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## PRESS RELEASE

## OBSERVANCE OF VIGILANCE AWARENESS WEEK FROM 31<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER, 2016 TO 5<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 2016

## "Public participation in promoting integrity and eradicating Corruption"

Employees' State Insurance Corporation, the nation's premier Social Security Organization, is observing the **Vigliance Awareness Week from 31.10.2016 to 5.11.2016.** The week long observance was launched, across the country on 31.10.2016, from its Headquarters Office, New Delhi. The Central Vigilance Commission, the country's apex anti-corruption crusader has come up with the theme **"Public participation in promoting integrity and eradicating Corruption"** for this year's observance. Shri U. Venkateswarlu, IAS, Financial Commissioner, ESIC and Shri B.N. Tripathi, IPoS, Chief Vigilance Officer, administered the integrity pledge to all officials of the Corporation. The Chief Vigilance Officer stressed upon the need for a concerted effort of the Public, Government and Private entities towards integrity in governance by creating awareness against corruption and the need to refrain from indulging in unethical practices.

The Chief Vigilance Office informed that, in line with this year's theme, the Vigilance Division of ESIC is also conducting various outreach activities for general public, like debates/essay writing/quiz/cartoon/poster competitions and is also distributing prizes to winning compositions/presentations in its various offices spread across the country. In a novel and effective departure from earlier years, this year, as desired by the Chief Vigilance Commissioner, "Citizen's Integrity Pledge" & "Integrity Pledge" are also being administered to the general public and the private entities, respectively, by providing them a link on its website "www.esic.nic.in".

## **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. The ESI Act applies to premises/precincts where 10 or more persons are employed. The employees drawing wages up to Rs. 15,000/- a month are entitled to health insurance cover and other benefits, under the ESI Act. The Act now applies to over 7.83 lakh factories and establishments across the country, benefiting about 2.13 crores family units of workers. As of now, the total beneficiary population of ESI Scheme stands over 8.28 crores. Ever since its inception in 1952, the ESI Corporation has, so far, set up 151 Hospitals, 1459/188 Dispensaries / ISM Units, 812 Branch/Pay Offices and 62 Regional & Sub-Regional/Divisional Offices.