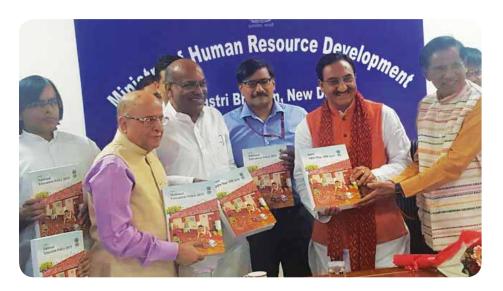


Connect

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New Education Policy to Include Community Engagement, Experiential Learning and Rural Education



The New Education Policy brings with it sweeping changes that ring in positive tides for the country. Setting up of Societal Contribution Council or Community Engagement Council by Higher Educational Institutions will make them contribute to local communities and broader society effectively. These councils will be resourced with relevant people and the faculty will be expected to contribute in these efforts through their expertise which will form a part of their evaluation. An improved teacher education and experiential learning within each subject will be emphasized inspite of introduction of more specialized subjects. Interactive classrooms are the USP of experiential learning. Various livelihoods and lifeskills (such as gardening, pottery, woodwork, electric work, and many others) -

vocational training at base levels taught at elementary level, will make students inculcate interest in these as professions well before finishing high school. Schools have the option of choosing a subset of livelihoods and related skills that are of value to the local community. The local artisans and practitioners will be the tutors which means learning from the masters themselves!

The curriculum needs to be adapted to local environments with a distributed model of curriculum creation. The experiential component of vocational education needs to be assessed by the SKP, and the remaining by the educational institution and/or the BOA. A suitable framework needs to be worked out by the NCIVE, in conjunction with PSSCIVE and State-level institutions and BOA.

Empowering students by giving them greater freedom in choosing courses is a great stress reliever. It reduces the curriculum content load, allows for better and nuanced understanding, analysis, and discussion in mandated curriculum, and will also give room for students to explore out of curriculum subjects. This will allow students to have more flexibility in choosing their courses, especially in secondary school. The options will make them choose their preferences in study and later in careers also.

Students learn through own experiences, interests, and self-reflections. The wall between and "vocational" and "academic" streams needs to be downed as students will have the opportunity of developing both kinds of capacities. The fostering of respect for all professions needs to be inculcated at early stages so that there is no bias later in life.

Each of the rural areas that are educationally disadvantaged will have an HEI offering high quality vocational education integrated with undergraduate programmes that also will work with schools, ITIs and/or polytechnics within their regions to support the vocational education until Grade 12.

The draft of the new Education Policy has been handed over to Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal, the country's new Human Resource Development (HRD) minister by the committee that was formed in 2017 and led by the former ISRO Chief Dr. K Kasturirangan.

National Education Policy strives to promote progressive educational reforms. It also recommends foreign varsities to set up India campuses. The salient features of the new National Education Policy include completely overhauling board examinations, removing distinctions between different streams of study, giving more freedom to choose subjects and learn in the vernacular languages, changes to training of teachers, school fees regulation, and a new four-year multidisciplinary liberal arts undergraduate course. A National Commission for education headed by Hon. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi is also one of the recommended key changes as part of India's next education policy.

The rote method will be replaced by more practical teaching and assessment methods. "Curriculum and pedagogy are transformed by 2022 in order to minimise rote learning and instead encourage holistic development and 21st century skills such as critical thinking, creativity, scientific temper, communication, collaboration, multilingualism, problem solving, ethics, social responsibility, and digital literacy", the draft says. The panel, while downplaying the coaching centre culture that increases stress levels, vouches for a flexible system spread over the four years between grades IX and XII in which students can take a board examination in a subject in the semester they study in. Students can also be allowed to retake tests when computer based adaptive test can be rolled

The panel has also given a call for regulatory changes where bodies like UGC, not only distribute funds but enforce regulations. Setting up a national higher education regulatory authority for a higher education and similar bodies for schools is envisioned. The Right to Education Act needs to also cover secondary education calling for availability of free and compulsory quality secondary education for all students by 2030. The four year integrated State Specific B.Ed program will eventually be the minimum degree qualification for teachers.

"Indian contribution to knowledge and the historical context that led to them will be incorporated wherever relevant in to existing school curriculum and text books" policy draft reads.

