

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR & EMPLOYMENT FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY, 2022.

The Monthly Progress Report on important issues / Developments for the month of **February, 2022** are enumerated below:

(1 Labour Codes: As a part of legislative reforms, the existing 29 Acts in the central sphere have been subsumed in the four Codes. All Codes have been passed by Parliament and notified. The latest status of each of the Code is as under:

- The Code on Wages, 2019 was notified in Gazette of India on 8th August, 2019 and the Industrial Relations Code, 2020, the Code on Social Security, 2020 and the Occupational Safety, Health & Working Conditions Code, 2020 were notified in Gazette of India on 29th September, 2020.
- The Central Government has pre-published the draft Rules , namely, the Code on Wages (Central) Rules, 2020 , the Industrial Relation (Central) Rules, 2020, the Code on Social Security (Central) Rules, 2020 and the Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions (Central) Rules, 2020.
- Video conferences were also taken by Secretary (L&E) with the Principal Secretary of Labour in States on 25th October 2020, 29th January 2021, 15th April 2021 and 17th June 2021, 1st October 2021, 09th November 2021, 21st December 2021, 21st January, 2022 and 25th February, 2022.

(ii) Status of Rules by State / UTs under four labour Codes: Following State / UT Governments have pre-published their Rules:-

Name of Codes	Name of States which have pre-published the draft Rules
The Code on Wages	Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Uttarakhand, Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, Odisha, Punjab, Chhattisgarh, Tripura, Rajasthan, Jharkhand, Arunachal Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Maharashtra, Goa, Sikkim, Mizoram, Telangana, Assam, Manipur, Kerala, UTs of Jammu and Kashmir, Puducherry GNCT of Delhi and Chandigarh (27)
The Industrial Relations Code	Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, Punjab, Chhattisgarh, Tripura, Karnataka, Jharkhand, Arunachal Pradesh, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Telangana, Manipur, Assam, Goa, Maharashtra, Kerala, Uts of Jammu and Kashmir, Puducherry and

	Chandigarh (23)
The Code on Social Security	Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Chhattisgarh, Odisha, Jharkhand, Arunachal Pradesh, Haryana, Maharashtra, Tripura, Telegana, Himachal Pradesh, Manipur, Assam, Gujarat, Goa, Kerala, UT of Jammu and Kashmir, and Chandigarh (21)
The OSH Code	Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Odisha, Arunachal Pradesh, Haryana, Jharkhand, Punjab, Manipur, Bihar, Himachal Pradesh, Telangana, Goa, Kerala, Gujarat , UT of Jammu and Kashmir, and Chandigarh (18)

(iii) **Governance Reforms: Shram Suvidha Portal:** Under the Shram Suvidha Portal, 35,27,738 Labour Identification Number (LIN) have been generated and inspection report in respect of 6,60,717 cases have been uploaded on the portal.

(2. **eShram Portal:** eSHRAM portal has been developed for creating a National Database of Unorganized Workers, which is seeded with Aadhaar to extend the benefits of the social security schemes to them. Any worker who is working in unorganised sector and aged between 16-59, is eligible to register on the eSHRAM portal. It is the first-ever national database of unorganised workers including migrant workers, construction workers, gig and platform workers, etc. As on 28.02.2022 a total of 26.22 crore unorganised workers have registered on the portal.

(3. **Consumer Price Index:** All India Consumer Price Index Number for Industrial Workers (CPI-IW) with base year 2016=100 for the month of January, 2022 decreased by 0.3 points and stood at 125.1 (One hundred Twenty five and point one). The inflation based on CPI-IW stood at 5.84 per cent for January, 2022 as compared to 5.56 per cent for the previous month and 3.15 per cent during the corresponding month of the previous year.

