

Uttarakhand to Mandate 10 Subjects for Class X Students

Why in News?

A draft has been prepared by the Uttarakhand's State Council of Educational Research and Training (SCERT) has proposed Class X students to study 10 mandatory subjects, replacing the current practice of five.

 This decision follows the framework set by the <u>National Education Policy (NEP) 2020</u> and the <u>National Curriculum Framework.</u>

Key Points

- The State Council of Educational Research and Training (SCERT) has prepared a draft of the state curriculum framework, aiming to enhance educational standards and better prepare students for future challenges.
 - The new curriculum marks the first major implementation since the **NEP of 1986**, which succeeded the **policy of 1968**.
- The draft of the state curriculum framework, prepared through various committees, will be reviewed by the state government.
 - It includes only those subjects that have been recommended by the NEP.
- All children studying in government schools will be required to take these subjects. They will have the option to change subjects starting from the 11th grade.
- The inclusion of new subjects under this policy will foster an entrepreneurial spirit among students. These will include courses in beauty and wellness, drone technology, and various IT-related programmes.

National Education Policy, 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;
 - $\circ~$ Emphasis on promoting multilingualism and Indian languages
 - Setting up of a new National Assessment Centre, <u>PARAKH (Performance Assessment,</u> <u>Review, and Analysis of Knowledge for Holistic Development)</u>
 - A separate Gender Inclusion fund and Special Education Zones for disadvantaged regions and groups.

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