



**Headquarters**  
**Employees' State Insurance Corporation**  
(ISO 9001-2008 certified)  
Panchdeep Bhawan, CIG Road, New Delhi-110002

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**Press Release**

**Inauguration of New Building of ESIC Regional Office, Kolkata and Foundation Stone Laying for Upgradation of ESI Hospital, Baltikuri & ESI Hospital, Durgapur, West Bengal on 13.07 2017**

**While Inaugurating the new building of ESIC Regional Office, Kolkata and laying the foundation stone for upgradation of ESI Hospital, Baltikuri & ESI Hospital, Durgapur on 13.07 2017; Shri Bandaru Dattatreya, Hon'ble Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Labour & Employment, Govt. of India** said that Union Ministry of Labour & Employment is fully committed to the welfare of the largest workforce of India. Hon'ble Union Minister also emphasized that prime concern of ESIC is to provide best medical services and other Social Security Benefits to its Insured Persons as for us they are our VIP.

Shri Dattatreya informed that ESI Hospital, Baltikuri constructed in a total plot area of 46.97 acre has 216 beds at present; and it is being upgraded to 300 beds with estimated cost of Rs. 187 crore. The ESI Hospital, Durgapur having bed capacity of 150 will be vertically extended with addition of 50 beds and estimated cost of Rs. 26.81 crore. The new six storied air conditioned ESIC Regional Office building with a total floor area of about 10,000 Sqm. with all modern facilities is constructed with a total cost of Rs. 66 crore.

He also added that to extend the coverage to the entire workforce, **a new employers' friendly Scheme named 'Scheme for Promoting Registration of Employers and Employees (SPREE)' was launched** from 20<sup>th</sup> Dec. 2016 to 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2017. Under this scheme approximately **1.00 lakh Employers and 1.18** crore Employees have been covered under ESI Scheme. In the State of West Bengal, 5 lakh new workers have been covered under this scheme.

**He also made following announcements for West Bengal State during the event:**

- The ESI Hospital, Asansol will be upgraded from 100 to to 150 bedded with super speciality facilities.
- 10 nos. of ESI Dispensaries of the State will be upgraded to 6 bedded Hospitals.
- Two new 30 bedded ESI hospitals in Kharagpur & Ghar Shyamnagar in the District of North 24 Parganas will be started.

He also informed the gathering that under the 2<sup>nd</sup> Generation Health Reforms Agenda of ESIC-2.0 the following new initiatives have been taken by ESIC :-

- Relief to Migrant Worker: Launched a new scheme "One IP-Two Dispensaries" for the benefit of migrant workers. Now, Insured Persons can choose two dispensaries, one for self another for family through an employer. This would benefit all IPs but especially migrant workers who are working in other than home State, while their families are living in their native States.
- The duration of **Maternity Benefit in confinement** has been **enhanced from 12 weeks to 26 weeks.**
- **Under Abhiyan Indradhanush**, bedsheets are being changed everyday according to VIBGYOGR pattern in all the ESIC Hospitals.
- **ESI Coverage extended to Construction site workers** in the implemented area.
- During the last three years no. of Insured Persons and Beneficiaries have been increased from 2.03 crore to 3.18 crore and from 7.89 crore to 12.02 crore respectively.

**Shri Babul Supriyo**, Hon'ble Minister of State for Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises, Government of India who was the Chief Guest of the function appreciated and thanked the efforts of Hon'ble Union Labour and Employment Minister and was full of praise for the reforms undertaken by the Union Govt. He also made an appeal to the State Govt. for extending full cooperation in starting of the various projects including construction of ESIC Hospital at Asansol immediately.

**Smt. M. Sathiyavathy**, Secretary (L&E) also informed the gathering that a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between ESIC and Directorate General Factory Advice Service & Labour Institutes (DGFASLI) for collaboration in the field of occupational injuries and diseases signed. The objective and purpose of this MoU which is a step forward in ensuring workers' better health and working conditions. She also briefed about the various initiatives and labour reforms of the Ministry of Labour and Employment, Govt. of India.

The other Dignitaries to grace the occasion were Mrs. Roopa Ganguly, Hon'ble Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha; Shri Ramchandra Reddy, Hon'ble MLA, Shri Dilip Bhattacharya, Member, ESIC, Shri Heera Lal Samariya, Director General, ESIC, Shri Rajeev Arora, Jt. Secretary, MOL&E, Govt. of India, Shri Sandhya Shukla, Financial Commissioner, ESIC and Dr. R K Kataria, Medical Commissioner, ESIC

### **ESI Scheme in India**

The Employees' State Insurance Corporation is a pioneer Social Security organization providing comprehensive social security benefits like reasonable Medical Care and a range of Cash Benefits in times of need such as employment injury, sickness, death etc. The ESI Act applies to premises/precincts where 10 or more persons are employed. The employees drawing wages up to Rs.21,000/- a month are entitled to health insurance cover and other benefits, under the ESI Act. The Act now applies to over 8.73 lakh factories and establishments across the country, benefiting about 3.18 crores family units of workers. As of now, the total beneficiary population of ESI Scheme stands over 12.02 crores. Ever since its inception in 1952, the ESI Corporation has, so far, set up 151 Hospitals, 1467/159 Dispensaries / ISM Units, 813 Branch/Pay Offices and 62 Regional & Sub-Regional/Divisional Offices.

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