(4. **Employees Provident Fund Organization (EPFO):**

a) **e-Nominations under Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav (AKAM):**

EPFO had launched E-nomination facility in 2019. Facility of E-nomination was an important service which enabled quick release of payment to family members of deceased member of EPFO. In the event of unfortunate demise of the member, his/her nominee(s) can avail the benefits without delay, towards this an online e-nomination facility. As a part of celebration of AKAM, EPFO has started a special drive to encourage members to file e-nomination. In February 2022, a record high 26.17 Lakh e-nominations were made. Total nominations till February, 2022 are 85.54 lakhs.

b) **COVID-19 Advance Claims-** To ensure that members are not financially inconvenienced during COVID-19 pandemic, provisions for special COVID advance

were made in the EPF Scheme. EPFO offices across the country have settled 1.54 crore COVID-19 advance claims from 01.04.2021 to 28.02.2022, disbursing ₹34,757.02 crores to claimants. Exempted establishments have also played an important role in settlement of COVID-19 advance claims. Since 01.04.2021, 3,26,899 COVID-19 advance claims disbursing an amount of ₹ 2910.25 crores to their members till 28.02.2022 have been settled by exempted establishments. In fact, innovative measures like auto-settlement mode and multi-location claim settlement have ensured that most of COVID-19 claims are settled within 3 days despite various constraints.

c) **Pension disbursement during COVID-19 pandemic-** In February, 2022, EPFO released ₹ 1,113.64 crore as monthly pension to EPS pensioners. 38,830 new pensioners were also added in February, 2022. Pension Adalats have been organized till 28.02.2022, wherein 4,443 grievances have been resolved.

d) **Settlement of claims by EPFO office** – Since 01.04.2021, 3.56 crore claims (Final PF Settlements, Death Claims, Insurance Claims and Partial withdrawal / advance including LIP & Covid – 19) have been settled by EPFO offices till 28.02.2022, disbursing an amount of Rs. 141064.38 crore to PF members.

e) **Prayaas-** Under the Prayaas initiative, field offices of EPFO are handing over PPOs to members of EPS 1995 on the day of superannuation. Since April 2021, field offices of EPFO conducted 3,435 webinars on Prayaas initiative and handed over 23,191 PPOs on the day of superannuation to subscribers till 28.02.2022.

f) **Progress on EDLI Scheme** - The assurance benefit has been raised from earlier ₹6 Lakhs to ₹7 Lakhs from 28.04.2021. Since 15.02.2020, an amount of ₹ 2,850.75 crore has been disbursed to 1,01,036 beneficiaries across 42,849 establishments as assurance benefit till 28.02.2022.

g) **KYC updation of subscribers** - Since 01.04.2021, EPFO offices have ensured Aadhaar seeding for 1.41 crore subscribers, mobile number seeding for 1.06 crore subscribers and bank account seeding for 71.62 lakh subscribers till 28.02.2022.

h) **Negotiations for finalization of a Social Security Agreement with Poland:** A virtual conference of first round of negotiations for finalization of a Social Security Agreement between India and Poland was held from 16th to 18th of February 2022. In the negotiation officials from the Ministry of External Affairs and workers Division of EPFO participated. The discussions were held on the draft Social Security Agreement (SSA).

i) **EPFO Payroll data:** Since April, 2018 EPFO has been releasing monthly payroll data covering the period from September, 2017 onward and subscribers data is validated through Aadhar and Universal Account Number. The provisional payroll data of EPFO released on 20th February 2022 highlighted that EPFO added 14.60 lakh net subscribers during the month of December 2021. Comparison shows an increase of around 2.06 lakh in net payroll additions in December 2021.

(5. Employees State Insurance Corporation (ESIC):

(i) Laying of foundation stone of 500 bed hospital in Manesar:

On 13th February, 2022 Hon'ble Labour and Employment Minister and Chief Minister of Haryana laid foundation stone of 500 bed hospital in Manesar, Haryana. This Hospital will be built on 8 acre at a cost of Rs. 500 crore (approx).

(ii) 187th Meeting of ESIC Corporation:

The 187th Meeting of ESIC was held between 11-12th February, 2022 in Gurugram, Haryana under the chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister. ESIC accorded in principle approval for setting up of new ESIC hospitals at Bokaro (Jharkhand), Paradeep (Odisha), Rangpo (Sikkim), and an ESI dispensary at Jahdli, Haryana.

(iii) Inauguration of Hospital and Construction dashboard:

A Medical Dashboard was launched in ESIC's meeting held on 12.02.2022.

a. ESIC PMD Dashboard: Property management dashboard has been developed for facilitating accessing information related to all the construction projects of ESIC. It displays entire details of all the projects viz. name of the projects, duration, cost, milestones etc. to help managerial decisions and monitor timely actions.

b. ESIC Medical Dashboard: The Medical Dashboard is aimed for information at a glance & monitoring the performance of ESIC Hospitals. Medical dashboard inter-alia captures OPD footfall, Bed Occupancy on real time basis, present status of availability of doctors etc.

