

REPORT
ONE DAY NATIONAL WEBINAR

on

“National Education Policy, 2020: A Psychological Perspective”

10th August, 2021



Organized by:
Department of Psychology
Rajiv Gandhi University (A Central University),
Rono Hills, Doimukh – 791112
Arunachal Pradesh, India

Contents

Sl.	Topic	Page(s)
	Organizing Committee	2-4
	Acknowledgements	4
	Executive Summary	-
Part 1: Preface		
1.1.	About Host Institution	5
	- The University	5-6
	- Department/Institute/Centre	6
		6-7
1.2.	About the Sponsoring Agency (if any)	7
1.3.	Background	7
1.4.	Objectives	7
1.5.	Programme Outcomes	7-8
1.6.	Themes and Sub-themes	8
1.7.	Resource Persons	8
1.8.	Target Population	8
1.9.	Proposed Date of the webinar	8
1.10.	Budget	
1.11.	Mode of Operation	8
Part 2: Session Wise Deliberations		
2.1.	Inaugural Session	
2.2.	Plenary Sessions (if any)	8
2.3.	Technical Sessions	8
2.4.	Valedictory Session	9
		9
Part 3: Major Takeaways		
		9-10
3.1.	Academic Context	
3.2.	Research Context	10-11
3.3.	Policy Making and Practice Context	11
3.4.	Other (if any)	-
Part 4: Appendices & Annexure		
		12
	Annexure 1: Programme Schedule	
	Annexure 2: List of Participants	13-15
	Annexure 3: Photographs (if any)	15
	Annexure 4: Media Coverage	15
	Annexure 5: Other (if any)	-
Reference (if any)		

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

I express with innermost regard and sincerity, the sense of gratitude to our honourable Vice Chancellor, R.G.U, Prof. Saket Kushwaha for his constant guidance and support. I owe him Thanks for the way he has always encouraged me.

I also express my deepest gratitude to the Pro-Vice Chancellor, Prof. Amitava Mitra and the Registrar, Dr. N. T. Rikam, who always boosted my morale and has been a guide helping me through thick and thin. I am indebted to you both for your guidance.

I also extend my gratitude to Prof. Sandeep Kumar and Ms. Oinam Anuradha, for their time and valuable insight.

I must also thank my loving and dedicated colleagues, guest faculty members, research scholars and students for providing me with emotional and moral support; their cooperation and support can never be forgotten.

Dr. Dharmeshwari Lourembam

Organizing Convenor

PART 1: PREFACE

1.1 The University

Rajiv Gandhi University (formerly Arunachal University) is the premier institution for higher education in the state of Arunachal Pradesh located at the picturesque tabloid of Rono Hills approximately 25 km away from the state capital Itanagar. Late Smt. Indira Gandhi, the then Prime Minister of India, laid the foundation stone of the University on 4th February 1984 at Rono Hills. Ever since its inception, the University has been trying to achieve excellence and fulfill the objectives as envisaged in the University Act. The University was recognized as a Central University in the year 2007 established under the Act of Parliament. Being the only Central University of the State at present there are Twenty Six (26) Departments and Two (02) Institutes functioning under Nine (09) Academic Faculties. The Faculty members have been actively engaged in research activities. The University has been maintaining its academic excellence and individuals from its alumni group are contributing at significant positions not only in State and Central Government Services, but also in various Institutions, Industries and Organizations. The University has continuously maintained its premier status among top hundred (100) educational institutions in NIRF ranking across India.

About the Department of Psychology

The Department of Psychology was established in the year 2017 with two Assistant Professors. Currently the Department is running with four Assistant Professors and 3 Guest Assistant Professors.