In the medical field, a common exit examination for the MBBS is proposed (just as the NEET has been introduced as a common entrance examination for the MBBS). This will double up as

Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA) aims to link higher education institutions with atleast five villages, so that they can contribute to economic and social growth. It is a two-way learning process, in which institutions and villages – both gain from mutual knowledge sharing. The mission of UBA is to enable higher education institutions to work with the people of rural India in identifying development challenges and evolving appropriate solutions for accelerating sustainable growth. UBA is a dream mission of Central Government under the Ministry of Human Resource Development to transform the technology available in premier institutions of higher education for the progress of rural areas through involvement of faculty and students by working in coordination with the local government. IIT-New Delhi is the designated National Coordinating Institution (NCI) and 40 premier institutions including IITs, NITs, NITTTRs, Central Universities and Agricultural Universities across the country were identified also the entrance examination for admission into postgraduate programmes and students will be relieved of the burden of studying for a separate, competitive entrance examination at the end of their residency period thus utilizing their time for learning other core skills. Similarly, dental and other disciplines also can have such common exit examinations.

The four-year B.Ed programme will become the minimal degree qualification for school teachers by 2030. The teaching profession needs to be constantly upgraded and hence all preservice teacher education programmes will be offered only in multidisciplinary higher educational institutions to satisfy the modern requirements of the teaching profession. This will expose teachers to multidiscipline and make them more effective and competitive.

Government will support establishment of high quality education departments and teacher education programmes. HEIs will develop holistic teacher education programmes based on their academic subject strengths and also specialised areas. Teachers will also be motivated to teach, apart from pedagogy and curriculum, subjects such as sociology, history, science, philosophy, psychology, early childhood education, foundational literacy and numeracy, knowledge of India and its values/ethos/art/traditions, and more. The B.Ed. programme will be a dual-major liberal Bachelor's degree, in education as well as a specialised subject (such as a language, or history, music, mathematics, computer science, chemistry, economics, etc.). For students who already have done their Bachelors degree but are desirous of pursuing teaching profession, each HEI offering the four-year integrated B.Ed. may also design a twoyear B.Ed. on its campus. Other niche, specific and customized B.Ed. programmes may be developed by the HEIs for unusually highly qualified individuals with an inclination towards teaching.

MGNCRE has done instrumental work in building rural resilience including rural community engagement and Nai Talim-Experiential Learning. I also take this moment to remember and salute late Dr. T. Karunakaran, who had been a Nai Talim and Experiential Learning soldier throughout his life. His relentless efforts are now bearing fruit. That the New Education Policy focuses on Community Engagement, Experiential Learning and Rural Education makes our efforts all the more significant.

Dr. W G Prasanna Kumar

Chairman, MGNCRE

as Regional Coordinating Institutions (RCIs). MGNCRE is one of the select 40 nation wide RCIs. The first meeting of NCI with RCIs was held this year on 6th March. NCI also convened a webinar on 3rd May with all Nodal officers of RCIs. I am happy that MGNCRE has participated enthusiastically and has pledged to adhere to UBA's mission and vision.

The new education policy now stresses on collaborative and experiential learning in teacher education, which MGNCRE has been advocating vigorously. It is heartening to note that teaching and learning will strive to be conducted in a more interactive manner with question-answer sessions and classrooms will be more creative, collaborative, exploratory, practical and more importantly fun and experiential.

Dr. Bharat Pathak

Vice Chairman, MGNCRE

Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA) - the Way Forward

Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA) is a flagship program of MHRD, Government of India to involve higher education institutes of the country for indigenous development of self sufficient and sustainable village clusters for inclusive India. MGNCRE is the Regional Coordinating Institute (RCI) aiming to collaborate with the Participating Institutions in facilitating technical orientation programmes for Rural Community Engagement. The structured UBA Program Activities and material developed by MGNCRE including learning about community engagement are manifold as subsequently students learn relevant participatory practices, exploring rural realities and life-skills. They also benefit from internships. Our mission is to identify and finalise the Institutions that would align themselves to incorporate UBA Activities in a structured way with support from MGNCRE.

Key Action Points

Institutions adopt five villages, contribute to economic and social betterment of these village communities using their Knowledge base, engage faculty and students of higher educational institutions in understanding rural realities, and Identify and select existing innovative technologies, and enable customization of technologies or devise implementation methods for innovative solutions. Technical educational institutions will contribute to devising systems for smooth implementation of various Government Programs. Institutions through their faculty and students, will carry out studies of living conditions in adopted villages, assess local problems and needs, workout possibilities of leveraging technological interventions and need to improve processes in implementation of various government schemes, prepare workable action plans for the selected villages.



