

**INDIAN COUNCIL OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH
KRISHI BHAWAN, NEW DELHI**

F.No.FIN/10/1/2018-Pension(NPS)

Dated: 04.09.2020

ENDORSEMENT

Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority, New Delhi has issued a Circular No.PFRDA/17/08/11/0031/2017-SUP-SG dated 1.6.2020 regarding choice of Pension Funds and Investment Pattern in Tier I of NPS for the Government subscribers employed with State Governments(SG), State Autonomous Bodies (SABs) & Central Autonomous Bodies (CABs). In this connection, Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for processing of Scheme Preference Change Request of NPS Subscribers is available on the website www.npscra.nsdl.co.in.

As approved by the Competent Authority, Circular No.PFRDA/17/08/11/0031/2017-SUP-SG dated 1.6.2020 has been uploaded on the ICAR Website www.icar.org.in for information, guidance and compliance.

(N.K. Arora)

Sr. Finance & Accounts Officer

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पेंशन निधि विनियामक और

विकास प्राधिकरण

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PENSION FUND REGULATORY
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CIRCULAR

PFRDA/17/08/11/0031/2017-SUP-SG

01st June 2020

Subject: Choice of Pension Funds and Investment Pattern in Tier I of NPS for the Government subscribers employed with State Governments (SG), State Autonomous Bodies (SABs) & Central Autonomous Bodies (CABs)

A. This has reference to the Gazette Notification F. No.1/3/2016-PR. dated 31-01-2019 issued by Dept. of Financial Service (DFS), Ministry of Finance (MoF), pursuant to which the Authority *vide* its circular no PFRDA/2019/12/REG-PF/1 dated 08th May 2019, introduced the choice of the pension fund and investment pattern in the Tier I of the NPS for the employees of the Central Government.

B. The following were introduced by Central Government through the DFS Gazette Notification (**Annexure 1**) mentioned *supra*

I. **Enhancement in Government Co- Contribution-** The monthly contribution of 10 percent of the Basic Pay plus Dearness Allowance (DA) to be paid by the employee and 14 percent of the Basic Pay plus DA by the Central Government.

II. **Compensation For Non-Deposit Or Delayed Deposit Of Contributions in the following cases:**

1. where the NPS contributions were deducted from the salary of the Government employee but the amount was not remitted to CRA system or was remitted late;
2. where the NPS contributions were not deducted from the salary of the Government employee;
3. where the Government contributions were not remitted to CRA system or were remitted late (irrespective whether the employee contributions were deducted or not),

(Details may be seen from Annexure 1)

III. **Choice of Pension Fund And Investment Pattern In Tier-I Of NPS as under:**

1. **Choice of Pension Fund:** The Government subscriber shall be allowed to choose any one of the pension funds including Private sector pension funds. They can change their option once in a year. However, the current provision of combination of Public Sector Pension Funds will be available as default option for existing as well as new Government subscriber.
2. **Choice of Investment Pattern:** The following options for investment choices shall be offered to Government subscribers
 - (i) **Default Scheme:** The existing scheme in which funds are allocated among three Public Sector undertaking fund managers shall continue as default scheme for both existing and new subscribers.
 - (ii) **Scheme G:** Employees who prefer returns with comparatively less amount of risk shall be given an option to invest 100% of the funds in Govt. securities. (Scheme G)
 - (iii) **Auto Choice Life Cycle Funds:** Employees preferring better returns with comparatively higher risk shall be given the options of the following Life Cycle based schemes-
 - a) Conservative Life Cycle Fund with maximum exposure to equity capped at 25%- LC-25 Scheme.
 - b) Moderate Life Cycle Fund with maximum exposure to equity capped a 50 LC- 50 Scheme

The Government subscribers may exercise one of the above choices of Investment pattern twice in a financial year.

IV. **Implementation of choices to the legacy corpus:** Transfer of huge legacy corpus in respect of the Government subscribers from the existing Pension Funds is likely to impact the market. It may be practically difficult for the PFRDA to allow Government subscribers to change the Pension Funds or investment pattern in respect of the accumulated corpus, in one go. Therefore, for the present, change in the Pension Funds or investment pattern is allowed in respect of the incremental flows only.

V. **Transfer of Legacy corpus in reasonable time frame:** PFRDA shall draw up a scheme in due course for transfer of accumulated corpus as per new choices of Government subscribers in a reasonable time frame

of say five years. Once PFRDA draws up this scheme, change in Pension Funds or investment pattern shall be allowed in respect of the accumulated corpus in accordance with that scheme.

