

# Storm Damages World's Biggest Floating Solar Plant | Madhya Pradesh | 13 Apr 2024

### Why in News?

The biggest floating solar plant in the world located at <a href="Omkareshwar Dam">Omkareshwar Dam</a>, **Khandwa district, Madhya**<a href="Parallel">Pradesh</a> has sustained severe damage due to a storm.</a>

### **Key Points**

- Narmada Hydroelectric Development Corporation (NHDC) has initiated an assessment of the harm but remains positive that the plant will resume power generation shortly.
  - The Narmada Hydroelectric Development Corporation Limited (NHDC Limited) is a joint venture between the Government of Madhya Pradesh and the National Hydroelectric Power Corporation Limited (NHPC Limited).
- The floating structure, constructed on the backwaters of Omkareshwar Dam, was all set for deployment when it was battered by strong 50 kmph winds during a summer storm recently.
- The Omkareshwar Dam backwaters will house plants with capacities of 100 megawatts in Kelwa Khurd, 88 megawatts in Indawadi and 90 megawatts in Ekhand village.

#### The Omkareshwar Dam

- It is a gravity dam on the Narmada River just upstream of Mandhata in Khandwa district, Madhya Pradesh.
- It is named after the Omkareshwar temple located just downstream.
- The dam was constructed between 2003 and 2007 with the purpose of providing water for irrigation of 132,500 ha (327,000 acres).
- An associated hydroelectric power station located at the base of the dam has an installed capacity of 520 MW.

# New Curriculum for Fourth Year UG Students | Madhya Pradesh | 13 Apr 2024

## Why in News?

With the upcoming session, the **Department of Higher Education (DHE) in Madhya Pradesh** has formulated a **new curriculum for undergraduate** students who are starting their fourth year under the <u>National Education Policy 2020.</u>

### **Key Points**

- Madhya Pradesh has become one of the primary states in India in carrying out the National Education Policy.
  - More than 450,000 students in undergraduate professional courses in the state can apply for admission in the fourth year if they have a CGPA of 7.5 or above.
- According to the new curriculum developed by the DHE, students can specialize in different subjects through **research projects**.
- The switch to four-year programs is anticipated to be advantageous for students who plan to study further on international soil, as it matches the entry criteria for specific graduate courses abroad.

## **National Education Policy 2020**

- The **National Education Policy 2020** seeks to tackle the evolving development needs of India.
  - It calls for a comprehensive overhaul of the education system, including its regulations and management, to establish a modern system that aligns with 21stcentury educational goals, including Sustainable Development Goal 4 (SDG4), while respecting India's cultural heritage and values.
- It replaces the thirty-four year old **National Policy on Education, 1986, modified in 1992** (NPE 1986/92).

#### **Transforming Curricular & Pedagogical Structure** The Vision **Existing Academic Structure New Academic Structure** New pedagogical and curricular structure of school education (5+3+3+4): 3 years in Anganwadi/pre-school and 12 years in school 2 Years 4 Years (Age 16-18) · Secondary Stage(4) multidisciplinary (Age 14-18) study, greater critical thinking, flexibility and student choice of subjects 3 Years (Class 6 to 8) (Age 11-14) · Middle Stage (3) experiential learning 10 Years in the sciences, mathematics, arts, (Ages 6-16) social sciences, and humanities Preparatory Stage (3) play, discovery, and activity-based and interactive classroom learning (Class 1 & 2) (Ages 6-8) · Foundational stage (5) multilevel, play/activity-based learning (Ages 3-6)

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