

# The Jute Corporation of India Ltd. Contributory Provident Fund

Regd. Office: 15N Nellie Sengupta Sarani, Kolkata – 700 087

No. PERS/EPS-95/2023-24

Dated: 13.04.2023

## CIRCULAR

**Sub: Submission of Joint Option by eligible employees/ ex-employees in pursuance of the Hon'ble Supreme Court's order dated 04.11.2022**

1. This has reference to the Hon'ble Supreme Court Order under reference; circular issued by EPFO dated 20.02.2023 and our circular dated 20.01.2023 on the subject.
2. EPFO vide its Circular no. Pension/2022/56259/16541 dated 20.02.2023 has enabled the URL on its website for exercising joint option for higher pension for employees who were members prior to 01.09.2014 and continue to be members on or after 01.09.2014.
3. As per the modalities indicated in the above EPFO circular, the following documents are required to be uploaded while submitting the joint option through EPFO website:
  - a) Permission required under clause 26(6) of EPS 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. The following procedure to be followed and documents are to be uploaded for submitting the joint option.

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Details displayed in the online joint option link provided by EPFO	Action by the Retired employee	Action by the employees on the rolls
<b>Disclaimer:</b> I have gone through Supreme Court Judgement dated 04.11.2022 in SLP (C) No.8658-8659 of 2019 and I am registering this joint option in terms of directions contained in the said judgement. I undertake that the pension will be calculated subject to formula determined under the Scheme for this purpose.	Put tick mark	Put tick mark
<b>UAN Details</b>	Details will be displayed by the system	
<b>Service Details</b>	Details will be displayed by the system	
<b>Member Details</b>	Provide Email id, Aadhaar linked bank account number & IFSC code	
<b>Joint Option &amp; Contribution Details</b>		
Whether Employer's contribution was received on wages exceeding statutory wage ceiling of Rs.5,000/- in EPF prior to 01.06.2001 from the day his salary exceeded Rs.5000 (applicable only if date of joining is prior to 01.06.2001) <b>"Only PDF file of size 250 KB is allowed."</b>	'Select 'Yes' if date of joining under EPS is before 01.06.2001 and attach Annexure-1 <b>after duly signed by the member</b>	'Select 'Yes' if date of joining under EPS is before 1.06.2001 and attach Annexure-1 <b>after duly signed by the member</b>
	'Select 'No' if date of joining under EPS is on or after 01.06.2001	'Select 'No' if date of joining under EPS is on or after 01.06.2001
Whether Employer's contribution was received on wages exceeding statutory wage ceiling of Rs.6,500/- in EPF prior to 01.09.2014 from the day his salary exceeded Rs.6500 (applicable only if date of exit is on or after 01.06.2001) .. <b>Only PDF file of size 250 KB is allowed.</b>	Select 'Yes' and attach Annexure - 1	Select 'Yes' and attach Annexure - 1
Whether member wants to use accumulation available in his / her PF account for payment of due contribution for this option?	Choose 'No'	Choose 'Yes'
How much is the PF account balance on the date of filing option	NA	Enter PF account balance amount (Sum of Closing Balance of both employer and employee contribution as per PF statement 2022-23) in PF account statement.
Please upload relevant documentary proof such as Account Slip / pages of the Passbook etc. " <b>Only PDF file of size 250 KB is allowed.</b>	NA	Attach the individual PF Accounts statements
Whether member is giving undertaking to deposit the contributions along with interest due till date of payment through his last employer (only if when PF account has no/ insufficient balance)?	Select 'Yes' and attach undertaking as per Annexure-II	Select 'Yes' and attach undertaking as per Annexure-II
<b>Save as Draft :</b> This option to be selected only if the joint option is not finalized by the retirees or employee and final submission yet to be decided)		
<b>Please Note :</b> 1. No correction is possible after submitting the application. 2. Joint option application submitted without relevant data and annexures mentioned above shall be rejected. 3. Application can be submitted only once and if rejected, further submission is not possible as at present. Hence the members have to take utmost care while submitting online application.		
<b>Submit Application</b> (Final submission after entering correct details) <b>{Members are requested to keep the Acknowledgement Number for future reference}.</b>		

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5. It may be noted that JCI has submitted physical Joint Option Forms received from the members, to the EPFO, RO – Park Street. However, EPFO has directed that all eligible EPS members are to submit Joint Option through the online link and the hard copies of Joint Option are not being considered.

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

<https://unifiedportal-mem.epfindia.gov.in/memberInterfacePohw/>

6. As per EPFO website, the last date for exercising the joint option has been extended up to 03/05/2023. However, upon exercising the joint option for availing pension on higher wages by eligible EPS 95 members, JCI has to verify and validate details in respect of each opting member. Considering the quantum of work involved at JCI's end as well as the anticipated heavy load on EPFO website/URL, this exercise would require considerable time. Hence it is requested that all eligible employees on regular rolls and those who have superannuated/separated, should exercise their Joint Option online on or before 21/04/2023, in order to enable JCI to complete the submission process to EPFO well within the last date notified by EPFO for submission of joint option ie, 03/05/2023.
7. Interested and eligible members are advised to strictly follow the EPFO guidelines while submitting online joint option and are requested to submit the same preferably by 21.04.2023. Members may please note that mere submission of joint option doesn't confer any right to higher pension and the same is subject to final decision of EPFO authority.
8. Further details with regard to directions/guidelines on EPS-95 will be made available on JCI website from time to time. All members are advised to keep themselves updated on any further instructions being issued by EPFO in this regard. For any queries/help, members can contact the officers of the HO CPF / RO/RLD

This issues with the approval of Competent Authority.



