ROLE OF (NEP) 2020 IN BUILDING RESPONSIBLE CTIZENS.

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ABSTRACT:

This study explores how India's National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 emphasizes value education as a core element of educational reform. It aims to gain insight into the role of NEP 2020 in shaping the ethical and humanistic education in India. It adopts a structured qualitative approach that combines a synthesis of extant literature, analysis of policy documents, and case studies. It aims to build a more compassionate and fair future for the next generations. The policy explicitly aims to develop "good human beings" who possess not just academic competence, but also compassion, empathy, courage, resilience, and a strong sense of duty toward society, the nation, and the planet. However, its success depends on close collaboration between educational institutions, educators, and other key stakeholders This new education policy advocates for a holistic and multidisciplinary approach to foster critical thinking, problem solving & responsible citizenship. The holistic approach is designed to arm students with the skills needed to navigate a rapidly changing world. Consistent efforts are needed to develop ethical, caring, and responsible individuals ready for a changing world. Its success also depends on strategic implementation that is aligned with national and global development goals. This paper aims to focus on the various factors, strategies, and significance that play a vital role in value education as recommended by NEP 2020. The study concludes that value education is fundamental to the objectives of NEP 2020, striving to cultivate a progressive, ethical, and diverse society, preparing students for both careers and purposeful, responsible lives.

Keywords: Value Education; Humanistic Values; Ethical Education; NEP 2020,Holistic approach.

Introduction:

The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 of India was approved on 29th July, 2020 by the Union Cabinet of India. The main aim of the policy is to transform the education system of the country for bridging the gap of regional disparities and bringing about the overall development of the society as well as nation. It aims to promote ethical values, human and constitutional values among youth and citizens by introducing significant reforms in the education system. The policy recognizes the crucial role of education in promoting values-based learning and inculcating a sense of social responsibility among young people and citizens

NEP 2020 emphasizes the need to integrate values-based education into the core curriculum at all levels of education. The policy recognizes that education should not only focus on academic excellence but also on developing the ethical and moral values of students. The curriculum framework proposes the integration of values –based learning into all subjects, including mathematics, science, and social sciences, to help students understand the real-world implications of ethical and moral values. NEP 2020 also recognizes the need to train teachers to effectively deliver value based education to students. The policy proposes the establishment of teacher training programs that focus on values-based education, including promoting human rights, democratic values, and gender equality. This will help teachers understand the importance of inculcating ethical and moral values in students and equip them with the necessary skills to do so.

The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 has emphasized the inculcation of ethical values in students as a crucial aspect of their education. The policy recognizes that education is not just about acquiring knowledge and skills, but also about developing character, ethics, and values that can guide students to become responsible citizens and leaders. In this context, ethical values are seen as an essential component of quality education. The NEP 2020 highlights the need to foster ethical values such as integrity, empathy, respect, and responsibility in students through a variety of educational experiences. The policy emphasizes the importance of incorporating ethical values across all subjects and levels of education, including in the curriculum, co-curricular activities, and assessments. The NEP also recognizes the role of teachers and educational institutions in modeling ethical behavior and providing a supportive and inclusive learning environment. To ensure that the inculcation of ethical values is an integral part of quality education, the NEP 2020 proposes several measures, including the development of guidelines and frameworks for ethical conduct, the integration of ethical values in teacher training programs, and the creation of mechanisms for monitoring and evaluating the impact of ethics education on students. These measures are aimed at ensuring that students are equipped with the necessary ethical values to navigate the complex challenges of the modern world and contribute to the development of a just and equ

Review of Literature

Mishra (2024) examined how NEP 2020 is changing higher education in India. The study explains how the policy addresses old issues while bringing in new ideas to modernize learning, support innovation, and increase access to education. It also looks at the challenges and expected benefits of the policy.

Kalyani (2020) studied the impact of NEP 2020 on students, parents, and teachers. It found that students focus on gaining useful knowledge and skills for better job opportunities. Parents play an important role in helping their children choose subjects and also support them financially. **Wankhade (2021)** highlighted the importance of higher education in improving a country's economy, society, and technology. The study emphasizes that the government must work to

increase the number of students attending college by making higher education available to everyone.

Overview of NEP 2020 The National Education Policy 2020 is a major step in changing how education works in India. After more than 30 years, this policy brings a new approach that encourages learning across subjects, creativity, critical thinking, and lifelong learning. It aims to make education more inclusive and focused on student.

NEP 2020 aims to completely change higher education in India. It encourages learning across different fields, adds new subjects, and gives students more freedom to choose what and how they study. ts' needs. The NEP prepares India to be a global leader in education and innovation.

