



पूर्णतः सहकारी स्वामित्व
Wholly owned by Cooperatives
Head Office

INDIAN FARMERS FERTILISER COOPERATIVE LTD
(Head Office)

Ref:HO/Pers./Pension/1

9th February, 2023

CIRCULAR No. 1784

Subject: Joint Option under Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995 in pursuance of the Hon'ble Supreme Court's Judgement dated 4.11.2022.

Hon'ble Supreme Court in its Judgment dated 04.11.2022 has done away with the distinction between Exempted and Un-exempted Establishments for implementation of Employees' Pension Scheme. IFFCO being an exempted establishment is now covered by the benefit of pension on higher salary.

The Hon'ble Supreme Court has also given certain deadlines for exercising joint options by the following categories of Employees.


- A. Active Employees who are members of EPS'95 and are yet to attain 58 years of age
- B. Active Employees who have exited EPS'95 (on attaining the age of 58 years) on and after 01.09.2014
- C. Ex-employees who have exited EPS'95 (on attaining the age of 58 years) on and after 01.09.2014.

The last date for exercising the joint option is 3rd March, 2023. However, no format/guidelines have been prescribed by EPFO so far. It is also not clear whether the option will be required in physical form or will have to be uploaded online and whether the payment of unpaid contribution is to be made along with option form or to be deposited later. The exact formula for computation of amount to be deposited has also not been indicated. Under these circumstances, it is not possible to take concrete steps by IFFCO or IFFCO Employees PF Trust.

However, by way of abundant caution, two Joint Option Forms have been devised. One for Category A & B and other for Category C (Annexure I & II). Members/Ex-Members desirous of exercising the joint option may fill the attached Joint Option Form and submit hardcopies in original (in triplicate) to the P&A Heads of their current unit in case of Active Employees and to P&A Heads of last served Unit in case of Ex-Employees for onward submission to EPFO. In respect of Head Office, MKCO and Marketing division, Joint Option Forms may be sent to Shri Aditya Bhola, Manager (HR), Head Office. **Last date for Joint Option Forms to reach IFFCO is 20th February, 2023.**

DISCLAIMER:

The above initiative is only as a precaution and does not confer any right to receive higher pension nor does it create any liability / obligation of any kind for IFFCO as an Employer.


(R P Singh)
Director (HR & Legal)

Distribution:

1. All Active/retired Employees of IFFCO
2. All Unit Heads
3. All P&A Heads – All option forms received by you and duly signed by authorized signatory may be submitted to concerned EPFO Office by 2nd March, 2023, positively under acknowledgement with forwarding letter.
4. All F&A Heads
5. All SMMs
6. All concerned
7. CPFC, New Delhi

JOINT OPTION FORM FOR CATEGORY A & B (For Active Employees)
AS PER IFFCO CIRCULAR No. 1784

Annexure-I

To,
The Regional Provident Fund Commissioner,

Sub: Joint Option Form under EPS, 1995 in pursuance of the Hon'ble Supreme Court's Judgment dated 4th November 2022.

Sir / Madam,

1. As abundant caution for compliance and in order to meet the deadline stipulated in the aforesaid judgment, we (employee and employer) hereby submit the Joint Option Form as required under pre-amended paragraph 11(3) and amended paragraph 11(4) of the EPS'95 for claiming pension on actual salary, i.e. exceeding statutory wage limit from time to time decided by EPFO under the Employees' Pension Scheme from 16-11-1995 or from the date of joining as Member of Employees' Pension scheme.

2. Particulars of the employee(s) are as under: -

S. No.	Particulars	Details
1.	Name	
2.	EPS Account Number/Member ID	
3.	EPF Account Number	
4.	Aadhaar Number (attach self-attested copy)	
5.	Date of Birth	
6.	UAN Number	
7.	PPO Number (if any) (attach self-attested copy)	
8.	Date of joining under EPS 1995	
9.	Date of attaining the age of 58 years (if applicable)	
10.	Address for correspondence	
11.	Contact/Mobile No.	
12.	E-Mail ID	

Declaration by Employee

It is certified that immediately after joining IFFCO, I had been contributing towards the Provident Fund on my actual salary / wages and an equal amount was being contributed to my Provident Fund by the employer as provided under Para 26 (6) of EPF Scheme 1952. It is to further certify that an amount @ 8.33% of the statutory wage ceiling i.e. Rs.5000 /Rs.6500 /Rs.15000 out of the employers' contribution had been remitted every month towards Employees' Pension Scheme 1995 since 16th November 1995 or the date of joining whichever is later.

I, do hereby opt for diverting/depositing 8.33% of my actual salary/wages out of employer's contribution towards the pension fund (after adjusting the amount already diverted/deposited in pension fund) from the date of joining the EPS' 95 till date /till my attaining the age of 58 years, as may be applicable.

