



# SLC (University of Delhi) Shyam Lal College

## A REPORT ON NATIONAL STUDENT SEMINAR

*organized by*

**IQAC & UBA**

*jointly with*

**Shiksha Sanskriti Utthan Nyas**

**NEP 2020 – A NEW PARADIGM TO EMPOWER INDIA**

16 Feb 2021

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The Unnat Bharat Abhiyaan (UBA) and Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) of SLC in collaboration with Shiksha Sanskriti Utthan Nyas (SSUN) organized a National Student Seminar on “NATIONAL EDUCATION POLICY (NEP) 2020 – A NEW PARADIGM TO EMPOWER INDIA”. The seminar was conducted on the auspicious occasion of Basant Panchami, February 16, 2021 in the College Conference Centre with 100 participants physically present in the college (including faculty and students) and over 1500 participants joined on virtual platform Zoom and Facebook. The Seminar comprised of an Inaugural Session, one Plenary Session and three Parallel Sessions with students’ paper presentations. The seminar was inaugurated by Shri. Atul Kothari Ji (National Secretary, Shiksha Sanskriti Utthan Nyas) with Prof. P.C. Joshi (Acting Vice Chancellor, University of Delhi) as the Guest of Honour and Prof. Balaram Pani (Dean of Colleges, University of Delhi), Prof. V.K Kaul (Senior Professor, Department of Finance and Business Economics, University of Delhi), Prof. Kumar Suresh (NIEPA, Delhi), Dr. Debasis Dash (Principal Scientist, CSIR-IGIB) as the distinguished guests and speakers.

The Seminar was intended to focus on NEP 2020 to build an intellectual, socially aware, informed and skilled nation that can inspire the people so as to make the country self-reliant and reclaim the position of Vishwa Guru. The Seminar offered an opportunity to all the stakeholders to come forward and interact with experts and make suggestions. The event was also graced by Prof. R.K Gupta, Principal, PGDAV College, University of Delhi, Prof. Vipin Aggarwal, Principal Sri Aurobindo College, University of Delhi, Shri Arun Kumar Sharma (Arwachin International Group of Schools), Shri Sanjay Swami (Educationist, National Secretary Environment, Sanskriti Uthaan Nyas), Advocate Mukesh Bhardwaj (Educationist, Administration and legal Services, Dharm Jagran Manch, Delhi). The seminar had received 50 papers from students from the educational institution from states like Assam, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Punjab, Maharashtra and many more. Dr. Kusha Tiwari (Convenor, IQAC, SLC) introduced the theme, purpose and structure of the seminar. Prof. Rabi Narayan Kar, Principal, SLC (University of Delhi) Shyam Lal College gave the Welcome Address and thanked the Chief Guest Shri Kothari ji for coming to the college physically to grace the inaugural session of the seminar. Talking about the NEP, he said, it employs an inclusive approach for development of all. Further, he explained that the NEP 2020 opens wider gates for the students to pursue variety of subjects to blend their professional goals and passions. He also highlighted how the NEP 2020 keeps us connected to our past, our values that form the core of Indianness while we stretch our wings and try new avenues of the future.

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He further maintained that this policy document is substantive as it lays emphasis on practical learning rather than merely relying on rote learning. He congratulated the Unnat Bharat Abhiyan and the IQAC team and the convener Dr. Kusha Tiwari for the novel initiative of involving students through the means of the seminar as they are an important target group of the NEP 2020.

Shri Atul Kothari Ji, National Secretary, Shiksha Sanskriti Utthan Nyas, elaborated that Indian educational system has a policy that centers on its core values and principles after 150 years. He further informed the audience that the document on educational policy has come by conducting wider consultations with stakeholders from various strata of the society residing in villages, cities and janjati (tribal) areas of the country. Explaining the core impetus of NEP 2020, he deliberated that it wants to do away with contradictions and wants to promote thoughts and intellect rooted in Indianness. He further expanded on the NEP being student centric policy that has multiple level entry and exit points. The academic bank of credits (ABC) earned can be utilized for further studies without having to start all over again. He further mentioned about the online learning facility in respective mother tongues/local languages of the student/s. The NEP has a provision to set up National Research Foundation to promote research at higher levels of education. Shri Kothari ji further emphasized that the NEP is for the people of India and its' core agenda is to address and solve the existing problems in the Indian Education system.

