



Improvement in Teacher Education Programmes: Initiatives Taken by Ministry of Education in NEP 2020

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Abstract:

Teaching is a Nobel profession, for this Nobel profession, we need well qualified teachers. Only good quality teacher education programme can make good, knowledgeable, qualified teachers suitable for this profession. Teachers are the ones who impart good moral values and disciplines to the students. The key question here is that since the creator of our future generation is the teacher, it is very important to shed light on how teachers should be educated and how to train them. Therefore, enough emphasis has been laid on teacher education in the NEP-2020. Because there are some flaws between the current education system and teacher's training programme. The objectives of the study are to investigate about the existing problems situated in teacher education programmes at present, to know about the main focus point in planning of teacher education programme in NEP2020 and to know about the initiatives or changes taken by Ministry of Education to improve teacher education programme in NEP2020. The study is theoretical and descriptive based. As a secondary sources, the data has been collected from different kinds of books, journals, research articles, NEP-2020 report etc.

Keywords: NEP 2020, Teacher Education Programme, Values.

Introduction:

Education is an invaluable resource that makes our present beautiful and builds the future properly. Education is the foundation of any healthy and beautiful society. As we all know that one of the most important part of this education system is the teacher. Teachers are the ones who impart good moral values and disciplines to the students. The key question here is that since the creator of our future generation is the teacher, it is very important to shed light on how teachers should be educated and how to train them. Therefore, enough emphasis has been laid on teacher education in the NEP-2020. Because there are some flaws between the current education system and teacher's training programme. Many recommendations have been made in previous National education policies regarding teacher education but it has not been fully implemented. Now the degree of teacher education has become a business for private institutions, they are just selling it for only money (NEP-2020). The most surprising thing is that they are all aware of this but it has been going on for a long time. No one can do anything and no one is thinking about the consequences. It is yet to be seen that there are many TEIs where there are not enough teachers and other facilities. There are also many institutions where students are given degrees even if they do not have to go physically in

that institution throughout the year. If such kind of a student teacher becomes a teacher in the future, now is the time to think about whether he can teach his students properly. With all these issues keeping in mind, the new NEP-2020 seeks to restructure teacher education programme. Any student- teacher can be a good future teacher only if he/she has good subject knowledge, teaching skills and knowledge about student psychology. In today's changing society, human needs are continuously changing. Therefore student-teachers should emphasize on acquiring knowledge of various subjects during the training period. This is called Multidisciplinary approach in the new NEP and is considered to be holistic. Teaching is a Nobel profession, for this Nobel profession, we need well qualified teachers. Only good quality teacher education programme can make good, knowledgeable, qualified teachers suitable for this profession.

Objectives of the study:

1. To investigate about the existing problems situated in teacher education programmes at present.
2. To know about the main focus point in planning of teacher education programme in NEP2020.
3. To know about the initiatives or changes taken by Ministry of Education to improve teacher education programme in NEP2020.

Methodology of the study:

The study is theoretical and descriptive based. As a secondary sources, the data has been collected from different kinds of books, journals, research articles, NEP2020 report etc.

The existing problems situated in teacher education programmes at present:

- **Teacher's training degree for money:** According to the J.V.Commission, we still have more than 10,000 standalone TEIs where good quality teacher education is not provided and only teacher training degrees are sold for money. There are many teacher's training institutions where students are allowed to sit for exams even if they do not go to the TEIs throughout the year. This is a matter of concern.
- **Careless attitude of the regulatory system:** The careless attitude of the regulatory authority of the TEIs can be noticed. They may not understand or try to not understand what and where the error is in the system. As a result, they are unable to provide good quality teacher education. This is having a detrimental effect on innovation and standards of teacher education programme.
- **Lack of multidisciplinary approach:** At present, there is a lack of Multidisciplinary approach in teacher education institutions. This is because at present most of the TEIs are stand alone and they do not have any special relationship or coordination with the other colleges, universities or different disciplines.
- **Non-availability of required teachers in TEIs:** Adequate number of good teachers are required for good quality teacher education. But most of the TEIs lack adequate number of teachers. There are also many TEIs where the work is continued with guests/ part time teachers instead of permanent teachers, which has an impact on the quality of education.
- **No particular examination for selection of qualified student teachers to maintain standarity:** There is no specific examination system for admission in TEIs. As a result, anyone can be admitted. For which the importance of merit in admission is decreasing and more crowd is being created. Those who do not want to enter the teaching profession but because of the easy admission process, they buy the degree with the help of money.
- **Not enough use of technology:** we are dependent on technology in the current situation. The more technology a person can use, the more modern he or she becomes. It cannot be said that there is

absolutely no knowledge and use of technology in TEIs but this knowledge and use of technology is far less than required. There are many factors behind this for example- lack of infrastructure, lack of knowledgeable teachers, lack of funds etc.

The main focus point of new teacher education programme:

1. Integrity
2. Credibility
3. Efficacy
4. High quality teacher education
5. High quality content and pedagogy
6. Multidisciplinary approach
7. Indian values, languages, knowledge, ethics
8. All kinds of knowledge about traditions
9. Accountability
10. Formation of disposition

The initiatives or changes taken by Ministry of Education to improve teacher education programmes in NEP,2020:

- **All the TEIs** that do not meet all the criteria and standards will be closed from 2030 onwards and at present regulatory systems will be empowered enough to take strong action against all the TEIs those do not meet the educational criteria & standards after one year of remedy period (NEP-2020).
- **Teacher education** should be given in Multidisciplinary Institutions and for this reason, more Multidisciplinary universities, colleges have to be set up (NEP-2020). By 2030, all standalone TEIs will have to be converted into Multidisciplinary Institutions, where 4years of integrated teacher education will be offered (NEP2020).
- **2 years of B.Ed.**for those who have a bachelor's degree in a particular subject and one year B.Ed. for those who have four years of undergraduatedegree, also during the B.Ed. course, it is said to provide Scholarships to meritorious students (NEP2020)
- **The HEIs** needs a sufficient number of teachers as well as specialised subject teachers and they should communicate or coordinate with all the government and private schools, so that students and teachers can work together (NEP-2020).
- **Aptitude test and suitable subjects** test for admission in pre-service teacher's training programme will be conducted by NTA (NEP-2020).
- **Emphasis will be** placed on online training for in-service teachers training, for that the use of **online platforms** like SWAYAM, DIKSHA etc should be increased (NEP-2020).
- **There is a talk** of setting up a monitoring agency called **National Mission** with seniors/ retired faculty and those who have knowledge of Indian languages (NEP-2020). Their job will be to deliberately help the university and college teachers (NEP-2020).

Conclusion

The place of teachers in India is very special. Teachers are given equal respect as parents. But now it is seen that this respect is being disrupted in many places. There are some reasons behind it. Appropriate steps are planned in the NEP, 2020 to address all these problems and bring back due respect to teachers and educate the next generation in good quality education. But at present we cannot say surely or appropriately anything about how good or bad the planning will be turned out. When the recommendation about teacher education in NEP 2020 will be fully implemented then after we will make any final conclusions about its efficiency.

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