

Regarding need to establish a Sub-Regional Office of the Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) at Sangli or Kolhapur in Maharashtra-Laid

SHRI VISHALDADA PRAKASHBAPU PATIL (SANGLI): I wish to draw the attention of the Government to the demand for the establishment of a Sub-Regional Office (SRO) of the Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) at Sangli or Kolhapur. The demand is due to the increasing burden on Stakeholders from these regions and the substantial contributions made by them to the ESIC System. Over the last 3 years, there has been a significant increase in both the employer registrations and insured persons. The employers are required to visit the SRO Pune, which is 200 Km away from Sangli-Kolhapur region, for personal hearings and regulatory issues, resulting in unnecessary travel, financial burden and loss of productivity. Other Government Departments such as the GST, IT and EPFO already have their Regional Offices catering to the local population. It is also suggested to introduce a system of faceless hearings to reduce the need for physical presence in many cases to ensure faster and more transparent adjudication. I, therefore, urge the Hon'ble Minister of Labour and Employment, to consider this matter of the establishment of an ESIC SRO at Kolhapur which would give effect to decentralisation, administrative efficiency, and accessibility.

15.02 hrs

