

DAILY NEWS ANALYSIS



1. Hindi not mandatory in revised draft of National Education Policy 2019

- What was there in the previous draft?
- Why did the Hindi language row put up huge controversy?
- What is three language formula?
- How does Indian constitution deal with Hindi language?

GS paper 2 (Issues related to health, education and human resources)

In this video, you can find detailed answers for all the above questions.



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The above article has been retrieved from:

Shyamlal Yadav, Ritika Chopra. (2019, May , 4). 3-language policy: National Education Policy draft revised, 2 members object. Indian Express. Retrieved from

<https://indianexpress.com/article/education/3-language-policy-national-education-policy-draft-revised-2-members-object-5763516/>



What is the context about?

—● The Government has revised the draft National Education Policy (NEP) 2018, dropping a reference to Hindi and English in the recommendation on the three-language formula.

—● The revised version states: “In keeping with the principle of flexibility, students who wish to change one or more of the three languages they are studying may do so in Grade 6 or Grade 7, so long as they are able to still demonstrate proficiency in three languages (one language at the literature level) in their modular Board Examinations sometime during secondary school.”



What was there in the previous draft?

—● The earlier version of the draft NEP read: “In keeping with the principle of flexibility, students who wish to change one of the three languages they are studying may do so in Grade 6, so long as the study of three languages by students in the Hindi-speaking states would continue to include Hindi and English and one of the modern Indian languages from other parts of India, while the study of languages by students in the non-Hindi-speaking states would include the regional language, Hindi and English.”

Why did the Hindi language row put up huge controversy?

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—● In various non-Hindi speaking states of India, the NEP debated sparked over the imposition of Hindi as a third language. The states strongly opposed the three-language formula and alleged that it was tantamount to thrusting the Hindi language on the non-Hindi speaking states.

—● Following protests, the HRD Ministry has shared a revised document on its website, which dropped the recommendation that stipulated the languages that students must choose to study from Grade 6.

—● Also, the criticism forced the HRD Ministry to issue a statement clarifying that the policy was only a draft and will be finalized after incorporating public feedback and views of the state governments.



What is three language formula?

—● In India, the ‘three-language formula’ has its roots back in the year 1961. The formula means that students in Hindi-speaking states should learn a modern Indian language, apart from Hindi and English and, in non-Hindi-speaking states, Hindi along with the regional language and English.

—● **First Language:** The First Language that students should study is the ‘Mother tongue’ or the regional language

—● **Second Language:** In Hindi-speaking states, the second-language would be English or some other language belonging to Modern India. In Non-Hindi states, the second language will be English or Hindi.

—● **Third Language:** In Hindi-speaking states, the third language would be English or some other language belonging to Modern India, but the one that is not chosen as a second language.

How does Indian constitution deal with Hindi language?



—● **Article 346** of the Constitution of India recognizes Hindi in Devanagari script as the official language of Union government India.

—● It is to be noted that the Constitution did not declare Hindi as the National language, it rather accorded Hindi the status of ‘official language’ along with English.

—● Currently, the 8th Schedule of the Indian Constitution contains 22 official languages-Assamese, Bengali, Gujarati, Hindi, Kannada, Kashmiri, Konkani, Malayalam, Manipuri, Marathi, Nepali, Oriya, Punjabi, Sanskrit, Sindhi, Tamil, Telugu, Urdu, Bodo, Santhali, Maithili and Dogri.

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Article 350A: Article 350A of the Constitution of India deals with the facilities for instruction in mother-tongue at the primary stage. It shall be the endeavor of every State and of every local authority within the State to provide adequate facilities for instruction in the ‘mother-tongue’ at the primary stage of education to children belonging to linguistic minority groups; and the President may issue such directions to any State as he considers necessary or proper for securing the provision of such facilities.

Article 351: Article 351 provides a directive for development of the Hindi language.