(iv) Inauguration of Cath-Lab:

On 12th Feb 2022, Hon'ble Minister inaugurated first Cath-Lab at ESIC Medical College & Hospital, Faridabad.

(v) Health exhibition:

A 'Health Exhibition' at ESIC Hospital & PGIMSR, Basaidarapur, New Delhi was organized on occasion of 70th ESIC Foundation day. The health exhibition was for public health awareness, with the theme of "Prevent, Educate & Cure".

(vi) Commencement of the Daycare Chemotherapy Centre:

At ESIC Hospital, Okhla Daycare Chemotherapy Centre has commenced functioning from 04th February, 2022. This Centre will assist in 'Closing the care

gap', thereby providing best possible treatment to the beneficiaries with adequate care & support.

(vii) **Felicitation of distinguished sportsperson of ESIC:**

- a. Hon'ble Minister felicitated Sh. Pramod Bhagat, Gold Medalist in Para Badminton (Tokyo Paralympic 2020) with a citation letter and cheque of Rs. 1 crore.
- b. Hon'ble Minister felicitated Smt. Bhavina Patel, Silver Medalist in Para Table Tennis (Tokyo Paralympic 2020) with a citation letter and cheque of Rs. 50 lakh.

(6. **Atmanirbhar Bharat Rozgar Yojana (ABRY):** To boost employment generation and to minimize socio-economic impact of Covid-19 pandemic, Ministry of Labour & Employment on 30.12.2020 notified EPFO-linked Atmanirbhar Bharat Rozgar Yojana (ABRY), for which, an expenditure of ₹ 22,810 crore has been approved for the Scheme period i.e. 2020-2024. As on 03.03.2022, 2.97 lakh establishments have registered 65.89 lakh new employees under ABRY. Till 03.03.2022, 1,32,793 establishments have claimed benefits amounting to ₹ 3,906.59 crore in respect of 50.87 lakh beneficiaries.

(7. **Meetings:**

- (i) A video conference meeting was held on 16.02.2022 between Ms Muriel Penicaud, French candidate for the post of ILO, former Minister of Labour of France and Hon'ble Minister to discuss about her candidacy for the post of DG, ILO.
- (ii) A meeting was held between Dr. Kyung-wha KANG, Special Representative on International Labour Cooperation, Republic of Korea and candidate for the post of DG ILO from South Korea and Shri Sunil Barthwal, Secretary (Labour & Employment), on 08.02.2022 at Shram Shakti Bhawan regarding candidacy of Dr. Kung-wha KANG for the post of DG ILO.

(8. **National Career Service (NCS):**

To provide employment Services, a National Career Service (NCS) portal has been functioning since 2014 which leverages information technology and provides a nation-wide online platform for jobseekers and employers for job matching in a dynamic, efficient, and responsive manner. Some of the activities/achievements of NCS during February 2022 are as under:-

- (i) The up-skilling initiatives have been ongoing through the NCS portal. As of 28th February 2022, 36,350 candidates were registered for the Microsoft Digisaksham

program. 2,750 candidates were trained in Virtual Instructor Led Training. Additionally, 11,296 candidates have been registered for the self-paced learning program. Similarly, TCS iON Program has been ongoing through the NCS portal. 35,972 candidates have been trained through the TCS iON initiative as on 25th February 2022.

- (ii) A lot of activities were undertaken on the NCS portal this month. It includes registration of 3,276 new employers, 4,49,397 new jobseekers, 27,874 UAN based jobseeker registration, 136,976 jobseekers have been shortlisted for jobs. 2,39,335 vacancies were mobilized in month of February 2022.
- (iii) A meeting was held at the level of Secretary (L&E) on 09th February 2022 with representatives from Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) with a focus on creating partnership between NCS and e-migrate portals for the purpose of bridging the gaps in supply (catered through NCS portal) and demand (catered through eMigrate portal) of skilled Indian workers. Another meeting on same day was taken with representatives from FICCI, CII, NASSCOM with a focus on the brainstorming ideas with the industry bodies to enhance and strengthen the partnership of NCS portal.
- (iv) A meeting was held on 10th February, 2022 at the level of Secretary (L&E) with the representatives from top private Job Portals of the country for strengthening the Employment and skilling ecosystem in India.
