognizes that libraries play a critical role in education and aims to promote their development and use at all levels of education. The policy seeks to create a culture of reading and lifelong learning and to provide students with access to a wide range of resources and information. I am doing literature review on 'NEP 2020 and Libraries' in this article by covering all the possible perspective to better understand the role of libraries in the implementation of NEP 2020. This literature review is a systematic and comprehensive analysis of existing research and literature on a particular topic. It will help to identify key themes, trends, and gaps in knowledge, and provides a foundation for further research and analysis. Several studies have highlighted the importance of libraries in the context of education and learning. For example, a study found that libraries play a critical role in enhancing the academic performance of students, especially in developing countries like India (Aithal and Aithal, 2020). Another study emphasized the need for libraries to adopt digital technologies to meet the changing needs of learners in the digital age (Abumandour, 2020).

### **Aims and Objectives**

The NEP 2020 has several aims related to libraries, which are aligned with its overall goals of promoting holistic and multidisciplinary education, enhancing access to quality education,



and preparing students for the future (Saxena, 2020). Here are some of the key aims of the NEP 2020 related to libraries:

**Enhancing access to learning resources:** The NEP 2020 aims to provide students with access to a wide range of learning resources, including books, digital resources, and multimedia materials. Libraries are seen as critical in achieving this goal, as they provide a central location for students to access and use these resources.

**Promoting reading and critical thinking:** NEP 2020 recognizes the importance of reading and critical thinking in education and aims to promote a culture of reading among students. Libraries are seen as important spaces for promoting reading and developing critical thinking skills through access to diverse reading materials and opportunities for discussion and reflection.

**Supporting teaching and learning:** The NEP 2020 aims to transform libraries into interactive spaces that support teaching and learning. Libraries are seen as important partners in the educational process, with librarians playing a key role in supporting teachers and students in their learning journeys.

**Strengthening community learning:** NEP 2020 recognizes the role of libraries as community learning centers, and aims to strengthen public libraries to provide access to learning resources and opportunities for lifelong learning.

Overall, NEP 2020 aims to promote the development and use of libraries as a key component of the education system in India, supporting the goals of enhancing access to quality education, promoting holistic and multidisciplinary education, and preparing students for the future. The objectives of the NEP 2020 related to libraries are to promote the development and use of libraries as integral components of the education system in India (Kumar et al., 2021). Here are some of the key objectives of the NEP 2020 related to libraries:

**To provide equitable access to learning resources:** One of the main objectives of the NEP 2020 is to ensure equitable access to quality education for all students. Libraries are seen as important partners in achieving this goal, by providing access to a wide range of learning resources to all students, including those who may not have access to these resources at home.

**To promote a culture of reading:** The NEP 2020 recognizes the importance of reading in developing language skills, critical thinking, and creativity. The policy aims to promote a culture of reading among students, and libraries are seen as important spaces for promoting reading, by providing access to a wide range of reading materials and opportunities for discussion and reflection.

**To support teaching and learning:** The NEP 2020 aims to transform libraries into interactive spaces that support teaching and learning. The policy recognizes the important role of librarians in supporting teachers and students in their learning journeys, and aims to provide librarians with the necessary training and resources to play this role effectively.



**To strengthen community learning:** The NEP 2020 recognizes the role of libraries as community learning centers, and aims to strengthen public libraries to provide access to learning resources and opportunities for lifelong learning. The policy aims to promote collaboration between libraries and other community organizations to maximize the impact of these resources. There are some major objectives for doing this literature review specifically on 'NEP 2020 and Libraries' are: To examine the role of libraries in promoting the objectives of NEP 2020, such as multidisciplinary and holistic learning, skill development, and critical thinking. To identify the challenges and opportunities faced by libraries in implementing the goals of NEP 2020, particularly in the context of the digital age (Singh and Verma, 2016).

To analyze the existing research and literature on the impact of libraries on academic performance and learning outcomes, and how this relates to the objectives of NEP 2020 (Rajasekar and Naushad, 2018). To explore the potential for libraries to promote inclusivity, accessibility, and equity in education, and how this aligns with the goals of NEP 2020.

To identify best practices and recommendations for libraries in supporting the implementation of NEP 2020, based on the existing literature and research.

### **Scope and Limitations**

#### **Scope and Limitations**

The scope of the NEP 2020 related to libraries is broad and encompasses all levels of education in India. Here are some of the key areas within the scope of the NEP 2020 related to libraries:

**School libraries:** The NEP 2020 requires all schools to have a library and a reading corner, which will be accessible to all students. The policy aims to transform school libraries into vibrant and interactive spaces that promote reading, critical thinking, and creativity, and to integrate libraries into the curriculum.

