Amnesty Scheme 2025

Prelims – *Current events of National and International importance| Government policies and interventions.*

Why in News?

Recently, the Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) announced a series of outreach activities centred around the Amnesty Scheme 2025.

- Amnesty scheme is a ***one-time dispute resolution*** initiative to reduce the backlog of court cases and promote compliance under the ESI Act.
- It provides a structured mechanism for employers to resolve legal disputes with ESIC through out-of-court settlements.
- **Duration –** From ***1st October 2025*** and remain valid until 30th September 2026.
- **Launched by** – Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) under the ***Ministry of Labour & Employment.***
- **Objectives –** To provide a practical route to resolve long-pending litigations, reduce legal burden, and promote ease of doing business.
- **Key Provisions –** ***Settlement of ad-hoc assessments*** by paying actual contributions and interest—no damages will be levied.
- Withdrawal of cases where *employers have already paid dues,* subject to payment of 10% of disputed damages.
- Cases filed by ESIC for non-submission of records or delayed payments, which were later complied with, will also be withdrawn with court permission.
- **Litigation period-** Court cases filed up to 31.03.2025 are eligible under this scheme.
- **Significance –** It strives towards inclusive growth, fostering trust between stakeholders and reinforcing ESIC's role as a progressive and responsive social security institution.

Reference

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