

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2351
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.03.2025**

UPGRADATION OF ESI HOSPITALS

2351. SMT. JEBI MATHER HISHAM:

Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there are plans to upgrade ESI hospitals into multi-speciality facilities to reduce dependence on private empanelled hospitals and enhance healthcare access for workers, details thereof;**
- (b) the manner in which Government plans to utilise unused land adjoining ESI hospital buildings, particularly in Kerala, for infrastructure development;**
- (c) measures taken to ensure adequate qualified staff and state-of-the-art facilities in ESI hospitals for specialised care;**
- (d) the manner in which Government plans to ease the burden on general hospitals by expanding ESI hospital services and capacities; and**
- (e) steps taken to simplify the process of accessing medical care for workers holding ESI cards?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
(SUSHRI SHOBHA KARANDLAJE)**

(a) to (e): In order to provide good quality medical services to its beneficiaries, Employees State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) is continuously making efforts to develop in-house specialty and super-specialty services by incorporating modern technologies in ESI hospitals itself. Some of the measures taken are: enhancement of bed strength, procurement of advanced medical equipment, establishing the intensive care unit (ICU) / high dependency unit (HDU) facilities as per ESIC guidelines, establishing new hospitals, use of unused land for upgradation and expansion of hospital infrastructure as per needs and demands, upgradation of user-friendly app for OPD appointments in order to streamline registration, reduce waiting time, and enhance patient convenience etc.

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The major steps taken by ESIC simplify the access of medical care for ESI card holders are as under:

i) Collaboration with Ayushman Bharat-Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojna (PMJAY) to provide secondary and tertiary care medical services to ESI beneficiaries through PMJAY empanelled hospitals in the country at places where ESI medical services are not adequately available.

ii) Enhancement of rates of benefits for Permanent Disablement Benefit (PDB) / Dependents' Benefits (DB) Beneficiaries.

iii) Aadhar based authentication of Insured Persons & their family members on voluntary basis has been adopted for providing social security benefits, including medical and cash benefits to beneficiaries.

iv) For providing hassle - free services to Insured Persons (IPs) / Insured Women (IW), an online portal / facility has been started for submission of cash benefits claims under ESI scheme.

Recruitment of doctors in ESIC Hospitals and Medical Colleges is a continuous process. ESIC has recently issued offer of appointment to 1323 candidates, selected for the post of Insurance Medical Officer (IMO) Grade II, Specialist Gr II (Senior Scale/Junior Scale) and Teaching Faculty for posting in different ESIC Hospitals and Medical Colleges. Further, ESIC has also taken necessary steps to fill up 608 vacancies of IMO Gr. II, 287 vacancies of Assistant Professor and 2504 vacancies of Nursing Officers.
