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## IMPLICATION OF PHILOSOPHY IN MODERN EDUCATION: A REVIEW STUDY ON NEW EDUCATION POLICY (NEP) IN INDIA

TUHINA AKHTAR KHANAM

Raipur Rabindra Vivek B.Ed College, Bardhaman

Dr. MIJARUL ISLAM

Barasat College, West Bengal

### Abstract

*This study explores the profound implications of philosophy in modern education, with a particular focus on the New Education Policy (NEP) 2020 in India. The research examines how philosophical principles shape educational values, curriculum design, pedagogical practices, and policy development. By integrating perspectives from various philosophical traditions and contemporary educational theories, this study highlights the critical role of philosophy in fostering critical thinking, ethical reasoning, and holistic development in learners. The literature review encompasses diverse viewpoints on the intersection of philosophy and education, providing a comprehensive understanding of the NEP's alignment with philosophical ideals. The study identifies research gaps and proposes a qualitative methodology to investigate the practical implementation of philosophical concepts in education. Through thematic analysis of policy documents, interviews, and focus groups, the research aims to uncover the enduring questions and principles that underpin education in the 21st century. The findings emphasize the need for coherent educational practices informed by philosophical inquiry to achieve the NEP's goals of inclusivity, equity, and lifelong learning.*

**Keywords:** *Philosophy of Education, New Education Policy (NEP) 2020, Critical Thinking, Holistic Development, Educational Theory, Curriculum Design, Ethical Reasoning.*

### Introduction

Education is not merely the transmission of knowledge; it is a profound journey that shapes individuals and societies, guiding them towards understanding, enlightenment, and progress. At the heart of education lies philosophy, the pursuit of wisdom and truth, which has long been intertwined with the practice and theory of education. From ancient civilizations to the modern era, philosophical inquiry has informed educational ideals, methods, and goals, shaping the very fabric of learning and teaching.

In the contemporary landscape of education, the implication of philosophy holds

immense significance. As societies grapple with rapid technological advancements, cultural diversity, and evolving societal needs, the role of philosophy in guiding educational practice and policy becomes increasingly vital. Understanding how philosophical principles intersect with modern education is essential for educators, policymakers, and scholars alike, as they seek to navigate the complexities of 21st-century learning.

This study aims to delve into the implications of philosophy in modern education, exploring its multifaceted influence on educational theory, practice, and discourse. By examining philosophical perspectives from various traditions and epochs, we seek to

uncover the enduring questions and principles that underpin education and illuminate their relevance in contemporary educational contexts. *Through this inquiry, we aim to address several key questions:*

- How do philosophical ideas shape educational values and goals in the modern era?
- What are the practical implications of philosophical principles for curriculum design, pedagogy, and assessment?
- How does philosophy inform discussions on educational equity, social justice, and inclusivity?
- What role does philosophical inquiry play in observing critical thinking, moral reasoning, and ethical decision-making among learners?
- How can educators and policymakers integrate philosophical perspectives into educational practice to meet the diverse needs of learners in today's world?

By exploring these questions, this study seeks to contribute to a deeper understanding of the intersection between philosophy and modern education, shedding light on the ways in which philosophical inquiry can enrich educational theory and practice in the pursuit of a more enlightened and equitable society.

### Back dropped

The backdrop of studying the implication of philosophy in modern education is characterized by several contextual factors and historical developments: Philosophers like Socrates, Confucius, and Plato laid the groundwork for exploring fundamental questions about the nature of knowledge, ethics, and the purpose of education. Philosophers such as John Locke, Jean-Jacques Rousseau, and Immanuel Kant influenced educational theory by advocating for the cultivation of critical thinking, autonomy, and moral development. These movements emphasized experiential learning, student-centered approaches, and the integration of philosophical principles into educational practice. Philosophical inquiries into the ethical implications of technology, digital literacy, and the impact of artificial intelligence on education have become increasingly relevant in the modern educational landscape. Philosophical inquiry provides a framework for critically analyzing these issues and envisioning alternative

approaches to education. Against this backdrop, studying the implication of philosophy in modern education involves examining how philosophical principles inform educational theory, policy, and practice in response to contemporary challenges and opportunities. It entails exploring the enduring questions about the nature and purpose of education while also addressing pressing issues facing educators, learners, and societies in the 21st century.

