



Policies Covered In The Edition

SECTOR SPECIFIC REPORT (EDUCATION)

1. Diksha Platform for the Promotion of Specialized e-Contents to Continue Learning

2. National Achievement Survey: A Report to Assess Health of Indian School System

3. National Curriculum Framework (NCF)

Digital Infrastructure for knowledge sharing (DIKSHA) is a National Teacher Platform (NTP) with the motto "Our teachers are our heroes" is currently changing the learning landscape of India and benefiting the major stakeholders such as teachers, students and parents at large since its launch in 2017. Currently, it supports 18+ languages at the pan-India level and its success can be assessed through the following statistics as on 14 July 2022:

DIKSHA usage statistics as on date 14.07.2022 are as under:

S.No.	Category	Data
1.	Learning Sessions	495+ cr.
2.	Learning in minutes	5749+ cr. minutes
3.	Page hits	3813+ cr.
4.	Textbooks	6477
5.	Live pieces of e-content	291168
6.	Enrollment (till date)	15 cr.

Source: <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaselframePage.aspx?PRID=1844723>

It is a national teacher platform that is widely used by teachers and students to impart school education in online mode. The NTP will cater to teachers from all stages of education across the country to create a deep-rooted impact:

• Pre-Primary

• Primary

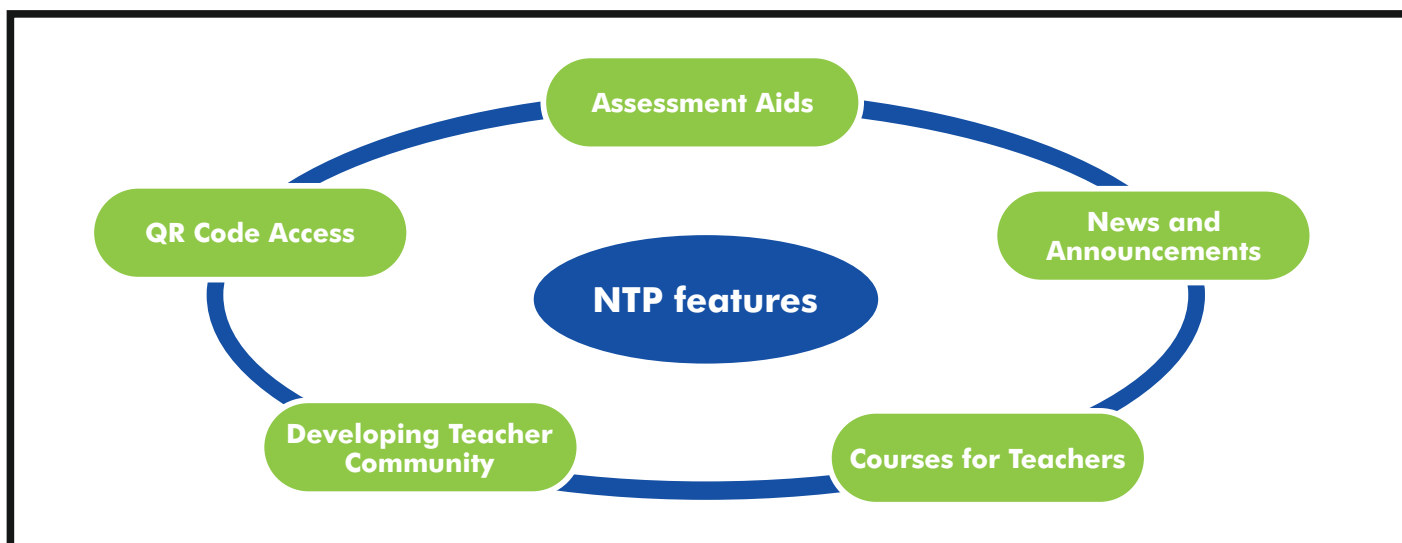
• Upper Primary

• Secondary

• Senior Secondary

All educational institutions, groups and individual educators can be enrolled on this national platform as a member and can also contribute to the coordination, creation and use of resources on it. This is an initiative in the field of online learning by the NCERT and the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD). It is based on the principle of broad architecture, open access, open choice and freedom in school education. It has fulfilled the requirements of teachers and students to a great extent to continue learning during the pandemic with the following features:





