



Ministry of Human Resource Development



EDUCATE ENCOURAGE ENLIGHTEN

नई शिक्षा नीति करे साकार,
ज्ञान, योग्यता और रोज़गार।

MANUAL FOR GRASS ROOT LEVEL CONSULTATIONS ON NEW EDUCATION POLICY

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1. INTRODUCTION

The National Policy on Education 1986, as amended in 1992, has been the guiding document for the policies of the Central Government in the education sector. The National Policy on Education (NPE), 1986, which was modified in 1992 envisages, *inter alia*, a National System of Education to bring about uniformity in education, making adult education programmes a mass movement, providing universal access, ensuring retention and improving quality in elementary education, special emphasis on education of girls, establishment of pace-setting schools, like Navodaya Vidyalayas in each district, vocationalisation of secondary education, synthesis of knowledge and inter-disciplinary research in higher education, starting more Open Universities in the States, strengthening of the All India Council of Technical Education, encouraging sports, physical education, Yoga and adoption of an effective evaluation method.

The Government has initiated the process of formulating a New Education Policy to meet the changing dynamics of the population's requirement with regard to quality education, innovation and research, aiming to make India a knowledge superpower by equipping its students with the necessary skills and knowledge and to eliminate the shortage of manpower in science, technology, academics and industry.

2. OBJECTIVES OF GRASSROOTS CONSULTATIVE PROCESS

The objective of the consultation process is to ensure that an inclusive, participatory and holistic approach is undertaken, which takes into consideration expert opinions, field experiences, empirical research, stakeholder feedback, as well as lessons learned from best practices. Traditionally, previous Commissions for driving Education Policy have undertaken a common approach which included the following:

- Top down approach based on setting up expert task force, working groups and/or sub-committees.
- Each group was based on a thematic topic.

- Recommendations were made based on field visits, discussions, conferences/workshops, interviews, limited citizen outreach, special studies, meetings with constitutional leaders and elected officials.
- The consultation process involved multiple stakeholders including government, academia, industry, experts and media.
- The consultation time taken varied from six months to three years.

While past consultative processes have been extensive, they have taken a top-down approach, depending on limited feedback from field workers and stakeholders on the ground who are responsible implementing the Education Policy. Further, they have been thematic based, with discussions being held in silos.

3. THEMES IDENTIFIED FOR CONSULTATIONS

In all, 33 themes (13 themes on School Education and 20 themes on Higher Education) have been identified for the consultations. These are listed below:

3.1 Themes of School Education

1. Ensuring Learning Outcomes in Elementary Education
2. Extending outreach of Secondary and Senior Secondary Education
3. Strengthening of Vocational Education
4. Reforming School Examination Systems
5. Revamping Teacher Education for Quality Teachers
6. Accelerating rural literacy with special emphasis on Women, SCs, STs & Minorities through Adult Education and National Open Schooling Systems
7. Promotion of Information and Communication Technology systems in school and adult education

8. New Knowledge, pedagogies and approaches for teaching of Science, Maths and Technology in School Education to improve learning outcomes of Students.
9. Schools standards, School assessment and School Management systems.
10. Enabling Inclusive Education – education of SCs, STs, Minorities and children with special needs.
11. Promotion of Languages.
12. Comprehensive Education – Ethics, Physical Education, Arts & Crafts, Life Skills.
13. Focus on Child Health

3.2 Themes of Higher Education

1. Governance reforms for quality in Higher Education
2. Ranking of Higher Education institutions and accreditations
3. Improving the quality of regulation
4. Pace setting roles of central institutions
5. Improving State public universities
6. Integrating skill development in higher education
7. Promoting online courses
8. Opportunities for technology enabled learning
9. Addressing regional disparity
10. Bridging gender and social gaps
11. Linking higher education to society
12. Developing the best teachers

13. Sustaining student support systems in Higher Education
14. Promote cultural integration through language
15. Meaningful partnership with the private sector
16. Financing higher education
17. Internationalisation of higher education
18. Engagement with industry to link education to employability
19. Promoting research and innovation
20. New knowledge

