



INNOVATIVE CHANGES IN ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION UNDER NEP-2020

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ABSTRACT:

Education plays a crucial role in developing strong societies. Educational plans need to adapt alongside societal changes, technology, and required skills. The NEP 2020 represents a significant advancement that has the potential to transform India's educational landscape. It does away with the previous 1986 education framework. This updated approach aims to enhance skills and knowledge in today's youth, who will be leaders in the future. NEP 2020 seeks to make schooling and higher education comprehensive, adaptable, and skills-oriented. It must address the demands of learners in the 21st century. This document outlines strategies to enhance education through innovative methods of assessing student progress. Over the past decade, India has transitioned from examinations to evaluating progress, and now to assessing skills. The 1968 policy encouraged a move away from merely assigning grades towards fostering improved learning. The 1986 policy advocated for reducing rote memorization and implementing fairer assessments. It introduced continuous evaluation and grading systems. It also recommended a shift to semester-based systems. The new 2020 policy emphasizes reforming how we assess learning outcomes. The objective is to enhance performance and support students' overall development.

KEYWORDS: *Assessment, Evaluation, National Education Policy 2020, Examination System, Indian Education System, Reforms.*

INTRODUCTION: India's education system has long focused on final exams. People said this way of testing did not truly show a student's thinking skills. It failed to test problem-solving and how to use knowledge in life. Now, schools use projects and tests during the year. This creates ongoing assessment, not just one final exam. The NEP 2020 is changing things. It values thinking skills, complete growth, and learning by doing. NEP 2020 wants schools to focus on each student. It will change how students are tested and graded.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY: This study has three goals. First, it explores the history of India's assessment methods. Second, it looks at the main points of assessment in NEP 2020. Third, it studies changes to assessment in NEP 2020



METHODOLOGY: This paper uses descriptive and analytical methods. It uses both primary and secondary sources. Primary sources are the NEP 2020 drafts and documents. Secondary sources include articles and research papers. These writings come from journals and books. A logical approach helps to analyze the research.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND OF ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION SYSTEM IN INDIAN EDUCATION:

Assessment before Independence: The Gurukul system used oral tests in the Vedic Period. Buddhists used similar methods in 'Sanghas'. Medieval times saw 'Maktabas and Madarsas' with no outside testing. Early British rule lacked formal school tests; teachers did all grading. Wood's Dispatch (1835) began modern Indian education. Matriculation exams started in 1857. These tests were for university entry and changed high schools a lot.

After Independence: The Radhakrishnan (1948–49), Mudaliar (1952–53), and Kothari (1964–66) Commissions wanted better tests. They aimed to improve education quality through exams. The 1968 National Policy on Education focused on learning, not just grades. It started Continuous and Comprehensive Evaluation (CCE). Grades replaced marks, and semesters came to high schools slowly. National Curriculum Frameworks (1975, 2000, 2005) turned ideas into action. They improved teaching, learning, and testing in schools. Changes in student tests included new question types, like essays and multiple choice. There were question banks and central grading. Teachers looked for common mistakes. Exam results were processed by machines. Extra exams helped students improve grades. Semesters and grades were used more. Exams became open. Students could get copies of their tests. Internal grades, CCE, and learning-based tests were added. Schools did their own tests. Steps were taken to manage exams better.

KEY FEATURES OF ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION IN NEP 2020: NEP 2020 is centered on modifying assessments to facilitate learning and growth for all students. It includes essential features regarding how students are evaluated and graded.

- Assessments ought to be ongoing and assist students in their learning journey. They should concentrate on students' knowledge. Testing should promote student development. Evaluations will examine cognitive abilities, such as analysis. They will assess problem-solving capabilities as well. These assessments should aid schools in enhancing teaching methods. This will contribute to better learning outcomes for students.
- The report card will provide a comprehensive overview of each student. It will indicate progress across all areas. It will emphasize the unique attributes of each student. The report card will bridge the gap between school and home. Parents can then support their child's educational journey. Students will evaluate themselves and each other. Teachers



will also assess their students. The report card will illustrate how to facilitate student learning both inside and outside the classroom.

- Public examinations will undergo changes. High school assessments and entrance exams for colleges currently compel students to concentrate on a limited range of content. Soon, students will have the opportunity to select subjects for board examinations that align with their interests. Board exams will be simplified. They will assess skills rather than mere memorization. The intention is to eliminate excessive coaching and promote comprehensive learning. Students can take board exams up to twice each year. This alleviates pressure. Boards will investigate new examination formats. These may incorporate annual, semester, or modular tests. Some assessments could include both multiple-choice and essay components.

