

The background of the entire image is an abstract, fluid pattern of teal and blue ink splashes. The ink forms intricate, swirling, and billowing shapes that fill the frame, creating a sense of movement and depth. The colors range from light, airy blues to deep, saturated teals and dark blues, with some areas appearing more opaque and others more translucent.

# INTRODUCTION

**The journey of a thousand miles  
begins with one step**



**NET IMPACT DELHI UNIVERSITY**

# INTERNATIONAL CHAPTER OF THE YEAR

2023-24



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# WHAT OUR TEAM HAS TO SAY ABOUT THE WIN



*"This achievement is a testament to the dedication and hard work of our entire NIDU Family. Our commitment to driving positive social and environmental change has been recognized, and I am incredibly proud of what we have accomplished together."*

**Prerna Swami**  
**PRESIDENT**



*"The future belongs to those who dare to mold it."*

**Tavishi Taneja**  
**VICE PRESIDENT**



*"We're filled with joy and pride to have received this honour, it would not have been possible without this wonderful team, each and every member, heads and the top core did it so beautifully!"*

**Ananya Malhotra**  
**GENERAL SECRETARY**



*"As much as it's our victory it's our team's victory, our dream team's dream finally became a reality!"*

**Harshit Upreti**  
**JOINT SECRETARY**



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Delhi University

JULY 24 | ISSUE

# THE BRIEFING

*The quarterly newsletter of Net Impact Delhi University*

*When you love people and have the desire to make a profound, positive impact on the world, then you will have accomplished the meaning to live.*

**~Sasha Azevedo**

Society needs reformation, reformation demands visionaries. Scaling impacts beyond barriers, Net Impact, Delhi University is a part of a mission-driven global community. It mobilizes next generation leaders and empowers people to utilize their skills and careers for broadening the world's perspectives and tackle the prevailing pressing issues. Its instrumental existence not only acts as a catalyst for the positive change that the world sought after, but also a platform for individual growth.

'The Briefing' is an initiative of Net Impact, DU, through which we deliver 'news that matters'. A theme-based neighborhood quarterly newsletter, with an interesting twist and thought-provoking analysis of pressing issues from the grass root level in the most concise manner. From highlighting the crux and kernel to captivating movie reviews, 'The Briefing' shall offer it all.

This all-new edition revolves around the New Education policies and a detailed analysis of its implementation via multiple aspects. Towards the end, the briefing will take you through an exciting journey of words and curious minds, leaving you with a blissful soul and a satiated mind.

Happy reading!

Wish you an impactful month ahead!



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# From Editorial Board

## *Greetings, Intrigued Explorers!*

Venture into the heart of innovation and knowledge with "**The Briefing**," our lantern in the ever-expanding universe of thoughts and discoveries. The briefing is a labor of love for our editorial team, and we are thrilled to have the opportunity to share our insights, news, and updates with you.

As we strive to keep you informed about the latest trends, developments, and analyses in our modern world, while also bringing our readers together to build a friendly and engaged community. So sit back, relax, and enjoy the ride!

### **THEME UNDER SPOTLIGHT: REVOLUTIONISE YOUR REALM WITH THE NEW EDUCATION POLICY**

Delve deep into the pages where we unravel the enigma of the latest educational reforms—significant changes set to redefine your learning landscape! In this edition, our team meticulously researched and analyzed the intricacies of the new education policy. We have spoken to experts, educators, and ground researchers to bring you a comprehensive understanding of how these reforms will impact the education sector. From the implications for students and teachers to the broader societal impact, we have left no stone unturned in examining and presenting a critical study of some major reforms.

So engage with us as we unpack the complexities and dilemmas accompanying such transformative measures!

Furthermore, we want to express our gratitude to our loyal readers who have been with us since the beginning and extend a warm welcome to those who are joining us for the first time. Your support and feedback are invaluable to us.

We hope that you enjoy reading it as much as we enjoyed putting it together.

With anticipation for shared future discoveries,  
Editorial Board  
Net Impact Delhi University



# REALITY CHECK

# STATUS OF TEACHING METHODOLOGIES

~ Devansh



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*Expenditure on someone's education is more of an investment to enable one to become a proficient & contributive human resource to one's family and the nation.*

However, the modern trend suggests this investment going to big educational institutes that claim to build demanding professionals through their intensive curriculum but inefficient delivery.

The National Education Policy 2020 brought some significant changes in the academic curriculum with the key focus being the introduction of many Skill Enhancement and Value Addition Courses (SEC & VAC). Students are provided with the option of choosing multiple subjects based on their interests, irrespective of their stream. However, the ground implementation doesn't seem to be much aligned with the expectations.



