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Recommendations of National Education Policy-2020 towards Development of Indian Languages

Rajiv Kumar Singh*

Literature serves as a social commentary. Literature provides a window into society, capturing whatever is going on there. Any society's past and present lifestyle, cultural legacy, moral values, nature, faith, religion, philosophy, and way of life can only be learned through its native literature. However, the production of literature also requires words, and dialects and languages are the only sources of these words. Language is necessary for the recording of literature.

India is renowned for its rich cultural heritage and diversity. Every Indian state has its language and heritage. The Indian Constitution's Eighth Schedule enumerates the 22 scheduled languages used in India. Nevertheless, there are many more languages and dialects in vogue besides these. UNESCO estimated that in the year 2000, more than 7000 languages were spoken around the world. Of these languages, about 2500 were endangered at that time. Many languages in our nation are in danger of becoming extinct, and the number of people who speak and understand them is declining. Some scholars estimate that by the year 2050, about 90% of languages among these will become extinct. This language issue makes us reflect and tells us that we must cease preserving these languages and take proactive measures to advance their growth if we are to conserve a rich cultural legacy from antiquity. The NEP-2020 is a significant document that firmly encourages the improvement of Indian languages currently.

We study literature, appreciate it, and learn about it through our understanding of language or script. How can we communicate with one another if there is no speech or language? That literature, however, will be unreadable and incomprehensible to everyone should the language or dialects become endangered. When the language disappears, the nation's cultural legacy starts to decline as well. The National Education Policy-2020 (NEP-2020) is firmly in favor of keeping Indian languages alive. This paper will examine and go into detail on the policy's support for Indian languages. An exploratory study that draws on the NEP-2020 aims to elucidate the obstacles and significance of the policy in terms of advancing Indian languages. The compelling arguments in favor of including Indian languages in the curriculum will be thoroughly examined in this paper. The objectives of this paper are:

- To identify the main features of languages.

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