An interactive Webinar was held at MGNCRE on 3rd May with Regional Coordinating Institutions (RCIs). UBA is a dream mission of Central Government under Ministry of HRD to transform the technology available in

premier institutions of higher education for the progress of rural areas through involvement of faculty and students by working in coordination with the local government. In this regard IIT-New Delhi has been designated as the National Coordinating Institution (NCI) and 40 premier institutions like IITs, NITs, NITTTRs, Central Universities and Agricultural Universities across the country were identified as Regional Coordinating Institutions (RCIs). They were selected as RCIs basing on their previous performance and infrastructural competence. MGNCRE is one of those 40 nation wide RCIs and one of the three RCIs in Telangana state. The first meeting with RCIs this year was held on 6th March 2019. In the webinar the Nodal coordinator Prof. Veerendra K.Vijay interacted with the Nodal officers of RCIs and called for strengthening the UBA activities by encouraging the new enrollment of 25 PIs in every quarter through UBA portal following the due procedure.

Consultative Workshop – UNICEF-MGNCRE - on Capacity **Building for Mainstreaming Sustainable Development Goals** (SDGs) in University Curriculum in Telangana, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka

A consultative workshop with UNICEF was held on 21st May. Participants from UNICEF included Dr. Mahendra Rajaram, Sri Venkatesh Aralikatti, Sri P Narendra, Ms. Reeni Kurian and Ms. Geeta Krishna who shared their valuable inputs and UNICEF's vision and mission. Dr. W G Prasanna Kumar Chairman MGNCRE



welcomed the august gathering of participants, enlisting the purpose and agenda of the workshop, and set the tone for the deliberations. He emphasized that the proposed curriculum is the nation's first offering in Sustainable Developmental Goals (SDGs) at institutional levels. The Course in SDGs is the need of the hour. There is a burning need to motivate people to invest their time and resources in the core issues of Disaster Management and Sustainable Development. It is therefore crucial to make students taking this course feel enriched in their careers. The success of the first few batches could well be the turning point in the history of Indian Education. At the end of the Course, students should transform into confident, responsible, reflective, innovative individuals who are socially and intellectually engaged in environment management and bring in resilience for the good of humanity.



Dr. Mahendra Rajaram called for focus on the recently concluded Geneva Convention and Global Assessment Report on Disaster Management and Climate Change. SDG goals can be achieved through risk

reduction programmes. The challenge is to integrate the SDG goals into the curriculum. Ms. Reeni Kurian, with her expertise in international development, stressed upon the technology connect with SDGs. There is an interdependence among different sectors and the visibility is important. Of the 17 goals and 169 targets, we need to understand how we can integrate these into curriculum. Human capability is measured not just in terms of poverty but also in terms of deprivation beyond income / consumption. Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Officer Sri A Venkatesh was eloquent on the hazards and the possible ways of integration of WASH into the curriculum. He was happy that this platform could be utilized to push forth the agenda of Goal 6 SDG - ie, Water and Sanitation. He emphasized on the sustainability of water sanitation. There needs to be a major shift in goal setting to "Safely Managed Water and Sanitation". Subject matter expert, Sri P Narendra, who is water resources and safety expert and consultant, UNICEF, emphasized on safety planning. Swajal programme is an area of his work. There needs to be a strong foundation for students to understand risk reduction and the SDGs. Ms. Geeta Krishna, Knowledge Management Consultant with UNICEF (WASH), spoke on vision management, WASH Innovations, equity in tribal areas and capacity building. Without knowledge transfer how much ever spending is done is waste of money. A multi disciplinary approach is required for development Transaction of the curriculum is key element, of curriculum. she emphasized. MGNCRE's work as Unnat Bharat Abhiyaan's (UBA) Regional Coordinating Institute (RCI) for Telangana state (currently 10 districts) will help in intensive field testing of the initiative.

UNICEF Workshop on Guidance for Risk Informed Programming (GRIP), Hyderabad

GRIP workshop organized by UNICEF and Telangana Government

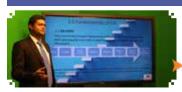


Chief of UNICEF Hyderabad Ms. Meital Rusdia addressed the participants and guests. She spoke on the major risks and hazards that occurred in India with special reference to Telangana state. Chief Guest Shri Rajeshwar Tiwari, Spl. Chief

