

# IMPLEMENTATION OF NEP 2020 — STATUS IN LIBRARIES OVER THE LAST FIVE YEARS (2020–2025)

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## **Abstract :**

*The National Education Policy NEP 2020 has reset India's educational priorities and raised if only implicitly the strategic position and role that libraries have as producers of multidisciplinary learning collections for digital access research aid and lifelong literacy. This article reflects on how libraries—school libraries, college libraries, and university libraries including virtual—have evolved in five years after NEP 2020 came out. It provides an overview of interventions, the big moves, the measurable changes, the persistent gaps, and recommendations for making libraries stronger in support of NEP goals.*

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## **1. NEP 2020 What It Says About Libraries :**

NEP 2020 positions libraries as crucial infrastructure for the holistic multidisciplinary and lifelong learning envisaged by it while giving primacy to access to quality learning resources including digital content along with research support. The policy encourages the strengthening of institutional systems that support teaching, research, and innovation areas in which libraries play a critical role. Education Ministry of India.

## **2. Macro trends 2020-2025 :**

Rapid expansion of higher education enrollment and digital demand. Growth in student enrolment and increasing GER in higher education has placed new demands on library collections, services, and digital infrastructure.

National education statistics and AISHE reports document rising enrollment and infrastructure needs that libraries must support.

Move toward consortia-based e-resources. The INFLIBNET-led e-Shodh Sindhu, merging earlier consortia such as NLIST, expanded access to large collections of e-journals and e-books for universities and colleges, helping libraries support NEP's emphasis on research and interdisciplinary study. Many institutions now rely heavily on these consortia resources.

## **3. Concrete developments in libraries since NEP 2020 :**

### **1. Digital Collections and Consortia :**

Several libraries are adding subscriptions to e-resources and including their

eShodhSindhu NLIST holdings into discovery systems to help your colleagues and students at these affiliated colleges remotely access journals and e books through their Colleges through INFLIBNET Usage and awareness studies show that uptake can be meaningful though modest when training and local mechanisms for access are in place

## **2. Institutional Repositories and Research Support :**

- Universities and some Colleges are implementing or developing institutional repositories and initiating Open Access programs which are at least partially reciprocating the NEP focus on research in varying degrees across geography and institution type
- Libraries are providing bibliometric data management and research visibility services Semantic Scholar<sup>4</sup>
- Several Libraries are enhancing and adding new e resource subscriptions and loading their e ShodhSindhu
- NLIST holdings into discovery systems so that colleagues and students of the affiliated colleges using INFLIBNET can have remote access to journals and e Bbooks through their Colleges Use and awareness studies indicate meaningful if modest uptake in situations and contexts wherever training and local access mechanisms are present

## **3. Institutional Repositories and Research Support :**

Universities and certain colleges initiated forming or enhancing institutional repositories and Open Access support which coincides with the NEPs focus on research Libraries more frequently offer bibliometric data management and research visibility services although it is inconsistent across regions and institution types

## **4. Skill Building Information Literacy and Pedagogical Partnerships :**

Several academic libraries increased opportunities for user education information literacy programs organized workshops focused on digital literacy and worked with faculty on ways to integrate library resources into teaching across the disciplines These efforts were in line with NEPs emphasis on learner centered and inquiry based pedagogy Published cases reveal that academic libraries provided orientation and subject specific sessions in support of curriculum in multiple disciplines

## **Major Challenges Gaps Observed :**

**1. Infrastructure and Connectivity Challenges :** Not all institutions particularly in remote rural locations have reliable broadband or library management systems inhibiting universal digital access as promised by the NEP [aishegovin2](#)

**2. Awareness and Training Deficiencies :** Access to consortia is important but not sufficient as many students and faculty are still unaware or undertrained in how to use e resources effectively Studies continue to show variable attention of awareness to the NLIST, eShodh

Sindhu resources collegelibrariesin5

**3. Human Resource and Skill Shortages :** Libraries often need more qualified librarians trained in digital librarianship research data management licensing negotiations and pedagogy support Red Flower Publications6

**4. Funding and Licensing Restrictions :** Institutional budgets are often insufficient for any subscriptions not provided by the consortia and there are licensing regimes publisher access embargoes that also affect libraries ability to provide full access to contemporary scholarship.

**5. Case Studies :** INFLIBNET e Shodh Sindhu national level intervention The merged eShodhSindhu initiative provides participating colleges and universities access to thousands of journals and hundreds of thousands of e books a clear systemic step toward NEP objectives of research access and resource equity Impact depends on institutional uptake and training essinflibnetacin3

Institutional studies selected colleges, universities Several published studies 20222024 document that where libraries proactively ran awareness and training campaigns e resource usage and faculty integration into curricula rose substantially showing the practical value of library led NEP implementation Research Gate.

## **6. Recommendations for Accelerating NEP Aligned Library Transformation :**

**1. National State :** Level Expand targeted funding for digital infrastructure in underserved institutions incentivize library modernization grants tied to NEP objectives multidisciplinary learning research support open access

**2. Institutional level :** Create clear libraryled plans for NEP support including institutional repositories courseintegrated resource lists and regular facultylibrary liaison programs

**3. Human Capacity :** Invest in continuing professional development for librarians digital scholarship data stewardship copyright licensing pedagogy Encourage MLib curricula to include NEP focused modules

**4. Awareness Pedagogy Integration :** Mandate information literacy modules in early semesters and assess them as part of competency building partner libraries with departments for resource based assignments

**5. Monitoring Evidence :** Use usage analytics eg INFLIBNET Infi Stats and AISHE library indicators to monitor progress and adapt interventions luneblazecom8

## **Conclusion :**

From 2020 to 2025 libraries in India have made concrete progress towards supporting NEP 2020 particularly with consortium based e resources expanded institutional repositories and a heightened emphasis on information literacy and research support However libraries are making varied progress the lack of infrastructure awareness staffing and sustainable

funding remain the primary bottlenecks A coordinated effort national consortia targeted funding librarian capacity building curricular integration will be required to achieve NEP 2020s vision for equitable multidisciplinary and research informed education in which libraries are key enablers.

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- Selected studies on awareness and usage of N-LIST & e-resources. (2022–2024). Institutional case studies and surveys demonstrating the importance of training and outreach.\* [<https://collegelibraries.in/index.php/CL/article/view/107>](<https://collegelibraries.in/index.php/CL/article/view/107>)