This national teacher platform (NTP) can be accessed by teachers by scanning the QR code given in NCERT books. This portal is location-based, it will show the courses that are currently going on in their region with the ease of access to various languages from the comfort of their place. It also provides a dashboard for the evaluation of teachers and suggests areas for improvement.

Besides this, the DIKSHA mobile app is also available for teachers, parents and students to ease the process of learning and develop a better understanding throughout the process of education. With the help of NTP, educators can share their best teaching experiences across the teaching community, so that it can help the diverse student community by large. Teachers can digitally check their student's understanding and assess them digitally.

Here, teachers can also receive an official announcement from the state departments and plan their teaching and learning activities accordingly. It is a comprehensive platform for hassle-free communication among the stakeholders involved with ease to take quick revision of lessons and clear the doubts.

There is a huge additional material around topics on the platform to provide supplementary learning. The Practice-solving sessions with an immediate feedback mechanism make it more responsive and efficient. It also shares and stores data offline and supports content in various formats such as Pdf, video and HTML to continue the learning even without the availability of the internet.

Thus, the portal is providing a great platform for educators over time and the government is working hard on enhancing its features and capabilities to expand its coverage. At the time of Covid-19 when school operations were disrupted, the launch of the DIKSHA app helped to continue the systematic learning on the farthest corners of the country. The launch of the Integrated Government Online Training (iGOT) initiative under DIKSHA has increased the learning capacities of Civil Servants and is also ready to train doctors, Nurses and other frontline workers to increase the capacities to cope with any other future disruptions across the sectors.

The Ministry of Education, Government of India released the National Achievement Survey (NAS) Report 2021 in May 2022 to provide a comprehensive assessment of school education in the country. The overall evaluation under the survey was targeted to create a health report of India's schools based on learning capabilities. The report is created in the three-year cycle period at the level of classes 3rd, 5th, 8th and 10th while covering the following educational entities and subjects for assessment:

Three year's report of educational entities and subjects for assessment:

Educational Organizations	Subjects for Class 3 and 5	Subjects for Class 8	Subjects for Class 10
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Central and State Government Schools Government Aided School Private Unaided School 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Language Mathematics EVS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Language Mathematics Science Social Science 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Language Mathematics Science Social Science English

The 2021 assessment report has evaluated around 34 lakh students (Based on the attendance on the day of the survey) from various schools in rural and urban India. The published report card will help to analyse the school results centrally and pave the way for formulating remedial action strategies to address the challenges faced at various levels of education. The survey represents the correlation between the learning competencies and educational progress of children with the overall efficiency of the education system.

