S. No.	Registration no., date and name of Applicant	Information sought	Information/remarks
1.	MOCAF/R/E/26/00147 dated 07/02/2026 from Sh. Suchak Patel	1.) Provide phase-wise information of the Prime Minister Internship Scheme up to 6 February 2026, including the following information- 1.1) Target of the phase and the corresponding financial outlay. 1.2) Total number of internship opportunities offered. 1.3) Number of internship offers accepted. 1.4) Number of interns who joined. 1.5) Number of interns who dropped out. 1.6) Number of interns who completed the internship. 1.7) Actual expenditure incurred during the phase. 2.) Provide copies of the reports, inputs, and suggestions submitted by the institutes engaged, such as the Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore (IIM-B), the Delhi School of Economics (DSE), and other institutions, regarding the evaluation of the scheme.	Information for para 1.1: The Prime Minister Internship Scheme (PMIS) was announced in the Budget 2024-25. It aims to provide internship opportunities to one crore youth in top 500 companies in five years with the total outlay of Rs. 63,000 cr for the PMIS for five years. As an initiation to this scheme, Ministry of Corporate Affairs has launched a Pilot Project of the scheme on 3rd October, 2024, which is targeted to provide 1.25 lakh internship opportunities to the youth. Information for para 1.2: In Round I, partner companies posted more than 1.27 lakh internship opportunities. In Round II, partner companies posted more than 1.18 lakh internship opportunities. Information for para 1.3: In Round I, over 28,000 offers were accepted by the candidates. In Round II, over 24,000 offers were accepted by the candidates. Information for para 1.4: In Round I, over 8,700 interns joined their internship. In Round II, over 7,300 interns joined their internship. Information for para 1.5: The number of dropouts in Round I is 4,705 and in Round II is 2,648 as on 20.03.2026 Information for para 1.6: As on 16.03.2026, 3,619 interns from Round I have completed the internship.

		3.) Provide copies of the Cabinet Note of the scheme, along with the minutes of meetings and the file noting related to the scheme. (Note - As per Section 8(1) (i) of the RTI Act, once a decision has been taken by the Cabinet, the relevant Cabinet papers are required to be made public. The FAQs published on the Cabinet Secretariat website also clarify that, after the decision is taken, the concerned Ministry is responsible for providing such Cabinet papers in response to RTI applications. 4.) Provide the following information regarding the interns who have accepted the internship offered: 4.1)State-wise distribution. 4.2)Qualification-wise distribution. 4.3)Age-wise distribution. 4.4)Gender-wise distribution 5. Provide the following details regarding the interns who have joined the internship: 5.1)State-wise distribution. 5.2)Qualification-wise distribution.	Information for para 1.7: Actual Expenditure for the year 2024-25 is Rs. 29.29 cr and for the year 2025-26 is Rs. 87.46 cr as on 28.02.2026 Information for para 2: Information is attached as annexure-I. Information for para 3: This information is not available with PMIS Division, MCA. Information for para 4.1 to 4.4: The details of candidates who have accepted the internship offers is attached at annexure-II. Information for para 5.1 to 5.4: The details of interns who have joined the internship offers is attached at annexure-III.

		5.3)Age-wise distribution. 5.4)Gender-wise distribution.	

Annexure-I

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

OF

Baseline Report of PMIS-Pilot Round 1



Ministry of Corporate Affairs

Government of India

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY – Baseline Round 1

The Prime Minister Internship Scheme (PMIS) is a flagship initiative that aims to enhance the employability of India's youth through skill development and work-based learning. Targeted at individuals aged 21–24 who are not engaged in full-time education or employment, PMIS offers paid internship opportunities across leading companies in India. The scheme envisions offering one crore internships over a five-year period. To operationalize this vision, a Pilot Phase was launched in October 2024 with the target of offering 1.25 lakh internships with the objective of streamlining operational processes, gathering on ground insights and fine-tuning implementation mechanisms to ensure a more robust and scalable rollout of the main scheme.

In Round I (October 2024 – December 2024) of the PMIS Pilot Phase, the scheme garnered significant traction, reflecting widespread interest and engagement from both companies and candidates. A total of 280 top companies participated, collectively offering more than 1.27 lakh internship opportunities in all States and UTs of India. The response from youth was substantial, with over 3.8 lakh individuals completing their profiles on the PMIS portal. More than 6.2 lakh applications were submitted by more than 1.8 lakh applicants. Over 82,000 candidates were selected and sent provisional internship offer letters by partner companies. Of these, around 28,000 internship offers were accepted, and more than 8,500 candidates successfully joined their respective internships.

