

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP
RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. *185
ANSWERED ON 17/12/2025

“IMPLEMENTATION OF APPRENTICESHIPS AND ON-THE-JOB TRAINING”

*185# SHRI NEERAJ DANGI:

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

- (a) the number of youth who have been provided training under the Apprenticeship and On-the-Job Training (OJT) programmes during the current financial year;
- (b) the specific measures being taken by Government to improve implementation in States where progress has been slow;
- (c) the new incentive schemes introduced by Government to encourage industries to participate in these programmes; and
- (d) whether any special policy has been proposed to enhance apprenticeship opportunities in Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(SHRI JAYANT CHAUDHARY)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) TO (d) OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *185 ANSWERED ON 17.12.2025 REGARDING 'IMPLEMENTATION OF APPRENTICESHIPS AND ON-THE-JOB TRAINING'

(a) The Government of India, under the Apprentices Act, 1961, implements two flagship Central Sector schemes—National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS), launched in August 2016 and continued as NAPS-2 from 2022-23 by Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) and the National Apprenticeship Training Scheme (NATS) launched in 1973 by the Ministry of Education (MoE) and approved for its continuation up to 2025-26. Together, these schemes support apprenticeship engagement across the country. During the current financial year, 10.11 lakh youth have been provided apprenticeship training under NAPS and NATS as on 31st October 2025. Further, under PMKVY 4.0, short term skilling programs have been integrated with On-the-Job Training (OJT), ensuring trainees gain industry experience. During the current FY, 1.19 lakh candidates of PMKVY 4.0 have been provided On-the-Job Training (OJT) as part of their curriculum.

(b) to (d) The thrust is given by the Ministry towards apprenticeship training through reforms which includes process simplifications and making the portal user friendly. The employer on-boarding and contract registration on the Apprenticeship Portal is enabled through a seamless process. Continuous engagement with establishments / employers and candidates through Pradhan Mantri National Apprenticeship Melas (PMNAMs), held every month on the 2nd Monday, in at least 1/3rd of the districts of each State, creates awareness and is making a positive impact across the country. Further, the 38th meeting of the Central Apprenticeship Council (CAC) marked a significant advancement in modernizing the country's apprenticeship framework. Key decisions included a 36% increase in apprentice stipends, with future revisions linked to the Consumer Price Index (CPI). Both NAPS and NATS incentivizes apprentices by providing government share of stipend through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) up to ₹1,500 per apprentice per month under NAPS and up to ₹4,500 under NATS, while establishments pay the balance of the prescribed stipend. A special NER-focused pilot under NAPS, launched on 20.05.2025, provides an additional ₹1,500 per month to apprentices domiciled in the North Eastern Region. This is over and above the Government share of stipend under NAPS. Awareness campaigns under the initiative amongst the cohorts of North Eastern Region States had resulted in a monthly average increase of 40% during the current financial year. Against the target of 26,000 for the period upto March, 2026, 10,420 apprentices have been engaged so far. To strengthen Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) outreach, 106 MSME clusters with operational Cluster Facilitation Centres under MSME Cluster Development Program (CDP) by the Ministry of MSME have been shared with States for coordinated action. Under NAPS-2, 26,443 MSMEs have engaged apprentices from 2022-23 to 2025-26 (upto 31-10-2025).
