

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3626
ANSWERED ON: 10.08.2026

APPRENTICESHIP OPPORTUNITIES IN ASSAM

3626. MD.RAKIBUL HUSSAIN:

Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has observed a decline in apprenticeship opportunities in Assam during the last five years and the current year;
- (b) if so, the details of number of apprentices engaged and the sectors in which the decline has been most pronounced year-wise;
- (c) the reasons for such decline, including industry participation, regulatory issues or lack of awareness among youth; and
- (d) the specific policy interventions undertaken by the Government to expand apprenticeship coverage, particularly in Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) and emerging sectors in Assam?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

(SHRI JAYANT CHAUDHARY)

(a) The National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS) is being implemented across the country, including Assam, to promote apprenticeship training and enhance the employability of youth through industry-led, on-the-job learning. Under NAPS/NAPS-2, apprenticeship engagement in Assam shown down trend from FY 2021-22 to FY 2024-25. However, apprenticeship engagement recovered significantly thereafter, with 10,028 apprentices engaged during FY 2025-26, indicating renewed momentum in apprenticeship adoption in the State. One of the key initiatives supporting this growth is the **North Eastern Region (NER) Apprenticeship Promotion Pilot**, launched on **20 May 2025**, under which eligible apprentices from NER receive an additional financial assistance of **₹1,500 per month** over and above the stipend support available under NAPS-2.

(b) Under NAPS-2, **49,064 apprentices** have been engaged in Assam from FY 2021-22 to FY 2026-27 (*Upto June 2026*). Year-wise engagement details are as follows:

FY	Apprentices Engaged in Assam
2021-22	14,007
2022-23	9,660
2023-24	8,174
2024-25	5,801

FY	Apprentices Engaged in Assam
2025-26	10,028
2026-27*	1,394
TOTAL	49,064

**Upto June 2026.*

The down trend in apprenticeship engagement observed up to FY 2024-25 was more pronounced in sectors such as **IT-ITeS, Food Processing, Domestic Workers, Construction, Automotive**, which traditionally account for a significant share of apprenticeship opportunities in the State. However, apprenticeship engagement rebounded during FY 2025-26 following enhanced outreach efforts and the launch of the North Eastern Region (NER) **Apprenticeship Promotion Pilot**. Sector-wise details of apprentices engaged in Assam under NAPS during the last five years and the current year are placed at **Table-I of the Annexure**.

(c) Apprenticeship engagement under NAPS is demand-driven and is influenced by factors such as participation of establishments, sector-wise workforce requirements, prevailing economic conditions, availability of apprenticeship opportunities, and willingness of eligible youth to undertake apprenticeship training. The decline observed in apprenticeship engagement in Assam up to FY 2024-25 may be attributed to variations in industry demand and establishment participation across sectors. However, apprenticeship engagement witnessed a significant improvement during FY 2025-26, supported by enhanced outreach efforts, increased mobilisation of candidates, and targeted initiatives for promotion of apprenticeship in the North-Eastern Region.

(d) To expand apprenticeship opportunities in Assam, including among MSMEs and emerging sectors, the Government has undertaken the following measures:

- Providing stipend support under NAPS-2 through the Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) mechanism, with Government reimbursement of **25% of the prescribed stipend, subject to a maximum of ₹1,500 per apprentice per month**.
- Launching a special pilot initiative for promotion of apprenticeship in the **North-Eastern Region**, providing an additional **₹1,500 per month** to eligible apprentices from NER.
- Organising **Pradhan Mantri National Apprenticeship Melas (PMNAMs)** every month since June 2022 to facilitate mobilisation of candidates and support establishments in engaging apprentices.
- Conducting awareness and outreach programmes to encourage participation of establishments, particularly **MSMEs**, and eligible youth in apprenticeship training.
- Promoting apprenticeship opportunities across diverse sectors, including **IT-ITeS, Retail, Food Processing, Logistics, Electrical (including Renewable Energy), Tourism & Hospitality, BFSI, Automotive and Production & Manufacturing**, which have recorded significant apprenticeship engagement in Assam.

ANNEXURE**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (b) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3626 ANSWERED ON 10.08.2026 REGARDING “APPRENTICESHIP OPPORTUNITIES IN ASSAM”****Table I:**

Sector-wise details of apprentices engaged in the state of Assam under NAPS during last five years and current year upto June, 2026 is as under:

S.N o.	Sector Name	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
1.	Aerospace & Aviation	0	0	1	1	4	0
2.	Agriculture	17	192	57	145	220	30
3.	Agriculture and Allied Services	1	11	0	0	1	0
4.	Apparel	0	0	3	0	0	0
5.	Apparel Made-ups & Home Furnishing	24	1,043	33	102	121	41
6.	Automobile	118	330	216	276	821	21
7.	Automotive	601	359	44	641	502	3
8.	Banking, Financial Services & Insurance (BFSI)	499	266	284	279	348	120
9.	Beauty & Wellness	0	268	0	0	0	1
10.	Capital Goods	86	56	57	38	44	6
11.	Chemical	148	70	54	1	29	18
12.	Construction	1,777	130	274	90	184	7
13.	Domestic Workers	2,604	411	35	59	20	0
14.	Electrical (Including New and Renewable Energy)	207	232	182	143	1,046	37
15.	Electronics	51	82	71	51	116	4
16.	Fabrication	77	77	131	47	326	6
17.	Food Processing	271	410	1,954	416	391	53
18.	Food Processing and Preservation	0	1	2	49	223	34
19.	Furniture & Fittings	284	248	56	40	2	0
20.	Gem & Jewellery	0	0	0	3	0	0
21.	Healthcare	3	0	43	15	36	2
22.	Healthcare and Wellness	1	0	0	0	2	0
23.	Hydrocarbon	23	2	20	34	108	0
24.	Industrial Automation and Instrumentation	8	15	15	5	51	3
25.	Iron & Steel	0	1	42	9	30	1
26.	IT-ITeS	5,003	3,599	2,057	842	970	196
27.	Leather	0	0	0	0	2	0
28.	Life Sciences	31	39	64	61	86	27
29.	Logistics	91	27	336	381	870	248
30.	Management & Entrepreneurship and Professional Skills	168	189	446	224	125	11
31.	Marine	0	0	1	0	11	0
32.	Mining	0	2	0	1	14	0
33.	Mining and Minerals	0	1	0	0	0	0
34.	Paints & Coatings	1	3	0	0	0	0
35.	Persons with Disability	0	0	0	1	0	0
36.	Plumbing	0	0	3	0	2	0
37.	Power	283	124	28	20	28	2
38.	Production and Manufacturing	326	276	326	320	1,035	68

S.N o.	Sector Name	2021- 22	2022- 23	2023- 24	2024- 25	2025- 26	2026- 27
39.	Retail	859	526	817	675	1,197	311
40.	Retails and Logistics	1	5	0	0	0	0
41.	Rubber	91	27	46	244	212	35
42.	Services including Repair and Maintenance	21	31	14	1	92	0
43.	Sports, Physical Education, Fitness & Leisure	0	0	1	0	0	0
44.	Telecom	300	385	255	87	100	51
45.	Textile	8	1	0	42	33	0
46.	Tourism & Hospitality	24	221	206	458	626	58
	TOTAL	14,007	9,660	8,174	5,801	10,028	1,394