4. TIMELINES FOR THE CONSULTATION PROCESS AT VARIOUS LEVELS

Consultation process will be three pronged as follows: (i) Consultation from village/ grassroots level up to State level, (ii) Online consultations and (iii) Thematic Consultations including Zonal and National level Consultations. The details of these stages are stated below:

4.1 Consultation from village/ grassroots level up to State level

<p>Gram Panchayat: April- May, 2015</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Village Education Committee across all 2.5 lakh Gram Panchayat to meet (if possible, on a single day) to deliberate and provide inputs. • Stakeholders: Village Education Committee (VEC)+ School Management Committees (SMCs). SMC's can be represented by Chairman, Secretary, Representatives of social groups/weaker sections • Other stakeholders, like chairpersons/ members, etc. of School Management Committees, to be invited for the meeting.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approx. 2.5 lakh meetings to be held. • To be provided with themes and relevant questions • Resolutions to be uploaded on MyGov using identity for each Panchayat (could be at village/ block/ district level depending on infrastructure) • Recommendations of village level will be uploaded at the MyGov portal for which necessary steps have to be taken by the MyGov team, including creation of ids for each village and dissemination of information through DIOs. Uploading of entries for consultation resolutions could be made at Block or District headquarters depending on accessibility to the internet at the Gram Panchayat level • Theme-wise collation by MyGov; Entry forms with word limit will help in collation. • Separate identity will help tracking defaulters
<p>Block: June- July, 2015</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approx 6600 meetings • Stakeholders : Block Education Committee +representatives of urban local bodies • To be provided with themes and relevant questions • To discuss resolutions of village levels and also address fresh issues • Block Education Committee to hold meetings with stakeholders to compile and evaluate the recommendations made by the various Village Education Committees in the block as well as give its views. • Each Block will summarise its suggestions and inputs. • There will be 6600 Block level base documents after approx. 6600 meetings to be held which will be uploaded on MyGov. Uploading of entries could directly be made at Block or District headquarters depending on accessibility to the internet.

<p>Urban Local Bodies June- July, 2015</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approx 3700 meetings • Stakeholders : Representatives of urban local bodies and stakeholders / elected Municipal Councillors • Municipal/ Metro Corporations can be invited as problems of educational facilities in urban areas need to be addressed. • To be provided with themes and relevant questions • Resolutions to be uploaded on MyGov • To be aggregated at the State level
<p>District: August, 2015</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approx 676 meetings • Stakeholders : Zilla Parishad +District Education Committee, Dist. Education Officer, representatives of urban administration, principals /Head Masters of select Colleges/ Secondary and senior secondary schools, DIETs, few BEOs, School inspectors, Adult Education Dept. • To be provided with themes and relevant questions • The District Collector/ Magistrate along with the local MP/ MLA to hold a multi-stakeholder consultation workshops. • At the District level, recommendations made by Block level teams as well as new issues emerging at this level to be incorporated into a consolidated document of district level recommendations. • There will be 676 District level base documents after approx. 676 meetings to be held. • These will all be uploaded along with English translation on MyGov.
<p>State: Sept., 2015</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each State/ UT to hold thematic, multi-stakeholder roundtable meetings (approx. 3 per state) to deliberate the district level base documents. • The State Teams will synthesise recommendations made in district reports and include fresh issues/ themes coming up at the State level and provide a State level outcome document.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There will 36 State/UT level outcome documents which will be uploaded, along with English translation, on MyGov. • Approx. 100 meetings to be held.
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4.2 Online consultations

Process & Timelines	Methodology
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. New Education Policy will be included as a thematic group on the GOI portal of www.mygov.in 2. In addition, MyGov proposes to have district level groups also 3. All individuals can participate by logging in to www.mygov.in 4. It is proposed to remain open from 26th January, 2015 to 30th April, 2015. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. On each of the identified themes, a backgrounder will be provided by MHRD giving brief information (about 100-150 words) on the thematic area. A link will be provided on each theme which will take users to a detailed introduction of the theme, followed by a set of questions to enable a structured discussion and ensure comprehensive coverage on the topic. 2. Nodal officers for each theme will be moderators for the thematic discussions on MyGov. They will be mainly responsible to keep the discussions on track. 3. The District Information Officer (DIO) should be the moderator for the district groups.

