



Mahatma Gandhi National Fellowship: Phase II

Why in News

Recently, the government has launched the **phase-II of Mahatma Gandhi National Fellowship under SANKALP (Skill Acquisition and Knowledge Awareness for Livelihood Promotion) programme.**

SANKALP

- SANKALP, a [Centrally sponsored scheme](#), is a [World Bank loan assisted program](#), **launched by the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship in January 2018.**
- SANKALP engages with **District Skill Committees (DSCs)** to effectively reduce the mismatch between the supply and demand of skilled manpower in the country, thereby creating decent opportunities for the youth to work and earn.

Key Points

▪ About:

- It is a **two-year long fellowship programme** conceived to create opportunities for young, dynamic individuals to contribute to enhancing skill development at the grassroots.
 - **MGNF Phase-I (Pilot):** Launched in 2019 with IIM Bangalore as Academic Partner and 69 are Fellows currently deployed in 69 districts across 6 States.
 - **MGNF Phase-II (National Roll Out):** Being launched in October 2021 with 661 MGNFs who will be deployed across all districts of the country. 8 more IIMs have been boarded taking the total to 9 IIMs.
- It seeks to combine classroom sessions by academic partner IIMs with an intensive field immersion at the district level **to create credible plans and identify barriers in raising employment, economic output, and promote livelihoods in rural areas.**
- The sharp focus on developing skills for local needs gives impetus to the "**vocal for local**", and also building an industry-relevant skill base will help the cause of "**Atmanirbhar Bharat**".

▪ Eligibility:

- Fellows have to be **in the 21-30 years age-group**, have a **graduation degree** from a recognized university and be citizens of India.
- Proficiency in official language of the state of fieldwork will be mandatory.

Other Schemes for Skill Development

- [Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana \(PMKVY\).](#)
- [Recognition of Prior Learning](#)
- [National Career Service Project](#)
- **Skill Management and Accreditation of Training Centres (SMART)**

- [Skills Strengthening for Industrial Value Enhancement \(STRIVE\)](#)
- [Pradhan Mantri YUVA Yojana \(Yuva Udyamita Vikas Abhiyan\)](#)
- [Kaushal Acharya Awards.](#)
- [Scheme for Higher Education Youth in Apprenticeship and Skills \(SHREYAS\).](#)
- [Atmanirbhar Skilled Employee Employer Mapping \(ASEEM\).](#)

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