



A Study of Opinions of Primary School Teacher Regarding National Education Policy-2020

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Abstract:

In present research, the researcher studied the opinions of primary school teachers of Ahmedabad city regarding NEP 2020. Experience of teachers and gender were the independent variables of the study. The researcher constructed an opinionnaire of 30 items having positive and negative statements. The researcher selected 67 primary teachers from Gujarati medium schools situated in Ahmedabad city. After this study, it was revealed that female teachers have more positive opinions than male teachers regarding NEP 2020. It was also revealed that female teachers having experience more than 10 years have more positive opinions than female teachers having experience up to 10 years.

1. Introduction

The new national education policy 2020 was approved by the Union Cabinet of India on 29th July, 2020. The first national policy on education was framed in 1986 and then modified in 1992. Since then, several changes took place that calls for a revision of new education policy. The NEP 2020 is the first education policy of the 21st century and replaces the thirty-four years old national education policy after 1986. This policy is aligned to the 2030 agenda for sustainable development and aims to transform India into a vibrant knowledge society and global knowledge superpower by making both school and college education more holistic, multidisciplinary and flexible which is suited to 21st century needs and aimed at beginning the unique capabilities of each student.

2. An Introduction of NEP-2020

National Education Policy 2020 emphasizes on ensuring universal access to school education at all levels – pre school to secondary and higher secondary sections. Early childhood care and education, the 10+2 structure of school curricula is to be replaced by 5+3+3+4 curricular structure corresponding to ages 3-8, 8-11, 11-14 and 14-18 years respectively.

The school curriculum and pedagogy will aim for holistic development of learners by equipping them with the key 21st century skills, reduction in curriculum content to enhance essential learning and critical thinking and greater focus on experimental learning. Students will have to increase flexibility and choice of subjects. There will be no air tight separations between science and arts, between curriculum and co-curricular activities, between academic and vocational tasks. Vocational education will start in schools from 6th grade which include an internship.

The policy emphasizes on mother tongue or regional languages as the medium of study at list up to 5th grade but it is preferably till grade 8 and above also. Sanskrit language would be offered at all levels of school and higher education as an option for students. It emphasizes on three language formula: mother tongue-national language and Sanskrit.

NEP envisages a shift from summative evaluation to regular and formative assessment. It is more competency-based which promotes learning and development. All students will take school

examinations in Grades 3, 5 and 8 which will be conducted by appropriate authority. Board examinations for grade 10 and grade 12 will be continued.

3. Objectives

The objectives of present study are as follows.

- 1.To know the opinions of primary school teachers regarding NEP 2020.
- 2.To study the opinions of primary school teachers regarding NEP 2020.
- 3.To study the opinions of primary school teachers regarding NEP 2020 in the context of their experience.
- 4.To study the opinions of primary school teachers regarding NEP 2020 in the context of gender.

4. Variables

Variables of present study are as follows.

4.1 Independent variables

- 1)Experience of teacher
 - a)Up to 10 years
 - b)More than 10 years
- 2)Gender
 - a)Male teacher
 - b)Female teacher

4.2 Dependent variable

Scores of opinionnaire constructed by the researcher is dependent variable in present study.

5. Hypotheses

Hypotheses in present study are as follows.

- Ho₁** There is no significant difference between mean scores of opinionnaire obtained by the teachers having experience up to 10 years and more than 10 years.
- Ho₂** There is no significant difference between mean scores of opinionnaire obtained by the male and female teachers having experience up to 10 years and more than 10 years.
- Ho₃** There is no significant difference between mean scores of opinionnaire obtained by the male teachers having experience up to 10 years and more than 10 years.
- Ho₄** There is no significant difference between mean scores of opinionnaire obtained by the female teachers having experience up to 10 years and more than 10 years.

6. Research Method

When some information has to be collected from a huge number of subjects, generally Survey Method is used. In present study, the researcher constructed an opinionnaire regarding NEP 2020. The researcher randomly selected 67 teachers from primary schools of Ahmedabad city. These teachers were given opinionnaire in which Survey Method was used.

7. Sample of the Study

The researcher randomly selected 67 primary school teachers of government schools from Ahmedabad city. The final sample of this study was as mentioned in table below.

Table 1:Sample of the Study

Experience/Gender	Up to 10 years	More than 10 years	Total
Male teachers	7	14	21
Female teachers	21	25	46
Total	28	39	67

Researcher selected 7 male and 21 female teachers having experience up to 10 years and 14 male and 25 female teachers having experience more than 10 years. Total, 67 primary teachers were selected in

which 28 teachers were having experience up to 10 years and 39 teacher were having experience more than 10 years.

8. Research Tool

The researcher selected and opinionnaire regarding NEP 2020 for primary school teachers with the help of different experts. The researcher amended the tool as per suggestion obtained by different experts. The opinionnaire has 30 items. Each item has three responses: 1) Agree, 2) Neutral and 3) Disagree. There were 18 positive statements and 12 negative statements showing opinions in favour or opposing NEP 2020.

