

'Pehchan' cards scheme

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Source: *The New Indian Express & ESIC*

Pehchan' cards scheme is a part of the initiative of Union Textile Ministry to register and provide identity cards to handicraft artisans and link them to a national database.

What is Pehchan card?

It is a newly upgraded ID card for artisans that will be linked with their Aadhaar numbers and bank accounts so that they can receive direct cash-transfer benefits.

Benefits

- All Insured Persons will be issued with two magnetic cards, one for the Insured persons & the other for family members
- The central database will be created with demographic and biometric details of Insured persons and their families.
- Insured Persons and their family members can avail treatment in any ESI Hospital or dispensary across India.
- Besides the ID card will enable the artisans to avail easy loans at a four percent interest rate and they get the benefit of life insurance and `1200 per year for their children studying between Class IX and Class XII.
- Biometric details (fingerprints) to verify and authenticate Insured Persons and their families through card swipe.
- Employers can submit their Return of Contribution online
- Employers can collect information on employees' benefits availed by respective employees online.
- One time registration. Employees will carry forward with

the same set of cards every time they change employment.

- Duplication of enrolment can be avoided