

Online and Digital Education Under National Education Policy Ensuring Use of Technology

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Abstract

Education is one of the most powerful weapon in the hand of any developing nation, which hold the key to economic growth. It plays a vital role to balance the socio economic fabric of the nation. As India is having the largest population thus to provide access to education is primarily objective to achieve full human potential. Past few decades, during Corona pandemic the system of education is completely drowned. To upraise this decline in education a lot of emphasis is made over online and digital education. Backbone of this education system is teachers, students and It's content. Most of the reflection goes from teacher behaviour over the learners knowledge. Thus it is the responsibility of every institution to facilitate their teachers to upgrade their skills for which, National Education Policy emphasis on the development and professionalization of teachers because the rope of child success is in the hand of teachers today's generation is the future of the developing Nation the teacher is the centre of the fundamental reform in the education system. The new education policy must provide to all students a quality education system. As a past few years when full dependency is over traditional system of education than students have to suffer for their education thus. Thus by this research paper researcher tries to focus the importance of online and digital education under national education policy by insuring the use of technology how it aligns with the goal of United Nations Sustainable Development Goal till 2030 as target proposed by UNESCO.

Keywords: *Education, National Education Policy (NEP), Digital and Online education, Technology.*

Introduction :-

In India, most of the population resides in rural areas and therefore the students found themselves engaged in agriculture work therefore to equip such students with better education facility National Education Policy focus on the online and digital education. The policy envisages that now students whether reside in any part of the country not to face the loss of education and emphasise over the new digital initiatives in education. We found the importance of this online and digital education when we are facing the pandemic of Corona. At that time around a large time Span all of us capture ourselves in rooms it is hard for us to continue our education at that time we all begin with alternative modes of quality education because we cant depend on traditional mode of education only, in this regard national education policy leverage the benefit of technology by acknowledging its potential risk and dangers. Many digital initiatives has been proposed by Government of India to support online and digital education from primary level to higher education which tries to meet the current and future challenge in

providing quality education for all .The Digital India campaign is helping to transform the entire nation into a digitally empowered society and knowledge economy.

Literature review.

Akash Kumar (2022) conducted his study on Digital education, vision, prospectives and problems in changing paradigm of NEP 2020. He conducted his study based on primary and secondary source of information. By doing qualitative research he found that the policy acknowledge the bidirectional relationship between technology and education .He suggests that in order to implement digitalisation in the education sector, substantial improvement is required and measures need to be taken by the government to ensure quality excess of education by safeguard. Students from cyber threats.

Muralidharan k.et al(2022) have summarised their study that National Education Policy 2020 is a well known and Commanded educational policy for educational changes and for a better future, so that it may keep the nation to meet the global goals. He found that government is not only providing assistance but it keens to make educational foundation as framework for all to get quality and fair education without impartiality and to meet the global agenda of SDG 4 by insuring excess to a high quality education.

Vishwanath (2022) conducted a study on Role of National Education Policy 2020 on Digital Learning Environment in India. In his research work he focus on information on national education policies affecting the digital learning environment in India. He emphasised that education will help to transform the entire nation thus technology Impartment in education is essential for improve outcomes of educational processes therefore the relationship between technology and education is why directional at all levels.

Pratik Chaurasiya (2020) conducted his study on national education policy 2020 :A boon to online and digital education. For his research qualitative analysis has been done and source of information gathering is primary and secondary data source. He focussed about the challenges faced during Corona pandemic and how these challenges overcome and maintain the regular process of teaching in learning by online system of education which act as a catalyst for worse situation of Corona. He conclude that National Education policy works to provoke the online and digital education across the country.

Objective

The research paper constitute the following objective.

- To analyse about National Education Policy (NEP) 2020.
- To focus on online and digital education in prospect of NEP 2020.

Research methodology.

The research Is descriptive in nature. It is a documentary study of government report on national education policy and various research articles, journals and newspapers, analysis, books, Ebooks, websites and report of various institutions,the Internet, blogs and official documentary evidences.

Online And Digital Education Ensuring Equitable Use Of Technology Under National Education Policy 2020

- Integrating Technology and Education under NEP 2020 laid emphasis on relationship between technology and education. At all levels the effective use of technology in teaching learning process deals with the need of diversified learners. Remove language barriers ,enhancing education access and support teacher for their continuous and professional development.
- Under Online and Digital Education, NEP 2020 focus on various technological Interventions such as disruptive technology, artificial intelligence in education, robotics, virtual labs, simulated teaching for which NETF(National Educational Technology Forum) advises central and state government on the use of technology in education. It articulates new direction for research and innovations.
- NEP 2020 focuses on the digital initiatives proposed by the Government of India, such as DIKSHA platform for teacher professional development and SWAYAM for school and higher education. NEP promotes to access rich variety of educational software in all major Indian languages to available accessible education for Divyang students.
- In response to Ministry of Human Resource Development, formerly Ministry of Education recognise the use of new, disruptive technology, The National Research Foundation will Initiate or expand research effort in the technology which promote in advancing international research effort to address global challenge.
- Make the optimise use of digital platform in ICT based initiatives in education.
- Provide audio and video interface for holding online classes.
- NEP 2020 focuses on content to be delivered in multi language and tries to made them available 24*7 although it has been in action by various online TV channels and digital platform.
- Leverage existing platform for creating virtual labs.
- Teacher have to made an effort by upgrading their skills so as to meet the challenge and tries to change in pedagogy teaching practice for online and digital education.
- Suitable teacher training to prepare teachers as effective online educators.

