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PRESS RELEASE

Foundation stone laying ceremony of 300 bedded ESI Hospital at Vishakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh on 11.04.2016

Shri Bandaru Dattatreya, Hon'ble Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Labour & Employment, Govt. of India did the Bhoomi Pujan and laid the foundation stone of 300 bedded ESI Hospital at Vishakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh on 11.04.2016. Shri Nara Chandrababu Naidu, Hon'ble Chief Minister, Andhra Pradesh was the Chief Guest of the function; in the august presence of Sh. M. Venkaiah Naidu, Hon'ble Union Minister of Urban Development, Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation and Parliamentary Affairs, Govt. of India and other dignitaries. The foundation stone was laid at the Thungalam Village, Sheelanagar Plot of land, where actual construction work of the ESI Hospital will take place.

A joint function was held at Andhra University Convention Hall for commemorating the 190th Birth Anniversay of Mahatama Jyotiba Phule alongwith the foundation stone laying of ESI Hospital, Vishakhapatnam and inauguration of outpatient Services, VIMS. At this public meeting, Sh. Bandaru Dattatreya described about the good works the ESIC is doing for health reform agenda ESIC-2.0. Shri N. Chandrababu Naidu thanked the Central Govt. Ministers for the co-operation of Union Government and demanded that the ESI Hospital at Vishakhapatnam should be upgraded to 500 bedded, while describing his vision to make Vishakhapatnam as a Medical hub. Shri Bandaru Dattatreya, Union Labour & Employment Minister accepted with the condition that the proper land is provided for the same by the State Govt.

CONSTRUCTION OF ESI HOSPITAL AT VISAKHAPATNAM

The Existing ESI Hospital in Gandhigram, Visakhapatnam was started on 26.1.1972. It is situated in the land taken on lease from the Visakhapatnam Port Trust. As lease period has expired and the building also has become very old and not in good condition, it is now proposed to construct a new hospital building in another nearby location at Sheelanagar (Thunglam Village), Visakhapatnam. The new building will be constructed in an area of 6.80 acres and will have all the facilities for Secondary Care Medical Treatment for the Insured Persons and their family members.

The new hi-tech hospital will have the "State-of-the-art" design and facilities comparable to any corporate hospital in the country. The Hospital will have the following facilities:

- 1. All Secondary Care Treatment
- 2. Super Specialty Services in Cardiology, Nephrology and Oncology
- 3. All Diagnostic Facilities
- 4. Accident & Emergency Facilities
- 5. Operation Theatres for General Surgery, Orthopaedic, Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Eye & ENT
- 6. Immunization & Family Welfare Facilities
- 7. Ayush Facilities

This hospital has catchment area of Visakhapatnam, Vizianagaram and Srikakulam districts which has 1.91 Lakh Insured Persons and 4.49 Lakhs of beneficiaries. The patients will be referred from the Fourteen (14) ESI Dispensaries, Five (5) Panel Cliics and one (1) ESI Model Dispensary cum Diagnostic centre in the catchment area. The bed strength of the hospital will be 200 initially & will be expanded as per the requirements (upto 300 beds) when new areas and new sectors like Unorganized Sector workers will be brought under coverage in near future. This Hospital is going to be another land mark in the services of ESI Scheme in the area as well as Andhra Pradesh State.

The other dignitaries who attended the function are Shri Yanamala Rama Krishnudu Hon'ble Minister for Finance & Planning, Commercial taxes, legislative Affairs & District incharge Minister, Govt. of A.P., Shri Atchannaidu Kinjarapu Hon'ble Minister for Labour & Employment, Factories, Youth & Sports, Skill Development & Entrepreneuship, Govt. of A.P., Shri Kamineni Srinivas, Hon'ble Minister for Health & Medical Education, Govt. of A.P., Shri Shankar Aggarwal, Secretary, Union Ministry of Labour & Employment, Shri Deepak Kumar, Director General, ESI Corporation, Shri H.L. Sanwariya, Union Addl. Secretary, Ministry of Labour & Employment and Dr. R.K. Kataria, Medical Commissioner, ESIC.

ESI SCHEME IN ANDHRA PRADESH

The scheme was first implemented in the undivided Andhra Pradesh state in Hyderabad and Secunderabad and thereafter extended to other geographical areas over the years in the state. In the state of Andhra Pradesh, the services are provided through 21 Branch Offices, 4 ESI Hospitals, 76 ESI Dispensaries, 29 Panel clinics and also through one diagnostic Centre. There are 5.70 lakhs insured persons with 22.43 lakhs of beneficiaries.

The Sub-regional office, Vijayawada was bifurcated into SRO, Vijayawada and SRO, Visakhapatnam w.e.f. 01.02.2009. Three coastal districts of Andhra Pradesh, viz., Srikakulam, Vizianagaram and Visakhapatnam, covering 18 implemented centres, are under the jurisdiction of SRO, Visakhapatnam. There are 8234 Units covered under the ESI Scheme with 1.91 lakh insured persons and 4.49 lakh of beneficiaries under SRO, Visakhapatnam jurisdiction. The ESI Scheme caters its medical services to the insured population under SRO, Visakhapatnam jurisdiction with, 06 Branch Offices, 01 ESI Hospital, 14 Dispensaries, 05 Panel Clinics and 01 Diagnostic Centre.

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, disablement etc. The ESI Act applies to premises/precincts where 10 or more persons are employed. The employees drawing wages up to Rs. 15,000/- a month are entitled to health insurance cover and other benefits, under the ESI Act. The Act now applies to over 7.23 lakh factories and establishments across the country, benefiting about 2.03 crores family units of workers. As of now, the total beneficiary population of ESI Scheme stands over 7.89 crores. Ever since its inception in 1952, the ESI Corporation has, so far, set up 151 Hospitals, 1459/188 Dispensaries / ISM Units, 812 Branch/Pay Offices and 61 Regional & Sub-Regional/Divisional Offices.