

The Monthly Progress Report on important issues / Developments for the month of **November, 2021** are enumerated below:

(i) 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 and Working Conditions Code, 2020 were notified in Gazette of India on the 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, 17th June, 2021, 1st October, 2021 and 09th November, 2021.

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

Name of Code	Name of States which have pre-published the draft Rules
Code on Wages	J&K, MP, Bihar, Uttarakhand, Karnataka, UP, Gujarat, Odisha, Punjab, Chhattisgarh, Tripura, Rajasthan, Jharkhand, Arunachal Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Maharashtra, Goa, Mizoram, Puducherry, Telangana, Assam and Manipur (23)
Industrial Relations Code	J&K, MP, Bihar, Uttarakhand, UP, Gujarat, Odisha, Punjab, Chhattisgarh, Tripura, Karnataka, Jharkhand, Arunachal Pradesh, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Mizoram, Puducherry, Telangana, Manipur and Assam (20)
Code on Social Security	J&K, MP, Bihar, Uttarakhand, UP, Punjab, Chhattisgarh, Odisha, Jharkhand, Arunachal Pradesh, Haryana, Maharashtra, Tripura, Himachal Pradesh, Manipur, Assam and Gujarat (17)
OSH Code	J&K, Uttarakhand, UP, MP, Chhattisgarh, Odisha, Arunachal Pradesh, Haryana, Jharkhand, Punjab and Manipur (11)

(iii) Governance Reforms: Shram Suvidha Portal: Under the Shram Suvidha Portal, **34,43,268** Labour Identification Number (LIN) have been generated and inspection report in respect of **6,36,553** cases have been uploaded on the portal.

2. eShram Portal: The eSHRAM portal was inaugurated on 26th August 2021. The 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 unorganized sector and aged between 16-59, is eligible to register on the eSHRAM portal e.g. migrant workers, gig workers, platform workers, agricultural workers, MGNREGA workers, Fishermen, Milkmen, ASHA workers, Anganwadi workers, Street Vendors, Domestic workers, Rickshaw pullers and other workers engaged in similar other occupations in the unorganised sector. It is the first-ever national database of unorganised sector workers. As on 30.11.2021, a total of 9.96 crore unorganized 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 October, 2021 increased by 0.1 points and stood at 124.9 (One hundred Twenty four and nine). The inflation based on CPI-IW stood at 4.50 per cent for October, 2021 as compared to 5.91 per cent for the previous month and 8.21 per cent during the corresponding month of the previous year.

4. Employees Provident Fund Organization (EPFO):

i) 229th Meeting of Central Board of Trustees, EPF- The 229th meeting of Central Board of Trustees (CBT) was held on 20.11.2021 in New Delhi under the chairmanship of Shri Bhupender Yadav, Union Minister for Labour & Employment, Vice-Chair Shri Rameswar Teli, Minister of State for Labour & Employment, Co-Vice Chair Shri Sunil Barthwal, Secretary (Labour & Employment).

Four ad-hoc Committees of CBT, EPF were formed to address important issues related to (i) Human Resources/Establishments matters, (ii) Coverage & related Litigation, (iii) IT & Communications and (iv) Pension Reforms. The Committees have been mandated to submit their report within 3 months and present their recommendations in next CBT meeting. The Board approved the 68th Annual Report on the functioning of EPFO for the year of 2020-21. Approval was also accorded for development of centralized IT-enabled systems by C-DAC for smoother operations and enhanced service delivery.

ii) EPFO Booklets launched during CBT meeting - Chairman, CBT released a booklet titled 'Response to Covid - 2.0, an effort to encapsulate the preparedness of EPFO to innovate and deliver uninterrupted services to its stakeholders during the difficult time of Covid-19 pandemic. These efforts have enabled EPFO to move towards digitally interactive paperless organization, thereby enhancing ease of living for all its stakeholders.

iii). Settlement of claims by EPFO offices- Since 01.04.2021, 2.19 crore claims (Final PF Settlements, Death Claims, Insurance Claims and Partial withdrawal/advance including LIP & Covid-19) have been settled by EPFO offices till 30.11.2021 disbursing an amount of ₹74,213 crores to PF members. EPFO offices across the country have settled 68.10 lakh COVID-19 advance claims from 01.04.2021 to 30.11.2021, disbursing an amount of ₹14,242 crores to claimants.

iv). Pension disbursement- In the month of November, 2021, EPFO released ₹1111.97 crore as monthly pensions to EPS pensioners. 34,797 new pensioners were also added in the month of November, 2021. Pension Adalats have been organized by field offices to give emphasis on redressing grievances related to Pensioners. 698 Pension Adalats have been organized till 30.11.2021, wherein 2814 grievances have been resolved.

v). PRAYAAS - Under the recently launched PRAYAAS initiative, field offices of EPFO are handing over PPOs to many members of EPS 1995 on the day of superannuation. Since April 2021, field offices of EPFO conducted 3446 webinars on PRAYAAS initiative and handed over 17623 PPOs on the day of superannuation to subscribers till 30.11.2021.

vi). Progress on EDLI Scheme- Under Employees' Deposit Linked Insurance (EDLI) Scheme, assurance benefit is provided to eligible family members so as to provide financial assistance in the event of an employee's unfortunate death while in service. The assurance benefit has been raised from earlier ₹6 Lakhs to ₹7 Lakhs from 28.04.2021. Since 15.02.2020, an amount of ₹2258.88 crore has been disbursed to 81,224 beneficiaries across 33,795 establishments as assurance benefit till 30.11.2021.

vii). EPFO celebrates Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav - As a part of celebration of Amrit Mahotsav, EPFO has started a drive to encourage members to file e-nomination. During November, 2021 a total number 4,40,825 e-nominations were filed.

