

National Education Policy gets govt nod

NEW DELHI: A single regulator for higher education institutions, multiple entry and exit options in degree courses, discontinuation of MPhil programmes, low stakes board exams, common entrance exams for universities are among the highlights of the new National Education Policy (NEP) approved by the Union Cabinet on Wednesday.

The policy, which was framed in 1986 and revised in 1992, had not been revised since then. The Cabinet also approved changing the name of the human resource development (HRD) ministry to education ministry.

“NEP 2020 aims to increase the gross enrolment ratio in higher education, including

vocational education, from 26.3% (2018) to 50% by 2035. At least 35 million new seats will be added to higher education institutions,” HRD higher education secretary Amit Khare said at a press briefing.

Among the key reforms in the policy are a single regulator for all higher education institutions, except for legal and medical colleges; common entrance exam for admissions to universities and colleges to be conducted by the National Testing Agency (NTA) and common norms to be in place for private and public higher education institutions under the central government’s new education policy.

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