- The educational system will also evolve. Students will undergo assessments in grades 3, 5, and 8. These evaluations monitor progress. They assist students, parents, teachers, and schools in developing more effective lessons. These exams evaluate fundamental skills. They assess core concepts from the national curriculum. They also measure problem-solving abilities. These assessments will not assess students' worth. Results will enhance the educational system. Schools will disclose overall student results without personal identifiers. This will aid in monitoring and improving schools. The appropriate authority will oversee these school assessments.

- PARAKH is the National Assessment Centre. Its mission is to enhance student learning outcomes. PARAKH establishes guidelines for student assessments across all Indian school boards. It aids boards in modernizing their evaluations to align with current competencies. PARAKH oversees surveys on educational performance levels. It also provides guidance to school boards regarding innovative assessment techniques. PARAKH promotes cooperation among boards and the sharing of effective practices.

- The National Testing Agency (NTA) will conduct assessments biannually. These evaluations encompass skills and subjects including science and the arts. NTA is a specialized group for entrance examinations. Colleges may opt to utilize NTA assessments for admissions. This could decrease stress for both students and educational institutions. It streamlines the educational framework.

- Each student possesses unique abilities. We must identify and support their development. NCERT and NCTE will create resources for instructing talented children. Schools will establish clubs for projects and subjects. Students can attend other schools using available funding. Educators will provide additional materials to students with distinct interests. Financial support will be allocated for summer programs for exceptional secondary students. The selection process will be equitable and based on merit. Students with significant interests should pursue knowledge beyond the school curriculum. B. Ed. programs can concentrate on educating gifted children. Teacher training will incorporate strategies to recognize and assist these students.



REFORMS IN ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION IN NEP 2020:

- **Moving from Memory to Understanding:** The old Indian education system focused too much on memory. Students learned facts but did not truly understand them. Now, education focuses on real skills and knowledge. Students learn deeply, explore real uses, and grasp key ideas. The NEP 2020 checks how well students understand and use knowledge, not just repeat facts.
- **From Grades to Growth Reports:** Old report cards showed grades from final exams. New progress cards will show a student's overall growth. These cards will cover thinking, feeling, and physical skills. Teachers will rate subject skills and other important abilities. Students will also rate themselves and each other. Parents and teachers will work together to support learning everywhere.
- **Building Thinking and Problem-Solving Skills:** Good problem-solving means judging facts and making smart choices. These skills help in school and in life. Past tests in India focused on memory, not thinking. NEP 2020 will add tests that build thinking and problem-solving. Tests will ask students to use knowledge to solve problems. They will think hard and find answers to tough questions.
- The National Assessment Centre, PARAKH, was created by NEP 2020. PARAKH will set rules for how students are assessed. It will analyse how well students learn and use what they know. It will also help schools use the new ways of testing. PARAKH will track how well the new education policy is working.
- Traditional exams can cause stress and worry for students. The pressure of one big test can hurt their mental health. It may not truly show what they know. NEP 2020 wants to lower this stress with ongoing evaluation. Students will be checked regularly to show their progress. This will spread out tests and lower the stakes of a single exam.
- PARAKH sets the rules for testing and tracks the results of NEP 2020. The National Testing Agency (NTA) has experts to design good tests. The NTA is independent and has trained staff. They will make tests for college and university students in many subjects.
- Today's students need more than just book smarts. They need skills like digital literacy and creativity. Teamwork and good communication are also key to success.

CONCLUSION: In summary, NEP 2020's assessment changes can reshape Indian education. They encourage deeper, student-focused evaluations. Teacher training and tech are key to success. Stakeholder input also matters. This plan aims to create critical thinkers ready for modern problems. Challenges exist, such as access and teaching quality. Addressing these issues is vital for NEP 2020's success in higher education. Unified action from all involved is needed for this

plan to work. The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 brings fresh ideas to school tests and grading. Teachers now check student learning as it happens, not just at the end. Classrooms should use tests that help students grow and change. NEP 2020 mixes normal class time with online lessons. Students can learn at their own speed this way. The policy pushes for free learning tools for everyone. It also wants learning to fit each student's needs. NEP 2020 suggests different ways to test students. These include group projects, acting, and students grading themselves and each other. Report cards are new, so parents can better see their child's progress. States should use computers to watch how students are doing.

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