

Minutes of Meeting.

One day State Level Workshop on National Consultation on New Education Policy held on 7th August, 2015 at Hotel Peterhoff Shimla under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Additional Chief Secretary (Education) to the Government of Himachal Pradesh.

During the workshop on Consultation on New Education Policy elaborate discussions were held about the New Education Policy which is being framed at the National Level. Details/minutes of which are as hereunder:-

- About one hundred participants participated in this workshop.
- All the participants were welcomed by Dr.Tilak Raj (Associate Professor) of SCERT Solan.
- At the very outset the participants gave their introduction and most of the participants were college Principals, Principals DIETs, Deputy Directors of Higher & Elementary Education, BEEO and some other associate professor from SCERT Solan and also the officials from other departments.
- Dr. B.L Vinta Jt. DHE(C-II) initiated the discussion on New Education Policy.
- Dr. B.L Vinta Jt. DHE(C-II) talked about various education policies which were in vogue from time to time.
- All the participants were of the view that the basic tenet of New Education Policy should be '**Bottom to Top**' unlike earlier policies which were based on **Top to Bottom** approach.
- Young and visionary Sh. D.C Rana Additional Secretary (Education) to the Govt. of Himachal Pradesh talked and discussed in details about New Education Policy to be framed at the National Level.
- Director Higher Education has been designated as Nodal Officer at the state level whereas; Deputy Directors Higher Education will be Nodal Officers at the respective District Level and BEEOs are Nodal Officer at Block Level.
- The Process of consultation has to start from Panchayat Level upwards and resolutions passed by each Panchayat will be uploaded on the website.

- The basic aim and object of New Education Policy is to prepare the citizens for 21st Century.
- The detailed and elaborate discussion was held on thirteen theme for school education and twenty themes for higher education.
- The worthy Additional Chief Secretary of Education specifically talked about the need of quality education. He talked about the Indian Education in international perspective and compared the parameters of education especially with China.
- Worthy Additional Chief Secretary of Education told the participants that in H.P almost every child is enrolled in school which is better than other states of the Union.
- The worthy Additional Chief Secretary of Education specifically cited the example of “**APPLE**” company how it progressed and attained such heights as well as also talked about the rise of various other such companies. He told the participants that education is very important for each individual, family and the society at large.
- The worthy Additional Chief Secretary of Education said that all the departments have stake in education. He also appreciated the role of NIC.
- He also stressed the need to enroll more and more students in higher education and to ensure quality education to all the students.
- Worthy Additional Chief Secretary of Education highlighted the fact that the progress of a nation is directly proportional to the quality of the education.
- Worthy Additional Chief Secretary of Education told the participants that inequalities in education lead to many serious problems in the society.
- He talked about some salient points of 1986 policies and its review which was done in the year 1992.
- Dr. Tilak Raj (Associate Professor SCERT Solan) talked about the themes of school education.
- Worthy Additional Secretary (Education) Sh. D.C. Rana told the participants that New Education Policy should ensure inclusive education for all and the basic approach of the policy should be “**Bottom to Top**”.

- New Education Policy should be such as to promote research innovations so as to make India the Superpower of Knowledge in the time to come.
- In the workshop discussion was also held about ICT and its role in imparting education. ICT enables teaching learning process and make it more interesting and meaningful.
- Discussion was also held about the role of ICT in education of Children with special needs.
- State Project Director Sh. Ghanshyam stressed that the contents of the syllabus/curriculum all over the country should be same and it should include all the topics regarding which questions are asked in the various examinations of national level.
- **Twenty Themes of Higher Education**, were discussed in details during the meeting. Special emphasis/ suggestions were made to develop abilities and capacities in students so as to enable them to carry out complex activities and the day to day chores and develop in them the interpersonal skills.
- During the meeting Sh. R P Chopra Principal G C Dharamshala talked on the ranking of Higher Education Institutions and Accreditations.
- Sh. Yog Raj Singh from GCTE Dharamshala presented his viewpoints on Pace Setting Roles of Central Institutes.
- Sh. Krishan Vaidya, Principal G C Nehri presented his views on Integrating Skill Development in Higher Education & on Improving the Quality of Regulation.
- Smt. Diksha Malhotra, Principal GC Nahan, talked in details on Linking Higher Education to Society.
- Sh. Arvind Sehgal, Principal G C Rewalsar, discussed regarding Promoting Research and Innovation in Higher Education.

- Dr. Ashok Awasthi, Principal, GC, Mandi, discussed in details regarding Engagement with Industry to Link Education to Employability.
- Sh. Ashith Kumar, Principal, GC Dehri, spoke on the topic on New Knowledge.
- The others, Sh. Shashi Sood, Principal, GC Solan, Sh. Jagdish Lal, Principal, GC Ghumarwin, Sh. R.R. Chauhan, Principal, GC, Kotshera Shimla-4, Sh. R. Bhardwaj, Principal, GC Bilaspur and Sh. K.K. Banta, Principal, GC Shahpur expressed their suggestions through mails respectively on topics; Improving State Public Universities, Bridging Gender & Social Gaps, Developing the Best Teachers, Meaningful Partnership with the Private Sector and Financing Higher Education.
- All the learned participants held detailed discussions about the present education policy and most of the participants were of the view that at present the student who graduates as engineer, only two percent of them are skilled enough to find gainful employment anywhere and earn their livelihood.
- All the participants emphasized the need for imparting quality education and to develop employable skills in all the under graduate students.
- It was highlighted in the meeting that in the time to come there will be more number of young working people available in our country as compared to other developed countries.
- It was stressed during the discussions that it is the '**Quality of Work**' which is more important than the '**Quantity of Work**'.
- Detailed discussions were also held during the meeting regarding the newly introduced RUSA system.

