

PREFACE

The ESI Scheme is one of the novel Social Security Schemes in India. It has covered nearly 63 lakhs of employees in the factories. The State of Maharashtra occupies the highest position in this field of social insurance. It is in this context an effort is made in this dissertation to study the ESI Scheme with particular reference to textile workers in Solapur.

After taking a brief review of the Social Security Schemes & legislations in the first two chapters, we have analysed the performance of ESI Corporation in India with particular reference to Maharashtra.

Chapter III deals with the concepts & definitions used in the ESI Act.

Chapter IV is divided in to three sections section I deals with provisions of ESI Act, 1948 alongwith its amendments upto 1984, Section II deals with ESI Corporation & Section three deals with the progress of the ESI Scheme.

Chapter V we have under taken a micro study of 58 chronic cases of the textile workers in Solapur. We have also analysed the incidence of Sickness Benefit enjoyed by the workers. Our main findings was that although basically the

ESI Scheme is one of the ideal Social Security Schemes in India, its implementation involved undue practices of high incidence of sickness due to small causes of illness such as fever, cold, headache, body pain etc. The workers get a good amount of cash benefits for simple causes. This situation can be improved only when the ESI doctors observed their professional ethics & the workers are sincere & honest in their work.