## Crux & Kernel

*Teachers handling core subjects are now also responsible for SEC and VAC subjects, often lacking the necessary expertise. The teaching approach remains traditional, focusing on syllabus checks, topic discussions, and theory exams that encourage rote learning over comprehension.*

## FALLOUT?

Many Indian students now seek education abroad, particularly in North America and Europe, due to the modern and dynamic academic curricula alongside its implementation methodology offered there. These institutions emphasize practical learning over information dumping, which is prevalent in many Indian classrooms. Despite high tuition fees, students prefer premier institutions like Ivy League schools—Harvard, Stanford, Princeton, and Yale—because of the unparalleled exposure they offer. These schools provide world-class faculty and the opportunity to learn alongside some of the brightest minds globally, thereby enhancing the overall quality of education and making it a dream for students worldwide. What needs to be reformed is the teaching methodology and mode of assessment on which students need to get the relevant exposure.





## **SUGGESTIONS**

Case Study pedagogy is the best way to explain, discuss and enhance learning about a specific topic. Top B-schools of India realised its potential and hence did the essential modifications at the earliest. They are focusing more on problem solving and critical analysis which the corporates demand for. Class discussion, regular presentations and real life case studies enable these students to take initiative to go into the intricacies of the topic of discussion and eventually present feasible and lucrative solutions. Perhaps that's the reason behind many IIM grads being market-fit.

The current school and undergraduate teaching and assessment methodologies inundated students with tests, assignments, and projects across various subjects. However, students often fail to gain knowledge valuable in this practical world. Neither do they develop beliefs that have a profound impact on their intellectual growth. Instead, they tend to resort to copying, rote learning and chasing grades above everything.

A potential remedy is to replace multiple evaluations with a project on a trending or significant event related to the subject. Teachers may then ask students, either in groups or individually, to prepare a presentation that includes valuable insights drawn from the project. This approach would allow students to be assessed on their soft skills and emotional intelligence. Semester exams would still be conducted to evaluate theoretical knowledge, but the format could be modified. Increasing the weightage of MCQs that include case problems would encourage students to identify and apply relevant concepts, rather than simply recalling information and focusing on the quantity instead of quality.

## **CONCLUSION**

The current curriculum is clearly showing some deficiencies as evidenced by the gap between students' qualifications and the opportunities they receive after graduation or the various platforms through which the students raise their opinions. Employers seek individuals who are capable of tangible outcomes. By incorporating these modifications, the institutions can better prepare students to meet the demands of the modern workforce and achieve their full potential.

Ultimately we all know that every person involved in our education makes a difference. No doubt a professor or teacher has a direct impact on us—our developing minds. Hence effective and tangible teaching methods are the primary key to all doors of opportunities that we seek.

# TRUE VALUE OF VALUE ADDITION COURSES

~ Manshi



As the NEP elucidates, "the purpose of the education system is to develop good human beings capable of rational thought and action, possessing compassion and empathy, courage and resilience, scientific temper and creative imagination, with sound ethical moorings and values", in 2020 University of Delhi brought in a holistic curriculum for the students with the objective of connecting them in terms of what they study and how they live. These new sets of subjects were meant to bring hands- on experience for the students rather than just theoretical knowledge. It's been more than a year since these changes were brought into action but the real question is if these Value Addition Courses actually added any value for the students?!

## **POTENTIAL BENEFITS:**

These courses were meant to guide the students through various aspects of life, also providing them with additional employability options based on the skills they choose to learn. As quoted by a recent graduate of Delhi University, "Some courses like the MS Excel course were useful for us", there seems a positive light towards the usefulness of these courses. While the intentions were commendable, the execution seems to have slightly missed the mark. These courses, albeit promising, were given fewer credits, rendering them more of a nuisance than an opportunity for students. Moreover, the limited availability of options across different colleges contradicted the very essence of diversity these courses aimed to promote. In a baffling move, what was once a manageable four-subject curriculum has now ballooned up to seven subjects, leaving students stretched for time and drowning in a sea of syllabi. Although the new courses provided some useful skills, the knowledge gained was like scratching the surface of a big topic in a short time. It seems like the experience offered only provided a glimpse rather than the complete picture, perhaps due to some oversight in planning.



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## **EVALUATION OF CHALLENGES:**

One of the major challenges encountered with the implementation of **Value Addition Courses (VAC)** and **Skill Enhancement Courses (SEC)** in many universities is the shortage of qualified staff. With a limited pool of teachers available, institutions often have to assign subjects to instructors from unrelated domains, resulting in a mismatch between teacher expertise and course content.

For many educators, it may be their first encounter with teaching these subjects, highlighting the lack of proper training and preparation. This deficiency in quality staff raises serious doubts about the effectiveness of imparting knowledge in these areas. Additionally, while preparatory resources like books exist, their relevance to the new courses is questionable, leaving students with inadequate materials to supplement their learning. Moreover, the scheduling of VAC and SEC classes in the evening slots after core classes has exacerbated the issue.