- VI. For investment option of Default scheme as per para B.III 2 (i) above, all other terms and conditions as contained in the investment guidelines issued by the Authority dated 03.06.2015 for NPS Schemes (Applicable to Scheme CG, Scheme SG, Corporate CG and NPS Lite Schemes and APY) and subsequent amendments made thereto shall be applicable.
 - VII. Further, for investment options as per para B.III 2 (ii) or B.III 2.(iii) (a) and (b) above, all other terms and conditions as contained in the investment guidelines issued by the Authority dated 04.05.2017 in respect of NPS Schemes {Other than Govt. Sector (CG & SG), Corporate CG, NPS Lite and APY} and subsequent amendments made thereto shall apply.
- C. It has been brought to the notice of the Authority that while some of the State Governments (SGs) / SABs/ CABs have either partially or wholly adopted the provisions of Gazette Notification F. No.1/3/2016-PR. dated 31-01-2019 issued by Dept. of Financial Service (DFS), Ministry of Finance (MoF), the others have been seeking clarifications on the same. It is, therefore, clarified that the State Governments (SGs) / SABs/ CABs are free to adopt the provisions of the said Gazette notifications on their own volition , based on their own internal approvals and notifications , without seeking the Authority's approval.
- D. This circular is issued in exercise of powers of the Authority under sub-clause (b) of sub-section (2) of Section 14 read with Section 23 of the PFRDA Act, 2013 and sub regulation (1) of Regulation 14 of the PFRDA (Pension Fund) Regulations, 2015.



Sumeet Kaur Kapoor
Chief General Manager



भारत का राजपत्र The Gazette of India

असाधारण
EXTRAORDINARY

भाग I—खण्ड 1

PART I—Section 1

प्राधिकार से प्रकाशित

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(वित्तीय सेवाएं विभाग)

अधिसूचना

नई दिल्ली, 31 जनवरी, 2019

फा. सं. 1/3/2016-पीआर.—केन्द्र सरकार वित्त मंत्रालय की 22 दिसंबर, 2003 की राजपत्र अधिसूचना सं. 5/7/2003-ईसीबी-पीआर के पैरा 1(i) में आंशिक संशोधन करते हुए राष्ट्रीय पेंशन प्रणाली (एनपीएस) को युक्तिसंगत बनाने के लिए सुझाव देने हेतु गठित समिति की सिफारिशों पर सरकार के 06 दिसम्बर, 2018 के निर्णय के आधार पर उक्त अधिसूचना में निम्नलिखित संशोधन करती है, नामतः :—

(1) उक्त अधिसूचना के पैराग्राफ 1(i) में, "कर्मचारियों द्वारा भुगतान किया जाने वाला मासिक अंशदान वेतन और महंगाई भत्ते (डीए) का 10% होगा और केन्द्र सरकार द्वारा उसके बराबर राशि जमा की जाएगी", को इन शब्दों से प्रतिस्थापित किया जाएगा, "कर्मचारियों का मासिक अंशदान उनके वेतन और महंगाई भत्ते (डीए) का 10% होगा और केन्द्र सरकार का मासिक अंशदान उनके वेतन और महंगाई भत्ते का 14% होगा"।

(2) निम्नलिखित प्रावधान उक्त अधिसूचना के पैराग्राफ 1(v) के बाद प्रख्यापित किए जाएंगे, नामतः:-

एनपीएस के टियर-I में पेंशन निधि और निवेश पैटर्न का विकल्प निम्नानुसार होगा:

(vi) पेंशन निधि का विकल्प: निजी क्षेत्र में अभिदाताओं के मामले के सदृश्य, सरकारी अभिदाताओं को भी निजी क्षेत्र पेंशन निधि सहित किसी भी पेंशन निधि का चयन करने की अनुमति दी जाए। वे वर्ष में एक बार अपने विकल्प को बदल सकते हैं। तथापि, सम्मिलित सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र पेंशन निधि की वर्तमान व्यवस्था मौजूदा और नये सरकारी अंशदाताओं के लिए स्वतः उपलब्ध रहेगी।

(vii) निवेश पद्धति का विकल्प: सरकारी कर्मचारियों को निवेश के निम्नलिखित विकल्प दिए जाएंगे, नामतः-

- (क) सरकारी कर्मचारियों की मौजूदा योजना मौजूदा और नये सरकारी अंशदाताओं के लिए स्वतः उपलब्ध योजना के रूप में जारी रहेगी। इस योजना के अंतर्गत, पीएफआरडीए के दिशानिर्देशों के अनुसार सार्वजनिक उपक्रम क्षेत्र के तीन निधि प्रबंधकों के बीच उनके पूर्व के कार्यनिष्पादन के आधार पर निधियां आबंटित की जाती हैं।
- (ख) वैसे सरकारी कर्मचारी जो न्यूनतम जोखिम राशि के साथ निर्धारित प्रतिफल के विकल्प का चयन करते हैं, को सरकारी प्रतिभूतियों (योजना जी) में 100% निवेश करने का विकल्प दिया जाए।
- (ग) जो सरकारी कर्मचारी उच्चतर प्रतिफल के लिए विकल्प का चयन करते हैं उन्हें जीवनचक्र पर आधारित निम्नलिखित दो योजनाओं का विकल्प दिया जाए:-
 - (क) परंपरागत जीवन चक्र निधि, जिसमें इक्विटी में निवेश की अधिकतम सीमा 25% निर्धारित हो- (एलसी - 25)
 - (ख) सामान्य जीवन चक्र निधि, जिसमें इक्विटी में निवेश की अधिकतम सीमा 50% निर्धारित हो-(एलसी-50)