To assess the impact and identify areas for improvement for the scheme, The Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) has conducted an extensive evaluation of Round I of the Pilot phase to identify improvement areas for a more streamlined scheme implementation.

This analysis was carried out in collaboration with four institutions, namely the Delhi School of Economics (DSE), Indian Institute of Management Bangalore (IIMB), Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs (IICA), and Symbiosis Institute of Business Management (SIBM).

The study analyses the candidate journey across key milestones – including profile completion on PMIS portal, choosing and applying for internship opportunities, and the

subsequent actions taken by candidates, including inaction or rejection of offers. It also captures the lived experiences of candidates who accepted and joined internships. Furthermore, the perspectives of participating companies have also been studied.

Insights derived from telephonic surveys and focus group discussions have informed a set of strategic policy and process recommendations for scaling up and improving the implementation of the scheme.

Policy

1. Feedback from candidates and partner companies suggests that the current age eligibility criteria may be restrictive, excluding youth who are ready to participate in the workforce. Relaxing the minimum age requirement of the scheme for candidates whose maximum qualifications are 10th, 12th or ITI will enhance the scheme's inclusivity and align it more closely with the actual transition timelines of youth entering the workforce.

2. The current eligibility criteria limits companies' ability to offer internships to post graduate candidates. Allowing candidates with master's degrees —within the prescribed age range or by increasing the upper age limit by 1 year—will enable companies to design and offer specialized internships, improve candidate-role alignment, and enhance overall scheme uptake.

3. Partner companies expressed preference for a rolling application and selection process, allowing them to post and fill internship positions as needs arise throughout the year. Introducing a year-round process will align the scheme with real-time industry demand and allow candidates the flexibility to apply at different times based on their preferences.

4. For several candidates, the ₹5,000 monthly financial assistance is insufficient – especially when candidates are required to manage commute and/or accommodation. Increased financial assistance in a graded manner may be considered to offset some of these expenses to facilitate the internship journey.

5. Responses from candidates and feedback from partner companies emphasized the need for flexible internship durations. Introducing such flexibility, along with structured exit pathways, would lead to increased participation from youth at different stages of their academic, skilling

and professional journey. Further, it will give flexibility to industries to align internship durations as per role requirements.

6. Sectors like Banking & Financial Services, IT & Software Development were highly sought- after by candidates (65.63%) who completed the profile but did not apply for any internship. Proactively onboarding more companies from these sectors as well as other emerging sectors will align offerings with candidate aspirations and improve scheme uptake.

7. While some companies are already providing additional financial assistance, accommodation and food allowance, a clarity on how to book these additional expenses towards Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) contributions may encourage other companies as well to provide these benefits.

Process

1. Several candidates reported issues during different stages of the process. Establishing an effective grievance system with clear timelines and escalation matrices is critical.

2. Technical issues - such as OTP failures, session timeouts, upload errors, and unexpected logouts affected candidate onboarding and application processes. A robust solution combining comprehensive platform testing, real-time monitoring, and timely upgrades is important for seamless implementation. Furthermore, streamlining communication between companies and candidates, especially after a candidate accepts his/her internship offer letter will further enhance user experience and operational efficiency.

3. Currently, candidates can apply to multiple internships without a preference hierarchy. Enabling a preference-based system wherein companies are aware of a candidate's choices in preferential order thereby increasing acceptance and joining rates.

4. Companies are required to implement a structured internship for candidates with clearly defined roles, planned training modules, and dedicated mentorship to align interns' responsibilities with their development goals.

5. Timely disbursement of financial assistance must be ensured to sustain intern morale and uphold the program's credibility and effectiveness.

The recommendations outlined in this report serve as a roadmap for refining and scaling the scheme in subsequent phases.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

OF

Midline Report of PMIS-Pilot Round 1



Ministry of Corporate Affairs

Government of India

Executive Summary – Midline Round 1

The Research and Analysis (R&A) Division, in collaboration with Indian Institute of Management Bangalore, Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs, Delhi School of Economics, and Symbiosis Institute of Business Management, is carrying out a concurrent evaluation of the Pilot Phase of the Prime Minister Internship Scheme (PMIS). This report presents the midline evaluation for Round 1 and focuses on three categories of youths: (1) who have completed 5–6 months of their internship in Round 1, (2) the candidates who did not join after accepting the offer and (3) those who absconded from the internships. The data collection was done through telephonic surveys (covering 1,644 respondents across all categories) and Focus Group Discussions were held in four regions with companies and interns during the period of Sept-Oct 2025.