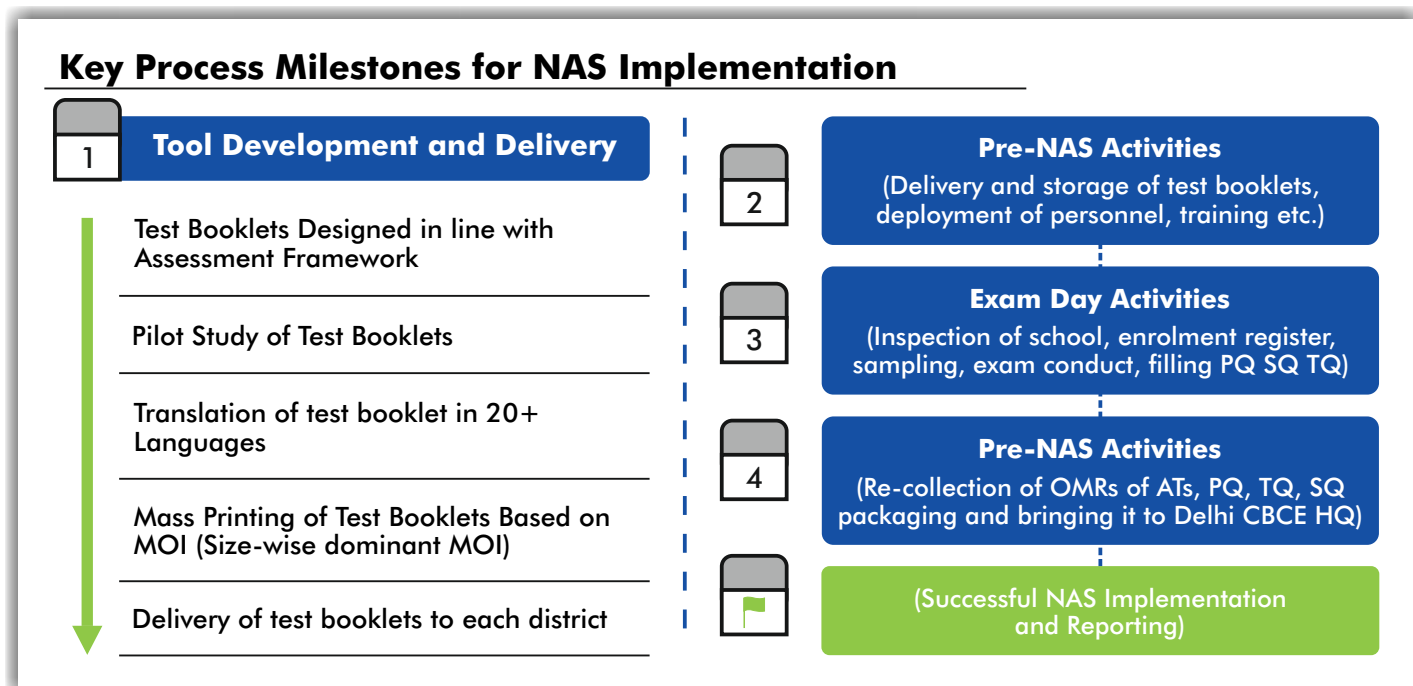
The survey represents the educational progress of children

	Total Schools	Total Enrolment
National level (Unique Schools)	1,23,729	38,87,759
Grade 3	29,603	6,55,128
Grade 5	28,656	6,46,975
Grade 8	46,062	12,04,777
Grade 10	48,564	13,80,879

Source: https://nas.education.gov.in/images/NAS_meeting_chaired%20by%20Secretary%20_SEL.pdf

