

ROLE OF LIS SCHOOLS IN PROMOTING RESEARCH & INNOVATION UNDER NEP-2020

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Abstract :

This paper examines role of LIS (Library and Information Science) school in India, focusing on institutions like NISCAIR, DRTC & BDU. It highlights the importance of education as a key investment and notes the role of associations like ILA and IASLIC in encouraging student through awards and training programs. The paper stresses the need for high- quality LIS education, recommending that curricula be updated with practical job-oriented skills to enhance student employability.

With the goal of revolutionizing higher education in India, the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 of the Indian Higher Education System marks a significant change in educational philosophy. In order to foster an environment of inquiry, creativity, and enterprise among academics, the NEP 2020 lays out a comprehensive framework with an emphasis on research and innovation. This study evaluates the NEP 2020's research and innovation provisions critically and assesses how they could affect the higher education sector.

Keywords : LIS School, National Education Policy-2020, higher education sector

Introduction :

Education is undoubtedly a process of living. Education today is the most important investments that government of different states and countries make. Developed as well as developing countries of the modern era need to stress on building the creative and productive capacities of their workforce. In this “increasingly globalised economy, knowledge and the skills are key differentiators of nations as well as individuals” (Gates, 2008). It is “globalisation which determines the university education and research trends emerging today” (Thrift, 2007).

The National Education Policy introduces significant changes in the education system, including higher education. One of the key highlights of the NEP 2020 is the shift towards a more learner-centric approach. It focuses on the individual needs and interests of students, encouraging them to explore diverse subjects and fields of study. The policy emphasizes the importance of experiential and vocational learning, aiming to equip students with practical skills and knowledge that are relevant to the real world.

The previous National Policy on Education, existed in 1986 has been replaced by the National Education Policy 2020 (NEP 2020), launched on July 29, 2020 by Ministry of Education, India, The main aim is to transform educational system from school to higher education. The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 is based on five fundamental pillars – access, equity, quality, affordability, and accountability. It is designed to provide high-quality knowledge resources and skill-based education in Higher education. It also primarily focuses on integrity and promotes equality in participation in various disciplines, irrespective of what social and economic background they hail from. In this context, the library should act as learning hub and librarian play a vital role where the learning environment exists and can engage and provide a variety of learning experiences to the students where the focus is on 21st-century skills with the dispositions that form the core of the individual's character & personality. (Kumar Kiran2023)

The NEP aims to thoroughly reform the Indian education system by emphasizing interdisciplinary and holistic teaching, promoting research and innovation, and ensuring that education is accessible and equitable for everyone. With their vast resources and expertise, libraries can significantly contribute to achieving these aims (Raut, 2022).

LIS School in India :

NISCAIR - (National Institute of Science Communication and Information Resources)

DRTC - (Documentation Research And Training Centre-Banglore)

ADIS at DRTC

Banaras Hindu University Varanasi

Department of Library and Information science BARODA UNIVERSITY

LIS Schools in Tamilnadu :

- University of Madras
- Annamalai University
- Bharathidasan university
- Alagappa University
- M. K. University
- M. S. University
- Bharathiyar university
- Mother Teresa Women's University
- Bhishop Heber College
- Poondi Pushpam college
- LIS Associations in India
- SALIS
- ILA

- MALA
- IALA
- IATLIS
- IASLIC
- SIS
- KALA
- KELPRO
- ADOLIS etc.
- DLIS at Barathidasan University
- SALIS (Society for the Advancement of LIS)

Key Roles of LIS Schools :

LIS (Library and Information Science) schools play a crucial role in fostering research and innovation under NEP 2020 by creating knowledge-sharing ecosystems, developing digital literacy and critical thinking skills, promoting innovative information management and access, aligning curriculum with future needs, and supporting the National Research Foundation (NRF) to build a culture of research in higher education institutions (HEIs). They help students and professionals become skilled in information technology, enabling them to conduct and disseminate research in various domains.

Promoting a Research Culture :

LIS schools support the broader vision of NEP 2020 to create a strong culture of research and innovation, which is central to the establishment of the National Research Foundation.

Fostering Digital Literacy :

They equip students with the necessary skills to navigate and critically evaluate the vast digital landscape, a fundamental requirement for research and innovation.

Developing Information Management Skills :

LIS schools teach advanced information management techniques to ensure efficient access, storage, and dissemination of research, supporting the creation of new knowledge.

Aligning Curriculum with Future Needs :

By incorporating cutting-edge technologies and pedagogical approaches, LIS schools prepare professionals for the future of work, emphasizing skills like problem-solving, creativity, and technical proficiency.

Facilitating Knowledge Creation :

LIS professionals are positioned to not only document past and present knowledge but also to help understand emerging trends, aiding in the identification of new research

frontiers.

Supporting the National Research Foundation (NRF) :

By nurturing skilled information professionals and researchers, LIS schools contribute to the ecosystem that the NRF aims to build for catalyzing research and innovation in HEIs.

Encouraging Interdisciplinary Research :

LIS schools can foster collaboration by providing access to diverse information resources and developing networks that facilitate research across different subject areas, aligning with the multidisciplinary aspects of NEP 2020.