Secretary of Revenue dept. Telangana State advised the organizers and participants to strengthen the Disaster management system in Telangana. He also called for focusing on the precautions to save lives and property. Mr. Sarabjit, ICO, UNICEF New Delhi discussed about child centered risks. Mr. Lars Bernd, Chief of Disaster Risk and Resilience section, ICO UNICEF addressed the natural hazards and mitigating the risks faced by human society, specially by children and women. Dr. Mahendra Rajaram, Coordinator, Mr. Amal Krishna, and Mr. Xavier reviewed the agenda and objectives of the workshop. Mr. Shaik Meera CEO, Telangana State Development Planning Society, presented a video on "Risk Impacts on Women and Children in Telangana - Exposure and Vulnerability". He also gave detailed picture of climatic conditions of Telangana. Mr. Vikas and Ms. Prashanthi gave a presentation on "The World through the Eye of a Child". Group work sessions were conducted and presentations made on the topics including Heat Waves, Drought, Industrial Waste, Floods and Urban Floods. MGNCRE team including Ms. Sarvani Pandey and Mr. Prabhaker Banala presented a report on Heatwaves based on the data provided in the workshop after discussing at length in the group. A short film on "Risks that Affect Children and How do the Risks Relate to Existing Deprivation" was screened.

The GRIP provides a methodology for country offices and partners to analyse risks and adjust programming or develop new programming to respond to the analysis.

The e-Learning Centre at MGNCRE is going full swing with subject matter and industry experts recording their talks -



Prof Kurien Jose, Professor, Anna University spoke on "Waste to Energy" 11th May



Dr. Lenin Babu spoke on Cost of Non-management of Solid and Liquid Waste Management 7th May

Mr. Sourabh Manuja Fellow TERI spoke on EIA 11th May



Dr. Leon Raj, Scientist CSIR NEIST voicing his expertise on "Waste Management Banks" 14th May



Uttar Pradesh

One Day workshop on Experiential Learning - Gandhiji's Nai Talim in **VBS Purvanchal University Jaunpur UP 21st May**

Dr. Arun Kumar Singh, Ex. Principal, T.D.P.G. College, Jaunpur was



the Chief Guest. Other delegates included Dr. Narendra Kumar Singh, Principal, R.H.S. Mahavidyalay, Singramau, Jaunpur

(President), and Dr. Samar Bahadur Singh, H.O.D. Faculty of Education, T.D.P.G. College, Jaunpur (Guest of Honour), and Dr. Jai Kumar Mishra, Co-ordinator, Gandhi Study Centre, R.H.S. Mahavidyalay, Singramau, Jaunpur (Resource Person). Dr. Anil Kumar Dubey was MGNCRE's resource person. Dr. Arun Kumar Singh explained in detail the personality and philosophy of Mahatma Gandhi. Dr. Jai Kumar Mishra said in his note that we need to return to valuable education. The education philosophy of Gandhiji is the inclusion of truth, non-violence and work. Dr. Samar Bahadur Singh emphasized on what changes are needed and how to implement it in practical terms. He expects the policymakers to focus on the challenges of the practical field by focusing on the need for a change in the curriculum. He said that if education does not create a nation, such education cannot be of value. In his Presidential address Dr. Narendra Kumar Singh,



Principal of the college, said that the soul of India is in the villages and value education will improve mostly in villages by following Gandhiji and that Nai Talim is the education of social change. The purpose of this education is to provide educational, social and economic development to all. Development of responsible citizens will be possible only with the education of total vision. 25 teachers from different colleges participated in this workshop.

Rajasthan

Workshop on Nai Talim in Mohan Lal Sukhadia University Udaipur – 27th May



Faculty of Education, MLSU, Udaipur and MGNCRE organised a one day Workshop "Nai Talim Experiential Learning Community Engagement" on 27th May with 32 participants from Teacher

Education Institutes of MLSU, Udaipur. Dr Alpana Singh, Head, Department of Education, Faculty of Education, MLSU, Udaipur was the Co-coordinator of the workshop. The workshop was inaugurated by Prof J.P. Sharma, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, MLSU. Prof C. R. Suthar, Chairman, Faculty of Education, MLSU welcomed the guests and participants. Dr Anil Kumar Dubey, Senior Faculty Member, MGNCRE, and Coordinator of the workshop briefed the participants about the objectives of the workshop. Prof J. P. Sharma expressing his concern about disconnect between living, life and learning, said that Education brings joy in life and results in harmonious development. Dr. Kumud Purohit, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Education, MLSU handled the first session where peace building and community engagement exercises based on lesson modules developed by Dr S. Kuladaisamy were performed by participants in five groups. Dr. Munmun Sharma oriented participants about Nai Talim - An approach to inculcate Values through group activities. The groups were distributed motivational content, poems, prayers related to Gandhiji's life. Dr Sapna Mawatwal discussed Nai Talim: Gandhian Philosophy of Education. She displayed an inspirational movie documentary "Ek Koshish". During the session participants discussed how the present education system is quite different from the Gandhian Education Philosophy: Nai Talim? What are the drawbacks and what steps should be taken? Participants were also shown a documentary titled Nai Talim- a Film on Anand Niketan.