**Higher education libraries:** The NEP 2020 recognizes the important role of libraries in higher education and aims to promote the development of special libraries, such as those in universities, and to encourage collaboration and sharing of resources between libraries.

**Digital libraries and e-books:** The NEP 2020 promotes the development of digital libraries and e-books to increase access to reading materials and to support the use of technology in education.

**Public libraries:** The NEP 2020 aims to strengthen public libraries as community learning centers and to modernize these libraries to provide access to a wide range of learning resources and opportunities for lifelong learning.

**National Digital Library of India (NDLI):** The NEP 2020 aims to expand the scope of the NDLI to provide access to a wide range of digital resources, including books, research articles, and multimedia materials, to all learners in India.

The scope of the NEP 2020 related to libraries is broad and encompasses all levels of education in India, from school to higher education and public libraries. The policy



recognizes the important role of libraries in promoting access to learning resources, reading culture, and community learning, and aims to promote the development of libraries as integral components of the education system in India.

While the NEP 2020 has many positive aspects related to libraries, there are also some limitations that may affect its implementation (Bapte, 2022). Here are some of the limitations of the NEP 2020 related to libraries:

**Funding:** One of the major limitations of the NEP 2020 related to libraries is the issue of funding. The policy requires the development of libraries at all levels of education, but it does not provide clear guidelines on how the necessary funding will be generated. Without adequate funding, it may be difficult to fully implement the NEP 2020 related to libraries.

**Infrastructure:** The NEP 2020 calls for the development of libraries at all levels of education, but many schools and colleges in India lack the necessary infrastructure to support the development of libraries. Lack of physical space, inadequate storage facilities, and poor technology infrastructure are some of the challenges that need to be addressed for the effective implementation of the NEP 2020 related to libraries.

**Limited digital infrastructure:** While the NEP 2020 promotes the development of digital libraries and e-books, there is a limited digital infrastructure in many parts of India. In order to fully implement the NEP 2020 related to libraries, there needs to be an investment in digital infrastructure to support the development of digital libraries.

**Lack of trained staff:** The NEP 2020 recognizes the important role of librarians in promoting access to learning resources and supporting teaching and learning, but there is a shortage of trained librarians in India. To fully implement the NEP 2020 related to libraries, there needs to be an investment in training and professional development for librarians.

National education policy (NEP 2020) has many positive aspects related to libraries, but there are also some limitations that need to be addressed for the effective implementation of the policy. Funding, infrastructure, digital infrastructure, and trained staff are some of the key areas that need to be addressed to fully implement the NEP 2020 related to libraries.

The scope of this literature review on 'NEP 2020 and Libraries' can be defined in terms of the contents, geographical coverage, and coverage of the source literature in terms of time or form. In terms of contents, this literature review covered a range of topics related to libraries and their role in supporting the objectives of NEP 2020, including:

The impact of libraries on academic performance and learning outcomes.

The challenges and opportunities faced by libraries in the digital age.

The potential for libraries to promote inclusivity, accessibility, and equity in education.

Best practices and recommendations for libraries in supporting the implementation of NEP 2020. Geographically, this literature review covered studies and research conducted in India or other countries that have implemented similar education policies. It can also analyze the policies and initiatives of different library networks and associations, such as the Indian Public Library Movement and the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions. In terms of coverage of the source literature, the review has included studies and research conducted in the last decade, as well as earlier works that have relevance to the





topic. It also included a range of sources, such as academic journals, conference proceedings, books, reports, and online resources.

## **2. METHODOLOGY**

### **Methodology**

The NEP 2020 methodology for the development of libraries involved several approaches that aim to promote access to learning resources, reading culture, and community learning. Here are some of the key methodologies of the NEP 2020 related to libraries:

**Inclusivity:** The NEP 2020 aims to promote inclusivity in the development of libraries. This means that libraries should be accessible to all learners, regardless of their socioeconomic background, gender, or disability. The policy also encourages the development of libraries that are multilingual and multicultural.

**Curriculum integration:** The NEP 2020 promotes the integration of libraries into the curriculum. This means that libraries should be seen as integral components of the teaching and learning process, and should be used to support the development of critical thinking and creativity.