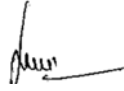
- Special reference was made by the participants to the recently introduced “**Skill India Programme**” launched by our Hon’ble Prime Minister.
- Need was felt during the discussions for inculcation of employable skills amongst the graduates so as to enable them to earn their livelihood.
- Dr. B.L Vinta Jt. DHE(C-II) stressed the need for strengthening the Vocational Education in Schools & Colleges.
- Dr. R.P Chopra Principal G.C Dharamshala talked about NAAC and told the participants that none of universities of India ranks among 200 top Global Universities which is a matter of great concern for all of us.
- Dr. R.P Chopra stressed the need for setting up quality assurance cell in all the colleges. He also stressed the need to inspire every body more particularly, the students to become good human beings.
- Participants discussed about the academic teaching learning process and the available facilities and students participation in co-curricular activities so as to ensure their all round development.
- All the participants stressed the need for better and proper co-ordination among the colleges & universities.
- It was felt during the discussions that syllabus needs to be revised in every three years as per need of the society from time to time.
- Better correlation in Primary, Middle and Higher Education was stressed by all the participants so as to achieve the overall objectives of education.
- Teacher student ratio should be as per the established norms in this regard for which more teachers need to be appointed.

- Society especially the parents of the students should give feedback about the education being imparted in the colleges/schools.
- It was felt by all the participants that **Earn and Learn** concept should be encouraged in the institutions of higher learning.
- All the participants felt the needs for establishment of placement cell in every college.
- Pace setting institutions of higher education should be established and these institutions should serve as trendsetters.
- Need based and choice based system of education should be encouraged in all the institutions of higher learning.
- Thrust areas should be identified and mobility of research scholars from one institution to other institutions should be encouraged.
- Self Knowledge of good point and weaknesses should be critically analyzed.
- During the discussion need was felt for such a education system/policy which ensures 100% employability of the students.
- During the discussion Dr. B. L. Vinta Joint Director of Higher Education, was of the opinion that pass percentage should be increased to 50% instead of 35% at present.
- During the discussion most of the participants assailed the decision recently taken by the Himachal Pradesh University whereby the percentage for admission in B.Ed Colleges has been lowered to 35% instead of 50%.
- Special need was felt by all the participants that intellectual development as well as social mobility be ensured amongst the student for which collective efforts are required from all the stakeholders.
- During the discussion, need was also felt to increase the gross enrollment of students in the institutions of higher learning.
- It was felt during the discussion that there is deterioration in the quality of education imparted nowadays. So it was felt that new education policy should be such that quality of the education is improved and maintained.
- Need was felt for more work on research and innovation.

- As we all know Education imparts knowledge whereas research generates knowledge and there should be research projects in PG level of education.
- All the participants stressed that need based and choice based search work should be encouraged. In this regard, it was felt that UGC, etc, should be approached for liberal grants in research work projects.
- Education should be such so as to understand the complex realities of the societies.
- Advancement in higher education ultimately leads to the upliftment of the society.
- There was unanimity among all the participants that curriculum should be defined in such a way so as to produce fruitful graduate. Students should be taught in such a way so as to apply the knowledge in their daily life which they have acquired through education.
- Need was felt for inculcation of moral values and ethics among students.
- Some of the participants gave the suggestions that colleges/schools should adopt various villages for upliftment.
- Education should be such that it ensures livelihood.
- Special need was felt for stopping the brain drain i.e. the migration of the good students to the other developed countries.
- Few other participants stressed the needs for NCC to be made compulsory in schools and colleges.
- All the participants held that all the student be groomed so as to acquire functional skills.
- Other participants held that moral education should be part of curriculum.
- All the participants specifically stressed that teaching profession be made lucrative and better pay scales be ensured for teachers.
- During the discussions need was felt to curb prevalent indiscipline amongst the colleges students.
- Worthy Addl. Secretary (Education) Sh. D.C Rana felt the need that UGC should be renamed. It should be named so as to clearly suggest that it is not merely a grant giving body but

has some bigger role such as regulating the functioning of all the Universities/ Colleges in the country.

- All the participants stressed the need for activity based teaching learning in the class-room.
- In the end, Dr. B.L.Vinta (Jt. DHE C-II) thanked all the participants for their valuable suggestions and thoughtful discussions.



(Dr. B.L. Vinta)
Joint Director of Higher Education(C),
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State Level Consultative Meeting on New National Educational Policy under the Chairmanship of Additional Chief Secretary (Education) to the Government of Himachal Pradesh on 07th August, 2015 at Hotel Peterhoff, Shimla at 11:00 A. M.

Attendance Sheet

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