

Implimentation of New Education Policy (NEP-2020)

Educational policy is the backbone of a country for its holistic development because it keeps all academic institutions within the framework of the law and forces them to abide by it. Article 45 in Indian constitution talks about the provision for free and compulsory education for children and states that "*The State shall endeavour to provide, within a period of ten years from the commencement of this Constitution, for free and compulsory education for all children until they complete the age of fourteen years*". The union cabinet of India had already launched three education policies earlier successively in the year 1968, 1986 and 1992. The new national education policy was approved on 29 July 2020 by the union cabinet of India, replacing the previous Policy on Education, formulated in 1986 and modified in 1992. This **new education policy (NEP) 2020** is a framework for elementary education till higher education which includes vocational training in both urban and rural areas. One of the best features of this policy is that nobody is forced to take any particular language; rather the students can choose the language according to their interests.

Hemwati Nandan Bahuguna Government Post Graduate College, Khatima was started in 1988 and since then, it is continuously in service of providing higher education mainly to the socially and educationally backward "Tharu" tribals (*a scheduled tribe in the state of Uttarakhand*); residing foremost in Udham Singh Nagar district of Uttarakhand. The college is presently affiliated to **Kumaun University, Nainital** and follows the syllabus prescribed by the university. Also, the admissions in various courses are decided as per the University ordinance and all the norms & regulations as decided by the university are strictly followed. The examinations of all the courses are also conducted by the university itself. Stepping ahead, the university has adopted and implemented the new National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 at Under Graduate Level from the academic session 2022-23 and is planning to implement it at Master's level from the next session. Abiding by the rules and regulations framed by the university, the admission process at the entry level of all the UG courses i.e. in previous year was concluded as per NEP – 2020. As discussed above, In NEP, the students are not bound to take any particular subject. Instead they can choose the subjects of their interests. The flexible and innovative curricula of NEP comprises credit – based courses and projects in the areas of community engagement and service, environmental education, and value – based education.

From the current session 2022-23, the students has to choose three major and three minor courses in any of the stream viz. science, arts and commerce. The student willing to take admission in any of the faculty has to select first two major courses of his own interest with credit 4/5/6 from the faculty in which he/she seeks admission. The student is given a liberty to choose third major course of his/her own interest from the faculty other than that, in which he is willing to take admission. To assist the students, an admission counseling committee comprising of five members headed by Dr. Krishna Kant Mishra as convenor was constituted. Each student had to pass through this committee before admission. The committee helped each and every student in choosing the subjects suited to his/her interest. The fifth course is the vocational course meant to develop some skill in the students. Due to the lack of teaching staff and having

limited recourses, our college decided to run some selective skill development courses. The sixth course is co-curricular course which is just qualifying and its syllabus has been decided by the university.

NEP – 2020 is implemented with the aims to promote digital literacy, use of online resources, and technology-enabled learning. It also aims to promote research and innovation, internationalization of education, and use of technology for effective learning. The implementation of NEP – 2020 in Higher Education institutions is expected to bring about significant changes in the way education is imparted, and prepare learners to meet the challenges of the 21st century.