(viii) पुराने कॉर्पस के विकल्पों को लागू करना: सरकारी क्षेत्र के अभिदाताओं के संबंध में 1 लाख करोड़ रुपये से अधिक राशि वाले भारी-भरकम पुराने कॉर्पस को मौजूदा पेंशन निधि प्रबंधकों से अंतरित करने का प्रभाव बाजार पर भी पड़ने की संभावना है। सरकारी अभिदाताओं को संचित निधि के संबंध में पेंशन निधि अथवा निवेश पद्धति को एक बारगी बदलने की अनुमति देने में पीएफआरडीए को व्यावहारिक कठिनाई हो सकती है। अतः इस समय पेंशन निधि अथवा निवेश पद्धति में परिवर्तन की अनुमति केवल बड़ी हुई निधि के संबंध में ही दी जाए।

(ix) पुराने कॉर्पस को एक समुचित समयावधि में अंतरित करना: सरकारी क्षेत्र के अभिदाताओं के नए विकल्पों के अनुसार पीएफआरडीए के द्वारा संचित कॉर्पस को समुचित समयावधि अर्थात् पांच वर्ष में अंतरित करने की एक योजना तैयार की जा सकती है। पीएफआरडीए द्वारा योजना तैयार किए जाने पर उक्त योजना के अनुसार संचित कॉर्पस के संबंध में पेंशन निधि अथवा निवेश पद्धति में परिवर्तन की अनुमति दी जा सकती है।

वर्ष 2004-2012 के दौरान अंशदानों को जमा न करने अथवा देरी से जमा करने हेतु क्षतिपूर्ति :

(x) उन सभी मामलों में जिनमें सरकारी कर्मचारी के वेतन में से कटौती तो कर ली गयी थी लेकिन राशि को सीआरए सिस्टम में विप्रेषित नहीं किया गया था अथवा देरी से विप्रेषित किया गया था, राशि को उस तिथि से जब कटौतियां की गयी थी से लेकर कर्मचारी के एनपीएस खाते में जमा होने तक की तिथि तक की अवधि के लिए जीपीएफ पर समय-समय पर यथा लागू दरों पर वार्षिक रूप से चक्रवृद्धि करते हुए ब्याज के साथ कर्मचारी के एनपीएस खाते में जमा किया जाए।

(xi) उन सभी मामलों जिनमें वर्ष 2004-2012 के दौरान किसी भी अवधि हेतु सरकारी कर्मचारी के वेतन से एनपीएस अंशदानों की कटौती नहीं की गयी थी में कर्मचारी को अंशदान अब जमा कराने का विकल्प दिया जाए। यदि वह अब अंशदान जमा करने का विकल्प चुनता है तो राशि को एकमुश्त रूप में अथवा मासिक किश्तों में जमा कराया जा सकता है। किश्त की राशि की कटौती कर्मचारी के वेतन से करके उसे एनपीएस खाते में जमा कराया जा सकता है। उपरोक्त राशि कर्मचारी के अनिवार्य अंशदानों की भांति आयकर अधिनियम के अंतर्गत कर रियायतों हेतु अर्हक होगी।

(xii) उन सभी मामलों जिनमें सरकारी अंशदान सीआरए सिस्टम में विप्रेषित नहीं हुए थे अथवा देरी से विप्रेषित हुए थे (भले ही कर्मचारी अंशदानों की कटौती हुई थी अथवा नहीं), में राशि को उस तिथि जब से सरकारी अंशदान देय थे, से लेकर उस तिथि तक जब राशि कर्मचारी के एनपीएस खाते में वास्तविक रूप से जमा हुई थी, के बीच की अवधि के लिए जीपीएफ पर समय-समय पर यथा लागू दरों पर ब्याज के साथ सरकारी अंशदान को जमा किया जाए। व्यय विभाग/लेखानियंत्रक द्वारा इस संबंध में अनुदेश जारी किए जाएं। देरी के ऐसे सभी मामलों का तीन माह की अवधि में समाधान किया जाए।