Vision: The Department was set up to develop an awareness of the importance of studying human behaviour and the societal relevance of psychology. The Department offers M.A. Psychology which is of four semesters and the curriculum is so designed as to provide strong theoretical, methodological and contemporary knowledge of various areas of Psychology to the students. The purpose is to equip the students with knowledge, skills and values to become effective and competent professional psychologists. During the course, the students are taken for field visit at mental health centres and counselling cells besides interactive classroom teaching and laboratory training. Time to time extended lectures from experts in relevant field is also conducted. This academic training enables the students to work in a

broad range of settings such as medical, organization, counselling centres, NGOs, researchers and academicians. The department has also started offering PhD programme with 4 Research Scholars from the academic session of 2021.

1.2 Sponsoring Agency

The Program was sponsored by the Rajiv Gandhi University.

1.3 Background

The New Education Policy lays particular emphasis on the development of the creative potential of each individual. It is based on the principle that education must develop not only cognitive capacities - both the 'foundational capacities' of literacy and numeracy and 'higher-order' cognitive capacities, such as critical thinking and problem solving – but also social, ethical, and emotional capacities and dispositions. The entire education system is currently being reconfigured to support and foster learning, in order to achieve the critical targets and goals (SDGs) of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

In addition, there is an increase in demand for humanities and art to meet the local and global need of the country, as India moves towards becoming a developed country as well as among the three largest economies in the world imposing a heightened need for multidisciplinary learning.

India will have the highest population of young people in the world over the next decade, and our ability to provide high-quality educational opportunities to them will determine the future of our country. Education is fundamental for achieving full human potential, developing an equitable and just society, and promoting national development. Universal high-quality education is the best way forward for developing and maximizing our country's rich talents and resources for the good of the individual, the society, the country, and the world.

Today's educational system is dynamic and highly complex. There is no single learning approach that works for everyone. For this reason, psychologists specializing in the field of education are focused on identifying and studying learning methods to better understand how people absorb and retain new information. Psychologists working in this subfield examine how people learn in a variety of settings to identify approaches and strategies to make learning more effective. Furthermore, engaging a dialogue via the lens of Vocational Guidance/ Career Counselling, another significant sub-discipline of Psychology, would only help students better achieve their identified career options or acquire their professional goals as per the required course of action.

Therefore, the conduct of such a webinar is an urgent need of the hour to acquaint the people in general and the students in particular about the various objectives, critical purposes of the integrated policy. It would also help assist the students to choose an appropriate discipline in sync with their future career on their interests, skills and abilities.

1.4 Objectives

- ❖ Acquaint various stakeholders with the curriculum, format and pedagogy as per the NEP, 2020
- ❖ Provoke discussions to disseminate a cognizance about the introduction of NEP, 2020.
- ❖ Provoke discussions to address the educational issues of the concerned stakeholders.
- ❖ To initiate a comprehensive, developmental analysis designed to assist students in making and implementing informed educational and occupational choices.

1.5 Programme Outcomes

The expected programme outcomes of the current webinar are specified below:

- Understand the structure, curriculum, pedagogy and implications of NEP, 2020 from a psychological perspective.
- Promote a multidisciplinary, integrated approach to education for a holistic development, especially with respect to cognitive and behavioural developments.
- Create a platform for dialogue on the implications of NEP, 2020 on the mental health of all the stakeholders- teaching community, students and educational institutions.
- Foster discussions on the future educational and career prospects in various fields of psychology.
- Initiate a forward-looking, health-oriented approach to education including preventive health with special emphasis on disaster response and first aid and psychoeducation on substance abuse for overall mental and emotional wellbeing of the stakeholders.

1.6 Theme:

The Webinar was organized on the theme “National Education Policy, 2020: A Psychological Perspective”.

1.7 Resource Persons:

- ❖ Prof. Sandeep Kumar,
Department of Psychology,

Banaras Hindu University

❖ Ms. Oinam Anuradha

Career Development and Trainer,

Psychologist,

Ministry of Labour & Employment, Govt. of India

1.8 Target Group

This webinar was open to all the students, academicians, educationists and other allied professionals.

1.9 Proposed Date of the Webinar

The proposed National Webinar was successfully conducted on 10th August, 2021.

