



HEADQUARTERS' OFFICE

EMPLOYEES STATE INSURANCE CORPORATION

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PANCHDEEP BHAWAN, C.I.G. ROAD, NEW DELHI-110002

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## **Press Release**

### **Decisions taken during the Indian Labour Conference now being adopted by ESIC in record time**

The Indian Labour Conference in its 46<sup>th</sup> Meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> July, 2015 had given recommendations related to coverage, improving facilities and other aspects of ESIC. Within a record time of 18 days, the ESI Corporation held its 166<sup>th</sup> Meeting today on 07<sup>th</sup> August, 2015 to adopt the recommendations of the Indian Labour Conference. The ESI Corporation is a tripartite body having representations from National Trade Unions, Employers Associations, State Govts. and the Central Govts.

**Shri Bandaru Dattatreya, Hon'ble Minister of State for Labour & Employment (Independent Charge), Govt. of India chaired this 166<sup>th</sup> meeting and called for increasing the coverage aspects of ESI Scheme, so that more and more workers of the country get the social security benefits including the medical care. The Hon'ble Minister also announced that the ESIC will bear the expenses on Super-Speciality treatment of ESIC beneficiaries over & above the expenditure by State Governments. Besides the above, the Hon'ble Union Labour Minister announced that the decision related to pre-existing diseases not to be considered for super-speciality treatment will only be with prospective effect and not with retrospective effect. Shri Shankar Aggarwal, IAS, Secretary, Labour & Employment was also present in the meeting. Hon'ble Minister welcomed and felicitated the new Director General of ESIC, Shri Deepak Kumar, IAS. The Members of the Corporation also welcomed the new Director General.**

**On the recommendations of the Indian Labour Conference, the Members of ESI Corporation in its 166<sup>th</sup> Meeting deliberated and decided the following:-**

1. The ESI Scheme is to be implemented in remaining four States/UTs i.e. Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram, Manipur and Andaman & Nicobar Islands.
2. Extension of ESI Scheme covering whole of the area of 393 districts in the country within a year by 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2016. Presently, the ESIC coverage is limited to industrial/commercial pockets on the basis of revenue villages.
3. It was also approved that a committee of the Corporation will look into the following aspects related to ESI Scheme:-
  - a. Coverage of unorganized sector by reducing the threshold limit from present 10 to 5 in order to make optimum utilization of ESIC medical infrastructure, selected groups in the urban areas e.g. rickshaw puller, Auto-Rickshaw Drivers, Anganwadi/Asha/Mid-Day Workers and other such categories are identified and will be provided medical benefits.

- b. ESIC to directly run the Health Services in all the States and states should not be asked to bear the cost of medical expenses. For this, ESIC is likely to design a new structure at the State level in the form of a subsidiary Corporation in which State Govt. and Central Govt. as well as Employees' and Employers' Organizations would be duly represented.
  - c. The decision regarding Medical facilities will be expanded at a fast pace and establishments of Hospitals and Dispensaries will be decided based on geographical necessity.
4. The following steps are being taken to upgrade/improve the medical facilities are:-
- i. To start appropriate cancer detection/treatment facilities at different level of hospitals by 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2015.
  - ii. To start appropriate cardiology treatment facilities at different level of hospitals by 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2015.
  - iii. To provide all possible pathological facilities in all hospitals premises by installation of required equipment either by upgrading or outsourcing by 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2015.
  - iv. To provide dialysis facilities in all ESIC Model Hospitals on PPP Model by 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2015.
  - v. To put in place appropriate Queue Management System in every hospital for helping in registration and pharmacy. For this online registration can also be done using mobile phones by 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2015.
  - vi. To provide behavioral training to paramedical and other staff of the hospitals guiding them to provide due courtesy in dealing with the patients/attendants.
  - vii. To provide facility for Reception and 'May I Help You' in each hospital to guide the patients/attendants by 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2015.
  - viii. To start tracking each and every pregnant mother and newly born child in the families of IPs so that complete immunization as well as safe delivery is achieved w.e.f. 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2015.
  - ix. To create at least one Mother and Child Care Hospital with advanced facilities in every State.
  - x. To provide YOGA facilities in all ESIC Hospitals by 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2015 and AYUSH facilities to be extended up to the dispensary level in phases, the first phase by December, 2015.
5. The ESI Corporation has also approved to extend the benefits of the ESI Scheme to the workers deployed on the construction sites located in the implemented areas w.e.f. 1<sup>st</sup> August, 2015.
6. It was also informed to the Corporation Members that a 24X7 toll free medical Helpline facility (Toll Free No. 1800-11-3839) has been started w.e.f. 20<sup>th</sup> July, 2015 through which Insured Person can directly talk to Doctors in case of emergency and seek guidance. It was also decided that the telemedicine facilities for ESI Beneficiaries will be extended in phased manner.

The Hon'ble Minister as well as the Members of the Corporation reiterated their commitment for protecting the interests of the working class and the beneficiaries of the ESI Scheme. ESIC is committed for bringing improvement towards delivery of quality services.

**(R.K. Gautam)**  
**Jt. Director (PR)**