

Six Voices That Matter: New Education Policy 2020



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Discussing or rather criticizing the Indian Education System is part of every living room conversation, social media debate and chats among the successful elite. India, being a diverse country with a large population, cannot be compared to small nations that are cited as benchmarks for great education systems. There are challenges but the nation has made some progress too. The much and long-awaited New National Education Policy (NEP) has given hopes to millions but yet there are fears.

The Bespoke Show (TBS) led by [Sid Baliga](#), an educationist cum writer, and Asha Sampath, a brand management consultant hosted a panel discussion to put forth questions, doubts and fears that many voices had expressed to them.

Vasundharaa Nair, a research fellow at NIMHANS, expressed concern over the increasing affinity for digital devices in young children that could have long term impact on growth and development. Shantanu Shrish, a parent, liked the policy as a whole but is anxious. If the recommendation of using the regional language of instruction is implemented, working professionals like him, cannot change states for better career opportunities.

“Experiential or activity-based learning is finally getting due coverage in the new policy. However, the push to teach coding and AI from mid-school seemed an unnecessary pressure on children who should

be encouraged to explore, think and develop reasoning skills”, said Mridula Sridhar, CEO, Kreedo Early Childhood Education Solutions. Manas Singh, CEO, Radcliffe Group of Schools, echoed this sentiment, “Coding can be learnt anytime if fundamentals are strong. We must teach children to develop better common sense”

The student’s voice was represented by Navneet Prabhat, a UG Student at IIT Bombay, who felt the rush to reform tertiary education was unnecessary as schooling needed the first overhaul. Dr.Jyothi Reddy, Founder-Principal, Shri Ram Universal School, welcomed this new policy as a good beginning but hoped that it would be implemented well and in phases to show desired results starting at least 2030.

The full conversation can be accessed on www.thebespokeshow.live

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