



## **Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya to Inaugurate First-Ever Regional Dialogue on Global Coalition for Social Justice in New Delhi on 24-25 Feb 2025**

**Hosted by Ministry of Labour & Employment in collaboration with CII-EFI**

**Coalition Theme is Responsible Businesses for Inclusive and Sustainable Societies**

**Mr. Gilbert F. Houngbo, Director-General of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) to Deliver Keynote Address**

**80+ Coalition partners from Asia Pacific region and beyond, including representatives from Governments, Employers' and Workers' Organizations, International Agencies, Research and Academic Institutions, International NGOs and Enterprises to Attend**

**Participating Ministries include Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Ministry of Corporate Affairs, Ministry of External Affairs, Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship**

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Ministry of Labour & Employment, Government of India, in collaboration with Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)-Employers' Federation of India (EFI), is set to host the first-ever Regional Dialogue on Social Justice on 24-25 February 2025 at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi. This landmark event is a significant contribution to the Global Coalition for Social Justice.

Launched by ILO in 2023, the Coalition is a platform for governments, employers' and workers' organizations, international and regional organizations, financial institutions and development banks, enterprises, international non-governmental organizations and academia committed to advancing

social justice and engaging in collaborative efforts to achieve shared objectives. The Coalition leverages collaboration among partners to amplify the unique strengths of each participant, comprehensively and coherently addressing social justice challenges.



As a member of the Asia Pacific Coordinating Group, India is spearheading the first ‘Regional Dialogue’ under the Global Coalition for Social Justice and championing the key intervention “Responsible Businesses for Inclusive and Sustainable Societies” under the Coalition’s thematic area of “Expanding access to and capabilities for Productive and freely chosen Employment and Sustainable Enterprises.”

The Regional Dialogue will bring together over 80+ Coalition partners from the Asia Pacific region and beyond to explore innovative approaches, exchange best practices, and strengthen collaboration to advancing social justice in the region.

Hon’ble Union Minister for Labour & Employment, Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya, Hon’ble Minister of State for Labour & Employment, Sushri Shobha Karandlaje and Secretary (Labour & Employment), Ms. Sumita Dawra will grace the inaugural session of this regional dialogue. The event will feature Mr. Gilbert F. Hounbo, Director-General of the ILO, as the keynote speaker.

The event will also mark the 74th Foundation Day of the Employees’ State Insurance Corporation (ESIC), celebrating its unwavering commitment to ensuring dignified healthcare and economic security for India’s workforce. The ESIC Foundation Day is an occasion to recognize the vital contribution of the organization in fostering social justice through the extension of comprehensive social security benefits for workers and their families in the formal sector.

Discussions will focus on critical dimensions of social justice, including responsible business conduct and social protection, aligning with the Coalition’s thematic priorities.

The event will feature exchange of knowledge and experience sharing through technical discussions and coalition partner’s experiences. The deliberations would strengthen the joint collaboration among partners in the area of promoting social justice in the region.

Key themes include:

- Skills, Employment and Social Justice: Empowering Youth and Enterprises for Inclusive and Sustainable Growth
- Social Protection to Social Justice: Ensuring No One is Left Behind

- Responsible Businesses: Upholding Fair Working Conditions, Safety, and Health for Enhanced Productivity and Sustainability
- Building a Bigger Table: Promoting Inclusion and Women's Participation in the World of Work
- Advancing Decent Work: Strengthening Corporate Governance and Sustainable Global Value Chains
- Digitalization for Social Justice – Harnessing AI for Decent Work and Equity

Key Stakeholders: The thematic dialogue will bring together Coalition partners and other key stakeholders, including representatives from governments, employers' and workers' organizations, international and/or regional organizations, research organizations, academia, international NGOs and enterprises.

## Event Highlights

### Day 1 | 24 February 2025

The first day of the Regional Dialogue on Social Justice will commence with an Inaugural Session. Key highlights include the showcasing of Responsible Business Conduct by Indian employers' organisation and international business chambers, a joint statement of workers and employers organisations on responsible business practices, and the launch of publications on social justice and social protection. Technical sessions will focus on skills and employment for youth, social protection for informal workers, and promoting women's participation in the workforce, featuring insights from global partners and stakeholders.

### Day 2 | 25 February 2025

The second day will delve into responsible business practices, emphasizing fair working conditions, occupational safety, and health, with contributions from the International Organizations and foreign business chambers. Discussions on sustainable global value chains will highlight the role of multinational enterprises in advancing decent work and ethical labour practices. The final session will explore digitalization and AI as tools for social justice, focusing on equitable access, worker rights, and aligning AI with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

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