( Santanu Chakraborty )  
Secretary BoT / Chief Manager (F),JCI

Copy to : Chairman BoT/ CMD,JCI

Director (Finance), JCI

Notice Board

Website of JCI

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**Annexure- 1**

**Certificate in lieu of permission under Para 26(6) of the EPF Scheme, 1952**

This certificate is being issued to the employees/ ex-employees of The Jute Corporation of India Limited, as per the requirement mandated vide EPFO Circular No. Pension/2022/56259/16541 dated 20<sup>th</sup> February, 2023 for online submission of Joint Option through EPFO website.

As per para 6 (Vii) of this circular, employees are required to attach permission under para 26(6) of EPF scheme for remittance of employers EPF contribution exceeding the statutory wage ceiling of Rs. 5000/-, Rs. 6500/-.

JCI CPF Trust, is an exempted Provident Fund Trust under EPF Act 1952 and the rules of JCI CPF Trust is duly approved by the EPFO vide No. R-Ex 14467/WB/521, dated 17.05.1975.

We hereby certify that the employees / ex- employees of JCI, are/were members of the JCI CPF Trust, an exempted Provident Fund Trust under the Employees' Provident Fund Scheme, 1952.

As per the approved rules of the JCI CPF Trust, employer and employee have been contributing 12% to Provident Fund on full / actual wages / salary ever since the employee becoming a member of the Fund. It is further certified that inspection charges are being paid on actual wages and accounts of JCI CPF Trust are being audited by EPFO, from time to time.

JCI's employees are, therefore, fulfilling criteria stipulated in EPFO circular dated 20.02.2023 and are eligible for exercising option for higher pension. This certificate is being submitted as a proof of remittance of employer's share in Provident Fund on higher wages exceeding the prevalent wage ceiling and proof of joint option under Para 26(6) of Employees' Provident Fund Scheme, 1952 to enable the members to submit their option for higher pension.

**For & on behalf of JCI CPF Trust**

  
( Santanu Chakraborty )  
( Secretary BoT )



UNDERTAKING

To,  
The Jute Corporation of India Limited,  
and  
The Jute Corporation of India Ltd. Contributory Provident Fund,  
BOTH at 15N Nellie Sengupta Sarani, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor,  
Kolkata – 700087.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, [Son/Daughter/Wife] of \_\_\_\_\_, presently residing at \_\_\_\_\_, and [retired from / currently working in] The Jute Corporation of India Limited as \_\_\_\_\_ hereby declare and undertake as follows:

1. I have read and understood the terms of Employees Pension Scheme, 1995 ('Pension Scheme') as amended from time to time including as it was before the amendment of 2014.
2. I am aware of the Supreme Court judgment dated 04.11.2022 (in SLP (C) Nos. 8658-8659 of 2019)
3. Pursuant to the aforesaid judgment dated 04.11.2022 and Employee Provident Fund Organisation circulars/orders/notifications etc., I have exercised the joint option under para 11(3) and 11(4) of the Pension Scheme.
4. I agree and acknowledge that I will not be able to withdraw or modify my option once exercised, unless otherwise permitted by the Employees Provident Fund Organization or the applicable law, and I will be bound by the terms of the Pension Scheme as may be notified or modified or communicated by the Employees Provident Fund Organisation from time to time.
5. I undertake and agree to make payment of the due contribution along with interest up to the date of payment with JCI CPF Trust for deposit with the Employees Provident Fund Organisation in terms of the Pension Scheme and any clarifications/ notifications/circulars/orders in relation thereto, including any further payments as may be required, upon demand from EPFO or JCI CPF Trust or JCI without any delay or demur.
6. In case, where JCI is required to make any payment on my behalf to EPFO owing to failure on my part to contribute the amount pursuant to joint option exercised by me under para 11(3) & 11(4) of the Pension Scheme, I hereby permit JCI and/or JCI CPF Trust to recover any due payments to the Employee Provident Fund Organisation in relation to the Pension Scheme from any dues to me from JCI.
7. I will not hold JCI or JCI CPF Trust responsible or liable in any manner whatsoever for any act, commission or omission on the part of JCI or JCI CPF Trust in relation to my exercise of joint option under the Pension Scheme.
8. I agree that JCI CPF Trust and/or JCI shall be entitled to initiate appropriate proceedings for recovery of any amount due in relation to aforesaid.

Signature

Name of [Employee/Retired Employee]

Employee PF No.

Address

Mobile No.

UAN No

EPS No.

PPO No