1.10 Estimated Budget

The estimated budget of the programme is Rs. 5,000/- which includes honorarium to the Resource Persons and other Miscellaneous Expenses.

1.11 Mode of Operation:

The program was conducted virtually on the online platform called ‘Google meet’.

PART 2: SESSION WISE DELIBERATION

2.1 Inaugural Session:

VC Prof. Saket Kushwaha emphasized on the importance on such webinars which is quintessential to disseminate a cognizance and acquaint the students and educationists with the in-trend curriculum, format and pedagogy of the new education system.

Pro VC Prof. Amitava Mitra highlighted on the importance of the inclusion of regional language, learning of mother tongue and various important aspect of the NEP.

The welcome address was delivered by Dr. Dharmeshawri Lourembam, Convener of the national webinar and HOD (in-charge) Psychology, RGU. She welcomed the dignitaries and expressed her warm, solicited greetings to the participants for fruitful deliberation and interaction on the topic.

Dr.Kakali Goswami, Co-convenor of the program, RGU, proposed vote of thanks expressing his heartfelt appreciation to the esteemed dignitaries for their active collaboration and support.

2.2 Plenary session: (None)

2.3 Technical Sessions:

10th August, 2020: 1st Technical Session:

The first technical session was delivered by Prof. Sandeep Kumar, Dept. of Psychology, Benaras Hindu University (BHU). He highlighted on the importance of Indian knowledge System, languages, Culture and Values in the current NEP 2020. He also focused on the use of ICT in education system. Outcomes of NEP 2020 and challenges and way-forward for the NEP through Psychological perspective was delivered aptly by the resource person.

10th August, 2020: 2nd Technical Session:

Second resource person of the day, Ms. Oinam Anuradha, a career psychologist and trainer, currently working as a Professional Consultant under the Project National Career Service, Ministry of Labour & Employment, GOI. delivered on career planning and employability skills among the youngsters. Answering to the queries of the participants, she spoke on the Entrepreneurial skills, eligibility criteria, and different job opportunities in the field of psychology.

2.4 Valedictory Session: (None)

The Vote of Thanks was given by Dr. Dharmeshwari Lourembam, Head (in charge) and the Organizing Convenor. It ended on a warm tone set by Miss Leeyir Ete, Co-convenor of the webinar, who acted as the master of the ceremony. The concluding session was witnessed by 100 participants, resource persons and esteemed dignitaries.

Major Takeaways:

3.1. Academic context:

In the present time caused by the global pandemic, with social distancing measures being cautioned by all, it is of utmost importance to maintain continuity in all other aspects especially with regard to academics in order to rule out the same reaching a standstill. The direct and indirect effects of Covid-19 has caused various detrimental effects on the mental health of all, irrespective of any differences. In light of which, the webinar was conducted to especially target the challenges that the youth of the state are facing with special reference to the student population.

The technical sessions designed by the resource persons in collaboration with the department were created to facilitate the important format of the pedagogy with special regard to the significance of Psychology as an important underlying reason in both Indian as well as global context.

The sessions were also created to accommodate the psychosocial emotional needs of all but with specific focus on the students, given the uncertainty surrounded by Covid-19, impacting the normalcy of face-to-face classes, reduction in physical-social interactions, exam induced stress and confusion regarding the future. A set of questions were generated by the organizing team to analyse the awareness on NEP, 2020 amongst the participants in the Registration Form. The doubts and concerns associated were tackled by the key subject experts via the PowerPoint presentations as well as Q&A sessions. Students' positive comments and feedback reflected the understanding they gained through the One Day Webinar.

- (i) A solution driven aspect with the significance of a more student focused approach was highlighted.
- (ii) The resource persons acknowledged the practical ways to incorporate online courses and its significance in developing a good CV, with utilization of proper time management.
- (iii) Recognize, regulate and incorporate a multidisciplinary approach in the future for all round development of students with specific regard to Psychology were also emphasized.