METHODOLOGY:

This study adopts a structured qualitative approach to examine how NEP 2020 reforms values through education. The approach combines a synthesis of extant literature, analysis of policy documents, and case studies to comprehensively present how values are understood and applied to education reforms under the NEP 2020 framework. The synthesis of extant literature explores the historical roots of values education in India and how previous policies have addressed this issue. The literature includes books, journals, government reports, and research reports from educational institutions. These materials were screened for quality and relevance to provide a solid foundation for the study. The study also analyzed documents related to NEP 2020. The research focused on the policy itself and other documents from the Ministry of Education. Through content analysis, the study identified key themes related to values education. This helps explain how the policy promotes ethical and humanistic values in education.

Building responsible citizens is the foundational goal of India's **National Education Policy (NEP) 2020**, which is currently being implemented across the country in 2025. The policy moves away from traditional rote learning toward a system that nurtures ethical, compassionate, and socially conscious individuals.

The Vision: From Students to Global Citizens

The NEP 2020 aims to instill a deep-rooted pride in being Indian while developing the knowledge and dispositions required of a **"global citizen"**. This is achieved through:

- **Constitutional Values:** The curriculum is designed to develop respect for Fundamental Duties and values like justice, liberty, equality, and fraternity.

- **Ethical Reasoning:** Students are taught to recognize and act ethically in complex situations, fostering integrity and empathy from the foundational stage.

- **Social Responsibility:** The policy emphasizes community engagement, environmental awareness, and a spirit of service as core parts of the learning experience.

Key Pillars for Building Responsibility

The policy introduces several structural and pedagogical reforms to support character building:

- **360-Degree Assessment:** The introduction of **Holistic Progress Cards (HPCs)** tracks not just marks but also creativity, socio-emotional skills, and community engagement.

- **Vocational Exposure:** Starting from Grade 6, students engage in vocational crafts and internships, instilling a "dignity of labor" and practical life skills.

- **Multilingualism:** Encouraging instruction in the mother tongue helps bridge cultural gaps and strengthens a student's sense of identity and belonging.

- **Ethical and Human Values:** To counter rising trends of social evils and violence, there is a need to integrate values like **integrity, empathy, compassion, and honesty** into the curriculum at all levels.

- **Constitutional Values:** Developing responsible citizens requires instilling a deep respect for constitutional values, including a sense of **patriotism, civic duty, and democratic responsibility**.

- **Holistic Development:** There is a need to shift from a rigid, marks-based system to one that cultivates **critical thinking, problem-solving, and emotional intelligence**, enabling students to navigate complex modern challenges.

- **Global and Environmental Citizenship:** Future citizens must be prepared for a globalized world, necessitating a focus on **environmental sustainability, global citizenship, and cross-cultural understanding**.

- **Digital Responsibility:** With the rise of the digital age, there is a specific need for **digital citizenship education** to ensure students use technology ethically and safely.

- **Social Inclusion and Equity:** Responsible citizenship involves building an inclusive society; the NEP aims to provide quality education to all, focusing on **marginalized and underrepresented groups** to ensure social mobility and equality.

CONCLUSION

NEP 2020 recognizes the crucial role of education in promoting ethical, human, and constitutional values among youth. The policy proposes significant reforms in the education system that focus on integrating values –based learning into the core curriculum, training teachers, and promoting experimental learning. By doing so, the NEP 2020 aims to create responsible and ethical citizens who can contribute positively to society. NEP 2020 marks a significant evolution in India's educational philosophy by placing ethical and humanistic values at the heart of learning. The policy integrates curricula, teacher training, inclusive practices, and innovative assessment methods. Through this, it aims to nurture morally grounded, socially responsible, and emotionally intelligent individuals. NEP 2020 encourages schools and colleges to go beyond academics by including community service, life skills, cultural activities, and value-based lessons. These efforts help students develop empathy, responsibility, leadership, and strong moral values. As a result, education becomes more meaningful. These initiatives demonstrate that when values are meaningfully integrated into education, they enhance character development, civic awareness, and social cohesion. This aligns with the policy's vision of nurturing compassionate and responsible citizens. This study finds that NEP 2020 offers a significant opportunity to embed ethical and humanistic values in the Indian education system. As India moves forward with NEP 2020, the success of education should be measured not only by academic achievement but also by the values and character it inculcates. In conclusion NEP 2020 marks a significant evolution in India's educational philosophy by placing ethical and humanistic values at the heart of learning. The policy integrates curriculum, teacher training, inclusive practices, and innovative assessment methods. Through this, it aims to nurture morally grounded, socially responsible, and emotionally intelligent individuals. Its holistic approach aspires to transform education into a powerful force for building a compassionate, equitable, and culturally rooted society.

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