



AWARENESS OF NATIONAL EDUCATION POLICY (2020) AMONG B.ED. STUDENTS: THE ALCHEMY OF NATION

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ABSTRACT:

Education plays a decisive role in building the nation and predicates the future of the society as well as the destiny of its people. After 34 years, the National Education Policy was announced in 2020 based on the recommendations of the committee headed by Dr. Kasturirangan, Former chairman of the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) that aims to provide quality education from pre-primary to higher levels which is a pre-requisite for individual, economic social & national development. The present study is undertaken to study the awareness of B.Ed. students on NE P 2 0 2 0 in Lucknow District. The major objective of the study is to find out the difference between awareness of (i) male and female (ii) U.G with B.Ed. & P.G. with B.Ed. students towards the NEP 2020. A sample of 320 teacher trainees was taken from 8 B.Ed. Colleges affiliated to the University of Lucknow in Lucknow District. The data were collected by self-made questionnaire. Variables studies are gender & academic qualification. The data were analyzed by using a percentage analysis & t-test. Results revealed that the level of awareness among B.Ed. students towards NEP 2020 are below average, majority of the students don't possess in-depth knowledge and awareness of key reforms.

KEYWORDS:

AWARENESS, NATIONAL EDUCATION POLICY (2020), B.ED. STUDENTS.

INTRODUCTION

Education is the basic need of every individual and each one of us is entitled to education without distinction of any kind, such as caste, race, color, sex, language, religion, region, or nationality. Education should aim at cultivating the life of the child and lead towards a utilitarian end. It should prepare the child for earning a livelihood & enable him to be productive for himself as well as for society. Since independence, we have encountered problems of inequality, poverty, illiteracy, etc Education is a great instrument for achieving economic, social mobility, inclusion, equity & equality. Various Educational Policies have been formulated from time to time to promote education in India such as the National Policy on Education 1968, 1986 later which was modified in the year 1992. Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan a central government program has been in operation since 2000-2001 which ensure Universalization of primary education by making 86th amendment in the Constitution, In 2009 we enacted the RTE Act (The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education) that made it compulsory to provide education to all children from the age of 6-14, later. In September 2015, the United Nations General Assembly adopted 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) including SDG4 which stressed "ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education and promoting lifelong learning possibilities for all" by 2030. The Union Cabinet approved the National Education Policy 2020 on July 29, 2020. The new National Education Policy is divided into four parts that cover school education (Part I); higher education (Part II); 'Other

Key Areas of Focus' (Part III) such as adult education, and online education; and 'Making it Happen' (Part IV), which elaborates implementation plan. National Education Policy 2020 aims to rejuvenate the entire Indian education system to make "India a global knowledge superpower". The New Education Policy passed by the Cabinet is only the third major policy of education in India since independence. The key pillars of NEP 2020 are

- Quality
- Affordability
- Equity
- Access
- Accountability

National Education Policy 2020 stressed the advancement of the innovative potential of children. It points up, that education must develop not only cognitive capabilities but also social, ethical, and emotional capacities and dispositions. The teachers are the sculptors of society, so there is a need to empower them. With NEP 2020, talented teachers are influenced to enter the profession. Teachers have been placed at the centre of the NEP 2020, to bring reform to the entire educational system. So, to implement the Educational policy successfully, the teachers must know it. If the teachers have complete awareness of it, then only it will reach the top & only there is the enhancement in quality education This study is an attempt at finding the awareness of teacher trainees. The study is restricted to

B.Ed. students who are studying in government and Private B.Ed. colleges affiliated to the University of Lucknow in Lucknow District only. It does not involve the B.Ed. students who are studying in other universities, Distance mode, and any other mode.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Aithal & Aithal (2020) The study highlighted the overview of the National education policy 2020 and compared it with an existing education policy through which they found the drawbacks lined up with an existing education policy and trends that are going to be created with the new education policy 2020 in the future. The study also provided significant suggestions for the educational departments regarding the implementation of the new education Policy in 2020.

