

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

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## **Press Release**

## Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) and Directorate General Factory Advice Service & Labour Institutes (DGFASLI) for collaboration in the field of occupational health and prevention of occupational injuries and diseases signed \*\*\*\*\*

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 on 11.07.2017 at 11.30 AM at MOL&E, Shram Shakti Bhawan, New Delhi in the august presence of **Shri Bandaru Dattatreya**, Hon'ble Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Labour & Employment, Govt. of India.

**Smt. M. Sathiyavathy,** Secretary (L&E) informed the gathering about the objective and purpose of this MoU which is a step forward in ensuring workers' better health and working conditions. **Shri Bandaru Dattatreya,** Hon'ble Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Labour & Employment Govt. of India in his presidential address expressed his happiness and stated that this is a significant achievement of his Ministry. The Hon'ble Minister further explained all such initiatives wherein workers' well being and their health are given top priority. He hoped Doctors & para-medical staff etc. and the beneficiaries of ESI Scheme will largely be benefitted by the special activities and training modules of DGFASLI. Also, DGFASLI may get a huge database and infrastructure of ESI Scheme which will provide occupational health of workers and prevent the occurrence of injuries and diseases.

**Shri Heera Lal Samariya,** Director General, ESIC and **Dr. Avneesh Singh**, DG, DGFASLI also spoke on the occasion and signed the MoU on behalf of ESIC and DGFASLI respectively.

The overall objective of this MoU is to establish a mutual collaboration that seeks to enhance Occupational Health of workers; to reduce the occurrence of work related injuries and diseases. Special focus shall be paid to precarious working conditions in the formal and informal sectors. The main target shall be to promote and enhance the mutual understanding in the field of occupational health by establishing 'DGFASLI-ESIC Occupational Health Training, Research & Development Centre' (OHTRDC) at Regional Labour Institute, Faridabad followed by at other institutes located at Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata and Kanpur. The collaboration may also aim at improving the quality of life through joint scientific research and may in particular refer to the following activities:-

- a. Assessment of OSH challenges in all the spheres of economic activity.
- b. Special activities for prevention and control of Asbestosis, Silicosis and other occupational diseases.
- c. Development of training modules for different target groups.

This Memorandum will come into force from the date of its signature and will remain in force for a time period of three (03) years.

## 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 7.83 lakh factories and establishments across the country, benefiting about 2.13 crores family units of workers. As of now, the total beneficiary population of ESI Scheme stands over 8.28 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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