

## Ministry of Labour & Employment

The Monthly Progress Report on important issues / Developments for the month of **January, 2022** 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 8<sup>th</sup> 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 29<sup>th</sup> 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 25<sup>th</sup> October 2020, 29<sup>th</sup> January 2021, 15<sup>th</sup> April 2021 and 17<sup>th</sup> June 2021, 1<sup>st</sup> October 2021, 09<sup>th</sup> November 2021, 21<sup>st</sup> December 2021 and 21<sup>st</sup> January, 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
Code on Wages	Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Uttarakhand, Karnataka, UP, Gujarat, Odisha, Punjab, Chhattisgarh, Tripura, Rajasthan, Jharkhand, Arunachal Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Maharashtra, Goa, Mizoram, Telangana, Assam, Manipur, Kerala, Uts of Jammu and Kashmir, Puducherry GNCT of Delhi and Chandigarh (26)
Industrial Relations Code	Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, Odisha, Jharkhand, Arunachal Pradesh, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Telangana, Manipur, Assam, Goa, Maharashtra, Kerala, Uts of Jammu and Kashmir, Puducherry and Chandigarh (23)
Code on Social Security	Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Chhattisgarh, Odisha, Jharkhand, Arunachal Pradesh, Haryana, Maharashtra, Tripura, Himachal Pradesh, Manipur, Assam, Gujarat, Goa, Kerala, Telangana, UT of Jammu and Kashmir, and Chandigarh (21)
OSH Code	Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Odisha, Arunachal Pradesh, Haryana, Jharkhand, Punjab,

	Manipur, Bihar, Himachal Pradesh, Goa, Kerala, Gujarat and UT of Jammu and Kashmir, Chandigarh (17)
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**(iii) Governance Reforms: Shram Suvidha Portal:** Under the Shram Suvidha Portal, **35,19,802** Labour Identification Number (LIN) have been generated and inspection report in respect of **6,52,468** 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 **31.01.2022** a total of **24.63 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 December, 2021 increased by 0.3 points and stood at 125.4 (One hundred Twenty five and four). The inflation based on CPI-IW stood at 5.56 per cent for December, 2021 as compared to 4.84 per cent for the previous month and 3.67 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):**

A readily available nomination of the member in the system enables a member to easily file online Pension claim and 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 was launched by EPFO in 2019.

As a part of celebration of AKAM, EPFO started a special drive to encourage members to file e-nomination. In January 2022, a record high 16.58 Lakh e-nominations were made.

**b) Coverage of Air India Ltd. under EPF & MP, 1952:** The Employees' Provident Fund Organization on boarded Air India Ltd. Under Section 1(4) of the EPF & MP Act, 1952 with effect from Dec. 1, 2021. Hitherto the Air India was covered under PF Act, 1925. 7453 employees have already been enrolled with EPFO.

**c) Prepayment of NCDs by Air India on its Disinvestment:** EPFO had invested in NCDs of Air India having a face value of ₹ 7772.50 crore in 2012. EPFO has now realised an amount of ₹ 8944.32 crore, in two payments on 21.1.2022 and 25.1.2022 as pre-mature redemption of NCDs of Air India.

**d) Adhoc Committees of CBT:** During 229th CBT Meeting held on 20.11.2021, four ad-hoc Committees of CBT, EPF were formed to address important

issues related to Human Resources/Establishments matters, Coverage & related Litigation, IT & Communications and Pension Reforms.

- e) **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. Since 01.04.2021, 3,07,076 COVID-19 advance claims disbursing an amount of ₹ 2783.26 crores to their members till 31.01.2022 have been settled by exempted establishments. Similarly, 146.49 lakh Covid-19 advance claims were settled involving an amount of Rs.33,238.80 crore as on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2022.
- f) **Pension disbursement during COVID-19 pandemic-** In January, 2022, EPFO released ₹1,075.94 crore as monthly pensions to EPS pensioners. 31,613 new pensioners were also added in January, 2022. 963 Pension Adalats have been organized till 31.01.2022, wherein 3,924 grievances have been resolved.
- g) **Settlement of claims by EPFO offices-** Since 01.04.2021, 2.69 crore claims (Final PF Settlements, Death Claims, Insurance Claims and Partial withdrawal/advance including LIP & Covid-19) have been settled by EPFO offices till 31.01.2022, disbursing an amount of ₹ 90,567 crore to PF members.
- h) **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, EPFO conducted 3,288 webinars on Prayaas initiative and handed over 20,046 PPOs on the day of superannuation till 31.01.2022. Pension Adalats have been organised by field offices to give emphasis on redressing grievances related to pensioners. 963 Pension Adalats have been organized till 31.01.2022, wherein 3,924 grievances have been resolved.
- i) **Progress on EDLI Scheme:** The assurance benefit has been raised from earlier ₹6 Lakhs to ₹7 Lakhs. Since 15.02.2020, an amount of ₹ 2,652.11 crore has been disbursed to 94,132 beneficiaries across 40,519 establishments as assurance benefit till 31.01.2022.
- j) **KYC updation of subscribers:** Since 01.04.2021, EPFO offices have ensured Aadhaar seeding for 1.30 crore subscribers, mobile number seeding for 97.87 lakh subscribers and bank account seeding for 68.95 lakh subscribers till 31.01.2022.

## 5. Employees State Insurance Corporation (ESIC):

- (i) **224<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Standing Committee of ESI Corporation held on 27.01.2022:**

Preliminary estimate for proposed construction of 400 bedded (350 beds + 50 Super Specialty beds) ESI Hospital at Sheelanagar, Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh was approved.