The increased number of subjects has extended college hours for students, often leaving them with long gaps between classes and forcing them to linger on campus to meet attendance requirements. This scheduling dilemma not only disrupts students' routines but also diminishes the overall learning experience by stretching their time on campus unnecessarily.

### **“But the challenges don't stop here!”**

There are more to contend with. When the university revised its curriculum, it not only introduced additional courses but also increased the workload for pre-existing core subjects, significantly burdening students. The duration for completing the same syllabus that was previously spread over six months per semester was reduced to just three to four months after the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic.

This increase in lecture requirements became unmanageable, especially with the sudden addition of new subjects. Adding to the chaos was a mid-semester announcement regarding changes in the exam pattern, marks distribution, and the introduction of continuous assessment. This sudden shift left students scrambling, as missing classes now meant losing out on crucial marks due to the emphasis on regular assignments. The essence of college is meant to be a space for exploration and personal growth, yet these changes threaten to confine students to classrooms solely focused on achieving marks and attendance. It begs the question: how can students fully explore their options and experiences if they're confined to such rigid academic structures, reminiscent of a school-like format?

## **PROBLEMS FACED BY THE STUDENTS:**

When asked about the problems they are facing with these value addition courses, the following responses were given by DU students: "It's perceived as lacking creativity, focusing less on practical content and analysis, and more on burdening or frustrating students with assignments, tests, etc. (Assignments, tests, and presentations are seen as formalities for both teachers and students to complete this course)," stated a second-year LSR student.





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“We were promised some hard skills classes but they never happened which is frustrating, instead they made us watch a movie like seriously they expect us to go into corporate with a motivational movie in hand.”, says a student of delhi university.

College is a space wherein students get the opportunity to explore their potential and look for opportunities to build their skillset. The question that arises here is if the education curriculum actually allows them to dive into the sea of extra curricular activities or stick to the pond of their academics. There are a bunch of options for students in the college to skim through, may it be, internships, co-op programs, NGO volunteering opportunities, enrolling in online courses etc., but opting for alternatives means that somewhere down the line, students would have to miss on their academics to manage time between all these activities.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

To enhance the effectiveness of value addition courses, several strategies can be implemented. Firstly, increasing flexibility in course scheduling or format can accommodate diverse student needs and schedules. This could involve offering courses at various times throughout the day or week, as well as providing options for in-person, online, or hybrid learning formats. Secondly, expanding the range of course offerings to better align with students' interests and career goals can enhance engagement and satisfaction. This might involve introducing new topics, updating existing courses to reflect industry trends, or collaborating with professionals to develop specialised workshops. Finally, enhancing support services for students participating in these courses can ensure they receive the guidance and resources needed to succeed. This could include dedicated advisors, tutoring services, or access to networking opportunities and job placement assistance. By implementing these measures, institutions can create a more dynamic and student-centred approach to value additional education.

### **CONCLUSION:**

To sum it up, it won't be wrong to say that the ideology behind launching the additional subjects in the curriculum was an exceptional idea but the hasty implementation and sudden changes made to the curriculum drove away the essence of it. There are still many loopholes which need to be addressed in order to elevate the productivity and benefits derived from the policy. The Indian Education system still has a long way to go and certainly there's hope to enhance the future of the students if meaningful policies like NEP itself are executed effectively

# MONEY MATTERS

~ Mahikaa



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## *Integrating financial literacy into the modern curriculum*

Financial literacy is an amalgamation of financial awareness, knowledge, skills, attitude, and behaviour required to make informed financial decisions and achieve personal financial well-being. Broadly, financial literacy includes three components: (a) awareness and knowledge of financial products and institutions; (b) financial capability, which involves money management and financial planning; and (c) financial skills necessary to understand complex concepts like interest compounding, inflation, and risk diversification.

With the increasing availability of complex financial products, we Indians face a multitude of confusing choices. Financial education is crucial in fostering demand-side responses by enhancing awareness and access to suitable financial products and services through regulated entities, thereby bolstering household financial resilience. Therefore, financial literacy is a prerequisite for financial inclusion and a critical factor for economic well-being.

According to a recent report by **SEBI (Securities Exchange Board of India)**, only 27% of adults & 16.7% of teenagers in India are financially literate. Based on the findings of the **National Centre for Financial Education (NCFE)**, 73% of India's adult population struggles with rudimentary financial concepts. This translates to a **lack of knowledge about budgeting, saving, investing, and making sound financial decisions** – the core aspects of financial literacy.