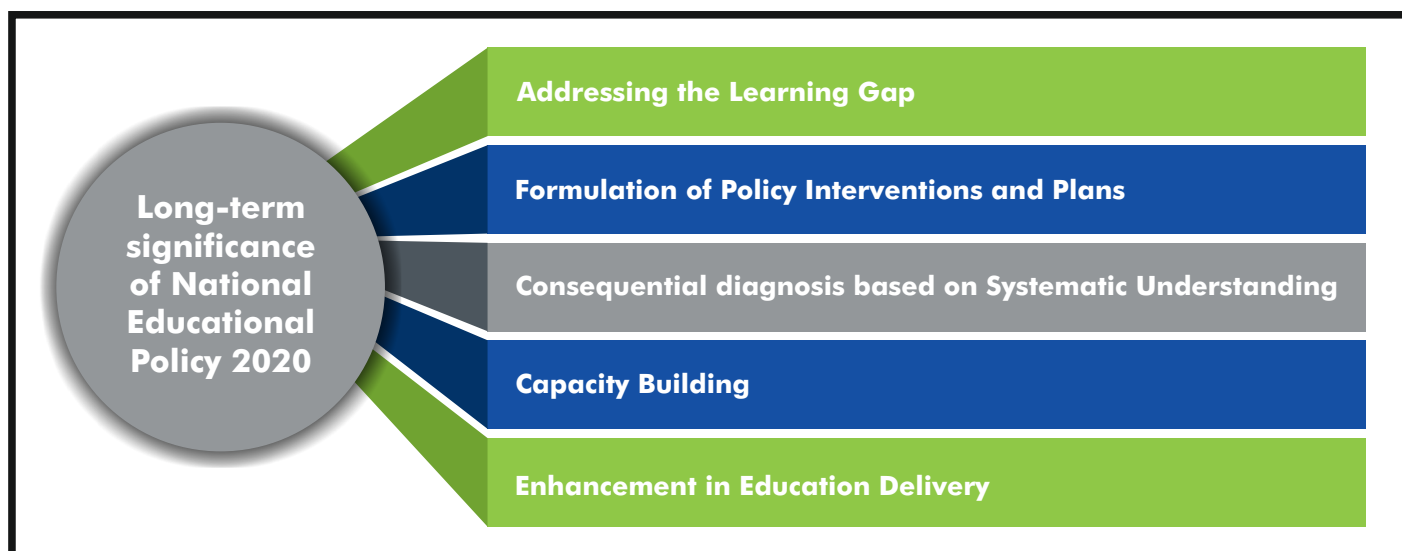
Besides this, its rich and diverse assessment variables, enhance the overall efficacy of the survey in formulating the short-term, mid-term and long-term vision documents and produce outcome-based interventions related to learning at various levels from policymaking to researcher, etc.

Key Process



Source: https://nas.education.gov.in/images/NAS_meeting_chaired%20by%20Secretary%20_SEL.pdf

The survey has the following multi-dimensional long-term significance on India's diverse and evolving educational system under National Educational Policy 2020



The pan India level National Achievement Survey 2021 has been conducted by the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) through the technical support of the National Informatics Centre (NIC). The survey includes several tests and questionnaires for students, teachers and school authorities in multiple Choice Questions (MCQ) format, prepared by the National Council of Educational Research & Training (NCERT) in 22 different Indian languages.

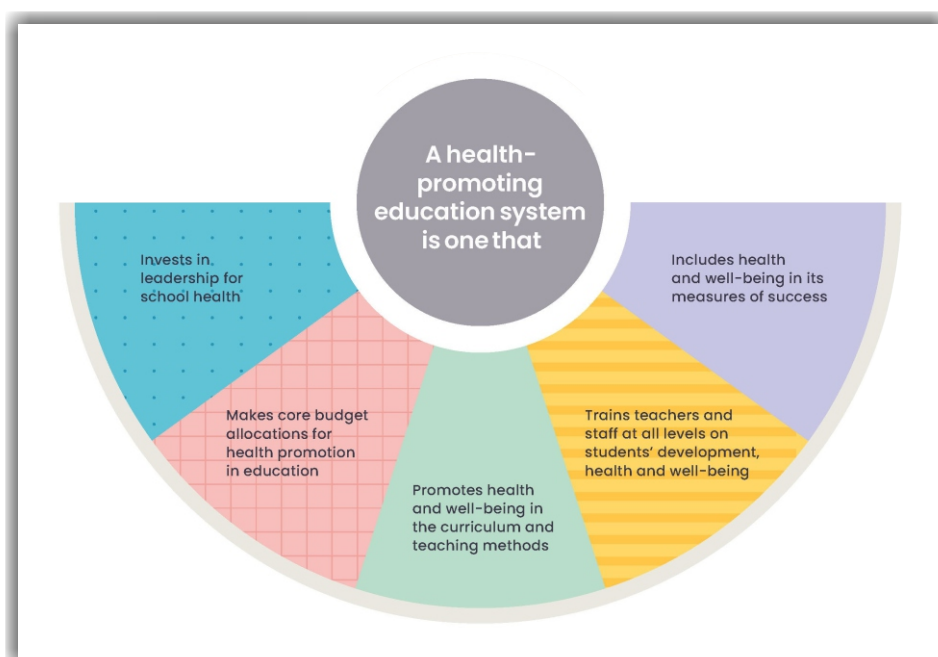
The major learning outcome-based statistics at the national level under NAS 2021 are as follows:

