

Apprenticeship Reforms and the Central Apprenticeship Council's Recommendations

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National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS) aims to promote apprenticeship training throughout the country. Initially launched in August 2016, the scheme is currently being continued under its second phase, NAPS-2. Under NAPS-2, the Government shares partial stipend support, limited to 25% of the minimum prescribed stipend payable to apprentices, subject to a maximum of ₹1,500 per apprentice per month during the training period. The stipend support is disbursed directly to the apprentices' bank accounts through the Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) mechanism.

The number of apprentices currently undergoing apprenticeship training under NAPS-2 as on 30th June 2025 is 8,52,376 of which 1,95,680 are women apprentices across pan India level. The State/UT-wise including Uttar Pradesh number of apprentices currently undergoing training is at [Annexure-I](#).

Under NAPS-2, to encourage greater participation from establishments in apprenticeship training, the Ministry has simplified processes through multiple Office Memorandums (OMs), upgraded the apprenticeship portal, and revised NAPS guidelines. Larger establishments can now provide basic training in-house, and centralized establishments may register under a single RDSDE.

The Ministry is actively engaging CPSUs with dedicated meetings held to explore expansion under NAPS-2. Monitoring mechanisms have been strengthened through a three-tier system involving central, regional, and state-level advisors to boost industry participation, ensure compliance, and drive apprenticeship engagement. Regular zonal review meetings with states are being held, and underperforming TPAs are being monitored and removed.

Over 36,000 establishments have participated in 5,339 Prime Minister National Apprenticeship Melas (PMNAMs) since June 2022. Financial support is now provided to states to organize Apprenticeship Melas, enhancing outreach efforts. Letters and outreach have been directed to top corporate houses, MSME clusters, and state officials to promote industry involvement. Meetings with industry players, Sector Skill Councils, and CPSUs have been conducted to improve collaboration.

Application Programme Interface (API) integration with state and central portals is underway to streamline processes and data sharing. A digital awareness campaign was launched in partnership with United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). Policy changes, like increased stipends and the introduction of Certificate of Proficiency, further aim to make apprenticeship more attractive for establishments and as well as apprentices. Further, Pilot initiative for special intervention for promotion of apprenticeship in North Eastern Region (NER) focuses towards increased establishment participation as well as apprentices of NER.

The National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS2)—launched in 2016 and revamped under Skill India—offers apprentices structured, paid on-the-job training across traditional and emerging sectors, with financial incentives for the benefit of the trainees directly through stipend support. Apprenticeships empower youth in tech-driven fields like Artificial Intelligence (AI), Internet of Things (IoT), green energy, and healthcare—by providing industry-aligned, hands-on experience that boosts employment or entrepreneurial success.

The scheme promotes inclusive growth through participation from marginalized communities and

female enrolment, and extends to underserved regions including the Northeast via special pilot initiatives that provides an additional amount of Rs 1,500/- over and above the Government share of stipend. Industry collaboration through Optional Trades ensures curriculum relevance, while enhancing global competitiveness.

Recent reforms include a proposed 36% stipend hike (from 5,000–9,000 to 6,800–12,300) tied to Consumer Price Index attract talent and supports apprentices from getting dropped in between the training programme. Major reforms as decision of 38th Central Apprenticeship Council (CAC) include linking degree programs with apprenticeships, blended training modes, reserved slots for persons with benchmark disabilities, and expanding training into emerging sectors such as Information Technology (IT), biotech, renewable energy, and telecommunications by updating industrial classifications to National Industrial Classification (NIC) 2008 sets the tone of Apprenticeship Training towards 2047 by bridging India's skill gap, enhancing employability and fueling industrial growth.

ANNEXURE - I

The State-wise number of apprentices currently undergoing training is given below:

S. No	State	Apprentices currently undergoing training		
		Women	Men	Total
1.	Andaman And Nicobar Islands	89	133	222
2.	Andhra Pradesh	3,798	16,935	20,733
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	35	34	69
4.	Assam	2,086	3,663	5,749
5.	Bihar	533	2,743	3,276
6.	Chandigarh	411	689	1,100
7.	Chhattisgarh	921	4,313	5,234
8.	Delhi	4,867	14,093	18,960
9.	Goa	3,979	6,868	10,847
10.	Gujarat	17,253	62,772	80,025
11.	Haryana	12,004	46,082	58,086
12.	Himachal Pradesh	1,643	6,244	7,887
13.	Jammu And Kashmir	276	953	1,229
14.	Jharkhand	1,304	8,554	9,858
15.	Karnataka	16,791	60,026	76,817
16.	Kerala	3,824	7,753	11,577
17.	Ladakh	33	10	43
18.	Lakshadweep	6	2	8
19.	Madhya Pradesh	5,860	15,640	21,500
20.	Maharashtra	50,125	1,81,823	2,31,948
21.	Manipur	73	44	117
22.	Meghalaya	75	114	189

23.	Mizoram	57	100	157
24.	Nagaland	7	11	18
25.	Odisha	1,669	8,579	10,248
26.	Puducherry	1,171	2,893	4,064
27.	Punjab	3,399	9,638	13,037
28.	Rajasthan	3,732	17,267	20,999
29.	Sikkim	160	267	427
30.	Tamil Nadu	27,675	75,350	1,03,025
31.	Telangana	7,496	20,828	28,324
32.	The Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu	694	2,333	3,027
33.	Tripura	51	219	270
34.	Uttar Pradesh	13,776	50,277	64,053
35.	Uttarakhand	4,470	15,274	19,744
36.	West Bengal	5,337	14,172	19,509
	Total	1,95,680	6,56,696	8,52,376

This information was given by the Minister of State (Independent Charge), Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE), Shri Jayant Chaudhary in a written reply in the Lok Sabha today.

VV/SH

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