Dr. Ramasamy & Thangaiah (2020) conducted an Awareness of teachers and college students on National Education Policy 2020. The result of the study shows the level of awareness of teachers and college students on NEP 2020 is moderate. As per the timeline mentioned in the policy, if it is to be implemented, wide publicity is to be given to all stakeholders on the reforms and innovativeness of NEP2020 to gain their support in the field at the implementation stage.

L. Devi & Chelvaraju (2020) conducted "A Study on Awareness about the Impact of National Education Policy-2020 among the Stakeholders of Commerce and Management Disciplinary." The comparative study on the current NEP and NEP 2020 has pointed out the drawbacks of the current NEP which was affecting the growth of the Indian economy and affecting the youths in achieving their goals.

Maruthavanan (2020) conducted A Study on the Awareness of New Education Policy (2019) among the Secondary School Teachers in Madurai District "Findings of the study stated secondary school teachers have low awareness of the National Education Policy (2019). The government must arrange awareness programs to make aware of the National Education Policy (2019) seriously.

Kalyani(2020) conducted "An Empirical Study on NEP 2020 National Education Policy with Special Reference to the Future of Indian Education System and Its Effects on the Stakeholders" To conclude this big policy that has been proposed by the Indian government to improve the Indian Education System is a big task. Mostly all the proposals that have been proposed in NEP 2020 have great potential to give success to all the stakeholders in the future.

NEED AND SIGNIFICANCE OF STUDY

NEP 2020 has been formulated considering the needs of the society, It has excellent capability to bring radical changes in the education system of India. The Policy proposes reform in various areas such as the structure of school education, curricula and pedagogy, teacher

education, development of the National Professional Standards for Teachers, The multiple exit and re-entry system, credit transferability across the universities, and multi- disciplinarily in the higher education etc. All citizens of the nation must be aware of the proposed changes and major reforms mentioned in NEP 2020.

(teachers) who are the prominent stakeholders of education should be well informed about the major areas, dimensions, and recommendations proposed in the policy. Hence it was decided to study the awareness of pupil teachers on this policy who are prospective teachers of India.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

THE OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY ARE:

- To find the level of awareness of pupil teachers studying in Lucknow District on NEP 2020.
- To compare the awareness of male and female pupil teachers on NEP 2020.
- To study the difference in the awareness of NEP 2020 based on Academic Qualification of pupil teacher

HYPOTHESIS OF THE STUDY

Based on the above objectives following Null Hypotheses have been framed:

H01: There is no significant difference between male and female B.Ed. students in NEP 2020

H02: There is no significant difference between the awareness of U.G. with B.Ed. and P.G. with B.Ed. students towards NEP 2020.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The researcher has adopted the survey method of research to study the awareness of B.Ed. students towards NEP 2020.

The researcher has selected eight institutes both government & Finance as per convenience and 40 students of B.Ed. from each selected institute through stratified random sampling. Thus, the total sample contained 320 participants and 8 Institutes in the Lucknow District affiliated with University of Lucknow, out of which 120 are male and 200 are female.

Special focus was given to factors like gender, and academic qualification of B.Ed. Students. A self-made tool is developed and validated by the researcher to collect data. A multiple-choice type questionnaire has been constructed in the present study. It includes 50 items related to the National Educational Policy (2020).

The data were analyzed using a percentage analysis, t-test The results of the study were presented in the following tables

ANALYSIS & INTERPRETATION OF THE DATA:

DEMOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONDENTS: TABLE 1

Particulars		Percentage (%)
Gender	Male	37.5%
	Female	67.5%
Educational Qualification	U.G. with B.Ed.	43.75%
	P.G. with B.Ed.	56.25%
Age	20-30	79%
	31-40	21%