3.2. Research context:

Any uncertainty automatically instills fear or even phobia amongst the people and the associated uncertainty that is increasingly testing psychological resilience of the masses. The pandemic has generated a major jolt in all aspects around the globe. However, one needs to adjust to the new normal and start moving on with life.

Various competitive exams are being conducted and the educational institutions are already out with their new academic calendar to avoid wastage of an academic year of students. Hence, today, more than ever, it becomes crucial for Educationists and Academicians to solicit their support, understanding and knowledge of the subject to help aid the students especially due to the additional chaos and confusion revolving around in the ongoing times of Covid-19.

The webinar covered various significant contemporary issues prevailing for NEP, 2020 and its relevance with regard to Pan-India and on a global level. The findings offered a glimpse of what is brewing in the minds of hundreds of millions of students across India.

- (i) Guide researchers to plan prospective longitudinal studies for assessing the impact of NEP, 2020 in lieu with psychological perspective.
- (ii) Secondary research data on the relevance of NEP, 2020 and its correlation with holistic development were discussed and the participants were also briefed.
- (iii) The relevance of addressing the various barriers imposed due to the ongoing pandemic also called attention.
- (iv) The impact of NEP, 2020, and its role in providing upper hand to its students in various career domains and exit points were also made aware of with special reference to Psychological domain.

3.3. Policy making and practice context:

It is no surprise of the insights on the long-term damage of poor career choices, which have been accepted in the field of IO Psychology and HR professionals for decades. Hence, post the end of this unprecedented lockdown, we will need all able bodies to help the world recover in all factors namely health, education, livelihood and economy and be better prepared to cater to the needs of all, especially the torchbearers. The stakeholders involved amongst which the body that constitutes the most significant role to play is the government and the policy makers, to accommodate the new normal and ease the process of adapting to the new normal for the general population. The fear due to the contraction of COVID -19 is on the rise because of the death tolls and global spread however learning and education should not stop. Hence, this webinar also attempted to find the importance of NEP, 2020 in the current times and with the starting of new academic sessions for various levels, which can potentially help policy makers in formulating comprehensive interventions as a future roadmap designed for a crisis situation like this.

- (i) Need for more systematic and longitudinal assessment of current barriers for NEP, 2020, which can help the government in formulating holistic interventions in lieu with ongoing times of pandemic.
- (ii) Investment on quality of teachers which will bring positive changes to the Education system irrespective of the type or level of the educational institution.
- (iii) Policies and training programs must be made more accessible especially for rural states like North-East India.
- (iv) More schemes and investments in ICT will positively influence the quality of education system with more practical knowledge.

PART 4. APPENDICES & ANNEXURE

4.1 Programme Schedule

The programme schedule is as mentioned below:

Date & Day	Time	Topic	Resource Person
Day 1: 10 th August,2021 (Tuesday)	10:30 am- 10:35 am	<u>Inauguration</u> <u>Program</u> Welcome address:	Dr.Dharmeshwari Lourembam, H.O.D, Department of Psychology, Rajiv Gandhi University, Arunachal Pradesh
	10:35am- 10:40 am	Speech by Registrar, R.G.U	Dr. N. T. Rikam
	10:40 am – 10:45 am	Speech by Pro VC	Prof. Amitava Mishra
	10:45 am – 10:55 am	Speech by Honourable V.C., R.G.U	Prof. Saket Kushwaha
	10:55 am – 11:00 am	Vote of Thanks	Dr. Kakali Goswami, Assistant Professor, Dept. of psychology, RGU
	11:00 am- 1.00pm	<u>Technical</u> <u>Session 1</u>	Prof. Sandeep Kumar, Department of Psychology, Banaras Hindu University
	1:00pm - 1:30pm	<u>LUNCH</u> <u>BREAK</u>	
	1:30pm- 3.30pm	<u>Technical</u> <u>Session 2</u>	Ms. Oinam Anuradha Career Development and Trainer, Psychologist, Ministry of Labour & Employment, Govt. of India



