



## Initiatives Under National Education Policy 2020

**For Prelims:** [National Education Policy \(NEP\) 2020](#), [PARAKH](#), [PM-SHRI](#), [National Credit Framework](#), [NIPUN Bharat Mission](#), [Scheme for Promotion of Academic and Research Collaboration](#).

**For Mains:** Salient Features of National Education Policy (NEP) 2020

**Source:** [PIB](#)

### Why in News?

Recently, the **Minister of State for Education** provided valuable insights into the **initiatives taken up under [National Education Policy \(NEP\) 2020](#)** for the transformation of **[Education Sector in India](#)** during a written reply in the Lok Sabha.

### What is NEP 2020?

#### ▪ About:

- The NEP 2020 aims at making **“India a global knowledge superpower”**. It is only the 3rd major revamp of the framework of education in India since independence.
  - The two earlier education policies were brought in **1968 and 1986**.

#### ▪ Salient Features:

- Ensuring **Universal Access at All Levels of schooling** from pre-primary school to **Grade 12**.
- Ensuring quality early childhood care and education for all children between **3-6 years**.
- New Curricular and Pedagogical Structure (**5+3+3+4**) corresponds to the age groups of **3-8, 8-11, 11-14, and 14-18 years respectively**.
  - It covers four stages of schooling: Foundational Stage (5 years), Preparatory Stage (3 years), Middle Stage (3 years), and Secondary Stage (4 years).
- **No hard separations between arts and sciences**, between curricular and extra-curricular activities, between vocational and academic streams;
- Emphasis on promoting multilingualism and Indian languages
- Setting up of a new **National Assessment Centre, [PARAKH \(Performance Assessment, Review, and Analysis of Knowledge for Holistic Development\)](#)**
- A **separate Gender Inclusion fund and Special Education Zones** for disadvantaged regions and groups

### What are the Major Initiatives Taken Under NEP 2020?

- **PM Schools for Rising India (SHRI): [PM-SHRI scheme](#)** aims to provide high-quality education in an **equitable, inclusive, and joyful school environment**.
  - It is a **centrally sponsored scheme** launched in September 2022 for upgradation and

development of more than 14500 Schools across the country.

- Rs. 630 crore has been allocated to upgrade schools under the **PM SHRI initiative**.
- **NIPUN Bharat:** The vision of National Initiative for [Proficiency in Reading with Understanding and Numeracy\(NIPUN\) Bharat Mission](#) is to create an enabling environment to ensure the **universal acquisition of foundational literacy and numeracy**, so that every child achieves the desired learning competencies in reading, writing, and numeracy by the **end of Grade 3, by 2026-27**.
- **PM e-VIDYA:** The initiative aimed to **promote online education and digital learning** by providing various e-learning platforms like DIKSHA and offering e-books and e-contents to students across the country.
- **NCF FS and Jadui Pitara:** Launch of [National Curriculum Framework for Foundational Stage \(NCF FS\)](#) and **Jadui Pitara** for play-based learning teaching material tailored for children between the age group of 3 to 8 years
- **NISHTHA:** The [National Initiative for School Heads' and Teachers' Holistic Advancement \(NISHTHA\)](#) is a capacity-building program for **teachers and school principals in India**.
- **NDEAR: National Digital Education Architecture (NDEAR)**, an architectural blueprint, that lays down a set of guiding principles and building blocks to enable the creation of digital technology-based applications pertaining to education.
- **Academic Frameworks:** Introduction of [National Credit Framework \(NCrF\)](#) and **National Higher Education Qualification Framework (NHEQF)** to facilitate credit transfer and academic flexibility.
- **Increased Investment in Education:** The policy advocates for both the Central government and State Governments to allocate a **combined 6% of GDP to education**.
  - In alignment with this vision, the Ministry of Education has witnessed a budget of Rs. 1,12,899 crore in 2023-24, indicating a 13.68% increment from 2020-21.
- **International Campuses and Partnerships:** NEP 2020 supports Indian universities in establishing campuses abroad and inviting foreign institutions to operate in India.
  - Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) have been signed for the establishment of **IIT campuses in Zanzibar and Abu Dhabi**, reflecting India's global educational outreach.
- **Educational Innovation in GIFT City:**
  - NEP 2020's innovative approach extends to [Gujarat's GIFT City](#), where **world-class foreign universities** and institutions are permitted to offer specialized courses.
    - This move, free from domestic regulations, aims to nurture high-end human resources for financial services and technology.

## What are the Other Related Initiatives?

- **World-Class Institutions Scheme:** The **World Class Institutions Scheme**, initiated in 2017, aims to create affordable, top-notch academic and research facilities.
  - The scheme designates "**Institutions of Eminence**" (**IoEs**) to promote academic excellence.
  - To date, **12 institutions, including eight public and four private ones**, have been identified as IoEs, a testament to India's commitment to providing world-class education.
- **Global Initiative for Academic Network (GIAN) and SPARC:** GIAN focuses on tapping the **expertise of scientists and entrepreneurs**, including those of Indian origin, to bolster India's academic resources.
  - The [Scheme for Promotion of Academic and Research Collaboration \(SPARC\)](#) enhances research ecosystems by fostering collaborations between Indian and foreign institutions.
  - These initiatives contribute to elevating research quality and promoting knowledge exchange.

## UPSC Civil Services Examination, Previous Year Question (PYQ)

### Prelims

**Q. Which of the following provisions of the Constitution does India have a bearing on Education? (2012)**

1. Directive Principles of State Policy
2. Rural and Urban Local Bodies
3. Fifth Schedule
4. Sixth Schedule
5. Seventh Schedule

**Select the correct answer using the codes given below:**

- (a) 1 and 2 only  
(b) 3, 4 and 5 only  
(c) 1, 2 and 5 only  
(d) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

**Ans- (d)**

### **Mains**

**Q1.** How have digital initiatives in India contributed to the functioning of the education system in the country? Elaborate on your answer. **(2020)**

**Q2.** Discuss the main objectives of Population Education and point out the measures to achieve them in India in detail. **(2021)**

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