5. Employees State Insurance Corporation (ESIC):

(i) Relaxation in referral for Secondary Care Treatment ESIC has relaxed the policy on referral to private hospitals for availing prescribed secondary care treatment that is not available in ESIC Hospitals. This applies to hospitals with bed strength of 100 or less commissioned beds.

(ii) Union Minister of Women and Child Development, Smt. Smriti Zubin Irani inaugurated the newly built ESI Dispensary at Rae Bareilly in Uttar Pradesh today. This will benefit 60,000 ESI beneficiaries of Rae Bareilly area. In addition, about 15,000 workers will also get cash benefits from the ESIC Branch Office. Shri Rameshwar Teli, Union Minister of State for Labour & Employment and Petroleum & Natural Gas was also present at the inauguration.

(iii) Extension of medical Benefit as laid down in the Regulation 95-A of ESI (General) Regulation has been extended to the families of Insured Persons in the

entire area of two districts in the State of Tamil Nadu i.e. Thanjavur and Coimbatore, effective from 01.11.2021.

(iv) Eligibility criteria for Atal Beemit Vayakti Kalyan Yojana have been further relaxed. Insured Persons are now eligible for the benefit of the scheme having one year of insurable employment immediately before their unemployment. The scheme has also been further extended for a period 01.07.2021 to 30.06.2022.

(v) ESIC Educational Institutions all ESIC Medical/Dental Colleges have been directed to register with the appropriate authority for ranking of their respective educational Institutions through NIRF (National Institutional Ranking Framework).

(vi) ESIC Medical College & Hospitals at Alwar and Bihta have received Letters of Permission from the National Medical Commission to start Medical Colleges with 100 Annual MBBS Admissions for the academic year 2021-2022.

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). As on 30.11.2021, 2.79 lakh establishments have registered 52.28 lakh new employees under ABRY. Till 30.11.2021, 1,16,557 establishments have claimed benefits amounting to ₹2595.21 crores in respect of 39.61 lakh beneficiaries.

7. Meetings:

- a) The 343rd Session of the Governing Body of International Labour Organization (ILO) was held from 01 – 13 November 2021 through virtual mode. A delegation led by Shri Sunil Barthwal, Secretary (L&E) comprising of Shri Ram Kumar Gupta, Joint Secretary, Shri Rupesh Kumar Thakur , Director and Ms. Priya Sarraf, Deputy Director from Ministry of Labour and Employment attended the Governing Body meeting through virtual mode.
- b) A online pre-meeting for the 2022 BRICS Employment Working Group between India and China was held on 24.11.2021 to discuss the modalities and setting up of the agenda for BRICS EWG 2022 under the China Presidency. A delegation led by Shri Ram Kumar Gupta, Joint Secretary, comprising of Shri Rupesh Kumar Thakur , Director and Ms. Priya Sarraf, Deputy Director from Ministry of Labour and Employment attended the meeting through virtual mode.

8. Special Campaign on Disposal of Pending matters with focus on cleanliness: During the special campaign till 8th November, 2021 the following achievements were made:

Items	Achievements
MP References	53
Parliamentary Assurances	106
Cabinet Proposals (IMC Ref)	3
State Government References	10
Public Grievances	2,475

Files Review	40,000
Files Weeding	22,927
Cleanliness Campaign	10
Public Grievances Appeals	4,447

Besides: 4.810 sq. ft. of space was freed in the Ministry and revenue earned through disposal of e-waste was Rs.8.41 lakhs.

9. National Career Service (NCS) :

Major activities/achievements of NCS during November' 2021 have been detailed below:

- (i) Partnered with YuWaah and creative were deployed on NCS portal and YuWaah portals for cross promotional activities. NCS team has also finalized the Questionnaire has been finalised for "NCS Poll" to seek feedback from NCS users
- (ii) The window on Human Resources for Health Sector has been developed on the NCS Portal and integrations were completed with some of the private job portals for the data exchange of the healthcare sector jobseekers on the NCS Portal. Data is being received from private portals such as Naukri, Times Jobs, Fresher's World, Freshers Live, HireMee etc.
- (iii) Various Job Fairs and Career Events were organized under NCS Scheme by Model Career Centres of states like Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, Rajasthan, etc. 49 Job Fairs/ Placement Drives conducted during November,2021 .
- (iv) As on 25-11-2021, the NCS platform has around 1.32 crore active jobseekers with around 1.7 lakh active employers and around 1.69 lakh active vacancies. The total number of vacancies mobilised on the portal since its launch in 2015 is more than 90 lakh.

10. Status of Public Grievances:

Number of Public Grievances redressed during the month	Number of Public Grievances pending at the end of the month
8230	5405