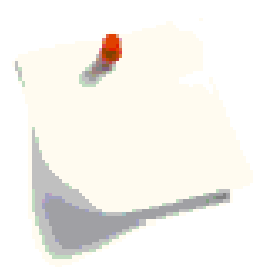


Editorial



NEP 2025: What's New and Where Do Library Professionals Stand?

The New Education Policy (NEP) 2025 is an extension and refinement of the NEP 2020, focusing on holistic learning, digital integration, and vocational training to align education with 21st century needs. It aims to create a more inclusive, flexible, and skill-oriented educational system. Key aspects include a revised curriculum structure (5+3+3+4), increased emphasis on vocational education, and a move away from the traditional 10+2 structure. The policy also emphasizes experiential and digital learning, with a focus on teacher training to effectively implement these changes.

1. Key Features and Changes in NEP 2025:

- **Revised Curriculum Structure:**
The traditional 10+2 structure is replaced with a 5+3+3+4 structure, corresponding to different developmental stages of children.
 - *Foundational Stage (5 years):* Focus on activity-based learning.
 - *Preparatory Stage (3 years):* Development of literacy and numeracy skills.
 - *Middle Stage (3 years):* Subject-focused learning and introduction to STEM.
 - *Secondary Stage (4 years):* Multidisciplinary studies, critical thinking, and career-oriented subjects.
- **Increased Focus on Vocational Education:** NEP 2025 integrates vocational training and practical skill learning, making students “life-ready”.
- **No Detention Policy Amended:** The “No Detention Policy” is updated, allowing for evaluation and potential detention after Class 5 or 8 if students don’t meet minimum learning standards, even with extra support.
- **Double Class 10 Board Exams:** Students are given two chances to appear for the Class 10 board exams within a single year.
- **Experiential and Digital Learning:** NEP 2025 promotes blended learning, integrating technology into classrooms.
- **Emphasis on Foundational Literacy and Numeracy:** The policy aims to achieve universal foundational literacy and numeracy in primary schools by 2025.
- **Holistic Development:** NEP 2025 focuses on holistic development, including critical thinking, creativity, and problem-solving abilities.
- **Multilingual Approach:** The policy encourages multilingualism and aims to promote the use of mother tongue in education.
- **Revised Assessment:** Assessments are designed to focus on thinking, creativity, and problem-solving rather than rote memorization.

2. Implementation and Future Goals:

- NEP 2025 aims to achieve 100% Gross Enrollment Ratio (GER) in school education by 2030.
- It envisions making India a global knowledge hub by 2047 (Viksit Bharat 2047).
- Teacher training programs are emphasized to ensure effective implementation of digital and 21st century teaching methods.

3. Where Do Library Professionals Stand?

The New Education Policy 2025 places significant emphasis on experiential learning, digital integration, vocational training, foundational literacy, and holistic education. This shift opens critical avenues for library professionals to redefine their roles not just as custodians of books, but as knowledge facilitators, digital navigators, and learning partners.

- *Learning Partners:* Librarians will actively support foundational, activity-based, and experiential learning through curated resources and collaboration with educators.
- *Digital Literacy Enablers:* As digital tools and blended learning expand, library professionals must guide students and staff in navigating e-resources and digital platforms.
- *Vocational and Skill Support:* Libraries will support vocational and practical education by providing access to career materials, guides, and hands-on learning resources.
- *Promoters of Literacy and Multilingualism:* Libraries play a key role in promoting foundational literacy and multilingual education by offering diverse reading materials and programs.
- *Professionals in Transition:* Continuous upskilling in digital tools, pedagogy, and knowledge services is essential for librarians to align with NEP 2025's transformative vision.

In this transformative phase of education, library professionals are not on the sidelines—they are at the heart of the change. Their evolving role will be pivotal in bridging learning gaps, fostering digital empowerment, and ensuring equitable access to knowledge for all.

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Best Wishes

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