Karnataka Workshop on Nai Talim at University of Mysore 6th May



The workshop had 36 participants. The Chief Guest was Prof. Ningamma C. Betsur, Professor, Department of Studies in Education. She briefed the audience about the purpose of the workshop. She said that many teachers are just passing on the information to students and not teaching them, but true learning can take place only through experience and this would be demonstrated in today's workshop. She opined that learning should involve cognitive, affective and psychomotor domains. MGNCRE resource person Dr. B. Divakar informed the audience about the mission of the workshop. All the members of the group were involved in discussion and chart preparation. One member of the group presented on assigned chapter of Experiential Learning by MGNCRE to all the participants.



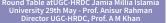
West Bengal

Roundtables were held at HRDC Jadavpur University, Salt Lake Campus, Kolkata 3rd May, Moulana Abul Kalam Azad University of Technology, Kolkata, 6th May, HRDC Burdwan University 7th May, Enterprise Development Institute Kolkata 13th to 16th May, Diamond Harbour Women's University, Sarisha South 24 Paraganas 25th May, Netaji Subhas Open University, Kolkata 29th May.











Haryana

Workshop - Indira Gandhi University, Meerpur, Rewari, Haryana 24th May



Hon.Vice Chancellor Professor S Gakhar inaugurated the workshop and welcomed collaboration with MGNCRE. He urged

the participants to participate actively in the workshop and come up with a community engagement curriculum that will benefit the student teachers and school students of the state. He also welcomed integration of Gandhian ideology revolving around ability, confidence building, tolerance and skills in the present education system. There were also discussions on conducting faculty development programmes so as to implement NaiTalim at all levels of education in the state. MGNCRE Resource Person Dr. Shatrughan Bhardwaj shared the background and the objectives of the programme and the one day workshop. This was followed by a discussion on the Nai Talim curriculum customisation for their department and proposed dates for Faculty Development programme.





Roundtable at Gurugram University Gurugram





Punjab



Madhya Pradesh



Jammu & Kashmir





Sikkim





Roundtables



Andhra Pradesh





Roundtable meeting at Gayatri Vidya Parishad College of Engineering, Visakhapatnam with Dr.S.Atchutaramam, Dean of Academic Programs, Y.C.V.Kondaiah, Asst. Professor and UBA Coordinator 29th May











Telangana



g at VNR Vignana Jyothi Engineering & Technology Bachupally with Principal and UBA







UBA 18th May JNTUH Vidya Vikas Institute
of Technology Dr. J. Sasi Kiran UBA





ndtable meeting with Dr. Vaka Murali Mohan, Principal and UBA Coordinator CH V Krishna Mohan o Malla Reddy College of Engineering for Women



UBA meetings were also held at JNTUH Annamacharya Institute Of Technology & Sciences with P.V.Krishna Murthy, Principal Dr. K. Sunder Kumar, UBA Coordinator 17th May, MVSR Engineering College with Principal Dr. G Kanaka Durga 16th May, JNTUH Malla Reddy Institute Of Engineering And Technology with Dr. Rajesha Narasimha Murthy, UBA, NSS Coordinator 7th May, JNTUH Malla Reddy Engineering College with T. Sanjeeva Rao UBA Coordinator, Malla Reddy Engineering College 6th May.







People Speak about MGNCRE

I am delighted to be part of curriculum development. Very thankful to MGNCRE for giving me this opportunity. Dr. Aruna Sonawane, Symbiosis Open Skills University, Mumbai

It is a pleasure to interact with MGNCRE. I am very happy to be associated with MGNCRE in the form of developing curriculum and hope to associate further in the future. Dr. Deepthi Sharma, Founder Director, Terra Nero Environmental Solutions Pvt. Ltd.

Working with MGNCRE was unique, a different flight of order. Very systematic approach, clear communications and very efficient and it was really wonderful working with the team. Dr. Anupma Harshal, Scientist and Consultant, MHRD



Mahatma Gandhi National Council of Rural Education

Department of Higher Education

Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India

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