HYPOTHESIS: 1

H01: There is no significant difference between the

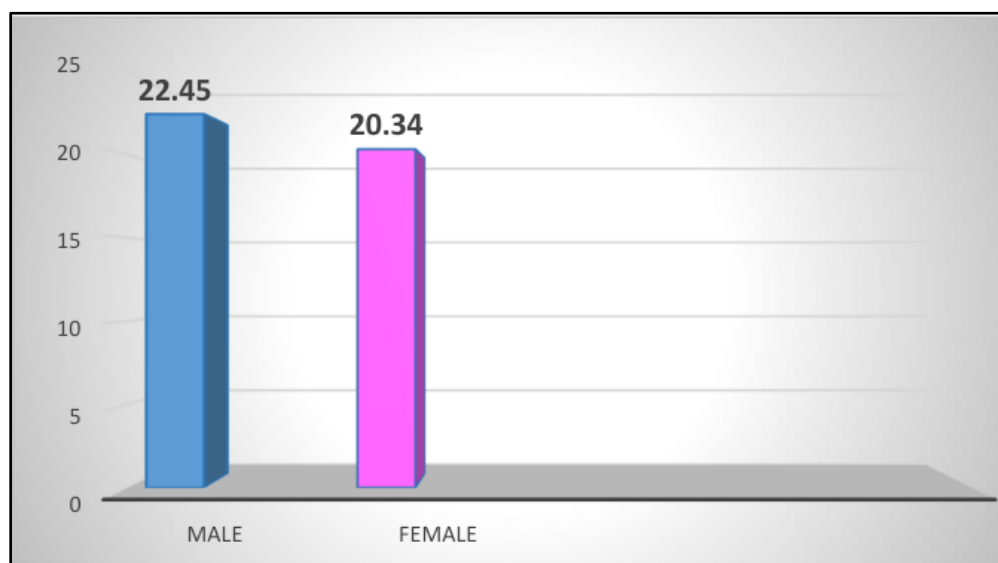
awareness of male and female B.Ed. students towards NEP 2020.

TABLE: 2

Variable	N	Mean	Std. Deviation	't' value	Result
Male	120	22.45	6.45	4.64	Significant
Female	200	20.34	5.56		

@ Level of significance 0.05

GRAPH: 1 GRAPHICAL REPRESENTATION OF MEAN SCORES OF THE AWARENESS OF B.ED. STUDENTS TOWARDS NEP 2020 WITH REGARD TO GENDER



INTERPRETATION:

Table 4.3.1 Shows that the mean of male students (N=120) is 22.45 and mean of female students (N=200) is 20.34 and the standard deviation is 6.45 & 5.56 respectively. The critical ratio value of the group is 4.64 on a 0.05 level with a degree of freedom (d.o.f) 318. It means the obtained value is more than the table value (1.96). On 0.05 level result is significant, so there is a significant difference

among pupil teachers on awareness of the New Education Policy (2020) based on Gender. Based on result, the researcher rejected the null hypothesis (H01).

HYPOTHESIS: 2

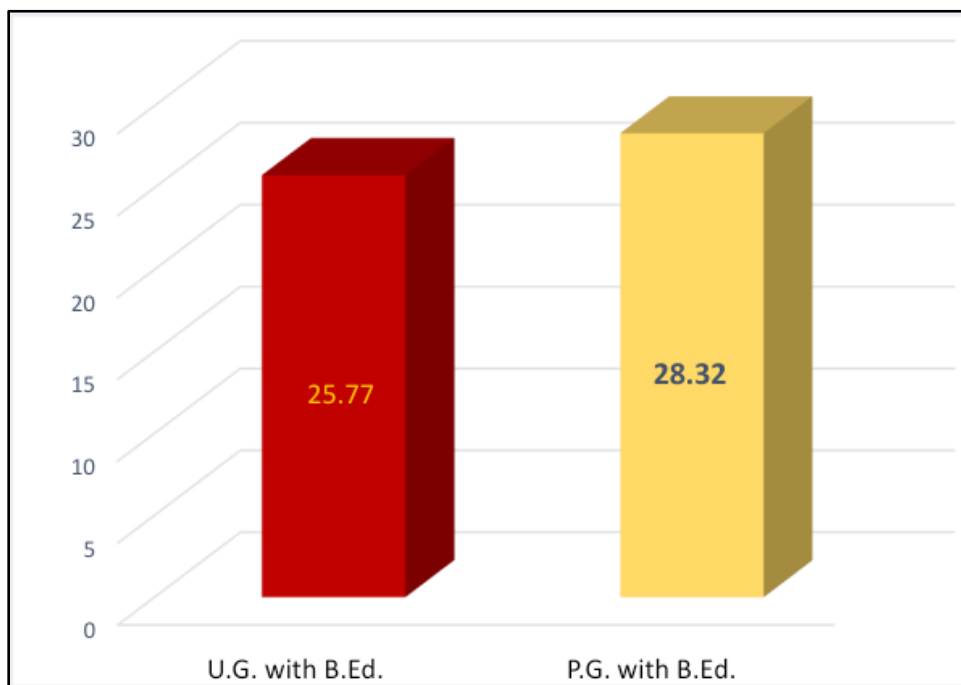
H02: There is no significant difference between the awareness of U.G. with B.Ed. and P.G. with B.Ed. students towards NEP 2020.