In case my Provident Fund amount (out of the Employer's contribution) falls short on account of non-refundable advance, I am ready to pay the differential amount that I had taken / withdrawn along with the due interest as may be applicable.

I also undertake that if any other legal/administrative formality is required in this regard, I am ready to do accordingly.

I shall also be ready to bear any financial liability arising out of the option availed for higher pension on actual salary / wages.

Place:

Signature:

Date:

Name:

Personal No.

Declaration by the Employer/Establishment

Mr./Mrs _____, having EPF Account No. _____ and EPS Account No. _____ is an Employee of IFFCO. He/ She has contributed to the Provident Fund on his/her actual salary/ higher wages, as per the terms of Para 26(6) of the EPF Scheme 1952. This establishment has no objection if an amount of 8.33% on his/her actual salary/higher wages is diverted/deposited from his/her Provident fund towards his/her Pension Fund from the date of commencement of the Scheme, i.e. 16/11/1995 or from the date his/her salary exceeded the statutory limit or from the date of joining the scheme, whichever is later, along with the due interest-as may be applicable.

Disclaimer

The joint option submitted by eligible employee does not confer any right to receive higher pension nor does it create any liability / obligation of any kind for IFFCO as an Employer.

NAME OF AUTHORIZED SIGNATORY:

SIGNATURE WITH ESTABLISHMENT SEAL:

JOINT OPTION FORM FOR CATEGORY C (Retired Employees)
AS PER IFFCO CIRCULAR No. 1784

Annexure-II

To,
The Regional Provident Fund Commissioner,

Sub: Joint Option Form under EPS, 1995 in pursuance of the Hon'ble Supreme Court's Judgment dated 4th November 2022.

Sir / Madam,

1. As abundant caution for compliance and in order to meet the deadline stipulated in the aforesaid judgment, we (Ex-Employee and Employer) hereby submit the Joint Option Form as required under pre-amended paragraph 11(3) and amended paragraph 11(4) of the EPS'95 for claiming pension on actual salary, i.e. exceeding statutory wage limit from time to time decided by EPFO under the Employees' Pension Scheme from 16-11-1995 or from the date of joining as Member of Employees' Pension scheme.

2. Particulars of the Ex-Employee are as under: -

S. No.	Particulars	Details
1.	Name	
2.	EPS Account Number/Member ID	
3.	EPF Account Number	
4.	Aadhaar Number (attach self-attested copy)	
5.	Date of Birth	
6.	UAN Number	
7.	PPO Number (if any) (attach self-attested copy)	
8.	Date of joining under EPS 1995	
9.	Date of attaining the age of 58 years (if applicable)	
10.	Address for correspondence	
11.	Contact/Mobile No.	
12.	E-Mail ID	

Declaration by Ex-Employee

It is certified that immediately after joining IFFCO, I had been contributing towards the Provident Fund on my actual salary / wages and an equal amount was being contributed to my Provident Fund by the employer as provided under Para 26 (6) of EPF Scheme 1952. It is to further certify that an amount @ 8.33% of the statutory wage ceiling i.e. Rs.5000 /Rs.6500 /Rs.15000 out of the Employers' contribution had been remitted every month towards Employees' Pension Scheme 1995 since 16th November 1995 or the date of joining whichever is later.

I, do hereby opt for depositing 8.33% of my actual salary/wages out of Employer's contribution towards the pension fund (after adjusting the amount already deposited in pension fund) from the date of joining the EPS' 95 till my attaining the age of 58 years.

Since I have already withdrawn entire Provident Fund on my retirement, I am ready to pay the differential amount along with the due interest as may be applicable.

I also undertake that if any other legal/administrative formality is required in this regard, I am ready to do accordingly.

I shall also be ready to bear any financial liability arising out of the option availed for higher pension on actual salary / wages.

Place:

Signature:

Date:

Name:

Personal No.

Declaration by the Employer/Establishment

Mr./Mrs _____, having EPF Account No. _____ and EPS Account No. _____ was an Employee of IFFCO. He/ She has contributed to the Provident Fund on his/her actual salary/ higher wages, as per the terms of Para 26(6) of the EPF Scheme 1952. This establishment has no objection if an amount of 8.33% on his/her actual salary/higher wages is deposited towards his/her Pension Fund from the date of commencement of the Scheme, i.e. 16/11/1995 or from the date his/her salary exceeded the statutory limit or from the date of joining the scheme, whichever is later, along with the due interest as may be applicable.

Disclaimer

The joint option submitted by eligible Ex-Employee does not confer any right to receive higher pension nor does it create any liability / obligation of any kind for IFFCO as an Employer.

NAME OF AUTHORIZED SIGNATORY:

SIGNATURE WITH ESTABLISHMENT SEAL: