

**No.AP-15012/5/2020-AP Section  
(E-37307)  
Government of India  
Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship  
(Apprenticeship Training Division)**

**Kaushal Bhawan, New Delhi  
Date: 23rd April 2026**

**OFFICE MEMORANDUM**

**Subject: Interim extension of schemes of Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship beyond 31.03.2026 pending the completion of Appraisal and approval process for continuation of schemes in 16<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission cycle.- Continuation of National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS-2) up to 30.09.2026” – Reg.**

Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) on August 19, 2016 launched National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS) with an aim to promote apprenticeship training across the country. Since 2022-23, the scheme is one of the three key components of the composite Central Sector Scheme of “Skill India Programme”. The other two components are Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana 4.0 (PMKVY 4.0) and the Jan Shikshan Sansthan (JSS) Scheme. The present version of NAPS-2, implemented during the 15th Finance Commission period, was concluded on 31.03.2026.

2. With the government striving to train 9.00 lakh youth for the current FY through Pradhan Mantri National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (PM-NAPS 3.0), the proposal for continuation of the scheme is presently under consideration of the **Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC)**.

3. In order to ensure continuity of implementation of the scheme and to avoid disruption in support to apprentices and other stakeholders, the Department of Expenditure, vide its OM dated **21.04.2026**, has permitted **interim extension of schemes of MSDE up to 30.09.2026 or till approval of the Skill India Programme for the 16th Finance Commission cycle, whichever is earlier**, at the existing terms and conditions. During this interim period, i.e., 1<sup>st</sup> April to 30<sup>th</sup> Sep 2026, NAPS scheme shall continue as “**National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS-2) ongoing scheme**” and scheme shall continue with the same scope, structure, nature, coverage, cost norms, and other terms and conditions as was applicable for the 15<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission period.

4. Accordingly, it is hereby informed that the **National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS-2)** shall continue up to **30th September 2026** or till approval of **PMNAPS 3.0** by the competent authority, whichever is earlier.

5. The interim extension of the scheme (NAPS-2) is subject to the following conditions:

- i. The scheme shall be continued during the period of interim extension in the 16<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission period with the same scope, structure, nature, coverage, cost norms, and other terms and conditions as was applicable for the 15<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission period and includes committed liabilities.
- ii. The spending limit for the temporarily extended schemes should be within the approved allocation of QEP-I and QEP-II of BE 2026-27.

6. All concerned agencies shall ensure strict adherence to:

- Existing **NAPS-2.0 guidelines and financial norms**
- Prescribed **DBT protocols, accounting and reporting requirements**

7. Further instructions, if any, consequent upon approval of SIP/ **PMNAPS 3.0**, will be issued separately.

This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.



(V.S Arvind)  
Director, AT  
MSDE

To

1. All Regional Central Apprenticeship Advisor, RDSDEs
2. All State Apprenticeship Advisor
3. All Joint Apprenticeship Advisor
4. CEO, NSDC, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, Kaushal Bhawan, New Moti Bagh, New Delhi (Requested to Capture the details of apprentices engaged upto 31.03.2026 (who are continuing into the 2026-27) and engagement of new apprentices in the FY 2026-27.)

Copy to:

1. PSO to Secretary, MSDE- For Kind information
2. Sr.PPS to Additional Secretary, Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, New Delhi.- For Kind information
3. CFO, National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC)
4. GM(AT), NSDC –Requested to upload this OM on the Apprenticeship portal.
5. Guard file 2026.