4.3 Regional/ Zonal Consultations

(a) 6 (six) Regional / Zonal consultations will be organized by the nodal officers, to be identified from amongst the bureau heads, with the help of autonomous organizations of MHRD.

- Northern Zone: Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Punjab, Rajasthan, Delhi and Chandigarh.
- Central Zone: Chhattisgarh, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh;
- Eastern Zone: Bihar, Jharkhand, Odisha and West Bengal;

- Western Zone: Goa, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Daman & Diu and Dadra & Nagar Haveli
 - Southern Zone: Andaman & Nicobar, Andhra Pradesh, Telengana, Karnataka, Kerala, Lakshadweep, Tamil Nadu and Puducherry.
 - North Eastern Zone: Assam , Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Tripura ,Mizoram, Meghalaya, Nagaland and Sikkim
- (b) Discussions will be held
- on major recommendations under each theme;
 - recommendations of all State level outcome papers; and
 - region specific issues on the thematic areas for discussions.
- (b) At the end of Regional Consultations, a consolidated Status Note will be prepared which will incorporate recommendations of State level consultations, and discussions on thematic areas and on regional issues. At the end of the Regional Consultations, there will be six consolidated status Notes on each thematic area.

4.4 Thematic Consultations:

- (a) Bureau Heads of MHRD will hold consultations with stakeholders and experts on each theme in which he/she is the responsibility Centre. Assistance of autonomous bodies of MHRD (e.g., NCTE, NUEPA, NCERT, AICTE, UGC) will be taken for organizing these thematic discussions.
- (b) Invitees to these Meetings/Workshops must include such individuals and institutional representatives who understand the existing schemes/mechanisms and will suggest the road map ahead for the theme.

4.5. National level Consultations with stake-holders groups - Meetings will be held at national level on the Thematic Status Notes of six Zones. All stakeholder groups, including relevant GOI Ministries, will be part of national level discussions. The Thematic notes will be synthesised into a single consolidated Consultation Document to be placed before National Education Policy Task Force (NEPTF) for consideration. The NEP Task Force under the Chairmanship of AS(TE),

MHRD has been set up to monitor the progress of the consultation process from time to time . After deliberations on the Consultation Document in the NEPTF, Consultation Document to be given the shape of Draft National Education Policy, 2015. The Draft National Education Policy, 2015 will be placed for consideration of the Central Advisory Board on Education (CABE).

5. WHAT IS EXPECTED OF THE STATE/ UT ADMINISTRATION

- **Identify two Nodal Officers, one each for School Education and Higher Education, in each State/ UT**
- **Conduct consultation meeting as per suggested timelines:**
 - Village Education Committee +Stakeholders: April- May, 2015
 - Block Education Committee+ Stakeholders: June-July, 2015
 - Urban Local Bodies+ Stakeholders: June-July, 2015
 - District Panchayat+ Stakeholders: August, 2015
 - State: September, 2015
- **Hold Meetings in April to disseminate information**
 - At State level for District level officials / representatives
 - At district level for Block level officials / representatives
 - At Block level for Village level officials/ representatives
- **Upload village, Block, ULB, District and State level resolutions on MyGov portal** with the help of State Information Officers as per procedures of MyGov Portal. Technical Presentation of MyGov is at Annexure I. Separate instruction booklet/ manual will be provided by MyGov team.

6. What MHRD will provide:

1. A questionnaire template covering the 33 themes covering School Education and Higher Education giving set of questions for discussions at village, block, district and state is Annexure II.
2. List of Nodal Officers from MHRD from both the Departments of School and Higher Education to oversee the consultation process and coordinate with their respective counterparts in the States. The list of Nodal Officers of MHRD with their contact details is at Annexure III.
3. Detailed write-up on the 33 themes covering School Education and Higher Education is at Annexure IV.
