

## **SOCIAL SECURITY AGREEMENT WITH THE KINGDOM OF THE NETHERLANDS**

The Government of India has entered into an Agreement on Social Security Agreement with The Kingdom of the Netherlands. Following the principles of reciprocity this agreement is intended to benefit the employees of both India as well as the Netherlands. The Agreement has come into force w.e.f. 1<sup>st</sup> December, 2011.

The Agreement provides, inter-alia, for posting i.e. detachment up to a period of 60 months for employees of both the countries. Accordingly, the employees of one country deputed by their employers to the other country on short-term assignment for a pre-determined period of up to a 60 months need not remit Social Security contributions in that country. Thus, the employers are saved from making double social security contributions for the same set of employees thereby enhancing the competitiveness of their products and services.

Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) has been identified as the Competent Institution to implement the provisions of the agreement in India and has been authorized to issue "Certificate of Coverage" to the employees of Indian establishment posted to the Netherlands.

Therefore, the employers who have already deputed/intend to depute their employees to the Netherlands can avail of this facility. The application form for this purpose is available on the official website [www.epfindia.nic.in](http://www.epfindia.nic.in). They may also contact their jurisdictional Regional Provident Fund Commissioner or the International Workers Unit in the Head Office at 14, Bhikaji Cama Place, New Delhi-110 066 for any further details.