A. Telephonic Survey

A.1. Stage 7 - Interns who have completed 5-6 months of their internship

This midline survey covered 678 interns capturing their experiences after 5–6 months of internship:

- Pre-joining communication, DBT disbursal of the ₹6,000 grant, and induction processes were largely effective, with 80–98% coverage across interns.
- 87% of interns received regular training, gained technical and soft skills, and found tasks relevant and aligned with offer letters, supported by helpful mentorship. Interns were generally well engaged, working 7–8 hours daily, and reported high overall satisfaction (70–80%), with over 90% willing to recommend the scheme.
- Key issues highlighted were delays in monthly allowance (38%), limited additional benefits, and requests for higher monthly allowance and increased training exposure.

A.2. Stage 8a – Candidates Who Accepted the Offer Letter but Did Not Join

- Out of 740 candidates who accepted the internship offer but did not join, personal reasons (61%) were the main cause, followed by location issues (16%), low financial assistance (8%), and lack of initial company communication (8%). Personal reasons mainly included higher education/competitive exam (36%) and engagement in other employment (23%).
- Location challenges were prominent in the East and North, with long distances (over 30 km) or travel time exceeding two hours discouraging candidates.

A.3. Stage 8b - Candidates Who Joined the Internship and Absconded

- Key reasons for absconding for a total 226 interns were personal issues (39%), location challenges (21%), financial constraints (12%), and role dissatisfaction (10%) though several cited higher education or better career opportunities as additional reasons.

- Most interns left within the first 15–30 days while many expressed willingness to rejoin if issues related to monthly allowance, accommodation/travel support, and early orientation with regular HR engagement were addressed.
- Personal reasons dominate the decision of either not joining or absconding.

B. Focus Group Discussions

Across the four regions, FGDs were conducted with 18 companies and 114 interns.

B.1. Companies

- Companies found PMIS easy to set up, but suggested improvements in the Round 1 selection process, including more time for HR, adequate pool of role-relevant candidates, and clear selection timelines.
- Most companies conducted structured induction and provided regular supervisor support and feedback, though skill mismatch and uneven motivation of interns were noted in some cases. Training methods varied by sector and region, including on-the-job learning, role rotation, mentor-guided training and hands-on technical exposure.
- Dropouts were mainly due to personal reasons, low allowance, location issues, and long internship duration; companies used counselling and location-related adjustments to improve retention.
- Overall, companies viewed PMIS positively and recommended higher allowance, flexible duration, stronger grievance redressal, and better rural outreach.

B.2. Interns

- Interns saw the internship valuable for skill enhancement, exposure, and employability, with induction and availability of tools generally rated positively. While role clarity improved over time, some interns reported initial role mismatch, routine tasks, or limited mentorship due to supervisors based in remote locations.
- Interns gained both technical and non-technical skills, but common challenges were low allowance, long duration, and limited career progression support.
- Overall experience was positive; interns felt safe, would recommend PMIS, and many aspired for full-time employment or further studies.

Recommendations on the basis of Focus Group Discussions:

- It was recommended to align selection timelines with corporate hiring cycles (June–July) and to strengthen awareness and outreach in rural areas.
- The scheme outreach should also be linked with college placement cells to ensure effective transition from college to internship opportunities for the youth.

- On the selection process, companies suggested giving more time to HR for selection, ensuring adequate pool of candidates with relevant qualifications as per the role requirements and establishing more structured timelines for the selection process as the continuous nature of selection and screening posed challenges to the overall training schedule
- Introducing quarterly exams and adding a learning outcomes section on the portal for better monitoring of training outcomes.
- Enable a structured feedback mechanism for interns to share inputs on companies hosting internships with MCA. Ensure mutual accountability, allowing companies to evaluate interns while interns, in turn, could share constructive insights about their supervision, internship environment, and overall experience.
- There were multiple suggestions with regards to post-internship placements including providing more clarity to interns on career pathways, stronger support in getting jobs after the internship and organizing more job fairs in coordination with employer networks. Suggestions were also made regarding giving preference or weightage to PMIS interns in public sector employment.
- There were recommendations to shorten the internship duration to six months and to tailor duration by role, ranging from three to nine months based on role clarity and exposure.