**Digital infrastructure:** The NEP 2020 recognizes the importance of digital infrastructure in promoting access to learning resources. The policy aims to promote the development of digital libraries and e-books to increase access to reading materials and to support the use of technology in education.

**Collaboration and sharing of resources:** The NEP 2020 encourages collaboration and sharing of resources between libraries. This means that libraries should work together to share resources and expertise, and to promote the development of a wider range of learning resources.

**Professional development:** The NEP 2020 recognizes the important role of librarians in promoting access to learning resources and supporting teaching and learning. The policy encourages the development of training and professional development programs for librarians to promote their skills and expertise.

Overall, the NEP 2020 methodology for the development of libraries involves several approaches that aim to promote inclusivity, curriculum integration, digital infrastructure, collaboration and sharing of resources, and professional development. By following these approaches, the NEP 2020 aims to promote the development of libraries as integral components of the education system in India. The literature collection for this review on 'NEP 2020 and Libraries' done through a systematic search of various databases, journals, conference proceedings, reports, and other online resources.

The following methods and sources are used for collecting relevant literature:

### **Sources of Literature:**



Academic databases such as JSTOR, EBSCOhost, Scopus, and Web of Science.

Digital libraries such as the National Digital Library of India and the Digital Library of the Commons. Government websites such as the Ministry of Education and the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT).

Professional associations and organizations such as the Indian Public Library Movement and the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA).

Online repositories such as Academia.edu and Research Gate.

### **Search tools, techniques, and strategies:**

A comprehensive search query that includes relevant keywords and concepts related to NEP 2020 and libraries, such as "National Education Policy 2020," "library services," "digital libraries," "academic performance," and "inclusivity in education."

Refined the search query using Boolean operators such as AND, OR, and NOT to retrieve relevant articles. Applied filters based on publication year, language, and subject area to narrow down the search results. Conducted citation searches and snowballing to identify additional relevant studies and references. Reviewed the reference lists of retrieved articles and publications to identify additional sources of literature.

### **Themes and Subthemes**

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Here are some of the key subthemes of the NEP 2020 related to libraries:

#### **Inclusivity and Equity:**

Providing access to libraries for learners from disadvantaged and marginalized communities

Developing libraries that cater to learners with disabilities and special needs

Developing multilingual and multicultural libraries that can cater to diverse learners

Creating a culture of reading and learning in communities

#### **Curriculum and Pedagogy:**

Integrating library services into the curriculum and pedagogy

Encouraging learners to use libraries to support their research and inquiry-based learning

Providing guidance to learners on how to use library resources effectively

Encouraging librarians to play an active role in promoting the use of libraries for learning and research

#### **Technology:**

Developing digital libraries and e-books to increase access to learning resources

Providing access to online databases and other resources to support teaching and learning

Using technology to create a seamless user experience for learners and educators

Providing training to librarians to help them effectively use technology in library services

#### **Collaboration and Networking:**

Promoting collaboration between libraries to share resources and expertise

Creating networks and partnerships with other educational institutions, public libraries, and community organizations



Encouraging librarians to participate in professional development and training programs to develop their skills and knowledge

Developing a national framework for library services that can promote collaboration and networking between libraries

**Infrastructure:**

Developing libraries at all levels of education, including schools, colleges, and universities

Upgrading existing libraries to meet the changing needs of learners and educators

Providing adequate physical and technological infrastructure to support library services

Developing standards and guidelines for library infrastructure to ensure consistency and quality across the country

Based on the conceptual clarity of the topic 'NEP 2020 and Libraries', the literature survey can be presented under the following themes and sub-themes:

**Theme 1: National Education Policy 2020**

Overview and background of NEP 2020

Objectives and scope of NEP 2020

Key features and recommendations of NEP 2020

**Theme 2: Role of Libraries in NEP 2020**

Importance of libraries in education and learning

Types of libraries and their functions

Library resources and services for students and teachers

Integration of libraries with other educational institutions

Challenges and opportunities for libraries under NEP 2020

**Theme 3: Digital Libraries and Technology in Education**

Definition and types of digital libraries

Role of technology in education and learning

Advantages and challenges of digital libraries

Digital library resources and services for students and teachers

Best practices and case studies of digital libraries in India and abroad

**Theme 4: Inclusivity and Diversity in Education**

Importance of inclusivity and diversity in education

Barriers and challenges to inclusivity and diversity in education

Role of libraries in promoting inclusivity and diversity in education

Best practices and case studies of inclusive and diverse libraries in India and abroad