### Relevance of the Study

The relevance of studying the implication of philosophy in modern education lies in its profound impact on shaping the values, goals, and practices of education in contemporary society. Here are several reasons highlighting its relevance:

1. **Foundational Understanding:** Philosophy provides the foundational understanding of the purpose and nature of education. By studying its implications in modern education, educators and policymakers can gain insights into the underlying principles guiding educational endeavours'.
2. **Ethical Framework:** Philosophy offers an ethical framework for addressing moral dilemmas and guiding ethical decision-making in education. Understanding its implications helps educators navigate complex ethical issues and promote integrity, empathy, and social responsibility among learners.
3. **Critical Thinking and Inquiry:** Philosophy fosters critical thinking, inquiry, and intellectual curiosity, essential skills for navigating an increasingly complex and interconnected world. By integrating philosophical inquiry into education, educators can cultivate students' abilities to question, analyze, and evaluate information critically.

Studying the implication of philosophy in modern education is relevant for fostering critical thinking, ethical decision-making, cultural awareness, democratic citizenship, personal development, interdisciplinary connections, innovation, global citizenship, and sustainability. By embracing philosophical inquiry in education, educators can empower students to become thoughtful, engaged, and responsible members of society.

### Literature Review

**Erikson Saragih (2012)** discusses the implications of philosophy in modern education. The paper highlights the importance of philosophical aspects in educational practice and examines the relationship between education and philosophy. It explores various schools of philosophy, including Naturalism, Idealism, and Pragmatism, and their impact on educational curriculum, the role of teachers, and disciplinary methods. Furthermore, the paper addresses the application of general philosophical principles from different philosophical schools in the educational system. It also defines the concept of school according to these philosophical perspectives. In explaining the ideas advocated by different schools of philosophy, the paper incorporates viewpoints from both Western and Indonesian thinkers.

**Kiran Srivastava (2017)** discusses the significant aspects of educational philosophy, emphasizing its role in constructing a comprehensive education system. The paper critiques the current education system for neglecting spiritual values and failing to provide adequate mental training. Although the Indian education system teaches about figures like Rabindranath Tagore, Mahatma Gandhi, and Swami Vivekananda, it does not effectively impart their values—such as humanity, morality, and tolerance—to students.

**Poonam Kumari (2022)** discusses the idea that education is a continuous process, extending beyond formal schooling. People start learning before they enter school and continue to do so outside the classroom and even after formal education ends. Students acquire a significant amount of knowledge from various sources like churches, political discussions, magazines, newspapers, radio, and television, which are integral to their education. Kumari emphasizes that philosophy, which involves questioning, critical discussion, rational argument, and systematic presentation, is both practical and theoretical. Education is seen as the dynamic side of philosophy, actively realizing the ideals of life from biological and sociological perspectives.

**Samual Asuquo Ekanem (2014)** explores the importance of philosophy in the study and practice of educational administration and

management in a democratic society. He argues that a nation's educational policy should be aligned with its overarching philosophy and goals. Education is driven by social values and imperatives of social justice, which shape educational theory, policy, and practice. Ekanem stresses the need for education to model and drive democratic processes, providing liberty and self-actualization through careful reflection on social values.

**Wang Jingjing Chien (2018)** highlights the powerful role of philosophy in developing people's thinking and speculative abilities. He emphasizes the importance of philosophical education in basic education, particularly in primary schools. Using literature, investigation, and multidisciplinary research, Chien analyzes the current state of basic education and underscores the need for integrating philosophical education to enhance the overall quality of education.

**Anurag Mishra and Suman Shresth (2022)** examine the philosophical and educational views of Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan in the context of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020. Using a descriptive library survey method, they analyze Dr. Radhakrishnan's contributions and their relevance to NEP-2020. They conclude that Dr. Radhakrishnan's educational philosophy aligns with the value-based goals of NEP-2020 and should be incorporated into the current education system to improve its quality.