Annexure-II

Information for Para 4

Details of Candidates who have accepted the internship offers :

(4.1) State-wise distribution:

S.No	State / Union Territory	% of Offer Accepted
1	ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ISLANDS	0.02%
2	ANDHRA PRADESH	9.17%
3	ARUNACHAL PRADESH	0.04%
4	ASSAM	5.75%
5	BIHAR	7.63%
6	CHANDIGARH	0.09%
7	CHHATTISGARH	3.22%
8	DELHI	2.75%
9	GOA	0.04%
10	GUJARAT	3.12%
11	HARYANA	3.59%
12	HIMACHAL PRADESH	0.54%
13	JAMMU AND KASHMIR	1.18%
14	JHARKHAND	3.22%
15	KARNATAKA	3.28%
16	KERALA	2.24%
17	LADAKH	0.04%
18	LAKSHADWEEP	0.00%
19	MADHYA PRADESH	8.36%
20	MAHARASHTRA	5.31%
21	MANIPUR	0.10%
22	MEGHALAYA	0.08%
23	MIZORAM	0.01%
24	NAGALAND	0.08%
25	ODISHA	6.02%

26	PUDUCHERRY	0.08%
27	PUNJAB	1.32%
28	RAJASTHAN	5.21%
29	SIKKIM	0.02%
30	TAMIL NADU	2.52%
31	TELANGANA	5.10%
32	THE DADRA AND NAGAR HAVELI AND DAMAN AND DIU	0.04%
33	TRIPURA	0.85%
34	UTTAR PRADESH	14.05%
35	UTTARAKHAND	0.70%
36	WEST BENGAL	4.23%
	Grand Total	100.00%

(4.2) Qualification-wise distribution:

Highest Qualification	**% of Offer Accepted**
10th	8%
12th	21%
Diploma	7%
Graduation	54%
ITI	10%

(4.3) Age-wise distribution:

Age	**% of Offer Accepted**
21	23%
22	36%
23	32%
24	9%

(4.4) Gender-wise distribution:

Gender	% of Offer Accepted
Female	30%
Male	70%

Annexure-III

Information for Para 5

Details of interns who have joined the internship offers:

(5.1) State-wise distribution:

S.No.	State / Union Territory	% of Joined
1	ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ISLANDS	0.04%
2	ANDHRA PRADESH	6.61%

3	ARUNACHAL PRADESH	0.05%
4	ASSAM	11.25%
5	BIHAR	7.24%
6	CHANDIGARH	0.13%
7	CHHATTISGARH	3.08%
8	DELHI	3.19%
9	GOA	0.05%
10	GUJARAT	2.51%
11	HARYANA	2.67%
12	HIMACHAL PRADESH	0.60%
13	JAMMU AND KASHMIR	1.25%
14	JHARKHAND	3.76%
15	KARNATAKA	3.41%
16	KERALA	4.14%
17	LADAKH	0.07%
18	LAKSHADWEEP	
19	MADHYA PRADESH	7.76%
20	MAHARASHTRA	5.33%
21	MANIPUR	0.19%
22	MEGHALAYA	0.06%
23	MIZORAM	0.01%
24	NAGALAND	0.06%
25	ODISHA	6.23%
26	PUDUCHERRY	0.09%
27	PUNJAB	0.98%
28	RAJASTHAN	4.33%
29	SIKKIM	0.01%
30	TAMIL NADU	2.70%
31	TELANGANA	4.03%
32	THE DADRA AND NAGAR HAVELI AND DAMAN AND DIU	0.03%
33	TRIPURA	0.88%
34	UTTAR PRADESH	11.91%
35	UTTARAKHAND	0.74%
36	WEST BENGAL	4.58%

(5.2) Qualification-wise distribution:

Highest Qualification	% of Joined
10th	4%
12th	14%
Diploma	7%
Graduation	63%
ITI	11%

(5.3) Age-wise distribution:

Age	% of Joined
21	9%
22	35%
23	35%
24	21%

(5.4) Gender-wise distribution:

Gender	% of Joined
Female	31%
Male	69%

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