Advantages of Online and Digital Education

- The key support of online and digital education under NEP 2020 is to ensure excess to digital technology by providing them a support by an institution with devices and Internet connectivity so as to better access online education by a different modes synchronous and asynchronous. So that the student who found them apart from the regularity of traditional system of education can easily get an opportunity to go along with system of continuous and comprehensive development.
- The mode of online and digital education support diverse learner needs also for this National education policy focuses and to upskill our teachers by how to access assistive technology for education so as to cater diverse learners needs and nobody found themselves far apart from the education.

- Online and digital education allow students not only to depend fully on traditional mode of classroom education for this NEP 2020 support online as well as blended learning so that one can attend classes from any location of their choice instead of being restricted by geographical boundaries. The positive aspect of this online education is lectures can be recorded, archived and shared for future reference.
- Students those who were grasping their education in rural areas have to face sometimes transportation challenges and weather issues as seen clearly in Corona pandemic also , for this online and digital education work as a teaching and learning promoter service and the big achievement is that NEP 2020 insures to bridge the gap of digital divide between rural and urban areas.
- In past a large dropout is being observed after school education when there is no provision of online and digital education mostly in rural areas but due to the digitalization and education today students continue their education from their own place through online mode due to which the enrollment ratio in higher education has improved.
- Eventually government also started various digital initiatives and campaign to made ease access to education through different digital and online platform.

Challenges To Be Faced During Online And Digital Education Under National Education Policy In 2020.

- After facing the corona pandemic during lockdown when people have to reside themselves in boundary of homes and everything in surrounding whether it is earning or a education is getting completely disturbed from then onwards a lot of focus made on online and digital education. The biggest challenge faced by the educational institution is most of the Faculties are far apart from the use of technology in education due to which a long time is spent over their training to bring education on continuous platform.
- Another challenge during online and digital education is technological issue due to the improper network connectivity, there will be a lack of continuity in learning for the children.
- For many students, one of the biggest challenge of online and digital education is the students are not in the habit of long sitting and struggling with focusing on the screen for a long time and the another biggest hurdle is there is a greater chance for students to be easily distracted by social media before it is imperative for the teachers to keep their online classes crisp , engaging and interactive to help students stay focused on the lesson.
- Due to online and digital education, the concept of collaborative and interaction as happened in face to face mode of teaching is somehow found to be vanished.
- Limitation in delivering few discipline courses in online and digital mode. Sometimes due to the lack of open and public digital resources infrastructure.

- While studying most of the problem found in students is that maximum time they spend in scrolling down the screen because there is a excess of information available on the internet to gathered relevant and authentic information is a big challenge for students.
- As it gave a student freedom to access the material according to their pace somehow a laziness is found in the students.
- One have to be a knowledge of to resolve some technical errors because due to lack of knowledge sometimes operator found problem and the online session will get interrupt , this is a challenge faced by the person when there is no one to resolve such problem.

Conclusion :

As we all know that modern era is completely digitalised although the concept of integration of technology in education as proposed by former policies document and commissions also but after the Corona pandemic National Education Policy 2020 laid more focus on integration of technology by online and digital mode of education. Because education of mankind plays a vital role to appraise the economy of nation. As a future leader , the student needs a sound educational foundation in order to go with ever changing world. Formerly the student have to depend for their education on the single institution but as per the national education policy perspective, there is a concept of sharing of knowledge by a multidisciplinary approach in various disciplines among various institutions. Today, the use of digital technology such as online learning platform, virtual classrooms and educational app has allowed student to continue their education without interruption. However, the benefit of online digital education cannot be leveraged unless the digital divide is eliminated through concredited effort such as Digital India Campaign.

Recommendations:

- To give the emergence of online and digital education, National Education Policy, give importance to integrate technology at all level from school to higher education and recommend the following key initiative regarding online and digital by ensuring the use of technology.
- Pilot study for online education government agencies have to conduct a series of pilot study to evaluate the benefit of integration, digital and online education. This will help to identify the challenges occur during implementation so that the result of this study use for further continuous improvement.
- NEP 2020 recommend to promote online teaching platform and tool such as SWAYAM and DIKSHA. These platform help to provide access to education work in support for teachers also and upholding the online classes are necessity of present scenario of education as shown during the corona pandemic.
- National education policy promotes and recommend for creating online content and digital repository to disseminate knowledge besides learning activity it also suffers on fun based learning by using appropriate tools like apps and gamification.
- NEP recommended to bridge the gap of digital divide. There are few areas where due to lack of network connectivity education is poor.

- NEP recommended to focus on more e learning platform to promote digital and online education by creating virtual labs so that all students have equal access to quality education.
- Although it is difficult to trained a large proportion of teachers who are less aware and updated to digital technology for which government support to those teachers by providing on job and In service training so that a large demand is fulfill of digitally equipped teacher and the big challenge for digital teaching is online assessment and examination. Although government bodies support by implementing assessment framework encompasses design of competency, portfolio, rubrics , standardized assessment by focusing 21st century skills.
- NEP suggests that no field remains of technology advancement. Technology in education is a journey to be in the race of quality education in respect to other nation, we have to opt the concept of online and digital education so as to implement the best teaching and learning practices and attain policy objective too .As it has been said that, in order to make some improvement in thinking of mankind, we have to make an developmental change in education system of that particular country as said by Macaulay's also. Therefore, there is a vital need to set up a standard of e- content, technology and pedagogy for online teaching learning system. To upgrade and develop our intellect of mankind and be a Vishwaguru for this each stakeholder associated to Education have to come up and support the online system of education and we definitely obtain the target proposed by UNESCO in SDG 4 and RTE proposed by Indian Constitution also.

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