S No	Category	In Class 3 rd Level	In Class 5 th Level	In Class 8 th Level	In Class 10 th Level	Remark
1	National Average Percentage of Students	59	49	41.9	37.8	Declining Trend
2	National Average Score on Mathematics	57	44	36	32	Declining Trend
3	National Average Score on Language	62	52	53	-	Declining Trend
4	National Average Score on Science	-	-	39	35	Declining Trend

This time the survey evaluated the response of students related to the experience during the pandemic also and assessed how school education has been impacted when schools have remained closed. It has highlighted that there was a lack of digital devices and a lot of assignment burdens on students were recorded during this phase which developed into an oppressive situation for almost 78% of students. Still, rural India has performed significantly below than urban areas of its respective states.

Besides this, the general category student performance remained higher than the performance of the students of SC/ST and Other Backward Classes (OBC). But, the average national performance of girls in the school again out marked the average performance of the boys at national as well as state levels. Even most of the Indian states have performed below than national score except Delhi and Punjab in various categories.

The detailed report is segmented into various sub-categories based on gender, area, social groupings and type of school management for developing a better understanding of the health of India's school education system. It is developing a strong evidence-based repository to guide future policymaking in India's education system and work as a torch bearer.



Recently, the Ministry of Education, Government of India has started a public consultation survey to find the views of various stakeholders in the process of formulating the National Curriculum Framework (NCF) under the National Education Policy 2020. On April 29, 2022, the Government of India also released the mandate document for establishing the "Guidelines for the Development of National Curriculum Framework" which work as the constitution in addressing the evolving educational needs and demands of the 21st century.

The NCF has an extensive impact as it serves as a tool for designing the syllabus and textbooks along with formulating the teaching guidelines. India is currently following NCF 2005. A lot has changed in 16 years. So under NEP 2020, to establish quality improvement in the pedagogy system, the development of the National Curriculum Framework is necessary.

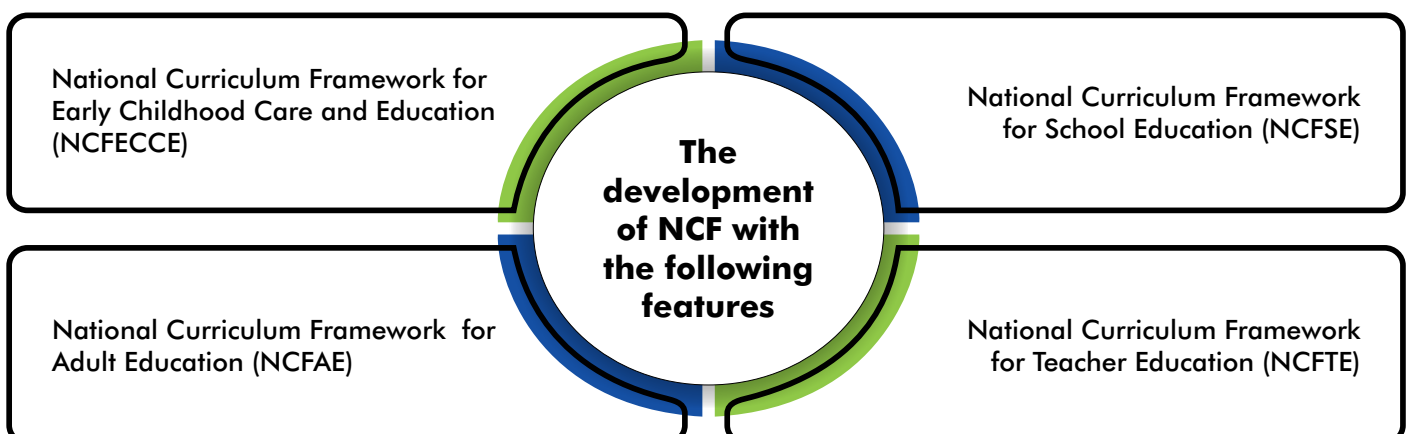
The NEP 2020 defines a philosophy that will bring real transformation to the Indian education system and help it to move towards a brighter future. The designed framework will show the path and play an important role in the socio-economic development of the country while devising an education system that will work for the welfare of the world by providing a holistic education that covers the following levels–

