STEEL AUTHORITY OF INDIA LTD. Corporate Office, New Delhi

Circular

No. PERS/ITB&Med/EPS-95/2023

Sub: Submission of Joint Option Form by spouse of deceased employee.

- This is in continuation to our circular dated 25.01.2023, circular dated 04.02.2023 and circular dated 09.02.2023 regarding submission of Joint Option Form and in compliance to the judgement dated 04.11.2022 of Hon'ble Supreme Court regarding option of enhanced Pension on actual salary/ wages.
- For such cases where employee had expired during the employment or after separation, spouse of such deceased employees are required to <u>submit 'Joint Option Form'</u> in offline mode only.
- The above will be applicable only in cases where employee had deceased on or after 01.09.2014.
- Spouse of deceased employee is required to submit in <u>triplicate</u> all three pages of Joint Option Form duly filled and signed, with requisite documents (as indicated in Joint Option Form), to Nodal Officer of separating Plant/ Unit of employee by 22.02.2023. List of Nodal Officers of Plants/ Units is available at SAIL Website.
- Joint Option Form can be downloaded for filling from SAIL website (www.sail.co.in) under EPS-95 tab.
- It may be noted that in-case EPFO directs to submit any other format of Joint Option Form subsequently, spouse of deceased employee shall be required to submit the same once again.
- 7. It is to clarify that any arrears / enhanced pension payable cannot be determined at present. Also, mere submission of 'Joint Option Form' does not imply that the spouse of employee shall be entitled to enhanced pension on actual salary/wages out of employer's contribution towards EPS-95. The same will be subject to compliance(s) of EPFO and/or any judicial pronouncements/ statutory announcements. Further, SAIL assumes no responsibility or liability in case EPFO does not enhance pension, as mentioned above, for any reason whatsoever. The decision of EPFO shall be final in this matter.
- Payment modalities for spouse of deceased employee, who opt for enhanced Pension, will be finalized subsequent to receiving information/ clarification from EPFO in this regard.

This issues with the approval of Competent Authority.

(Himanshu Kataria)
Manager (Personnel)

Dated: 16.02.2023

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