NEP- 2020 and Research :

The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 of India places a strong emphasis on promoting Quality Research (QR) within the education sector. NEP 2020 advocates for the promotion of multidisciplinary research to address complex societal challenges. It encourages collaboration across disciplines, departments, and institutions to foster innovation, creativity, and holistic problem-solving. The policy emphasizes increasing funding for research and innovation in education. It proposes initiatives to attract investment from public and private sources to support high-quality research projects, infrastructure, and capacity-building efforts. NEP 2020 advocates for granting greater autonomy to higher education institutions, enabling them to develop their research agendas, priorities, and strategies. This autonomy fosters a conducive environment for nurturing a culture of research excellence and academic freedom. The policy proposes the establishment of the National Research Foundation (NRF) to facilitate and fund high-quality research across all disciplines, including education. NRF aims to support cutting edge research, promote innovation, and enhance the quality and relevance of research outputs. NEP 2020 encourages collaboration between academia, industry, and government to promote applied research, technology transfer, and knowledge exchange. It emphasizes the importance of partnerships in driving innovation, entrepreneurship, and socioeconomic development. The policy highlights the importance of promoting and preserving indigenous knowledge systems through research. It encourages researchers to explore and document traditional practices, wisdom, and innovations, contributing to cultural preservation and sustainable development. NEP 2020 underscores the importance of upholding research integrity, ethics, and transparency. It emphasizes the need for robust mechanisms to ensure the quality, credibility, and ethical conduct of research, including peer review, ethics committees, and research ethics training. The policy calls for the development of robust mechanisms for assessing and evaluating the quality and impact of research outputs. It advocates for the use of metrics, indicators, and peer review processes to gauge the significance, relevance, and excellence of research contributions. NEP 2020 recognizes the critical role of quality research in driving innovation, knowledge creation, and national development. By promoting a conducive ecosystem for research excellence, the policy aims to position India as a global hub for cutting edge research and scholarship across diverse

fields, including education.

NEP 2020 and Innovations :

The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 of India places a strong emphasis on fostering innovations within the education sector. Here's how NEP 2020 aims to promote innovation:

1. **Curriculum Reforms:** NEP 2020 advocates for the development of a flexible and multidisciplinary curriculum that promotes creativity, critical thinking, problem-solving, and innovation. It encourages educational institutions to adopt innovative pedagogical approaches, including project-based learning, experiential learning, and competency-based education.
2. **Technology Integration:** The policy emphasizes the importance of leveraging technology to enhance teaching, learning, and assessment processes. It encourages the use of digital tools, educational software, online resources, and interactive multimedia to create engaging and personalized learning experiences for students.
3. **Teacher Training and Professional Development:** NEP 2020 prioritizes the training and professional development of teachers to equip them with the knowledge, skills, and competencies needed to foster innovation in the classroom. It emphasizes the importance of continuous learning, peer collaboration, and exposure to innovative teaching practices.
4. **Research and Development:** The policy calls for promoting research and development in education to generate new knowledge, evidence, and insights that can inform innovative policies, practices, and interventions. It advocates for the establishment of research institutions, centres of excellence, and funding mechanisms to support innovation in education.
5. **Entrepreneurship Education:** NEP 2020 emphasizes the importance of integrating entrepreneurship education into the curriculum to foster an entrepreneurial mind-set, skills, and attitudes among students. It encourages educational institutions to provide opportunities for students to develop innovative business ideas, launch start-ups, and pursue entrepreneurial ventures.
6. **Promotion of Indigenous Knowledge Systems:** The policy recognizes the importance of promoting and preserving indigenous knowledge systems, practices, and innovations. It encourages educational institutions to incorporate local cultural perspectives, traditional knowledge, and indigenous practices into the curriculum to promote inclusivity, diversity, and sustainability.
7. **Quality Assessment and Accreditation:** NEP 2020 emphasizes the importance of quality assessment and accreditation mechanisms to ensure the effectiveness and impact of innovative educational interventions. It calls for the development of robust evaluation frameworks, standards, and metrics to assess the quality, relevance, and outcomes of innovative practices.
8. **Collaboration and Partnerships:** The policy encourages collaboration and partnerships between educational institutions, industry, government, and civil society to promote

innovation in education. It advocates for the establishment of innovation hubs, incubators, and collaborative platforms to facilitate knowledge exchange, technology transfer, and entrepreneurship.

NEP 2020 envisions education as a driver of innovation, creativity, and sustainable development. By promoting curriculum reforms, technology integration, teacher training, research, entrepreneurship education, and collaboration, the policy aims to create a dynamic and inclusive education system that equips students with the knowledge, skills, and competencies needed to thrive in the 21st-century knowledge economy.

Conclusion :

LIS (Library and Information Science) School in India especially NISCAIR- (National Institute of Science Communication and Information Resources) DRTC - (Documentation Research and Training Centre-Bangalore) ADIS at DRTC and Associations in India SALIS, ILA, IATLIS, IASLIC etc. DLIS at Barathidasan University SALIS (Society for the Advancement of LIS) play a vital role by offering effectively programmes like SALIS encourage the student through student best paper award and frequently conducting technology based training through the tutorials.

The NEP 2020 heralds a new era for Indian higher education, one that is driven by research, & innovation. By laying the groundwork for a robust RIE ecosystem, the policy not only empowers students to excel but also positions India as a global hub for knowledge creation and innovation. As the nation marches towards realizing its vision of becoming a knowledge economy, the NEP 2020 serves as a guiding light, illuminating the path towards a brighter future.

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