Annexure 2: List of Participants

Sl No.	Full Name	Gender	State
1	Teli Momu	Male	Arunachal Pradesh
2	Tokmem Dai	Female	Arunachal Pradesh
3	Banjit Panchanan	Male	Assam
4	Dr Sonia Rani	Female	Assam
5	Dr Mrs Nisha Jain	Female	Gujarat
6	Thunu Pathari	Female	Assam
7	Yuma Narah	Female	Arunachal Pradesh
8	Ngilyang Ramoh	Male	Arunachal Pradesh
9	Tadar Mama	Female	Arunachal Pradesh
10	Tadar Amar	Male	Arunachal Pradesh
11	Leeyir Ete	Female	Arunachal Pradesh
12	John Wangsa	Male	Arunachal Pradesh
13	Amit Kumar Shukla	Male	Assam
14	Maheswar Satpathy	Gender Queer	Arunachal Pradesh
15	Satyam Shukla	Male	Arunachal Pradesh
16	Dr. Ravindra	Male	Arunachal Pradesh
17	Dr Jitender Singh	Male	Arunachal Pradesh
18	Pritisha Phukan	Female	Assam
19	Dr Kakali Goswami	Female	Arunachal Pradesh
20	Snigdha Mazumder Baruah	Female	Arunachal Pradesh
21	Toyir Nyodu	Female	Arunachal Pradesh
22	Dugi Uma	Female	Arunachal Pradesh
23	Amum Bagang	Female	Arunachal Pradesh
24	Techi Amin	Female	Arunachal Pradesh
25	Jomyir Bagra	Female	Arunachal Pradesh
26	Damini Tali	Female	Arunachal Pradesh
27	Tokmem Paron	Female	Arunachal Pradesh

28	Jyoti Tamuk	Female	Arunachal Pradesh
29	Lily Tante	Female	Arunachal Pradesh
30	Amit Kumar Shukla	Male	Arunachal Pradesh
31	Kepang Perme	Male	Arunachal Pradesh
32	Dr. Queen Deka	Female	Arunachal Pradesh
33	Dr. Vijay Singh	Male	Arunachal Pradesh
34	Lune Yosung	Female	Arunachal Pradesh
35	Harnoor Kaur	Female	Punjab
36	Sarthak Gupta	Male	Delhi
37	BasinsoKri	Male	Arunachal Pradesh
38	Kavya Jain	Female	Punjab
39	Dr. RenuDewan	Female	Jharkhand
40	DechaTongluk	Female	Arunachal Pradesh
41	SeherSood	Female	Punjab
42	Theo ShaphatNayak	Male	Odisha
43	Kanchan Devi	Female	Arunachal Pradesh
44	Kiri Taso	Male	Arunachal Pradesh
45	NgamnyaLowang	Female	Arunachal Pradesh
46	Pukhrambam Chanu Anilly	Female	Manipur
47	Moses Joseph	Male	Assam
48	JanhaviSomSaha	Female	Assam
49	Moses Joseph	Male	Assam
50	RichaPallaviMinj	Female	Assam
51	Shriya Jain	Female	Punjab
52	MariasuklangMarbaMajaw	Female	Meghalaya
53	HimashreeKalita	Female	Assam
54	AryamonSabarna	Male	Assam
55	Poonam Agarwal	Female	U.P.
56	JahnaviSaraogi	Female	Assam
57	SuzenKenpi Ori	Female	Arunachal Pradesh
58	DhritiKalita	Female	Assam
59	Prathicia A Sangma	Female	Meghalaya

60	Marge Basar	Female	Arunachal Pradesh
61	GotoDabi	Male	Arunachal Pradesh
62	Anubha Jain	Female	West Bengal

Annexure 3: Photograph



Annexure 4: Media Coverage

The webinar was well covered in Local daily Newspaper of the state.

Following are the links of media coverage:

<https://thenewsmill.com/webinar-national-education-policy-rgu-doimukh/>

<http://www.easternsentinel.in/news/state/rgu-holds-webinar-on-nep-2020.html>