



Rajasthan State Mines & Minerals Limited

(A Government of Rajasthan Enterprise)

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No. RSM/CO/F&A/PF/2023/101

Dated:12.04.2023

Circular

Sub: Submission of 'Joint option Form' under Para 11 (3) and Para 11 (4) of Employees pension scheme, 1995 in line with the direction given by Hon'ble Supreme Court vide order dated 04th November 2022 passed in SLP No. 8658-8659 of 2019 titled EPFO v/s Sunil Kumar B. & ORS. ETC in online mode.

May refer to Circular No. RSM/CO/F&A/PF/2023/2097 dtd 09.02.2023 vide which offline Joint Option Forms for higher pension on actual wages were invited in response to EPFO Circular No. Pension/2022/54877/15149 dtd 29.12.2022, now after we are in receipt of Letter No. राज/क्षे. का/उदयपुर/विशेष प्रकोष्ठ/आर. जे/241-A/120 dtd 11.04.2023 from PF department stating to fill the Joint Option Form for higher pension on actual wages in **online mode only**.

The eligible employees/ ex-employees of RSMML are advised to exercise the option in their own wisdom for higher pension on actual wages and submit the Joint option Form in online mode through EPFO website www.epfindia.gov.in. Two different URLs are there for members who attained the age of 58 years prior to 01/09/2014 and after 01/09/2014. The employees/ex-employees are requested to choose the URL accordingly.

The employees who wish to exercise the Joint Option Form are required to upload the following documents while filing the form:

- Proof of Joint Option under Para 26(6) of the EPF Scheme duly verified by the employer;
- Proof of remittance in Provident Fund on higher wages exceeding the prevalent wage ceiling of 5000/6500/15000.
- Additional documents in case of employees who attained the age of 58 years before 1st September, 2014, who had exercised option under the proviso to Para 11(3) of the pre amendment scheme:
 - Proof of joint option under the proviso to Para 11(3) duly verified by the employer;
 - Written refusal of APFC or any other higher authority of EPFO to such requests/ remittance.

The concerned certificate, draft of the undertaking and copy of letters has been uploaded on company's website www.rsmm.com. The same may be downloaded from the website and attached with the form.

Kindly note that before applying for higher pension through online mode, KYC in UAN should be completed in all respect and adhere to the Paras of the EPFO Circular No. Pension 2022/54877/15149 dtd 29/12/2022 and Pension/2022/56259/16541 dtd 20/02/2023.

Considering the enormous activity involved at employers' end to verify & validate each joint option application for higher pension filed by the employees and heavy load at EPFO website, eligible employees are requested to submit the Joint Option well before 28.04.2023 beyond which it will be difficult for employer to verify and validate the application.

Disclaimer: In reference to judgement dated 4th November 2022 of Hon'ble Supreme Court, RSMML Ltd. has written a letter to EPFO seeking guidelines for submission of joint option form for exercising the option and contributing of the EPFO higher pension on higher wages under EPS'95, however, reply to the same is still awaited. This circular is being issued for implementation of said judgement only to adhere to the time limit and is subject to any rectification(s)/guideline(s) that may be issued by EPFO from time to time. Therefore, the joint option submitted by eligible employees do not confer any right to receive or obligation upon RSMML Limited to pay higher pension to them

(Dr. T.R. Agarwal) R.A/c.s
Executive Director (Admin)