9. Procedure of Data Collection

The opinionnaires were given to 67 primary school teachers by visiting the school in personal or by online platform. The teachers were provided proper information regarding how to fill up opinionnaire. Teachers were given 45 minutes to complete this opinionnaire. After they were completed, opinionnaire were checked and assign a score to each opinionnaire. These scores were used for statistical analysis and in checking of hypotheses.

10. Statistical Analysis

The researcher classified and tabulated the obtained data. Percentage of scores for each item was found and to check the hypotheses t-tests were performed. The results of t-tests were obtained as follows.

Ho₁ There is no significant difference between mean scores of opinionnaire obtained by the teachers having experience up to 10 years and more than 10 years.

Table 2: t-test between mean scores of opinionnaires obtained by teachers having experience up to 10 years and more than 10 years

Experience	N	Mean	SD	SED	t
< 10	28	41.13	4.49	1.12	1.07
> 10	39	39.93	4.58		

df	0.05	0.01
65	2.00	2.65

For df=65, table t-values at are 2.00 at 0.05 level and 2.65 at 0.01 level. Calculated t-value is 1.07 which is less than table t-values at both levels. Therefore, hypothesis is not rejected and there is no significant difference between mean scores of teachers having experience up to 10 years and more than 10 years. Thus, it is revealed that teachers having experience up to 10 years and more than 10 years have similar opinion regarding NEP 2020.

Ho₂ There is no significant difference between mean scores of opinionnaire obtained by the male and female teachers having experience up to 10 years and more than 10 years.

Table 3: t-test between mean scores of opinionnaires obtained by male and female teachers

Gender	N	Mean	SD	SED	t
Male	21	37.58	4.23	1.17	5.06
Female	46	43.48	4.83		

df	0.05	0.01
65	2.00	2.65

For df=65, table t-values at are 2.00 at 0.05 level and 2.65 at 0.01 level. Calculated t-value is 5.06 which is more than table t-values at both levels. Therefore, hypothesis is rejected and there is a significant difference between mean scores of male and female teachers. Moreover, mean score of

female teachers is higher than mean score of male teachers. Thus, it is revealed that female teachers have more positive opinion than male teachers regarding NEP 2020.

H₀₃: There is no significant difference between mean scores of opinionnaire obtained by the male teachers having experience up to 10 years and more than 10 years.

Table 4.0 t-test between mean scores of opinionnaires obtained by male teachers having experience up to 10 years and more than 10 years

Male	N	Mean	SD	SED	t
< 10	7	39.53	4.19	1.90	1.68
> 10	21	42.72	4.78		

df	0.05	0.01
26	2.06	2.78

For df=26, table t-values at are 2.06 at 0.05 level and 2.78 at 0.01 level. Calculated t-value is 1.68 which is less than table t-values at both levels. Therefore, hypothesis is not rejected and there is no significant difference between mean scores of male teachers having experience up to 10 years and more than 10 years. Thus, it is revealed that male teachers having experience up to 10 years and more than 10 years have similar opinion regarding NEP 2020.

H₀₄There is no significant difference between mean scores of opinionnaire obtained by the female teachers having experience up to 10 years and more than 10 years.

Table 5: t-test between mean scores of opinionnaires obtained by female teachers having experience up to 10 years and more than 10 years

Female	N	Mean	SD	SED	t
< 10	14	35.62	4.27	1.50	5.73
> 10	25	44.23	4.88		

df	0.05	0.01
37	2.03	2.72

For df=37, table t-values at are 2.03 at 0.05 level and 2.72 at 0.01 level. Calculated t-value is 5.73 which is more than table t-values at both levels. Therefore, hypothesis is rejected and there is a significant difference between mean scores of female teachers having experience up to 10 years and more than 10 years. Moreover, mean score of female teachers having experience more than 10 years is higher than mean score of female teachers having experience up to 10 years. Thus, it is revealed that female teachers having experience more than 10 years have more positive opinion than female teachers having experience up to 10 years regarding NEP 2020.

11. Major Findings

Major findings of present study are as follows.

- 1.It is revealed that the most of the teacher were not totally aware about NEP 2020.
- 2.There were mixed opinions of primary school teacher regarding NEP 2020.
- 3.Teachers having experience up to 10 years and more than 10 years have similar opinion regarding NEP 2020.
- 4.Female teachers have more positive opinion than male teachers regarding NEP 2020.
- 5.Male teachers having experience up to 10 years and more than 10 years have similar opinion regarding NEP 2020.
- 6.Female teachers having experience more than 10 years have more positive opinion than female teachers having experience up to 10 years regarding NEP 2020.

12. Conclusion

The main objective of researcher was to study the opinions of primary school teachers of Ahmedabad city regarding NEP 2020. The researcher constructed an opinionnaire of 30 items having positive and negative statements. After this study, it was revealed that female teachers have more positive opinions than male teachers regarding NEP 2020. It was also revealed that female teachers having experience more than 10 years have more positive opinions than female teachers having experience up to 10 years.

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