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### **Press Release**

- **ESIC observes International Women's Day**
- **DG, ESIC emphasizes on empowering women**
- **Women Corona Warriors of ESIC Hospitals felicitated during the event for their outstanding services.**

ESI Corporation observed International Women's Day on 08.03.2021 at ESIC Headquarters, New Delhi. On this day, **Smt. Anuradha Prasad**, Director General, ESIC addressed the event and also wished all the women employee of ESIC. Taking account of this year's theme "**Women in leadership : Achieving an equal future in a COVID-19 world**", she emphasized on empowering the women of the society which would enable them to grasp the opportunities in this competitive world. She also mentioned that despite struggle and hardships faced by women and sometimes making difficult choices while managing the work life balance, they are succeeding and forging the path of leadership in varied fields. The day was also celebrated pan India at ESIC Field Units and other establishments.

During the event, many women employees of ESIC Hospitals were felicitated for their contribution and unparalleled services to the humankind during pandemic stricken period. They were acknowledged for their outstanding and selfless devotion towards serving the COVID infected patients. A total of 23 Certificates of Appreciation were awarded in different categories.

The other dignitaries present and who also spoke during the occasion were Smt. Sandhya Shukla, FC, Smt. Garima Bhagat, CVO, Dr. R. K. Kataria, Medical Commissioner, Dr. P. L. Choudhary, Medical Commissioner, Shri. M. K. Sharma, Insurance Commissioner and Shri. P. B. Mani, Insurance Commissioner. Shri. P. Baruah, Insurance Commissioner and Shri. L. Jamir, Insurance Commissioner were also present in the event.

ESIC has taken initiatives for Insured Women covered under ESI Scheme recently by relaxing the contributory conditions to avail Sickness Benefit to the Insured Women availing Maternity Benefit from 20.01.2017 i.e. the date from which the enhanced duration of Maternity Benefit is effective. Besides this, ESIC Has also relaxed the contributory conditions for Insured Women to avail Sickness & Maternity Benefits for the benefit period of January to June'2021.

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