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Press Release

The First International Social Security Association (ISSA) Academy Workshop on "Contribution Collection & Compliance" begins in New Delhi. ESIC, being ISSA Liaison Office for South Asia, hosts the Workshop

The first ISSA Academy Workshop is being held at New Delhi from 05 April to 07 April 2017. The international workshop is being attended by delegates from the Asia Pacific region. The Workshop was inaugurated by M. Sathiyavathy, IAS, Secretary to the Govt. of India (Labour & Employment) today, i.e. 5th April, 2017.

The workshop is being organized by Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC), which hosts the ISSA Liaison Office for South Asia, under the auspices of the International Social Security Association (ISSA), Geneva.

The International Social Security Association (ISSA) is the world's leading international organization for social security institutions, government departments and agencies. The ISSA promotes excellence in social security administration through professional guidelines, expert knowledge, services and support to enable its members to develop dynamic social security systems and policy throughout the world. The ISSA was founded in 1927 under the auspices of the International Labour Organization.

Delegates of Switzerland, Bhutan, Fiji, Indonesia, Maldives, Oman and India are participating in the workshop. The Indian delegation has participation from various countrywide offices of Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC), Employees Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) and the Ministry of Labour & Employment, Govt. of India.

The topic of the workshop to be held over three days is "Contribution, collection and Compliance". The faculty includes Mr. GUILLAUM FILHON, Technical Specialist, Social Security, ISSA, and Mr. IAN JOSEPH MCDONALD, Independent Expert, ISSA Academy, the keynote speakers who shall be conducting the entire workshop.

Speaking on the occasion, the Chief Guest, M. Sathiyavathy, Secretary to the Govt. of India (Labour & Employment), lauded ISSA as a great global organization comprising more than 365 institutions spanning over 165 countries devoted to

international cooperation for promotion and development of social security. She also delved upon the new policy that Govt. of India is currently considering in labour reforms area, on a grand scale. The idea is to reach out beyond the bounds of organized sector which constitute a mere 7% of the working population to cover the remaining 93% who languish in unorganized sector without the certainty of social security benefits.

Shri Heera Lal Samariya, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Labour & Employment, in his address said that 2nd Generation Reform Programme called 'ESIC 2.0' which has two points agenda of expansion of ESI Scheme to every nook and corner by covering all the administrative districts of the country and of upgradation of medical services, is progressing well. This shall bring Social Security to the reach of more people from the present reach of 100 million, which included family members, through ESI Scheme.

Earlier Shri Deepak Kumar, Director General, in his welcome speech said that ESIC takes pride in reaching out to more than 25 million Insured Persons who are provided social security benefits in the event of sickness, employment injury and maternity. Their dependent family members are also entitled to medical benefits. He further said that ESIC strives to reach to an even bigger working population and expects the growth, to be exponential in the years to come. He also informed that ESIC has been recipient of ISSA Good Practices Award Asia & Pacific 2015 in the field of Administrative and Operational efficiency. In 2012 also at the ISSA Good Practices Award Asia & Pacific, ESIC was awarded three certificates of Merit in the field of 1. Adequacy and Quality of Social Security Benefits and Services, 2. Administrative and Operational Efficiency and 3. Extension of Social Security Coverage.

The closing ceremony shall be attended by Shri Bandaru Dattatreya, Hon'ble Minister of State (Independent Charge), Labour & Employment, Govt. of India on 07th April, 2017.
