



**NO: 500-85/CA II/BSNL/EPF/2013/Vol VI**

**Dated 30.03.2017**

To,  
The CGMs  
All BSNL Circles

**Sub: Higher Pension under Para 11(3) of the EPS, 1995.**

**Ref: EPFO letter no. Pension-I/12/EPF Amendment/96/Vol.II dated 23-Mar-2017**

Please find enclosed the letter under reference vide which members of the Employees Pension Scheme, 1995 who had contributed on higher wages exceeding the statutory wage ceiling of Rs. 6500/- in the Provident Fund have been allowed to divert 8.33% of the salary exceeding Rs. 6500/- to the Pension Fund with up to date interest as declared under EPF Scheme, 1952 from time to time to get the benefit of pension on higher salary on receipt of joint option of the Employer and Employee.

BSNL has contributed on higher wages exceeding the statutory wage ceiling of Rs. 6500/- in the Provident Fund for its employees which makes it eligible for diversion of 8.33% of the salary exceeding Rs. 6500/- to the Pension Fund.

In this regard, circles are requested to initiate the process of choosing the option of higher pension in consultation with the EPF office.

**Encl: As above**

  
(V M Gupta)  
**Dy. General Manager (CA III)**

**Copy for information and taking necessary action to:**

1. IFAs of all circles for information and taking necessary action please.
2. DGM(R&P), CO, BSNL for information and taking necessary action please.



कर्मचारी भविष्य निधि संगठन

(श्रम एवं रोजगार मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार।)

**EMPLOYEES' PROVIDENT FUND ORGANISATION**

(Ministry of Labour & Employment, Govt. of India)

मुख्य कार्यालय / Head Office

भविष्य निधि भवन, 14-भिकाजी कामा प्लेस, नई दिल्ली-110 066

Bhavishya Nidhi Bhawan, 14, Bhikaji Cama Place, New Delhi - 110 066.

No: Pension-I/12/33/EPs Amendment/96/Vol.II

Dated: 23-03-2017

To,

All Regional P.F. Commissioner,  
Regional Office/Sub-Regional Office.

34/0207

23 MAR 2017

**Subject:- Allowing members of the Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995 the benefit of the actual salary in the Pension Fund exceeding wage limit of either Rs. 5000/- or Rs. 6500 per month from the effective date respectively as per the Hon'ble Supreme Court's order in SLP No.33032-33033 of 2015 - Regarding.**

Sir,

The matter of determination of pensionable salary exceeding statutory wages ceiling and exercise of option under deleted proviso to Para 11(3) of the EPS, 95 was examined in the light of the Hon'ble Supreme Court's Order in SLP No.33032-33033 of 2015.

2) The Hon'ble Apex court in SLP No.33032-33033 of 2015 observed that the reference to the date of commencement of the Scheme or the date on which the salary exceeds the ceiling limit are dates from which the option exercised are to be reckoned with for calculation of pensionable salary. The said dates are not cut-off dates to determine the eligibility of the employer-employee to indicate their option under the proviso to Clause 11(3) of the Pension Scheme. It has further been observed that a beneficial Scheme, ought not to be allowed to be defeated by reference to a cut-off date, particularly, in a situation where (as in the present case) the employer had deposited 12% of the actual salary and not 12% of the ceiling limit of Rs. 5000/- or Rs. 6500/- per month, as the case may be.

In a situation where the deposit of the employer's share at 12% has been on the actual salary and not the ceiling amount, the Provident Fund Commissioner could seek a return of all such amounts that the concerned employees may have taken or withdrawn from their Provident fund Account before granting them the benefits of the proviso to Clause 11(3) of the Pension Scheme. Once such a return is made in whichever cases such return is due, consequential benefits in terms of this order will be granted to the said employees.

Thus a member contributing to the Provident Fund on the wages exceeding the statutory ceiling or who had contributed to the Provident Fund on the wages exceeding the Statutory ceiling cannot be debarred from exercising the option to contribute on such higher wages to the pension fund. **(Copy of the order of the Hon'ble Supreme Court enclosed).**

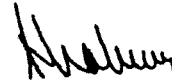
3) Accordingly a proposal was sent to MOL&E to allow members of the Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995 who had contributed on higher wages exceeding the statutory wage ceiling of Rs. 6500/- in the Provident Fund to divert 8.33% of the salary exceeding Rs 6500/- to the Pension Fund with up to date interest as declared under EPF Scheme, 1952 from time to time to get the benefit of pension on higher salary on receipt of joint option of the Employer and Employee.

4) The MOL&E vide letter dated 16.03.2017 has conveyed its approval to allow members of the Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995 who had contributed on higher wages exceeding the statutory wage ceiling of Rs. 6500/- in the Provident Fund to divert 8.33% of the salary exceeding Rs.6500/- to the Pension Fund with up to date interest as declared under EPF Scheme, 1952 from time to time to get the benefit of pension on higher salary on receipt of joint option of the Employer and Employee. **(copy enclosed for ready reference)**

5) The officers in charge of all field offices are directed to take necessary action accordingly in accordance with the order of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in SLP No.33032-33033 of 2015 as approved by the Government and as per the provisions of the EPF & MP Act, 1952 and Schemes framed there under.

(This issues with the approval of CPFC.)

Yours faithfully,



(Dr. S.K. Thakur)

**Addl. Central PF Commissioner, HQ(Pension)**

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**ACC HQ(IS) for information with request for making necessary changes in the Software.**