Prof. P C Joshi, Vice-Chancellor (Acting), University of Delhi talked about how NEP is a new paradigm and new hope for the education in India. He also emphasized that, as facilitated by the NEP 2020, students are empowered to take as many courses as they want to, depending on their professional goals and personal interest. He observed that the initiatives such as Central University Common Admission Test is a progressive step that adopts more acceptable and more progressive steps in admitting students to various courses at the university level. Prof. Balaram Pani also laid emphasis on achievement of inclusion and multidisciplinary.

The Inaugural session was followed by the Plenary Session in which Prof. V K Kaul, Prof. Kumar Suresh and Dr. Debashish Das expressed their views in the Panel discussion highlighting purposes, objectives and features and the need of the NEP 2020 in the present context. Prof. V K Kaul talked about the independent principles such as purpose, content, process, structure and governance enshrined in the NEP document.

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highlighting purposes, objectives and features and the need of the NEP 2020 in the present context. Prof. V K Kaul talked about the independent principles such as purpose, content, process, structure and governance enshrined in the NEP document. Talking about NEP 2020, Prof. Kumar Suresh observed that as vision document, the new education policy is loaded with a lot of promises and transformative agenda. Further he noted that it will surely make India a global knowledge power. Eminent Scientist, Prof. Debashish Das expressed his views on how the NEP 2020 provides an avenue to students to pick courses that they are interested in, thereby honoring the principles of specialization as well as multidisciplinary. The students' participation was overwhelming and over fifty papers were received from all over the country. Students from Assam, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Punjab, Uttarakhand, Manipur, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, etc. zealously presented their views and presentations. They presented their views based on their area, creativity, concepts, speech and context of their respective experiences. It's noteworthy to mention that the students were keenly involved in the process as the key stakeholders in terms of comprehending the impact of NEP. Students' observations and their expectations from the NEP would be considered by the College Task Force in the near future.

*The main takeaways from the Seminar which shall have impact on implementation of NEP 2020 are as follow:*

1. Formation of Institutional Task Force for implementation of NEP 2020 at the earliest where all the stakeholders need to be taken onboard.
2. Optimum utilization of existing Institutional resources need to be channelized for reaching out to large mass of students for effective roll out of NEP 2020.
3. Establishment of Centre for Holistic Development in Institutions for connecting young generation to our rich past, our values that form the core of Indianness while we stretch our wings and try new avenues of the future. Emphasis is to be on developing good citizens by recognizing, identifying and fostering unique capabilities in students so as to engage them in productive tasks contributing to the nation building.
4. Experiential learning is the hallmark of the NEP, so emphasis should be on integrating the vocational education, skill development, compulsory internship and apprenticeship in the courses of study.

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5. Developing an institutional mechanism for connecting with local industry/trading centers for promoting a culture of innovation and atmanirbharta which is in sync with the vision of practical learning rather than rote learning.
6. Emphasis on multidisciplinary research should be rooted in India's rich, diverse ancient culture and achievements that connect our past to realize futuristic objectives.
7. There has to be synergy between school education and higher education institutions. Therefore, there is a need for doing away with the idea of treating knowledge in fragments rather aim should be to adopt the approach of envisioning knowledge as an integrated whole. To achieve these, teachers in higher education and those at the school level education must collaborate, co-create, co-share and plan out pedagogy for the benefit of learners.
8. There is a need to build bigger universities promoting multidisciplinary teaching and research and consolidate such institutions for effective outcomes in the long run.
9. It is pertinent to note that the principles of specialization and multidisciplinary need to be integrated at teacher recruitment also.
10. For promoting Indian languages and indigenous knowledge traditions, practical approaches to teaching and learning must be established through translating standard books on various disciplines into Indian languages for effective transmission of knowledge.

The Seminar concluded with a formal vote of thanks wherein the organizing team thanked the Chief Guest, Shri Atul Kothari ji, all the distinguished guests and speakers, faculty members, students, participants and organizing committee for their endeavors. NEP aims at sharpening the skills of a student to make him/her more self-reliant and efficient to serve the futuristic national and social aspirations of emerging new India. Most importantly, the core emphasis of NEP is on a paradigm shift from abstract learning that breeds stagnancy and irrelevance to practical pedagogy in tandem with core values of Indian tradition that connect with the present ensuring better future for all.

Dr. Kusha Tiwari  
Coordinator, IQAC

Prof. Rabi Narayan Kar  
Principal

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