TABLE: 3 AWARENESS LEVEL OF B.ED. STUDENTS TOWARDS NEP 2020 CONCERNING ACADEMIC QUALIFICATION.

Variable (Academic Qualification)	N	Mean	Std. Deviation	't' value	Result
U.G with B.Ed.	140	25.77	3.60	5.66	significant
P.G. with B.Ed.	180	28.32	4.48		

@ Level of significance 0.05

GRAPH: 2 GRAPHICAL REPRESENTATION OF MEAN SCORES OF THE AWARENESS OF B.ED. STUDENTS TOWARDS NEP 2020 WITH REGARDS TO ACADEMIC QUALIFICATION: U.G WITH B.ED. & P.G. WITH B.ED.



INTERPRETATION:

Table 4.3.6 Shows that the mean of students U.G with B.Ed.(N=140)is 25.77 and mean of P.G. with B.Ed.(N=180) is 28.32 and the standard deviation is 3.60 & 4.48 respectively. The calculated “t” value of the group is 5.66

on a 0.05 level with a degree of freedom (d.o.f) 318. It means the obtained value is more than the table value (1.96). Based on such an interpretation, the researcher accepts the rejected hypothesis (H02).

OVERALL AWARENESS OF NEP 2020 AMONG B.ED. STUDENTS

TABLE: 4

Group	N	Mean	%
B.Ed. Students	320	24.88	49.76

CONCLUSION

National Education Policy 2020 will play a radical role and has enormous potential in the transformation of the education system in India. As B.Ed. students are the prospective teachers of tomorrow, their role as a teacher is to nurture the minds, attitudes, and emotions of the younger generation. Here are some observations related to NEP 2020 awareness.

1: There is a significant difference in the awareness level of

teacher trainees based on gender about NEP 2020. Male students are much more aware than female students.

2: There is a significant difference in the awareness level of pupil teachers concerning Academic Qualification about NEP 2020. Students of P.G. with B.Ed. have more awareness than students of U.G. with B.Ed.

3: Most of the teacher trainees are having low level of awareness towards recommendations of NEP 2020, and overall awareness of B.Ed. students studying in Lucknow

District is below average which is 49.76%.

The study is undertaken mainly to find out what proportion of the B.Ed. students possess awareness of NEP 2020. Based on the findings it is noticed the level of awareness of students on NEP 2020 is below moderate. Gender seems to enhance awareness. Male participants scored more mean scores in all four dimensions. Among all, the P.G with B.Ed. students performed better than the P.G. with B.Ed. Students, and showed better awareness and in-depth knowledge.

To sum up, awareness programs must be conducted & organized from time to time by educational institutions to enhance the knowledge of B.Ed. students. Holding seminars and conferences at the institutional level must be made compulsory wherein the main themes, vision & recommendations about NEP 2020 should be discussed. Teachers from various institutions should be invited for the same. Develop mass media activities and materials that emphasize the importance of NEP 2020.

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