- Early childhood care and education

- School education
- Higher education

- Teacher Education
- Vocational education

According to the government, the mandate guideline document will bring a transformation with a focus on the comprehensive development of children at various levels, the crucial role of teachers along with the development of learning mechanisms in the mother tongue. It will authorize outstanding teaching and learning patterns by changing the vision of NEP 2020 into reality. The development of NCF with the following features is being guided by the National Steering Committee (NSC) that is supported by various mandate groups including the National Council for Education Research (NCERT):



The mandate document has broadly identified the need for responsive learning that should be sensitive enough to significantly contribute to the economic growth of the country while bringing social change.

The Guiding principles for curriculum development areas under:

Connecting Knowledge to Life outside Books

Learning is Shifted Far Away from the Rote method

Overall Development

Making Examination more Flexible and Integrating into the Classroom

The major goals identified under the framework to make the learning process more responsive, holistic and equitable are as under:

The major goals of education

1

promotion of a wholesome development of the child encompassing the academic, physical as well as emotional aspects.

2

Development of intellectual Quotient in Students by providing varied opportunities.

3

Foster Creative Thinking

4

Quality Learning

5

Non-Discrimination

The NCF 2005 ensures that resources must be located to built-up a mid-day meal scheme and therefore the girls should also receive attention to health along with school education. But as an extension, the purpose of this NCF will be as under:

- No child should be reviewed under threat
- No spotting of the child as a slow or bright learner.
- Must fulfill the aim of holistic development in the education system



The NCF also includes an in-built evaluation mechanism in classrooms that will be continuous and comprehensive with the inclusion of components such as social context, learning, knowledge, etc. Learning under this framework will focus to attract the student's attention to their academic as well as physical and psychological development. The child-centered pedagogy under this framework is designed to encourage the students to report their opinion and experience through a collaborative learning process.

Thus, the NCF under the released guidelines is all set to give the children, a sufficient understanding of life lessons and develop critical thinking so that they would be able to create their versions of knowledge in the future. It does not talk about education as a material but sets the context for fertile education that is always there to create or build something new. It is nourishing the old education system through coordinated actions among various stakeholders such as parents, teachers, peers and society. This will protect the child from continuous stress experienced in the process of learning, and make it a joyful memory for each of them through holistic and systematic development in the future.

Resources

1. <https://diksha.gov.in/>
2. <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1845985>
3. <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaselframePage.aspx?PRID=1844723>
4. <https://pmevidya.education.gov.in/diksha.html>
5. <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1813202>
6. <https://nas.gov.in/about-nas>
7. https://nas.education.gov.in/images/NAS_meeting_chaired%20by%20Secretary%20_SEL.pdf
8. <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1828301>
9. <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaselframePage.aspx?PRID=1808760>
10. <https://nas.education.gov.in/home>
11. <https://ncert.nic.in/?ln=>
12. <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaselframePage.aspx?PRID=1838953>
13. <https://ncf.ncert.gov.in/#/web/home>
14. https://www.education.gov.in/sites/upload_files/mhrd/files/NEP_Final_English_0.pdf
15. <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaselframePage.aspx?PRID=1821249>
16. <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1820867>
17. <https://www.niti.gov.in/new-national-curriculum-framework-should-focus-improving-learning-outcomes>

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