



National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 Implementation at Pre-Vocational Level

Course Module and Implementation Guidelines for 10 Bag-Less Day program for Grades 6th to 8th

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Introduction

The NEP 2020 emphasizes the need for 'New and Comprehensive National Curricular Frameworks' for School Education, ECCE, Teacher Education, and Adult Education. These National Curricular Frameworks will ensure that there is **no rigid separation** among 'curricular', 'extracurricular', or 'co-curricular' activities and bring more fluidity among 'arts', 'humanities', and 'sciences', or between 'vocational' or 'academic' streams.

Our current school curriculum is segmented subject wise. We categorize subjects by disciplines and our teachers teach them in the same manner. The student also absorbs the teaching in the similar way and therefore they cannot comprehend their interconnectedness, the application, and the relationship with one another.

Lend A Hand India, a non-profit organization based in Pune, Maharashtra, has been working for the past 13 years with secondary and higher secondary schools to incorporate learning by doing methodology in teaching and learning and application, and real-life reflections of the learnings in the classroom. As of 2021, Lend A Hand India works in 24 States, in 10,000 schools, reaching over 1 million students. The organization has also developed a training program "Saksham" (सक्षम) for vocational skill trainers in age-appropriate teaching techniques and pedagogy.



NEP 2020 recommendation for introducing Vocational Education for students in Grades 6 to 8

In order to introduce to vocational education for Grade 6 to 8 students, the NEP 2020 in Chapter 4.26 recommends the following measures for Grade 6 to 8 students:

1. All students will participate in a **10-day bag-less period** sometime during Grades 6-8 where they intern with local vocational experts such as carpenters, gardeners, potters, artists, etc.
2. Curriculum and Pedagogy in Schools: Learning should be Holistic, Integrated, Enjoyable and Engaging
3. Bag Less days will be encouraged throughout the year for various types of enrichment activities involving arts, quizzes, sports, and vocational crafts.
4. School students will also be exposed to outside activities periodically through visits to places of historical, cultural and tourist importance including monuments, museums. Meetings with local artists and craftsmen, and visits to higher educational institutes in their respective village, tehsil, district, or state will also be encouraged.

10-Day Bag less Schooling program

Objective:

Detailed study and understanding of the NEP 2020 recommendations, it can be derived that the **10-Day's bag-less schooling** is specially designed to make learning holistic, enjoyable and engaging. Furthermore, such an initiative will introduce the students to observation-based learning, hands-on learning, and to develop holistic, integrated understanding of the world around them. The initiative will also help the students make the real-world connections of classroom learning and real life.

The '10-Day Bag less Schooling' is expected to achieve the following objectives:

1. Provide exposure to a world outside their classroom and to transactions that affect, contribute to day to day life
2. Build observation-based learning capacity and provide scope for practice.
3. Develop understanding of connectedness of community and interdependence.
4. Exposure to the interconnectedness of learnings that students do in the classroom with conceptual as well as practical application.
5. Promote dignity of labor by giving exposure to Hands on Activity and according importance to local vocations.
6. Exposure to possible career, higher education avenues



Approach:

To implement the 10-Day Bag less day initiative, Lend A Hand India has developed a module which can be adapted and implemented by the schools with minimal resources and maximum effectiveness of teaching time.

For implementation of 10-Day Bag less Schooling, an activity based, hands-on teaching- learning curriculum has been developed. The module consists of a set of 10 activities, consisting of **projects, field visits, demonstrations, and guest sessions by local artisans, artists, professionals/ skilled workers.**

Curriculum:

Indicative and suggested curriculum for 10-Day Bag less day is attached. The teachers can take liberty in modifying the activities, keeping in mind the objective and essence of the suggested topic. (Refer Appendix 1)

Implementation:

Guidelines for implementing the 10-Day Bag less program:

Teachers' Hand book and a brief induction training for grade 6 to 8 teachers will help in implementing the 10 Bag-less program meaningfully and make it an interesting, enjoyable learning experience for the students.

