



स्टील अथॉरिटी ऑफ इण्डिया लिमिटेड
STEEL AUTHORITY OF INDIA LIMITED
इस्को स्टील प्लांट
IISCO STEEL PLANT

Ref. No.: PL/CF/2023/261

Date: 07/04/2023

CIRCULAR

Sub:- Modalities regarding submission of joint option for higher pension w.r.t. EPS'95 by eligible employees/ex-employees in pursuance of the Hon'ble Supreme Court's order dated 04.11.2022

Ref:- Circular No. PL/CF/2023/250 dated 01.04.2023

Pursuant to the above mentioned circular, the guidelines were issued by SAIL Corporate Office, New Delhi regarding the modalities regarding submission of joint option for higher pension w.r.t. EPS'95 by eligible employees/ex-employees.

As per the joint option format at EPFO portal, employees/ex-employees are required to attach documentary proof of compliance under Para 26(6) of EPS 95 scheme, which states as follows:

"Notwithstanding anything contained in this paragraph (an officer not below the rank of an Assistant Provident Fund Commissioner) may, on the joint request in writing, of any employee of a factory or other establishment to which this Scheme applies and his employer, enrol such employee as a member or allow him to contribute more than rupees (fifteen thousand rupees) of his pay per month if he is already a member of the Fund and thereupon such employee shall be entitled to the benefits and shall be subject to the conditions of the Fund, provided that the employer gives an undertaking in writing that he shall pay the administrative charges payable and shall comply with all statutory provisions in respect of such employee".

Since ISP has an exempted PF Trust and PF deduction is done on actual wages for all employees, provision 26(6) of EPF & MP Act 1952 is deemed to be complied with, for which a certificate is being provided stating deemed compliance of Para 26(6) of the EPS Scheme. However, this certificate is subject to acceptance by EPFO and any clarification/guideline/circular issued by EPFO from time to time. The employees/ex-employees are requested to attach this certificate for further processing by EPFO. A copy of the certificate issued by the Authorised signatory of the ISP exempted PF Trusts in this regard is attached.

As per clause 4 of the circular no. PERS/ITB& Med/EPS-95/2023 dated 24/03/2023 as notified by Corporate Office, interested & eligible members are required to upload the requisite documents, corresponding to the EPFO notification.

Accordingly, the eligible employees/ex-employees are advised to upload the following documents in the EPFO portal:

A. For Employees on rolls :

Annexure-1(certificate), Annexure-2(undertaking) and the PF account balance statement as on 31.03.2022 (certificate).

1. **Annexure-1 (CERTIFICATE)** is applicable for employees who have attained/will be attaining 58 years on or after 01.09.2014. Further, he/she must have attained 58 years in IISCO Steel Plant.

2. **Annexure-2 (UNDERTAKING)** : The employees will be required to fill their details in the blank UNDERTAKING format and thereafter, sign it, scan it and then upload the same at EPFO website if option 'YES' is exercised by the employee at EPFO site for availing higher pension. This is applicable for employees who have attained/will be attaining 58 years on or after 01.09.2014.
3. **PF Account Balance Statement as on 31.03.2022 (CPF CERTIFICATE)**: The PF balance statement received by the employees/ PF settlement statement received by the ex-employees, as may be applicable is required to be uploaded at EPFO site if option 'YES' is exercised by the employee at EPFO site. This will also be applicable for employees who have attained/will be attaining 58 years on or after 01.09.2014.

General :

The interested and eligible employees would be required to upload ANNEXURE-1 (CERTIFICATE), ANNEXURE-2(UNDERTAKING) and PF Account Balance Statement (certificate) at EPFO site through the following URL:

<https://unifiedportal-mem.epfindia.gov.in/memberInterfacePohw/>

B. For Ex-employees:

Annexure-1(certificate), Annexure-2(undertaking) and the PF account settlement statement at the time of separation (Settlement voucher). The same shall be uploaded at EPFO website.

1. **Annexure-1 (CERTIFICATE)** is applicable for those ex-employees who had attained 58 years on or after 01.09.2014 in IISCO Steel Plant and separated from IISCO Steel Plant thereafter.
2. **Annexure-2 (UNDERTAKING)** is required to be uploaded at EPFO site only if they have given option 'YES' at EPFO site. The format of the UNDERTAKING is attached. The ex-employees will be required to fill in their details, sign the undertaking and scan it and then upload the same at EPFO website.
3. **PF account settlement statement** received by the ex-employee at the time of separation from IISCO Steel Plant is to be scanned and uploaded on EPFO website.

General:

The interested and eligible ex-employees are required to upload ANNEXURE-1(CERTIFICATE), ANNEXURE-2(UNDERTAKING) and PF Account Balance Statement (CPF CERTIFICATE) at the EPFO site through the following URL:

<https://unifiedportal-mem.epfindia.gov.in/memberInterfacePohw/>

C. NOTE:

The eligible and interested employees/ex-employees are advised to properly go through EPFO circular No. Pension/2022/56259/16541 dated 20th February, 2023 issued on the subject, before uploading the documents at the EPFO website. They should also keep a track of any further circular/guidelines/clarifications being issued by EPFO from time to time.

In cases where PF balance is insufficient for payment of proposed arrears, which shall be decided by EPFO in due course of time, an employee/ex-employee is required to give an undertaking as per EPFO portal that they shall deposit the contributions along with interest due till date of payment through their last employer (this is

applicable where PF account has no balance or insufficient balance). The undertaking can be downloaded by all willing employees/ex-employees, opting for joint option for enhanced pension and the same shall be submitted after duly signing it.

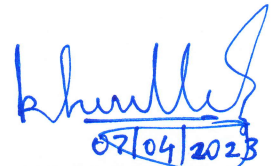
Further, it is to note that, submission of online Joint Option form does not confer any right on any member for enhanced pension, since the authority to sanction/disburse/revise the pension under EPS'95 is Employees' Provident Fund Organisation.

Employees/ex-employees are requested to complete the process of uploading on the EPFO portal by 17.04.2023.

As an additional Welfare gesture, an interaction session is being planned at Deepani Auditorium, *Bharati Bhawan* at 03-00p.m. on 10/04/2023 for addressing the concerns of eligible employees/ ex-employees

It may be noted that the responsibility of submitting joint option online in EPFO Portal within the stipulated timeline by following the above procedure lies with the interested eligible employees and ex-employees.

This issues with approval of the Competent Authority.



(K Anitson Vivek Silv)
Sr. Manager (Personnel-CF)

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Copy to: General Secretary, ISP Officers' Association

Copy to: General Secretaries:

- a) Asansol Iron & Steel Workers' Union, Burnpur
- b) A.B.K Metal & Engg. Workers' Union, Burnpur
- c) United Iron & Steel Workers' Union, Burnpur
- d) Burnpur Ispat Karmachari Sangh, Burnpur
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(Hindi version follows)