



**GUJARAT
TECHNOLOGICAL
UNIVERSITY**

AN INTERNATIONAL INNOVATIVE UNIVERSITY
(Accredited with A+ Grade by NAAC)
State Government University



**Report
on
THE VICE CHANCELLORS
CONCLAVE
NEP-2020 : BEST PRACTICES
and
IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES**

28, 29 NOVEMBER 2024



Venue: Gujarat Technological University, Chandkheda, Ahmedabad

The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 represents a transformative blueprint for India's education system, emphasizing the creation of a learner-centric, holistic, and multidisciplinary education ecosystem. To address the emerging needs of the nation, higher technical education institutions play a pivotal role in its successful implementation. In this context, the All India State Technical University Vice Chancellor's Conclave was held at Gujarat Technological University on 28, 29 November, 2024.

Day 1 (28 November 2024)

• Inaugural Session

The **Vice-Chancellors' Conclave on NEP 2020 Best Practices and Implementation** commenced with a ceremonial **lamp lighting ceremony**, symbolizing the dispelling of ignorance and the illumination of knowledge. The dignitaries, along with esteemed guests, sought the blessings of **Ma Saraswati**, the Goddess of wisdom and learning, through a short invocation. This auspicious beginning set a positive and inspiring tone for the event, underscoring the spiritual and intellectual essence of education in alignment with Indian traditions.



The conclave commenced with a gracious welcome address by the Registrar of Gujarat Technological University (GTU), who expressed heartfelt gratitude to the distinguished guests, Vice-Chancellors, policymakers, and industry leaders. The Registrar emphasized the significance of such gatherings in shaping the future of education under NEP 2020.



The dignitaries were felicitated with eco-friendly pot plants and mementos, symbolizing sustainability and a commitment to green initiatives. These plants will be thoughtfully integrated into GTU's campus landscaping as a gesture of collective growth and continuity.



GTU's Vice-Chancellor delivered an inspiring keynote, focusing on systemic changes for NEP implementation and sharing GTU's role in spearheading innovation and reform. She underlined several initiatives and achievements, including:

- **Best Practices and Policy Frameworks:**

- GTU's alignment with NEP 2020 by fostering multidisciplinary education and forming strategic collaborations with premier institutions like ISRO, GBRC, IITs, and NIPER.
- New frameworks, such as the sandwich course model, allowing students to gain practical industry experience while ensuring retention in academic programs.
- Development of 43 minor courses and dual-degree programs, blending disciplines like arts, AI, and engineering for holistic education.

- **Digital and Skill Development Initiatives:**

- Collaboration with DST and DBT for high-tech digital courses and MOOCs.
- GTU achieving the highest registrations in the Academic Bank of Credits (ABC), enabling flexible learning pathways.
- The launch of the Syama Prasad Mukherjee Platform, offering industry-centric courses and fostering lifelong learning.



- **Innovation and Startups:**

- Launch of GTU Ventures, a comprehensive platform to support entrepreneurship and innovation, which has registered over 750 startups generating ₹114 crore in revenue and employment opportunities.
- Planning industry-linked projects with academic credits for enhanced learning outcomes.

In her address, the Vice-Chancellor highlighted GTU's unique achievements, including receiving ₹18.5 crore in IP funding, filing 123 patents, publishing 683 articles, and mentoring over 1,700 Ph.D. scholars. She also mentioned GTU's global reach, attracting students from 25 international institutions across 52 countries.

The session also marked the launch of **two major initiatives**:

1. **GTU Ventures**: A comprehensive ecosystem to support startups, technology transfer, and innovation, aiming to nurture entrepreneurial talent among students and faculty members.
2. **GTU Skills – Syama Prasad Mukherjee Kendra for Industry and Lifelong Learning**: A skill development hub focused on bridging the gap between academia and industry through customized courses designed to meet real-world demands.



Session 1: NEP and Academia-Industry Integration

Shri B. N. Pani: Commended the NEP's transformative potential, emphasizing academia-industry collaboration to meet evolving industrial needs. Highlighted GTU's curriculum advancements, such as semiconductor-focused courses, showcasing GTU as a leader in aligning academia with industry.



Dr. Pankaj Mittal (AIU):

- Stressed the need for university-level changes, with institutions defining their roles as teaching, research, or degree-awarding universities.
- Advocated for utilizing ABC effectively and transitioning from program-based to course-based admissions.
- Suggested internships each semester for technical universities and leveraging AI and digital tools for modern education.

Shri Sunaina Tomar:

Called for reimagining traditional education methods and promoting skill, innovation, and holistic development. Encouraged reflection on NEP action plans for future review.

Prof. T. G. Sitharam (AICTE):

- Discussed the significant progress achieved under NEP, including growing GER and course-wise registrations.
- Highlighted upcoming launches like a supernumerary seat portal and flexible working professional programs.
- Promoted interdisciplinary learning, industry collaboration, and innovation, citing AICTE's leadership in advancing STEM education.

**Dr. Atul Kothari:**

Indian Knowledge Systems (IKS) for holistic education. Emphasized research orientation from the first year and the necessity of student task forces for effective NEP implementation.

Shri Unnat Pandit:

Encouraged fostering creativity and problem-solving in students. Shared examples of innovative startups and emphasized the importance of participation and flexibility in course selection under NEP.



Day 2 (29 November 2024)

Prof. Padmakumar Nair (Thapar Institute): Emphasized integrating pedagogy with courses like AI and IKS. Encouraged adopting humility-based Indian systems over affectation-driven Western approaches.

Prof. Sudhir Kumar Barai (BITS Pilani): Presented BITS' Practice Schools model, offering 5-6 months of industry internships, fostering industry-academia collaboration. Highlighted international exposure and work-integrated learning programs.

Prof. Omkar Singh (VMSB Uttarakhand): Shared digital empowerment initiatives, such as a University Management System, enabling seamless academic operations.

Plenary Session: Indian Knowledge Systems and Digitalization

Dr. Navin Sheth (Former GTU VC): Advocated integrating IKS with contemporary research and Ph.D. programs, ensuring validation and relevance of traditional knowledge in modern contexts.

Dr. Ravi Kant (SVNIT Surat): Stressed the significance of Ayurveda, yoga, and holistic education. Promoted international collaborations and student exchange programs.

Smt. Anita Karwal (Retd. IAS): Highlighted the future of education emphasizing skills over degrees, the rise of green jobs, and the need for competency-based teaching. Advocated integrating AI ethics into education to prepare students for hybrid workplaces and interdisciplinary roles.



Way Forward

The conclave concluded with a moderated discussion led by GTU's VC. Key recommendations included:

- Organizing thematic lecture series for students and faculty.
- Hosting zone-wise conclaves for NEP implementation and workshops tailored to local needs.
- Promoting skill-based education, integrating environmental studies, and fostering innovation through academia-industry collaboration.

This conclave reaffirmed GTU's leadership in implementing NEP 2020, fostering collaboration, and setting benchmarks for higher education institutions nationwide.

The session was concluded by Vote of Thanks by Prof. (Dr.) Vaibhav Bhatt, followed by National Anthem.



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