

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO – 1095
ANSWERED ON 10/02/2025

APPRENTICES ENROLLED UNDER NAPS

1095. SHRI C N ANNADURAI:

SHRI NAVASKANI K:

Will the MINISTER OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of apprentices enrolled under the National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS) in the current year;
- (b) the amount of financial assistance provided to both employers and apprentices under the NAPS in the last financial year;
- (c) whether there are any incentives or schemes to encourage small and medium-sized enterprises to take part in the said scheme;
- (d) the measures taken/being taken to ensure that the apprenticeship training provided under NAPS meets the required standards of skill development;
- (e) whether any partnerships with industry bodies or educational institutions to improve the quality of training under the said scheme;
- (f) the steps taken/being taken to increase the participation of apprentices from rural and remote areas in the said scheme; and
- (g) the number of apprentices from rural areas benefited from the said scheme in the last financial year?

ANSWER

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

(SHRI JAYANT CHAUDHARY)

(a) and (b) National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS) launched in August 2016 and was extended to continue as NAPS-2 from FY 2022-23. Under NAPS-2, the stipend support by Government of India (GoI) is paid directly through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) to the bank account of apprentices. The total number of engaged apprentices at pan-India level in the FY 2024-25 (till 31.01.2025) is 8,22,196. Under NAPS-2, during the previous financial year FY 2023-24, fund was released towards (i) committed liabilities under the previous version of the scheme towards claim reimbursements submitted by the establishments and (ii) Government share of stipend paid to the apprentices directly to their bank account through DBT. The details of the fund released during the previous FY 2023-24 is tabulated below:

(Fig in Rs in Crores)

Financial Year	Amount Disbursed		
	Claim Reimbursement	DBT	Total
2023-24	258.45	335.84	594.29

(c) Under NAPS-2, incentivization under the scheme as Government share of stipend through DBT to apprentices includes those engaged by small and medium sized establishments. The number of small and medium sized establishments that have benefitted under the scheme from FY 2022-23 till FY 2024-25 (upto 31.01.2025) is given below:

Establishment Category	Apprentices Engaged	No. of establishments
Medium	6,90,405	11,693
Small	1,78,469	10,627

Source: www.apprenticeshipindia.gov.in

(d) and (e) Under apprenticeship training, required standards typically include: minimum age requirements, specific educational qualifications based on the trade, physical fitness standards, a defined training curriculum with both theoretical and practical components, a contract of apprenticeship between the employer and apprentice, stipulated training duration, and adherence to safety regulations within the workplace; all of which are usually governed by the Apprentices Act, 1961 and Rules thereunder ensuring quality training for apprentices. The Apprentices Act in the 2014 amendment empowered employers to define their own apprenticeship training programs based on specific needs, known as "Optional trades". Sector Skill Councils (SSCs) which are industry-led bodies focus on skill development and also play a key role in aligning the skill requirements of the industry with the skills training offered to the workforce. These councils are responsible for identifying the skills needed by the workforce, setting standards for training and certification. In the current FY 2024-25, around 700 Optional trades of SSCs and establishments have attracted apprentices engagement.

(f) and (g) The thrust given by the Ministry towards apprenticeship training through reforms (facilitation and process simplifications), awareness workshops, continuous engagement with establishments / employers, apprenticeship Mela, and public outreach to create awareness about apprenticeship training among the students and the establishments are making positive impact. All these efforts encompasses youths from rural and remote areas. For the previous financial year, against the set target of 11 lakh, 9.32 lakh apprentices have been engaged in the country through the apprenticeship portal. However, details of apprentices from rural areas are not captured on the apprenticeship portal.
