



National Employability Through Apprenticeship Program

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Why in News

The **National Employability Through Apprenticeship Program (NETAP)** has released its latest edition of the **Apprenticeship Outlook Report** for 2021 (January-June 2021).

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.

Key Points

About the National Employability through Apprenticeship Program:

- It was set up in 2014 as a 100% employer-funded **Public-Private Partnership (PPP)**.
- The program was launched by the **Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship** and TeamLease Skills University (Gujarat).
- It is in accordance with the **National Employability Enhancement Mission** of the **AICTE**.
- NETAP was structured to **overcome the challenges of the Apprenticeship Act, 1961**.
 - NETAP **proposed to appoint 2 lac apprentices every year** for the next 10 years. At peak capacity, it will be the world's largest apprenticeship program.
- It will help the unemployed youth to build skills through **Learning by doing and Learning while earning** along with providing them with access to practical skills.

National Employability Enhancement Mission

- It is a pioneering initiative taken **jointly by AICTE and Government of India**.

- Introduced in **2013**, the NEEM aims to **offer practical trainings to enhance employability** of any person who:
 - Is either pursuing graduation/diploma in any technical or non-technical stream, or
 - Have discontinued studies of degree or diploma courses.
- A NEEM Trainee is any registered person who has a **minimum education up to Class X** and is **between 16 to 40 years** of age.
- A total of **23 industries** have been listed in the NEEM where a trainee can be enrolled. It includes the automobile industry, pharmaceuticals, electronics & hardware, food processing, healthcare services and the financial sector.
- The NEEM is envisioned to place at least 10,000 students per year in registered companies or registered industries for the purpose of providing training.
- **Key Findings of the Apprenticeship Outlook Report:**
 - **India's Apprenticeship Ecosystem:** Some 41% of the employers in India are keen on hiring apprentices while 58% of enterprises want to increase the quantum of their apprenticeship hiring this year.
 - **Leading Cities: Chennai** has emerged as the most apprentice friendly city. Among non-metro cities, **Ahmedabad and Nagpur** are the most promising cities for apprenticeship.
 - **Leading Sectors:** The manufacturing, automobiles and ancillaries, and retail are the leading sectors.
 - **Positive Trend for Hiring Women Apprentices:** Overall the preference for women apprentices has increased by 10% from the previous half year. This trend was more visible in **Bengaluru, Mumbai and Kolkata**.
- **Significance:**
 - **India's working-age population is estimated to continue to increase through 2041.** This will have major implications on the required rate of job creation in the economy.
 - Statistics show that **approximately 3% of children dropout after grade 5th and 8th in the country** owing to socio-economic challenges. Apprenticeship can be an important mechanism for seamless transitioning from school to work and bridging of skill-gap in the workforce.

Source: TH