Based on a reliable source from the **Reserve Bank of India**, the '**Financial Literacy and Inclusion**' survey published on May 22, 2023 (**RBI Bulletin**) revealed that digital banking awareness is similar across urban and rural segments. Both clocked an average score of 11.7 out of 21. Only three people out of 100 have a life insurance policy, which stood at a paltry 2.82 in 2019, according to the Economic Survey 2022 released by the Ministry of Finance. While disheartening, these figures only underline the urgency of the matter- Most of us earn money or aim to earn money only to mismanage it. This low awareness translates to missed opportunities and underscores the urgency of integrating financial literacy into the education system. Even seasoned professionals lack essential financial acumen and struggle with prudent tax planning, asset diversification, and risk management.



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# A Step in the right direction



India's education system will be overhauled under NEP 2020, a landmark education reform. It covers financial literacy in India under "Adult Education and Lifelong Learning." In addition to emphasizing critical thinking, creativity, and experiential learning, NEP 2020 emphasizes the importance of financial literacy to promote responsible, informed citizenship.

## EMPOWERING INITIATIVES

In line with the NEP, The **Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE)** and the **National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)** have collaborated to develop a financial literacy curriculum for grade VI students that will allow them to grasp basic financial concepts early on.

A few progressive schools have introduced Financial Literacy Programs for all grades. Shri Satyajit Dwivedi, the CEO of **National Strategy of Financial Education 2020-25 (NSFE)** in talks with The Financial Express, has thrown light on the implementation of NEP 2020, by focusing on the collaboration of **NSFE** with **NCERT (National Council of Educational Research and Training)** to introduce financial literacy into the curriculum through **Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE)** syllabus. As per Dwivedi, the National Centre of Financial Education (NCFE), the guiding body of NSFE, has prepared a series of workbooks for students from sixth to tenth grades, covering banking, insurance, and pensions. Additionally, he said that financial education has been implemented as a horizontal integration instead of a separate course.

**Money Smart School Program (MSSP)** is another initiative by NCFE to improve financial literacy, an important life skill for students' holistic development. It aims to provide unbiased financial education to schools. This program is based on two pillars; education and awareness, and aims to empower an entire generation through financial literacy.

As part of the Financial Education Training Program, the teachers of the participating schools will be trained to conduct sessions on financial education. In a creative move to boost tax literacy, the Income Tax department partnered with Lot Pot Comics. This collaboration uses digital comic books featuring beloved characters like Motu-Patlu to educate children and young adults about income and taxation concepts. Delivered through the characters' humorous dialogues, the tax-related messages are age-appropriate, engaging, and effectively reach a younger audience.



# TAKE CHARGE OF YOUR FINANCIAL FUTURE

While these efforts by the esteemed organisations of our country may take a while to reflect upon, we as the youth of our country should understand that education is not limited to school.

Here's what we can do to ensure a safe financial future ahead-

- Embrace lifelong learning: Take advantage of online resources, financial literacy courses, books, or workshops offered by banks and financial institutions.
- Become a financial literacy advocate: Talk to friends, family, and community members about the importance of economic knowledge. Encourage them to seek resources or participate in financial literacy programs.
- Open the conversation at home: Discussing budgeting, saving goals, and responsible credit card use with family members can foster healthy financial habits from a young age.
- Utilise financial tools and apps: Many budgeting apps and online tools can help you track expenses, create a budget, and set financial goals.

By taking these proactive steps, you can empower yourself and those around you to make informed financial decisions and achieve a secure financial future. Remember, financial literacy is a journey, not a destination. The more you learn and take action, the more control you will have over your financial well-being.





# UNABRIDGED

A journey through words and  
emotions



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## **A CINEMATIC DILEMMA**



To follow a script,  
Or script a following one  
A picture in motion  
Set apart from urban dwellings  
A dumb town and three dumber shelling

Forced to walk, to forceful trips  
Passing through,  
Characters peculiar, ten-some or two

Think hard, think fast  
Routine of worshipper  
Worshipping out of the worry-ship  
Blessing thine day with a walkover

**~ Shaz-Gone**

## ***Message***

*CRESCENDO is a poem where I have personified NIDU. It expounds on its vision, its past, its future and its expectations from future leaders. So, to all the future torchbearers of NIDU, wishing you good luck to take NIDU to greater heights. Remember what we are entrusting you is not merely an organisation but an emotion to carry forward and create timeless impact.*

*Thank you!*

## **CRESCENDO**



Looking at the great beyond  
I wonder if I'll ever get there.

There is the love  
There is the compassion  
This path that I traverse is a  
revolution.

A journey I started was joined by wise  
men and women, Whom I call family  
Unfurled the sails years after years,  
Creating tides that echo far and wide.

In the world that I'll improvise  
Will reside people who were earlier  
deprived of love, knowledge and  
righteousness

For whom, I Am the voice of exigent  
reforms

And of impact that's timeless.

Now I know it is the destiny that  
called years ago  
For me to be there.

**~ Rashmi Chaudhary**





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# THANK YOU

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*Check out our socials!*



*Instagram*



*Youtube*



*LinkedIn*



*Website*



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# Meet the Content Team



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