



**CLUSTER INNOVATION CENTRE**  
(UNIVERSITY OF DELHI)  
M.Sc. (Mathematics Education)  
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## **A STUDY ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF ECCE IN INDIA IN THE LIGHT OF THE NATIONAL CURRICULUM FRAMEWORK FOR THE FOUNDATIONAL STAGE**

*(A research dissertation submitted at Cluster Innovation Centre, University of Delhi )*

### **Abstract**

*Early childhood is the term used to describe the first 6 years of life, which are the formative years and play a major role in brain development. Early Childhood Care and Education refers to the programs and services that are designed to promote the healthy development and learning of young children, typically from birth to age six. In India, there are several schemes and programs like ECCE, ICDS, RBSK, that support ECCE for children between the ages of 0-6 years. The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 in India has placed significant emphasis on early childhood care and education. The policy recognizes the critical importance of the early years in a child's development and has outlined several key recommendations. Which majorly focuses on universal access to quality early childhood care and education. The purpose of this research is to understand ECCE and track the journey of the developments made in the field of Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) in India and its current structure in the context of the National Curriculum Framework for Foundational Stage. The National Curriculum Framework for Foundational Stage provides guidelines and standards for early childhood education in the country. This study aims to describe the concept of ECCE, its developments, and its current structure. The structure could involve ECCE practices, curriculum design, teacher training, and overall child development outcomes. By analyzing existing literature, policy papers guidelines, curriculum frameworks, and reports in a qualitative way, this research seeks to gain a comprehensive understanding of the concept, strengths, challenges, structure, and developments in recent years in India. The findings of this study will contribute to the ongoing discourse on ECCE policy and practice, providing valuable insights to policymakers, educators, and researchers for enhancing the quality and effectiveness of early childhood education programs in India.*

by

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