2. उपर्युक्त प्रावधान 1 अप्रैल, 2019 से प्रभावी होंगे।

मदनेश कुमार मिश्र, संयुक्त सचिव

टिप्पणी : मूल अधिसूचना भारत के राजपत्र, असाधारण, भाग I, खण्ड 1 में 22 दिसम्बर, 2003 की अधिसूचना संख्या 5/7/2003-पीआर के तहत प्रकाशित हुई थी।

MINISTRY OF FINANCE
(Department of Financial Services)

NOTIFICATION

New Delhi, the 31st January, 2019

F. No. 1/3/2016-PR.—In partial modification of para 1(i) of Ministry of Finance's Gazette Notification No. 5/7/2003-ECB-PR dated 22nd December, 2003, based on the Government's decision on 6th December, 2018 on the recommendations of a Committee set up to suggest measures for streamlining the implementation of National Pension System (NPS), the Central Government makes the following amendments in the said notification, namely :-

(1) In para 1(i) of the said notification, for the words "The monthly contribution would be 10 percent of the salary and DA to be paid by the employee and matched by the Central Government", the words "The monthly contribution would be 10 percent of the Basic Pay plus Dearness Allowance (DA) to be paid by the employee and 14 percent of the Basic Pay plus DA by the Central Government" shall be substituted.

(2) The following provisions shall be inserted after para 1(v) of the said notification, namely:-

CHOICE OF PENSION FUND AND INVESTMENT PATTERN IN TIER-I OF NPS AS UNDER:

(vi) **Choice of Pension Fund:** As in the case of subscribers in the private sector, the Government subscribers may also be allowed to choose any one of the pension funds including Private sector pension funds. They could change their option once in a year. However, the current provision of combination of the Public-Sector Pension Funds will be available as the default option for both existing as well as new Government subscribers.

(vii) **Choice of Investment pattern:** The following options for investment choices may be offered to Government employees: -

(a) The existing scheme in which funds are allocated by the PFRDA among the three Public Sector Undertaking fund managers based on their past performance in accordance with the guidelines of PFRDA for Government employees may continue as default scheme for both existing and new subscribers.

(b) Government employees who prefer a fixed return with minimum amount of risk may be given an option to invest 100% of the funds in Government securities (Scheme G).

(c) Government employees who prefer higher returns may be given the options of the following two Life Cycle based schemes.

(A) Conservative Life Cycle Fund with maximum exposure to equity capped at 25% - LC-25.

(B) Moderate Life Cycle Fund with maximum exposure to equity capped at 50% - LC-50.

(viii) **Implementation of choices to the legacy corpus:** Transfer of a huge legacy corpus of more than Rs. 1 lakh crore in respect of the Government sector subscribers from the existing Pension Fund Managers is likely to impact the market. It may be practically difficult for the PFRDA to allow Government subscribers to change the Pension Funds or investment pattern in respect of the accumulated corpus, in one go. Therefore, for the present, change in the Pension Funds or investment pattern may be allowed in respect of incremental flows only.

(ix) **Transfer of legacy corpus in a reasonable time frame:** PFRDA may draw up a scheme for transfer of accumulated corpus as per new choices of Government subscribers in a reasonable time frame of say five years. Once PFRDA draws up this scheme, change in the Pension Funds or investment pattern may be allowed in respect of the accumulated corpus in accordance with that scheme.

COMPENSATION FOR NON-DEPOSIT OR DELAYED DEPOSIT OF CONTRIBUTIONS DURING 2004-2012:

(x) In all cases, where the NPS contributions were deducted from the salary of the Government employee but the amount was not remitted to CRA system or was remitted late, the amount may be credited to the NPS account of the employee along with interest for the period from the date on which the deductions were made till the date the amount was credited to the NPS account of the employee, as per the rates applicable to GPF from time to time, compounded annually.

(xi) In all cases where the NPS contributions were not deducted from the salary of the Government employee for any period during 2004-2012, the employee may be given an option to deposit the amount of employee contribution now. In case he opts to deposit the contributions now, the amount may be deposited in one lump sum or in monthly installments. The amount of installment may be deducted from the salary of the Government employee and deposited in his NPS account. The same may qualify for tax concessions under the Income Tax Act as applicable to the mandatory contributions of the employee.

(xii) In all cases where the Government contributions were not remitted to CRA system or were remitted late (irrespective whether the employee contributions were deducted or not), the amount of Government contributions may be credited to the NPS account of the employee along with interest for the period from the date on which the Government contributions were due till the date the amount is actually credited to the NPS account of the employee, as per the rates applicable to GPF from time to time. Instructions to this effect may be issued by the Department of Expenditure/ Controller General of Accounts. All such cases of delay may be resolved within a period of three months.

2. The above provisions shall come into force with effect from 1st April, 2019.

MADNESH KUMAR MISHRA, Jt. Secy.

Note : The main notification was published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-I, Section 1, *vide* notification No. 5/7/2003-PR dated the 22nd December, 2003.

**ALOK
KUMAR**

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