New Committee on National Educational policy

Why in news?

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HRD ministry announced new eight member committee on National education policy recently.

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What were the recommendations of Subramaniam committee?

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- T.S.R.Subramaniam committee was formed in the year 2015 and the committee submitted following recommendations.
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- Indian Education Service (IES) should be established as an all India service with the cadre controlling authority vesting Resource HRD ministry.
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- The outlay on education should be raised to at least 6% of GDP without further loss of time.
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- Teacher Entrance Tests (TET) should be made compulsory for recruitment of all teachers.
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- Compulsory licensing for teachers in government and private schools should be made mandatory.
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- Pre-school education for children in the age group of 4 to 5 years should be declared as a right .
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- The no detention policy must be continued for young children until completion of class V when the child will be 11 years old.
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- A National Level Test open to every student who has completed class XII from any School Board should be designed.
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- The mid-day meal (MDM) program should now be extended to cover students of secondary schools.
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- The University Grants Commission (UGC) needs to be made leaner and thinner and given the role of disbursal of scholarships and fellowships.
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- Top 200 foreign universities should be allowed to open campuses in India.
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What are the issues with these recommendations?

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- The original report recommended that political parties to be banned from appointing Vice Chancellors for universities.
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- A radical reform it had recommended is separate bureaucratic framework for HRD functions.
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- An autonomous body to handle the selection of teachers for government schools and colleges was also recommended.
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- These recommendations may not have been new, but nearly all of them broke with the dogmas of the past.
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What is the purpose of new committee?

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- The government is not satisfied with the reports of TSR Subramanian Committee.
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- Fresh and comprehensive reports are the main objectives for the government to announce the new committee.
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- The new committee will be headed by ISRO chief K Kasturirangan.
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- The new committee will consider inputs from the Subramanian committee reports.
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What should be done?

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The government’s intention on reforming education would be successful only when it is ready to accept the recommendations and implement them.

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Source: Financial Express

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