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**French health workers get \$9 billion pay rise – 16th July, 2020**

## **Level 0**

France agreed a pay rise of \$9 billion for its health workers. Workers will get \$208 more in pay each month. The pay rise was to thank workers for their work in the coronavirus pandemic. The Prime Minister called it "a historic moment" Millions of French people clapped nurses and doctors during the pandemic.

Monday's announcement was on the day before France's national day. Health workers were at a ceremony in Paris. Unions asked them to stay away as a protest. The unions want the government to protect staff more. The government said it would do more. It said the pay rise was a "way of catching up for years of delay".

## **Level 1**

France has agreed a pay rise of \$9 billion for its health workers. The extra cash means that health workers will get \$208 more in their pay packet each month. The pay rise was to recognise the efforts of health workers during the coronavirus pandemic. The Prime Minister said: "No one can deny that this is a historic moment for our health system." During the outbreak, millions of French people applauded nurses and doctors. They have been rewarded with a rise in pay.

Monday's announcement was on the day before Bastille Day - a day to honour the French Revolution in 1789. It is the national day of France. Health workers attended a ceremony in Paris, but unions asked them to stay away as a protest. The unions said the government had to do more to protect staff and keep them safe. The government said it would do more. It said the pay rise was a "way of catching up for years of delay".

## **Level 2**

The French government and labour unions have agreed a pay rise of \$9 billion for health workers. The extra cash means that workers will get an extra \$208 a month in their pay packet. Public sector doctors will also get more money. The Prime Minister said the pay rise was to recognise the efforts of health workers during the coronavirus pandemic. He said: "No one can deny that this is a historic moment for our health system." During the outbreak, millions of French people applauded nurses and doctors. This caused the government to reward them with a rise in pay.

Monday's announcement was on the day before Bastille Day on July the 14th. This is a day to honour the French Revolution in 1789. It is the national day of France. Around 1,400 health workers attended a ceremony in Paris. However, unions asked them to stay away from the celebration as a protest. The unions said the government had to do more to protect staff and keep them safe during the pandemic. The government said it would do more. It said: "[The pay rise] is a way of catching up for years of delay, for which each and every one of us has their share of responsibility."

## **Level 3**

The French government has agreed to give a pay rise of \$9 billion to its health workers. It agreed the deal on Monday with labour unions. The extra cash means that nurses and care workers will get an extra \$208 a month in their pay packet. Doctors who work in the public sector will also get more money. France's Prime Minister said the pay rise was to recognise the efforts of health workers during the coronavirus pandemic. During the outbreak, millions of French people applauded and clapped their nurses and doctors. This caused the government to reward them with a rise in pay. The Prime Minister told reporters that: "No one can deny that this is a historic moment for our health system."

Monday's announcement and signing ceremony was on the day before Bastille Day on July the 14th. This is a day to honour a turning point in the French Revolution in 1789. It is the national day of France. Around 1,400 nurses, doctors and carers attended a ceremony in Paris' Place de la Concorde. However, some unions asked health workers to stay away from the celebration as a protest. The unions said the government needed to do more to protect staff and keep them safer during the pandemic. The Prime Minister said the government would do more. He said: "It is a way of catching up for years of delay, for which each and every one of us has their share of responsibility."

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