

DOUBLE SPEND ON EDUCATION, SAYS NEP DRAFT

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Doubling the percentage of public expenditure on education, setting up an overarching National Education Commission as well as a National Research Foundation, encouraging primary school education in the mother tongue and incorporating traditional Indian knowledge systems into the curriculum are among the key recommendations of the draft National Education Policy released on Friday.

This is the first NEP in almost three decades; the last time such a policy was formulated was in 1986, with amendments made in 1992.

More consultations

“Further consultations are needed with States and other stakeholders,” new Human Resource Development Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank told presspersons after taking charge of the Ministry and accepting the draft policy, which has faced repeated delays over the past five years.

The policy is available online, and the HRD Ministry is soliciting public and expert feedback till June 30.

The draft policy recommends the creation of a National Education Commission (NEC) or Rashtriya Shiksha Aayog (RSA) as an apex body for Indian education, to be headed by the Prime Minister of India, with a mandate beyond the current HRD Ministry.

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