1. The respective class teacher, with help from other teachers and staff, will deliver the 10-Day Bag-less module as per a predetermined schedule which will be announced well in advance for atmosphere creation and preparation by the teachers.
2. Ideally the celebration should be held at the same time for all the three grades. This will create an enjoyable, celebratory atmosphere in the school.
3. On each day activity should be planned in such a way that the students are engaged for about 5 clock hours per day (the standard school time).
4. Orientation and training for teachers to deliver this module will have to be conducted and a teachers' handbook will have to be also developed to help the schools to undertake this activity. Lend A Hand India is preparing the teachers' handbook, including a small assessment test.
5. An appropriate budget to celebrate the 10-Day Bag-less schooling activity will have to be provided to cover expenses such as honorarium, travel conveyance, travel for field visits, raw material for projects and activities, demonstration, and other miscellaneous expenses such as snacks, printing, copying etc. The class teacher would be able to draw the budget based on the activities planned.
6. For field visits, inviting artists, artisans for demonstrations, exhibits, the school Principal will give necessary approval, send out invites, and also remain present to encourage the students and to demonstrate the appreciation of the art, skill of the guest.



7. While planning and selecting the activities from the recommended curriculum, the teachers will have to consider the cultural, geographical specificities, values, practices and also specifications, resource availability and limitations for their respective geographical region.

Budget:

To deliver the activities and events planned to implement 10-Day Bag less day activity, the school will have to make available a budget of approximately Rs. 20,000 to Rs. 25,000 per annum.

Expected Outcomes:

1. Exposure to outside world and interconnectedness of different systems and their interdependence
2. Enhanced observation capacity
3. Understanding of dignity of labor - Students accord same respect to professionals in all fields, they don't feel it demeaning to do any work
4. Exposure to higher education and Career opportunities
5. Opportunity to move from chalk and talk to comprehensive and collaborative approach
6. Making learning and school experience interesting and engaging
7. Opportunity to develop deeper understanding of concept and correlate its application in daily life
8. Trigger curiosity, inculcate experimentation and inspire innovation

Measurement of Outcomes:

Expected Outcome	Methods of Measurement
1. Exposure to the outside world and interconnectedness of different systems and their interdependence. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Students will be able to tell the interconnectedness of the concept and its connection with the different subjects. b. Students will be able to observe and express different occupations. c. Students will be able to logically infer events and their implications on society. 	Students' assessment sheet or Students Progress Cards - Observation of teachers and VT in Group Discussion and performance in the activities.
2. Enhanced observation capacity.	Students' assessment sheet or Students



<p>a. Students will express their observation of different elements like - Things around them, involvement of occupation people around them, small changes happening around them.</p>	<p>Progress Cards - Picture Observation /Questionnaire</p>
<p>3. Understanding of dignity of labor. a. Students will tell the different occupations they have observed in their community. b. Students will give respect to every occupation around them. c. Students will get involved in doing activities by their hands and develop a sense of respect in all the work done by themselves.</p>	<p>Google form – questionnaire – Students fill a questionnaire analyzed by the Teachers and Vocational Trainers.</p>
<p>4. Exposure to higher education and Career opportunities. a. Students will be able to relate the occupation with the education and will ask questions related to a road map of the occupations.</p>	
<p>5. Opportunity to move from chalk and talk to comprehensive and collaborative approach a. Students will experience learning with exposure to Hands on Learning. b. Observe and express the interrelation of the subjects through different activities.</p>	<p>Students Reflection Sheet (google forms) - Students will be filling – Self-reflection sheets.</p>
<p>6. Opportunity to develop deeper understanding of concepts and its application in daily life will lead to joys and sustainable learning atmosphere. a. Students will experience an enjoyable learning experience in these 10 days of bag-less period.</p>	<p>Filling questionnaire and Reflections Sheets – Google Form Students will share examples of that concepts’ application around them</p>
<p>7. Trigger curiosity, inculcate experimentation and inspire innovation. a. Students will exhibit interest in specific or certain areas through the exposure of different activities. b. Students will be able to share out of the box ideas during the implementation of the activities. c. Students will ask a lot of questions.</p>	<p>Qualitative observation through Audios and Videos. Observation filled in Students’ Progress Card.</p>

Annexures:

- i. 10 Bag-less Days program curriculum
- ii. Teachers’ Hand Books for grades 6th, 7th and 8th
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- iv. 10 Bag-less Days program Impact Measurement Tools