National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS) and the National Apprenticeship Training Scheme

Prelims: Public policy| Government Initiatives | Current events of national and international importance.

Why in News?

Recently, the 38th Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE), recommended a 36% increase in stipend provided under NAPS and NATS.

National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS)

- **Initiated on** - 19th August 2016.
- It is an initiative from the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, aimed at enhancing apprenticeship training throughout India.
- The scheme provides financial assistance to organizations that implement apprenticeship programs.
- Registration for NAPS is crucial for both candidates and establishments to take advantage of this program.
- **Objectives** - To cultivate skilled labor for the industry by promoting experiential training on the job.
- To motivate establishments to enroll apprentices by offering partial stipend support to them.
- To create up-skilling opportunities for candidates who have completed short-term skill training.
- To promote the enrollment of apprentices in small establishments (MSMEs) and those situated in underserved regions, such as aspirational districts and the North-East area.
- This scheme offers financial incentives to establishments that engage apprentices under the Apprentices Act, 1961.
- By providing partial stipend support and advocacy, the scheme encourages industries to develop a skilled workforce and bridge the gap between education and employment.
- The initiative not only fosters skill development but also emphasizes the creation of a trained workforce that meets industry demands.
- Candidates who finish their training are awarded a NAPS certificate, which boosts their employability.

National Apprenticeship Training Scheme

- It is one of the flagship programs of the Government of India aimed at skilling Indian youth in various trade disciplines.
- It operates under the provisions of the Apprentices Act, 1961, which was amended in 1973.

- It provides practical, hands-on On-the-Job-Training (OJT) based skilling opportunities for Graduate, Diploma students, and Vocational certificate holders.
- **Duration** - 6 months to 1 year.
- During the apprenticeship period, apprentices receive a stipend, 50% of which is reimbursable to the employer.

Reference

Business Standard | NAPS & NATS