(ii) **E Sanjeevani Portal:**

A new initiative has been taken by ESIC for providing Telemedicine services through E Sanjeevani Portal. About 50 hospitals of ESI Corporation has on-boarded on e-Sanjeevani Telemedicine portal of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. 3294 IPs have availed Tele-consultation during the month of January 2022.

(iii) **Extension of Medical Benefit:**

The Medical Benefit as laid down in the Regulation 95-A of ESI(General) Regulation has been extended to the families of Insured Person in the entire area of 21 districts in the State of Assam i.e. Barpet, Bongaigaon, Bishwanath, Cachar, Chirang, Darrang, Dhemaji, Dhubri, Golaghat, Goalpara, Karbi Anglong, Karimganj, Lakhimpur, Majuli, Nalbari, Marigaon, Nagaon, Sibsagar, South Salmara, Udalguri and West Karbi Anglong, effective from 01.01.2022. A notification to this effect has been published on 27.01.2022.

(iv) **Extension of relaxation in eligibility conditions of ABVKY:**

ESI Corporation has further extended the relaxation in eligibility conditions from two years to one year of insurable employment before unemployment and the contributory conditions of Atal Bimit Vyakti Kalyan Yojana vide Notification issued on 27.01.22.

(v) **Setting up of New Sub Regional Office:** ESI Corporation approved setting up of Sub Regional Office at Jharsuguda, Odisha which will cater to the need of eight implemented districts of Odisha and an order in this regard has been issued on 21.01.2022.

(vi) **Continuous of concessions/facilities for treatment of Non IPs in ESIC Medical Colleges:** The extensions of concessions/facilities for Medical treatment of Non IPs at ESIC Medical College, Alwar and Bihta till 31/03/2023 has been approved and communicated vide Memorandum dated 28/01/2022.

**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), for which, an expenditure of ₹ 22,810 crore has been approved for the Scheme period i.e. 2020-2024. As on 31.01.2022, 2.90 lakh

establishments have registered 61.01 lakh new employees under ABRY. Till 31.01.2022, 1,26,860 establishments have claimed benefits amounting to ₹ 3,438.28 crore in respect of 46.91 lakh beneficiaries.

**7. 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 Aadhaar and Universal Account Number. During the month of November, EPFO added 13.95 lakh net subscribers showing an increase of around 2.5 lakh over the previous month of October, 2021.

**8. Meetings:**

- i) A Meeting of Hon'ble Minister for Labour & Employment, Sh. Bhupender Yadav, with HR Heads of Companies/ Industry representatives was held on 12.01.2022 virtually.
- ii) An Inter-Ministerial Meeting between Ministry of Labour & Employment and Ministry of External Affairs was held on 10.01.2022 regarding G20 Priorities and Deliverables for India's G20 Presidency during 2022.
- iii) India-UK Joint dialogue on Social Security Agreement was held on 19.02.2022. The Indian delegation was headed by Joint Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) and Officers of the Ministry also participated in the joint dialogue.
- iv) India-UK FTA negotiation meeting on 'Labour' chapter held on 21.02.2022 from 5:30pm to 8:30pm (IST).
- v) ILO's technical meeting on the impact of digitalization in the finance sector from 24-28 January, 2022 held in virtual mode at ILO, Geneva.

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

To provide employment Services, a National Career Service (NCS) portal has been functioning since 2014 which leverage 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 January'2022 have been detailed below:

- i. The upskilling initiatives have been ongoing through the NCS portal. As of 31<sup>st</sup> January 2022, 28,766 candidates were registered for the Microsoft Digisaksham program. 2,480 candidates were trained in Virtual Instructor Led Training. Additionally, 9,120 candidates have been registered for the self-paced learning program. Similarly, TCS iON Program has been ongoing through the NCS portal. 34,593 candidates have been trained through the TCS iON initiative as on 28th January 2022.

- ii. 3,162 new employers registered and 2,40,481 job seekers enrolled on the NCS portal. 93,486 vacancies mobilized in month of January 2022.
- iii. Haryana state portal has been integrated with NCS portal for registering of candidates to the NCS portal. Currently integration has also been completed with 17 states (12 states through API + 5 States directly).

#### **10. Industrial Relations:**

- (i) President, Air India Express Employees Union served notice to go on strike on 15.01.2022 to press their indefinite demands. ALC (C), Ernakulam intervened and seized the matter into conciliation and the strike has been averted.
- (ii) General Secretary, United Forum of We Bankers served notice to go on strike on 07.01.2022 to press their demands. RLC (C), Lucknow intervened and seized the matter into conciliation and the strike has been averted.
- (iii) President, VISP Contract Workers Union, Bhadravati served notice to go on strike on 05.01.2022 to press their demands. ALC (C), Bangalore intervened and seized the matter into conciliation and the strike has been averted.
- (iv) General Secretary, Bihar Rajya Mobile Tower Karmchari Union served notice to go on strike on 06.01.2022 to press their demands. ALC (C), Pakur intervened and seized the matter into conciliation. The union deferred the strike.
- (v) Secretary, Minjur Paguthi General Workers Union served notice to go on strike on 04.01.2022 to press their demands. Dy. CLC (C), Chennai intervened and seized the matter into conciliation and the strike has been averted.

#### **11. Matters relating to SFC / EFC: Nil**

(2). Important matters held up on account of prolonged inter-ministerial consultations:

Nil.

(3). Number of cases of 'sanction for prosecution' pending for more than 3 months:

Nil.

(4). Particulars of cases in which there has been a departure from the Transaction of Business Rules or established policy of the Government:

There was no departure from the Transaction of Business Rules.

(5) Status of Public Grievances:

Number of Public Grievances redressed during the month	Number of Public Grievances pending at the end of the month
<b>7141</b>	<b>6615</b>

\* Received during the month and forwarded to concerned division for redressal.