

Two-Day National Labour Conference of Labour Ministers and Labour Secretaries of States/UTs Concludes At Tirupati

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- **Ministry To Come Out With Roadmaps On Themes Discussed In The Conference To Take Vision Forward In The Amrit Kaal.**

Ministry of Labour & Employment, Government of India, organised a two-day National Labour Conference of Labour Ministers and Labour Secretaries of States/UTs at Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh on 25th-26th August, 2022. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi virtually addressed the inaugural session on 25.8.2022. Union Ministers Shri Bhupender Yadav and Shri Rameshwar Teli, Administrator, UT of Chandigarh, Labour Ministers of States, Labour Secretaries of States/UTs and Government Officials were among those present on the occasion.

In his address, Prime Minister, inter alia, mentioned that India's labour force has a huge role to play in realizing India's dreams and aspirations to build a developed nation in the Amrit Kaal.

The Union Labour Minister, Shri. Bhupender Yadav gave an outline of the Conference and requested State Governments' to give views and suggestions.

The first thematic session, viz, integrating e-Shram portal for on boarding social security schemes run by Central Government & State Governments to universalize social protection to workers and to improve employment opportunities for all, was deliberated upon. Over 28 crore unorganised workers from over 400 occupations have already been registered on e-Sham portal. SOP is being prepared for which a committee under Ministry has been constituted along with members from States as well. Based on the SOP finalised by the committee, e-Shram data will be shared with States and States will return verified data. This will help States in making policy driven decisions and implementation of welfare schemes. States expressed their views and gave suggestions on the theme.

The second thematic discussed was Swasthya se Samridhi for improving medical care and services through ESI hospitals run by State Governments and integration with PMJAY. Union Labour & Employment Minister mentioned that ESIC is committed to extend medical facilities to all districts by December, 2022, undertaken construction of 76 new hospitals, ready to recruit specialist for State run ESI hospitals. States stated, inter-alia that ESIC is a standing example of cooperative federalism where states and central institutions work together for providing healthcare services to the labourers. States welcomed the revision in norms for setting up hospitals. States were requested to complete the formation of societies at the earliest for easy decision making, inputs for revision of norms for setting up new hospitals, modalities for setting up of medical college & hospital in aspirational districts.

The third thematic session was on framing of rules under four Labour Codes and modalities for implementation along with development of Portals for licensing, registration, returns, inspections etc. The last theme "Vision Shramev Jayate @ 2047" focused on just and equitable future of work, social protection to gig & platform workers, gender equality at work and better opportunities to women.

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Issues in these themes were ease of doing business and ease of living for workers, decriminalization of offense under Codes, development of integrated portal under for registration, one time license, compliance and returns; challenges in ensuring social security to Gig and platform workers and ways to address these; improving female labour force participation; skilling, lifelong learning aligned with future of work; skill gap mapping and facilitation of planned migration; sustainable financing of social security schemes. States gave important suggestions and status of rules making.

Shri Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy, Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh addressed the valedictory session of the Conference. Union Labour Minister Shri Bhupender Yadav appreciated views and suggestions provided by States. Ministry will come out with roadmaps on themes discussed in the Conference to take vision forward in the Amrit Kaal.