**Dr. R.K. Jha (2020)** discusses the NEP 2020, emphasizing its focus on education for spiritual elevation rather than mere necessity. He highlights the significance of early childhood education in shaping an individual's personality and stresses the NEP's commitment to providing education to all, regardless of residence, caste, color, creed, or religion. Jha underscores the importance of education for achieving human potential and growth.

**Md Abdul Aziz Mandal (2023)** critically analyzes the NEP 2020, examining its implications and challenges. He explores key provisions of the policy, including changes in curriculum, pedagogy, assessment, and governance. Mandal discusses the opportunities and challenges associated with holistic and multidisciplinary education, digitalization, and inclusion, providing insights for policymakers and educators involved in

implementing NEP 2020.

**Mr. Praveen B and Dr. Abhishek (2020)** discuss the Indian education system's blend of tradition and modernization. They highlight the system's competitive environment, which fosters academic rigor but can also lead to immense pressure on students, affecting their mental health. Despite these challenges, the Indian education system maintains a robust structure. The authors emphasize the role of NEP 2020 in revamping the system to focus on skill-based education, multidisciplinary learning, and curriculum flexibility, reflecting the nation's aspirations for a more inclusive and globally competitive education system.

The above literature review provides a comprehensive understanding of the various philosophical fundamental that influence educational practices and policies, which is crucial when analyzing the implications of the New Education Policy (NEP) 2020 in India. Here's how the reviewed literature relates to the implications of philosophy in modern education and the NEP: The literature review demonstrates that philosophy plays a crucial role in shaping educational practices and policies. The NEP 2020 in India incorporates philosophical principles to create a more holistic, inclusive, and value-based education system. By integrating critical thinking, moral development, and lifelong learning, the NEP aims to foster comprehensive educational growth, aligning with the diverse philosophical perspectives discussed in the reviewed literature. This alignment suggests that the NEP 2020 is a well-rounded policy framework that addresses the multifaceted nature of modern education, rooted in philosophical thought.

### Research Gap

Identifying research gaps in the study of the implication of philosophy in modern education requires a comprehensive review of existing literature and empirical studies. Here are some potential research gaps that could be explored:

- **Limited Focus on Implementation Strategies:** While many studies discuss the theoretical implications of philosophy in education, there may be a gap in research regarding practical implementation strategies. Investigating effective methods for integrating philosophical concepts into curriculum design, classroom instruction, and teacher

training programs could provide valuable insights for educators.

- **Underrepresentation of Non-Western Philosophical Traditions:** Much of the existing literature on philosophy in education tends to focus on Western philosophical traditions. There may be a gap in research regarding the implications of non-Western philosophies.
- **Limited Exploration of Student Perspectives:** While much research focuses on the perspectives of educators and policymakers, there may be a gap in understanding how students perceive and experience philosophical influences in their education. Exploring student perspectives on topics such as ethics, critical thinking, and social justice could provide valuable insights into the effectiveness and relevance of philosophical education.
- **Neglect of Emerging Philosophical Trends:** As society evolves, new philosophical movements and perspectives emerge that may influence educational practices in novel ways. There may be a gap in research regarding the implications of emerging philosophical trends, such as environmental ethics, philosophical counseling in shaping educational goals, values, and pedagogies.
- **Limited Cross-Disciplinary Research:** While philosophy intersects with various fields such as psychology, sociology, and neuroscience, there may be a gap in cross-disciplinary research exploring the intersection of philosophy and education. Collaborative studies involving scholars from multiple disciplines could provide a more holistic understanding of the role of philosophy in modern education.
- **Insufficient Attention to Teacher Preparation and Professional Development:** Research on the implication of philosophy in modern education often focuses on curriculum and instructional practices, but there may be a gap in understanding the role of teacher preparation and professional development in fostering philosophical inquiry and reflection among educators.

Addressing these research gaps could help advance our understanding of how philosophy influences modern education and

inform efforts to enhance educational practices, policies, and outcomes.

### Objective of the Study

The objective of studying the implication of philosophy in modern education is multifaceted. Here are some potential objectives that researchers or educators might pursue:

1. To Understand Pedagogical Foundations: Exploring how philosophical principles shape educational practices and theories, such as curriculum development, teaching methodologies, and assessment strategies.
2. To Examining Educational Values and Goals: Investigating how philosophical ideas influence the values and goals of education, including the cultivation of critical thinking, moral reasoning, and social responsibility.
3. To Analyzing Educational Systems and Policies: Assessing the impact of philosophical perspectives on educational systems and policies and evaluating their effectiveness in achieving desired educational outcomes.

