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कर्मचारी राज्य बीमा निगम
(श्रम एवं रोजगार मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार)
EMPLOYEES' STATE INSURANCE CORPORATION
(Ministry of Labour & Employment, Govt. of India)



सत्यमेव जयते

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F.No. D-13011/1/2022-GEN-Part(2)

Date:28-01-2025

Subject: Minutes of Meeting with Independent External Monitors (5th in the series and 2nd with new IEMs) to assess the Implementation of Integrity Pact held on 28-11-2024 at ESIC Headquarters' Office, New Delhi.

Minutes of the 4th meeting with Independent External Monitors of ESIC held on 28th November 2024 at 03:00 PM in Mini Conference Hall, ESIC Headquarters Office, New Delhi duly approved by the Director General are sent herewith for information and necessary action, please.

Yours Sincerely,

Signed by

Om Prakash Thakur

Date: 28-01-2025 18:55:52

Asstt. Director (Gen.)

Enclosure: As above

Copy for information to:

1. Sh. Vidya Bhushan Kumar, IFoS (Retd.), IEM
2. Dr. Sarat Kumar Acharya, Ex. CMD (NLC), IEM
3. PPS/PS to Director General, ESIC Hqrs. Office.
4. All Divisional Heads/Officers/Branches at ESIC Hqrs., New Delhi
5. Website Content Manager- for uploading the same on the ESIC Website.

Minutes of the 2nd Meeting with IEMs held on 28-11-2024 at ESIC Headquarters', New Delhi.

The 2nd meeting with Independent External Monitors was held on 28-11-2024 through Hybrid Mode at 03:00PM to discuss/review the Information on Tenders/Contracts of Goods/Services/Works awarded during the FY 2023-24 (3rd & 4th Quarter) & 2024-25 (1st & 2nd Quarter) and to assess the implementation of Integrity Pact in ESIC. In the review meeting taken by IEMs following participated:

IEMs

1. Sh. Vidya Bhushan Kumar, IFoS (Retd.), IEM
2. Dr. Sarat Kumar Acharya, Ex CMD (NLC), IEM

ESIC

1. Sh. Akshay Kala, Insurance Commissioner (Gen.)
2. Sh. O.P Thakur, Asstt. Director (Gen.)
3. RD In charges – Kolkata, Bengaluru, Ahmedabad, Indore, Bhubaneswar, UP (through VC mode).
4. Medical Supdt., ESIC Hospital – Jhilmil, Alwar, Noida, Lucknow, Peenya, Ludhiana, Bihta (through VC mode).

Following are the record of discussions during the meeting:

1. At the outset, the Insurance Commissioner (Gen.) welcomed the IEMs and all other members.
2. **Introduction by Independent External Monitors (IEMs):**
The Independent External Monitors (IEMs) introduced themselves to the field unit in-charges, including Regional Directors (RDs) and Medical Superintendents (MSs). Dr. S.K. Acharya, IEM, gave an overview of Integrity Pact and its implementations, emphasizing the following:
 - The **Integrity Pact ensures transparency, fairness, and competitiveness** in public procurement processes.

- That it has been recommended by the **Central Vigilance Commission (CVC)** for adoption by government organizations, Public Sector Enterprises (PSEs), Public Sector Banks, and other government bodies, including their attached/subordinate offices and autonomous entities.
- That the Integrity Pact represents an agreement between buyers and prospective vendors/bidders, committing both parties to refrain from corrupt practices at any stage of the procurement process.
- That role of IEMs includes examining representations, grievances, or complaints from bidders regarding **discrimination or lack of fair practices** at any stage of the procurement process.
- That the **provision for the Integrity Pact must be included** in all Requests for Proposals (RFPs) and tender documents issued for procurement of goods and services within the Corporation.

3. Presentation to IEMs: A presentation on the overview of ESIC operations was delivered by Sh. Akshay Kala, I.C (Gen.).

4. Confirmation of the Minutes of 4th Meeting of Integrity Pact: The Minutes of 4th Meeting of Integrity Pact were confirmed by the IEMs.

5. Review of threshold limit of Integrity Pact in ESIC: IEMs asked about the implementation of recommendation in the last meeting regarding review of threshold value for Integrity Pact. The IEMs were informed by the I.C.(Gen.) that a committee will be constituted to review threshold limit from Rs. 2 crores to Rs. 25 lakhs so as to cover 80-90% of cases as per the guidelines of CVC, as recommended and decision will be taken within 1 month or so. IEMs took note of the fact that at present CVC's guidelines are not being followed as Integrity Pact is not covering 80-90% of the procurement cases of ESIC and hence strongly recommended to review and adopt new threshold value meeting the CVC norms at the earliest so that ESIC procurements are as per CVC,s guidelines.

- 6. Appointment of Nodal Officer:** Sh. Om Prakash Thakur, Asstt. Director (Gen.) was appointed as Nodal officer to facilitate smooth coordination operation of Integrity Pact meetings and follow up actions.
- 7. Revision in Proforma in r/o procurement data:** The IEMs suggested minor modifications to the proforma for procurement details shared with all field units for providing information, to incorporate additional relevant information. It was further advised by the IEMs to share the draft format with stakeholders for feedback before finalizing and circulating it within ESIC for data collection.
- 8. Discussion and Approval in respect of Action Taken Reports of previous meeting:** The action taken reports from the ^{1st} meeting of Integrity Pact held on 06-08-2024 were reviewed . It was informed that action taken on sharing details of IEMs on ESIC website and circulation of CVC guidelines and SOPs on Integrity Pact in ESIC.
- 9. Proforma for Including IEMs in NITs and Tenders:** The IEMs advised to include their details in all Notice Inviting Tenders (NITs) and open tenders issued by ESIC and to share the Integrity Pact proforma. IEMs also emphasized that the final Integrity Pact should include the details of IEMs (their names & contact details – phone no. and email ID) so that any issues of non-compliance could be reported to them.
- 10. Discussion with field units:** Online discussion held with some individual field units for sample cases above the ₹2 crore threshold limit. During the review, IEMs observed that the Integrity Pact clause is often not included in the Notice Inviting Tenders (NITs) or GeM bids, therefore headquarter should circulate all field units a template in this matter. It was emphasized by the IEMs that the NITs/GeM bids must clearly state that the selected firm/vendor is required to sign an Integrity Pact with the Corporation. The IEMs also provided minor corrections and suggestions regarding the information proforma, which were accepted by all field units.
- 11. Quarterly Review Meetings on rotation basis:** IEMs reiterated that review meeting in a calendar year should be regularly held as prescribed in

the CVC guideline ; namely 2 at the level of CMD/DG on system improvements and 4 for all procurement cases above threshold values. The IEMs advised that the next quarterly review meeting may be conducted on a rotational basis at the different field units. This arrangement would allow for the physical examination of required documents, ensuring a more thorough and effective review process.

The meeting concluded with a thanks to IEMs and other participants.
