The four Boards of Apprenticeship Training/Board of Practical Training (BOATs/BOPT) are located at Mumbai, Kanpur, Chennai & Kolkata. They are autonomous organizations of the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) and facilitate skill training to Engineering Graduates & Diploma holders and 10+2 Vocational Certificate holders through the National Apprenticeship Training Scheme (NATS). The objective of 'Apprenticeship Training' is to fill/match gaps in the skills and experience of students who are not pursuing further studies.

2. Under the NATS implemented by MHRD through the four BOATs/BOPT, one year practical training in industry/establishment is provided to students to upgrade their skills in a particular trade. Apprentices are paid a monthly stipend of Rs. 4,984/- p.m. for Graduates, Rs. 3,542/- p.m. for Diploma holders and Rs. 2,758/- p.m. for 10+2 Vocational Apprentices. 50% of the minimum stipend rate is reimbursable to the employers from the Government of India through the four BOATs/BOPT.

3. Earlier, four regional BOATs/BOPT had four different portals. A person residing in a particular region needed to apply through the Board functioning in that region for registering himself as an 'Apprentice'. Thus, students had to face restrictions in registering themselves with Boards of Apprenticeship Training outside their region.

4. The Minister for Human Resource Development launched the National Web Portal of the NATS on 10th September, 2015. This portal provides connectivity with stakeholders including students and establishments for transparent administration. The paperless online business transaction will improve effective reporting capabilities through online data sharing and ensure standardization of processes across regions and ensure uniformity in the implementation of the NATS. The portal will also be a multilingual platform.

5. We would request that NATS be popularized. The State Government may kindly take the following steps:

   (i) Write to the Technical Institutions/Colleges/Schools who offer technical/vocational education under its jurisdiction about the NATS so that greater awareness amongst the students could be generated;
   (ii) Provide a link of the NATS Portal www.mhrdnats.gov.in on the website of the State Government/UT Administration and request the concerned Technical Institutions/Colleges/Schools to provide this link in their individual websites;
   (iii) Request Placement Cells of Educational Institutions/Colleges to inform students of the one year practical training available under NATS; and
   (iv) Provide publicity to the fact that any engineering graduates/diploma holders or 10+2 Vocational Passouts who have completed education up to two years ago and have not been employed gainfully and are not pursuing further studies may join the Scheme.

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6. The regional BOATs/BOPT are being requested to contact the officers of the State Government/Union Territory Administration for guidance in generating awareness about the Scheme including organizing special campaigns and providing requisite assistance, wherever required.

7. Your support and that of your State would be pivotal in ensuring the success of the scheme.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Vinay Sheel Oberoi)

Shri Depinder Singh Dhesi
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