



# National Employability Through Apprenticeship Program

## 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.
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- **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 5<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> 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.

▪ **Other Initiatives to Promote Apprenticeships:**

- Apprenticeship Act of 1961 (and the Amendments to the Act).
- [Scheme for Higher Education Youth in Apprenticeship and Skills \(SHREYAS\)](#)
- National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS)
- [Skills Strengthening for Industrial Value Enhancement Scheme](#)
- [YuWaah Youth Skilling Initiative](#)
- [Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana](#)

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