DREDGING CORPORATION OF INDIA LIMITED VISAKHAPATNAM

Ref: DCI/HR/EPS/2023

Date: 19.04.2023

<u>Circular No. 11 / 2023</u>

Sub: Submission of Joint Option Form for higher pension under EPS-95 as per directions given by Supreme Court vide Judgement dated 04th November, 2022 – Reg.

Ref: (a) EPFO Circular No.Pension/2022/56259/16541, dtd.20.02.2023

(b) DCI Circular No.03/2023, dtd.14.02.2023

* * *

Vide Circular referred at (a) above, EPFO has issued instructions in compliance of the orders contained in Para 44(iii) and (iv) read with Para 44 (v) of Hon'ble Supreme Court judgement dtd.04.11.2022 in the matter of Special Leave Petition (C) Nos.8658-8659 of 2019.

- 2. Pursuant to the issuance of EPFO Circular referred at (a) above, Circular at (b) above was issued, detailing the coverage of eligible employees and the modalities for exercise of joint option through hard copies for general information of all eligible employees/ex-employees.
- 3. As per the modalities indicated in the various correspondences by EPFO, it is understood that applicants are required to submit on-line applications only for which the following documents are required to be uploaded while submitting the joint option through EPFO portal:-
 - (a) Permission required under clause 26(6) of EPF scheme for contribution on actual wages,
 - (b) PF account balance on the date of filing option and relevant documentary proof for the same,
 - (c) Undertaking by the member to deposit the contribution along with interest due, till the date of payment.
- 4. In view of the above, all the eligible members are requested to submit on-line applications in EPFO Portal by uploading the following documents:
- (i) Certificate to be submitted in lieu of permission required under clause 26(6) of EPF scheme (as per Annexure), which will be issued to the eligible employees / ex-employees only
- (ii) The PF account balance statement as on 31.03.2022 for eligible on-roll employees and final settlement / PF statement issued by concerned PF Trust at the time of separation in case of eligible ex-employees
- (iii) Duly filled-in & signed undertaking by the members

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The URL for exercising Joint Option of EPS-95 for higher pension is available on EPFO portal as below:

https://unifiedportal-mem.epfindia.gov.in/memberinterfacePohw/

- 5. Eligible members are advised to strictly follow the EPFO guidelines while submitting online joint option and submit the same preferably by 24.04.2023. Members may please note that mere submission of Joint Option does not confer any right to higher pension and the same is subject to final decision of EPFO authority.
- 6. It may be noted that the method of deposition of amount and that of computation of higher pension is yet to be communicated by EPFO.
- 7. The requirement for any further data/information/supporting documents will depend on the Circulars/guidelines as issued by EPFO/CPFC/RPFC from time to time.
- 8. The choice made by the employee/ex-employee is irrevocable as per EPFO Circular.
- 9. For the benefit of eligible employees/ex-employees to take an informed decision for exercising option, DCIL has compiled and computed the approximate amount.
- 10. Neither DCI nor DCILECPF Trust shall be liable to pay the amount, demanded by EPFO for which the members only shall be liable to pay the same.

This is issued with the approval of Competent Authority.

(Dr. P.K Sethi) GM – HoD (HR)

Enclosures:- Annexure

Copy to:

DCILECPF Trust

- For information

MD & CEO 's Secretariat - For information of MD & CEO (A/c)

DREDGING CORPORATION OF INDIA LIMITED

CIN: No. L29222DL1976PLC1008129 GST NO. 37AAACD6021B1ZB

Head Office : DREDGE HOUSE", HB Colony Main Road, Visakhapatnam - 530 022

Phone: 0891-2523250, Fax: 0891-2560581 / 2565920,

Website: www.dredge-india.com

Reg. Office: Core-2, First Floor, Scope Minar, Laxminagar District Centre, Delhi - 110092



ANNEXURE

PERMISSION CERTIFICATE IN LIEU OF PARA 26 (6) OF THE EPF SCHEME, 1952

This certificate is being issued to the employees complying with the requirement mandated vide EPFO Cicular No.Pension/2022/56259/16541, dtd.20.02.2023 for online submission of Joint Option Form provided in EPFO website. As per Clause 6 (vii) of this above Circular, employees are required to submit the proof of remittance of employer's share in Provident Fund on higher wages exceeding the prevalent wage ceiling of Rs.5000 / 6500 & 15000 as proof along with Joint Option under Para 26 (6) of EPF Scheme duly verified by the employer.

- 2. M/s Dredging Corporation of India Limited, is an exempted establishment under Para 27 A of the Employee Provident Fund Scheme, 1952. DCI Ltd. has Provident Fund Trust located at Head Office, Visakhapatnam for which exemption was granted by the EPFO Authorities as per PF Trust Rules.
- 3. The establishment has been complying with the Trust Rules and Provident Fund contribution of the members at 12 % of actual wages have been deducted from their wages/salaries and credited to the member's individual PF Account. Further, the Employer's contribution at 12% on actual wages / salaries was also been credited to the Member's Individual PF Account under rules of the PF Trust by which Company has been complying with the Rule 26 (6) of the Provident Fund Scheme, 1952.
- 4. As per the rules of DCI PF Trust, permission has already been granted for contributing on actual wages / salaries. It is also evident that our establishment is contributing on actual wages / salaries and has been depositing the required administrative / inspection charges with EPFO Authority and the Trust accounts are being audited by the EPFO from time to time. Monthly exempted return is being filed in EPFO portal wherein the actual PF amount contributed is shown. Under these circumstances, the provisions of Para 26(6) of the EPF Scheme, 1952 have been complied with by the establishment and hence may be accepted in lieu of proof of Joint Option under Para 26 (6) of EPF Scheme, 1952.

Place: Visakhapatnam

Date: 19.04.2023

(Dr. P.K.Sethi) GM – HoD (HR)

Dr. P.K. SETHI
General Manager / HOD (HR)
Dredging Corporation of India Ltd.
VISAKHAPATNAM