

## **PRESS RELEASE**

The Hon'ble Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Labour and Employment Shri. Santosh Kumar Gangwar laid foundation stone for the Regional Office Building of Employees' Provident Fund Organisation at Salem from ITC Welcom Hotel, Coimbatore on 10.10.2017. The Salem office is functioning from a rented building since 1995. The proposed building site is situated at survey No. 46/3, B3, Thalavaipatti, Salem, allotted by TNHB measuring 2556 Square meter and the estimated cost of the proposed building will be Rs. 22.26 Crores (including the land) and the work will be completed in October, 2018. The Salem Regional Office has jurisdiction over around 10,200 establishments having 21,48,700 PF members residing in Salem, Krishnagiri, Dharmapuri, Naamakkal and Erode districts.

Dr. Rameshwar Teli , Member of Parliament , Ms. Satyavathi, Secretary, Labour and Employment, Shri. Heera Lal Samria, Addl. Secretary, Dr. V.P. Joy, IAS, Central P.F. Commissioner, Shri. Varghese M.P., Additional Central P.F. Commissioner (H.Q.), Shri. K. Narayana, Regional P.F. Commissioner – I, Zonal Office, Coimbatore, Shri. K. Muthuselvan, Regional P.F. Commissioner –I, Coimbatore and Shri. Himanshu Kumar, Regional P.F. Commissioner- II, Salem attended the function.

A Meeting of Hindi Advisory Committee of Ministry of Labour and Employment also held at the same venue under the chairmanship of the Hon'ble Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Labour and Employment and Ms. Satyavathi, Secretary, Labour and Employment, Shri. Bhushan Lal Jangde, Member of Parliament and Shri. Rameshwar Teli, Member of Parliament also participated alongwith other dignitaries.

### **Initiatives of EPFO**

1. Aadhar Linked and UAN Activated members can submit online claim which will be settled within 3 days.
2. All claim settlement within 20 days.
3. Death claim settlement within 7 days.
4. Aadhar based Single page composite claim for withdrawal / Advances. EPF members who's UAN has been linked with Aadhar and seeded with Bank Account and activated by the member can submit claim without authorization/ attestation of the employers.
5. Single Page Pension Payment Order (PPO) for Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995 pensioners. PPOs handed over to few pensioners by the Hon'ble Labour Minister in today's Program at Coimbatore.
6. 90 % of the EPS pensioners have registered their Digital Life Certificates linked with Aadhar through Jeevan Praman Portal.

7. Special provisions for Housing Scheme introduced where EPF subscribers can form a society and avail the 90 % of withdrawal from PF and EMI facility from monthly contribution. This EMI is directly paid to Govt. / Housing Agencies / Primary lending Agencies or the bank concerned. Eligibility for withdrawal also reduced from 5 years to 3 years membership.
8. First Housing Scheme was launched by the Hon'ble Labour Minister on 18.08.2017 at Tirunelveli (Coimbatore Zone).
9. The employers attended today's program also expressed their willingness to form the society and to provide Housing for their employees under this special provision.
10. Administrative charges from employers drastically reduced from 1.1 % to 0.85 % with effect from 01.01.2015 and further reduced from 0.85 % to 0.65 with effect from 01.04.2017.
11. Inspection charges for EDLI A/c. No. 22 has been discontinued from 01.04.2017.
12. Liberalized provisions for Advances. EPF members are not required to produce any medical certificate or any other supporting documents to avail advances under Para 68 J or Para 68 N. A simple declaration is sufficient.
13. Coimbatore Office has achieved 2<sup>nd</sup> position in implementing the PMRPY/ PMPRPY Scheme wherein employers' contribution @ 8.33 % to Pension fund is paid by the Central Government in respect of all new employees enrolled since August, 2016.
14. Under PMRPY Scheme, Tamil Nadu achieved the first place and the Central Government has provided subsidy to the tune of Rs.10,08,00,016/- towards 1,07,171 members registered by 3113 establishments. Under PMPRPY again Tamilnadu Region stood first by getting subsidy to the tune of Rs.10623492 in respect of 21742 members registered by 187 establishments.
15. A Special Employees' Enrollment Campaign 2017 from 01.01.2017 to 30.06.2017 were introduced wherein employees contribution and administrative charges has been waived off in respect of the employees eligible for membership from 01.04.2009 to 30.06.2017. Under the Scheme Coimbatore Office enrolled 1,73,000 members during this period.
16. Aadhar Based E-Signature facility has been provided to employers in addition to Digital signature for all online activities / transactions.