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No. E-13/18/16/2011-PR

Dated: 09.01.2012

PRESS RELEASE

**“6 DECADES OF INSPIRING HOPE” – AN EVENT AT AHMEDABAD TO
SHOWCASE ESIC’S MAJOR INITIATIVES DURING THE LAST 60 YEARS.**

Employees’ State Insurance Corporation organized a one day event at Ahmedabad on 9th January, 2012 on the theme ‘**6 Decades of Inspiring Hope**’ to showcase ESIC’s major initiatives in Social Security during the last 60 years. **Shri T.K. Bhattacharyya, Commissioner, ESIC** informed the gathering that the major initiatives of ESIC like IT Roll Out project, improvement in services & infrastructure etc. are bearing fruit for the beneficiaries of the ESI Scheme. The ESI Scheme is now a very popular Scheme amongst the stakeholders, he informed. Shri Bhattacharyya who was the chief guest of the event also flagged off a Road Show for creating awareness about the rights and benefits of the insured persons.

The above event was organized as a part of Diamond Jubilee Celebrations, especially to create mass awareness among the stakeholders about various ESI Schemes and its benefits to the employees and employers. The road show which was flagged off today, will be conducted at select cities of Ahmedabad, Vadodara, Surat etc., which will include ‘nukkad natak’ highlighting ESI Scheme. ESIC branded mobile van will be stationed at various places in Gujarat to disseminate information & create awareness on ESIC.

During the event, some ESI Beneficiaries of Gujarat State shared their experiences about the healing touch provided by ESI Scheme by providing cashless superspeciality treatment amounting of Rs. 25.00 lakhs.

The senior officers of ESIC also interacted with the participants and gave information on the major initiatives taken during the Diamond Jubilee Year with the sole aim of taking the ESI Schemes to new dimensions. During the Diamond Jubilee year (starting from 24th February, 2011 to February, 2012), special emphasis is being laid upon bringing more and more workers under the integrated social security of ESI Scheme.

The Employees’ State Insurance Act, 1948 was the first major legislation in Independent India for providing comprehensive Social Security to the workers in the organized sector. The first Prime Minister of India, Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru inaugurated the ESI Scheme by becoming its first Honoured Insured Person on 24th February, 1952. Since then, during unforeseen crisis, the Scheme

has supported millions of insured workers and their immediate dependants to live on with dignity. The ESI Corporation will complete 60 years of its functioning and services on 24th February, 2012.

The Corporation has come a long way starting from just 25000 Insured Persons. Today, it is covering about 1.55 crore families of workers. Now, the Corporation is providing Social Security to more than 6.03 crore beneficiaries, with matchless Cash Benefits and full Medical Care with no limit on individual expenditure. In 1952, the Corporation had only 21 Dispensaries with no ESI Hospital. Today, our infrastructure has increased many folds with 1495 Dispensaries/AYUSH Units and 149 ESI Hospitals. Presently, ESI Medical Care institutions are treating more than 4.5 crore patients, annually. The ESI Scheme started with just 02 centres at Delhi and Kanpur and is today implemented in 790 centres throughout India.

ESI Scheme was implemented in the State of Gujarat on 4th October, 1964. The scheme is now implemented in 40 centres covering 28,827 employers and more than 7.51 lakh insured persons. Out of 25 districts in Gujarat, the ESI scheme is implemented in 17 districts. One Regional Office at Ahmedabad and 2 Sub-Regional Offices, one at Surat and the other at Baroda are functioning. Besides, 24 Branch Offices at Ahmedabad, 8 Branch Offices at Baroda and 4 Branch Offices at Surat are also functioning. In the State of Gujarat, 9 ESIC Hospitals, and 99 Dispensaries are operational. In addition to the above, one ESIC Model Hospital at Bapunagar, Ahmedabad and one Chest Disease Hospital at Naroda, Ahmedabad provides treatment to the IPs and their beneficiaries. In Gujarat, under ESIC, 84 specialists, 371 Medical Officers and 38 Ayurvedic Doctors provide a variety of medical treatment to the IPs and beneficiaries. ESIC has made tie-up arrangement with 39 hospitals for super speciality treatment and with 3 hospitals for secondary treatment of the IPs. During 2010-11, ESIC has incurred an expenditure of Rs. 1,900 crores for super speciality treatment of IPs and their beneficiaries in the state of Gujarat.
