

# SCHOOL EDUCATION: PERSPECTIVES AND CHALLENGES

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## Focused Deliberation on NEP 2020- School Education Perspectives and Challenges

Date : 4<sup>th</sup> December , 2020

A meeting of school principals was held on zoom. The following members attended the meeting.

Principal, Dr. Sosamma Samuel

Manager, Fr. Blaise D'Souza s.j.

Staff coordinators : Dr. Geeta Shetty, Dr. Vini Sebastian, Dr. Elvina Pereira

Principals attended : Fr. Swamy, Ms. Seema, Ms. Nutan, Fr. Norbert, Fr. Felix, Sr. Sini, Ms. Ramona

Dr. Sosamma Samuel, Principal, welcomed all. Dr. Geeta Shetty then presented the objectives of the activity.

The main focus areas which were presented were as follows:

- New Pedagogical and Curricular structure
- Teacher Quality and transforming Institutional culture
- Governance and Accreditation

The following points emerged in the deliberation:

- Training of Aanganwadi workers through online mode
- Boosting School Infrastructural requirements for implementation of NEP
- Service conditions and professional development of preschool teachers (pay scales , gratuity)
- Admission to preschool level not clear
- Teaching through Mother tongue or Regional language in a city like Mumbai may be more applicable to rural areas
- Technological gadgets provided but internet would be a problem
- ECCE is under RTE is a big concern – Admission of students then would be difficult as it has to be under RTE
- Centralization of authority
- Learner diversity is mentioned but Equity policy is not clear
- Children’s likes and abilities need to be differentiated
- Human and financial resources in schools need to be taken care of
- Sharing of resources in a school complex, and with community would be difficult as there could be safety issues
- Schools must be open to trainee teachers at ECCE and B.Ed. levels and take interest in their training
- Are private schools under the ambit of NEP 2020 and how will aided and unaided schools collaborate is not clear in admission and sharing of resources
- Choice of subjects – student’s choice must be considered instead of parents’ interest

- Schools must have autonomy for community engagement, secular activities must be encouraged
- Talent nurturing must be encouraged in schools
- Exam orientation must reduce
- More research must be encouraged in schools
- Reflective practices must be encouraged
- Pupil teacher ratio must be balanced for effective interaction and classroom management
- Integration of curricular and extra curricular activities more clarity on this is required
- Reduction of syllabus is mentioned to accommodate innovative types of learning and teaching , more clarity is needed in this area.

**The meeting ended with a vote of thanks by Dr. Elvina Pereira.**

