



Ministry of Labour & Employment, Govt. of India
Employees' State Insurance Corporation
Panchdeep Bhawan, CIG Road, New Delhi-110002



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Press Release

Dedication of First "Mobile BSL-3 VRDL Lab" for Covid-19 sample collection to the nation

Shri Rajnath Singh, Hon'ble Raksha Mantri, Govt. of India dedicated the **first COVID-19 sample collection mobile Lab of the country namely "Mobile BSL-3 VRDL Lab"** to the nation through video conference in the august presence of **Shri Santosh Kumar, Gangwar**, Hon'ble Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Labour & Employment, Govt. of India, **Shri G. Kishan Reddy**, Hon'ble Minister of State for Home Affairs, Govt. of India, **Shri K.T. Rama Rao**, Hon'ble Minister for Municipal Administration & Urban Development, Industries & IT E&C, Govt. of Telangana and **Shri Chamakura Malla Reddy**, Hon'ble Minister of Labour & Employment, Factories, Govt. of Telangana from New Delhi on **23.04.2020**.

This Lab has been developed by Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), Ministry of Defence, Govt. of India in collaboration with ESIC Medical College & Hospital, Sanathnagar (Hyderabad) with due permission of Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and Govt. of Telangana.

Speaking on the occasion, Hon'ble Raksha Mantri appreciated the efforts of DRDO and ESIC in setting up of this Bio-Safety Level 2 and Level 3 lab in a record time of 15 days which usually takes about six months time. He further said this testing facility can process more than 1,000 samples in a day and will enhance country's capabilities in fighting COVID19.

While addressing on the occasion, Shri Santosh Kumar Gangwar, Hon'ble Labour Minister, Govt. of India complemented DRDO and ESIC for developing the mobile testing lab in a very short time. He further said that it will be very important in our fight against CORONA Virus. Shri Gangwar commended the efforts being made by ESIC, an organisation under his Ministry, to combat COVID-19.

Addressing the function, Shri G. Kishan Reddy, Hon'ble Minister of State for Home Affairs, Govt. of India complemented the team scientists of DRDO and doctors of ESIC Medical College & Hospital, Sanathnagar, Hyderabad for developing the facility. The Lab has been developed within a record time of 2 weeks, whereas it would normally take about 6 months.

About "Mobile BSL-3 VRDL Lab"

COVID-19 testing centre at ESIC Medical & Hospital, Sanathnagar, Hyderabad will utilize this new innovative mobile diagnostic and research facility called **"Mobile BSL-3 VRDL Lab"**. It will be first of its time facility in the country for covid-19 and other relating testing and research purpose.

The concept and design of Mobile Lab have been developed by DRDO scientists whereas specification has been given by ESIC Medical College & Hospital, Sanathnagar, Hyderabad. The project has been executed and constructed by three industries partners of DRDO.

Other innovative technologies developed by DRDO and shared with ESIC Medical College & Hospital, Sanathnagar, Hyderabad comprise of COVSACK unit for sample collection, aerosol boxes and aerosolized sanitizer dispenser, snorkel face masks and face shields as reusable PPE N-95 equivalent UV-C disinfection chamber and other equipment, etc. for COVID-19 positive patients.

ESIC Medical College & Hospital, Sanathnagar, Hyderabad

ESIC Medical Collage and hospital, Sanathnagar, Hyderabad is a 500 bedded hospital. In addition to that 150 beds are also available in ESIC super-specialty hospital for various super-speciality services like oncology, neuro surgery, cardiology, pediatric surgery so that ESI beneficiaries get all the best of treatment under one roof. This hospital has been designated for isolation and treatment of COVID-19 patients by Govt. of Telangana.

Several other measures taken by ESIC to fight against Covid-19 pandemic

In this crisis situation, 13 ESIC Hospitals with **1861 Isolation Beds** across India have been converted into **Dedicated Covid-19 Hospitals**. In addition to above Hospitals, **around 1011 Isolation Beds** have been made available in most of the remaining ESIC Hospitals across the country. Further, a total of **555 ICU/HDU Beds with 197 Ventilators** have also been made available in these Hospitals. **Quarantine facility (total 1254 Beds)** has been made functional in 04 ESIC Hospitals at Alwar (Rajasthan), Bihta, Patna (Bihar), Gulbarga (Karnataka) and Korba (Chhattisgarh). Besides, Covid-19 testing facility has been made available at ESIC Hospital, Faridabad(Haryana).

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 etc. It is covering about 3.49 Crores of family units of workers and providing matchless cash benefits and reasonable medical care to its 13.56 crore beneficiaries. Today, its infrastructure has increased many folds with 1648 Dispensaries/AYUSH Units and 159 ESI Hospitals, 793 Branch/Pay Offices and 64 Regional & Sub-Regional Offices. The ESI Scheme today stands implemented in 566 districts in 34 states and Union Territories of the country.