The review is organized from basic conceptual articles to theoretical articles and research articles. Some of the basic conceptual articles on the topic include "New education policy (NEP) 2020: A roadmap for India 2.0" (Kumar, 2021), "The role of libraries in the creation of literate environments" (Krolak, 2006) and "NEW NATIONAL EDUCATION POLICY & THE ROLE OF LIBRARIAN" (Devkar, 2022). Theoretical articles on the topic include "Bridging the Education Divide Using Social Technologies" (Bandyopadhyay, 2021), "The





New Education Policy 2020, Digitalization and Quality of Life in India: Some Reflections" (Muralidharan et al., 2022) and "The national education policy for libraries in India from 1948 to 2020: An analytical study" (More, 2023). Overall, the literature survey on 'NEP 2020 and Libraries' highlights the important role of libraries and digital libraries in the implementation of the National Education Policy 2020, as well as the need for inclusivity and diversity in education. The review provided valuable insights into the current trends and best practices in libraries and digital libraries, and offers recommendations for future research and development in the field.

### **3. CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS**

#### **Conclusion and Suggestions**

In conclusion, the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 is a comprehensive policy that aims to transform the education system in India. Libraries are an integral part of the policy, and the NEP 2020 recognizes the important role that libraries can play in promoting access to learning resources, building a culture of reading and learning, and supporting the development of critical thinking and creativity among learners. The NEP 2020 covers a wide range of themes and subthemes related to libraries, including inclusivity and equity, curriculum and pedagogy, technology, collaboration and networking, and infrastructure. By addressing these themes, the policy aims to promote the development of libraries as integral components of the education system in India and to promote access to learning resources, reading culture, and community learning through libraries. Overall, the NEP 2020 is a significant step towards building a more inclusive, equitable, and technologically advanced education system in India, and the policy's emphasis on the role of libraries is an important component of this vision (Shivarama and Gujral, 2022).

Here are some suggestions for the NEP 2020 and libraries:

**Develop a National Library Policy:** While the NEP 2020 recognizes the importance of libraries, there is a need for a comprehensive national policy that focuses on the development of libraries at all levels of education. The policy should outline the roles and responsibilities of different stakeholders, including the government, educational institutions, and communities, and provide a roadmap for the development of libraries in the country.

**Increase Investment in Library Infrastructure:** The NEP 2020 should allocate more resources for the development of library infrastructure, including the creation of new libraries and the upgrading of existing libraries. This can include investments in physical infrastructure, technology, and human resources.

**Expand Access to Digital Libraries:** The NEP 2020 should prioritize the development of digital libraries and e-books to increase access to learning resources for learners across the country. This can include partnerships with private and public organizations to expand the reach of digital libraries and improve their quality.

**Encourage Collaboration and Networking:** The NEP 2020 should encourage collaboration



and networking between libraries at different levels of education, including schools, colleges, and universities. This can include the development of library consortia and partnerships between libraries and other educational institutions, public libraries, and community organizations.

**Promote Reading Culture:** The NEP 2020 should promote a culture of reading among learners and the community at large. This can include initiatives such as book clubs, reading challenges, and author visits to libraries.

**Develop Professional Development Programs for Librarians:** The NEP 2020 should develop professional development programs for librarians to help them develop their skills and knowledge. This can include training in technology, research, and pedagogy, as well as opportunities for networking and collaboration with other librarians.

By implementing these suggestions, the NEP 2020 can promote the development of libraries as integral components of the education system in India and support the growth of a reading culture and access to learning resources for all learners.

In conclusion, the review of literature on 'NEP 2020 and Libraries' has provided insights into the key aspects of the National Education Policy 2020 and the role of libraries in its implementation. The review has highlighted the importance of libraries in promoting inclusivity and diversity in education, as well as the need for digital libraries and technology in education. The review has also identified areas that require further research. For instance, there is a need for more studies on the effectiveness of library resources and services in improving academic performance, particularly in the Indian context. Furthermore, there is a need for research on the best practices and challenges of integrating libraries with other educational institutions, and the role of libraries in promoting lifelong learning. Overall, this review of literature on 'NEP 2020 and Libraries' has provided valuable insights into the role of libraries in education and learning, and has identified areas that require further research to enhance the effectiveness of libraries in promoting quality education and lifelong learning. The literature suggested that libraries are an essential component of a high-quality education system, and their role in the implementation of NEP 2020 cannot be overstated. By providing access to a diverse range of resources and promoting critical thinking and creativity, libraries can help to create a more inclusive, equitable, and innovative learning environment for all learners.

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