By addressing these objectives, researchers and educators can gain insights into the role of philosophy in shaping modern education and contribute to the ongoing dialogue about how to best prepare students for the challenges and opportunities of the 21st century.

### Method of the Study

The methodology for studying the implication of philosophy in modern education, focusing on the New Education Policy (NEP) in India, involves a systematic approach to research design, data collection, analysis, and interpretation. Here's a proposed methodology for conducting this study:

#### Research Design:

- Qualitative Approach: Given the exploratory nature of the study and the need to understand complex philosophical concepts, a qualitative research design is appropriate.
- Literature Review: Conduct a thorough review of existing literature on educational philosophy, the NEP, and related topics to inform the research framework.
- Case Study: Consider adopting a case study approach to delve deeper into specific examples of how philosophical principles are integrated into educational

practice within the context of the NEP.

#### Data Collection:

- Document Analysis: Gather relevant documents, including policy documents, educational frameworks, curriculum materials, and scholarly articles, for analysis.
- Interviews: Conduct semi-structured interviews with key stakeholders, including policymakers, educators, curriculum developers, and scholars, to gather insights into the implications of philosophy in modern education within the context of the NEP.
- Focus Groups: Organize focus group discussions with teachers, students, parents, and community members to explore diverse perspectives on philosophical influences in education and the NEP's implementation.

#### Data Analysis:

- Thematic Analysis: Use thematic analysis to identify recurring themes, patterns, and conceptual frameworks emerging from the data.
- Coding: Code qualitative data from interviews, focus groups, and document analysis to categorize and organize key concepts and ideas related to the implication of philosophy in modern education and its alignment with the NEP.
- Comparative Analysis: Conduct a comparative analysis of philosophical principles underlying the NEP and educational practices in India to identify areas of convergence and divergence.

#### Interpretation and Synthesis:

- Integration of Findings: Synthesize findings from qualitative data analysis to develop a coherent understanding of how philosophical principles influence modern education within the framework of the NEP.
- Theoretical Framework: Situate the study within relevant theoretical frameworks of educational philosophy, policy analysis, and implementation science to provide theoretical depth and context to the findings.
- Implications and Recommendations: Interpret findings in light of their implications for educational practice, policy development, and future research, and offer recommendations for enhancing

the alignment between philosophical principles and the NEP's objectives.

#### Dissemination of Findings:

Publish research findings in peer-reviewed journals, present at academic conferences, and engage with relevant stakeholders to disseminate insights and promote scholarly dialogue on the implication of philosophy in modern education and its alignment with the NEP.

By following this methodological framework, researchers can conduct a rigorous and systematic study of how philosophical principles influence modern education within the context of the New Education Policy in India, contributing valuable insights to educational theory, policy, and practice.

#### Conclusion

The study of the implication of philosophy in modern education, particularly within the context of the New Education Policy (NEP) in India, yields significant insights into the philosophical foundations, educational practices, and policy implications shaping contemporary education. Alignment with Educational Practice: The NEP's emphasis on multidisciplinary curriculum design, learner-centered pedagogies, and competency-based assessment reflects philosophical ideals of critical thinking, creativity, and holistic development. Implications for Policy and Practice: The study underscores the importance of aligning educational policies, practices, and outcomes with philosophical principles to ensure coherence and effectiveness. Future Directions: Moving forward, further research is needed to explore the long-term impact of philosophical influences on educational outcomes, the role of cultural context in shaping philosophical perspectives, and the effectiveness of policy interventions informed by philosophical inquiry. By continuing to study the implication of philosophy in modern education, scholars can contribute to ongoing efforts to enhance educational quality, equity, and relevance in India and beyond. In conclusion, the study highlights the profound influence of philosophy on modern education within the framework of the New Education Policy in India. By recognizing and embracing philosophical principles, educators and policymakers can cultivate a more holistic, inclusive, and transformative educational system that empowers learners to thrive in a

rapidly changing world.

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