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# NEP-2020 Implementation: Challenges and Opportunities for State Universities and Affiliated Colleges

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## UNIVERSITY NEWS

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The Government of India moved the subject of education from the State list to the Concurrent list through the 42<sup>nd</sup> Constitutional Amendment in 1975. The concurrent list allows both the central and state governments to make legislation on subjects listed in it. However, according to the union list, point 66, the central government has the authority to coordinate and determine standards for institutions of higher education or research, as well as for scientific and technical institutions. It means that while both the centre and states can make laws on education, the central government has specific authority over higher education standards and certain aspects of scientific and technical education. So, accreditation, ranking, funding, and institutional development schemes related to higher education standards are directly regulated by the Central Government.

The nation celebrated five years of implementing the National Education Policy 2020 in 2025. Over the last five years, the central government and most state governments have endeavoured to implement the national education policy in both letter and spirit. However, conflicts have arisen between many states and the central government regarding the implementation of policies such as language education and a few others. Most state universities and colleges have a practice of implementing policies and notifications from the Ministry of Education or the University Grants Commission (UGC) once they are adopted and endorsed in the form of government resolutions by the respective states. Following the introduction of the national education policy, numerous state governments began implementing the central government's policies and notifications in a positive manner. It is also evident that many central government policies and notifications were overlooked or not implemented by state universities and colleges, as they were not issued in the form of notifications by the respective state governments. It seems that the state governments proceed with the policies of the central government related to higher education mainly in three ways:

- 1) The state governments adopt the policies and notifications as notified by the central government, and also accept the amendments by the central government thereafter. For example: Uniform Statute No. 03, 2023, was accepted by the government of Maharashtra regarding norms for a grant for autonomy to affiliated colleges, recognised Institutions, conducted colleges and constituent colleges, National Credit Framework, NAD notifications, etc.

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REFERENCE