



National Apprenticeship Mela

Why in News?

The Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship has conducted a National Apprenticeship Mela.

- The National Policy of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, 2015 recognizes apprenticeship as a means to provide gainful employment to a skilled workforce with adequate compensation.
- Apprenticeship is a Skill Training program wherein a person is engaged by a company as an apprentice and gains classroom (theory) learning for a short period, followed by on-the-job (practical) training.

What is the National Apprenticeship Mela?

- The aim is **to support the hiring of more than one lakh apprentices and assist employers in tapping the right talent** and developing it further with training and providing practical skill sets.
- Applicants will get **a monthly stipend as per the Government standards for developing new skills**, an opportunity to earn while they learn.
- Individuals having a 5th–12th grade pass certificate, a skill training certificate, an ITI Diploma, or a graduate degree were eligible to participate in the PM Apprenticeship Mela.
- The candidates will get **certificates, recognized by National Council for Vocational Education and Training (NCVET)**, increasing the chances of their employability after the training.
 - **NCVET** was notified by MSDE on 5th December 2018.

What are the Government Policies related to Apprenticeship?

- The **Apprentices Act, 1961** was enacted with the objective of regulating the program of training of apprentices in the industry by utilizing the facilities available therein for imparting on-the-job training.
 - Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship is the administrative ministry responsible for implementation of the Act.
- The government has **brought comprehensive amendments in the Act in December 2014** to make it more attractive for both industry and youth.
 - Major changes **introduced in the amendment are:**
 - Replacing the outdated system of trade wise and unit wise regulation of apprentices with a band of 2.5% to 10% of the total workforce (including contractual workers), introduction of optional trades, removing stringent clauses like imprisonment & allowing industries to out-source basic training.
- **National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme:**
 - National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS) was launched on **19th August 2016** to promote apprenticeship training and increase the engagement of apprentices.
 - NAPS has replaced **Apprentice Protsahan Yojna (APY)**.
 - **The scheme has the following two components:**
 - **Reimbursement of 25% of prescribed stipend** subject to a maximum of Rs. 1500/- per month per apprentice by the Government of India to all employers who engage apprentices.

- **Reimbursement of cost of basic training** (upto a limit of Rs. 7500/- for a maximum of 500 hours/3 months) by the Government of India to Basic Training Providers (BTPs) in respect of apprentices who come directly for apprenticeship training without any formal training.

What are the Initiatives to Promote Apprenticeships?

- [Scheme for Higher Education Youth in Apprenticeship and Skills \(SHREYAS\)](#)
- [Skills Strengthening for Industrial Value Enhancement Scheme](#)
- [YuWaah Youth Skilling Initiative](#)
- [Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana](#)

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