



BHARAT SANCHAR NIGAM LIMITED

(A Government of India Enterprise)

Office of the Chief General Manager,
Kerala Telecom Circle, Trivandrum-695 033.

To

The DGM(Finance)/IFA,
All BAs in Kerala Circle.

No.BSNL/KRL/ERP-CSC(EPF)/4-1/2017-18/Volumell/8

dated at TVM 19/10/2017

Sub: Allowing members of Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995 the benefit of actual salary in the Pension Fund exceeding wage limit in accordance with Hon'ble Supreme Court's order in SSLP No. 33032-33033 of 2015.

Ref: 1. BSNL CO New Delhi Ir No.500-85/CA II/BSNL/EPF/2013/VOL.VI dt. 30/03/2017
2. EPF Head Office, ND Ir.No.Pension-I/12/33/EPF Amendment/96/Vol.II
dt.23/03/17

Kindly refer to the letter at Sl.1 above received from CO New Delhi regarding higher pension under 11(3) of the EPS 1995 wherein it has been instructed to initiate the process of choosing the option of higher pension in consultation with EPF office. Accordingly, this office has written to the RPF Commissioner 1, Thiruvananthapuram to supply a specimen copy of the option form for initiating the process of calling for option. It was replied by them that as the proviso to Para 11(3) of the EPF scheme which allowed members to contribute to the pension fund on higher wages above the earlier ceiling of Rs.6500/- has been deleted w.e.f. 1.9.2014 vide notification No.GSR 609 (E) dated 22.8.2014, no fresh option can be exercised for contributing to the EPS on higher wages. Hence, the case has been referred to BSNL Corporate Office New Delhi for which clarification is still awaited.

Pending clarification from Corporate office, it is decided to collect the option form from the employees in order to keep it ready and to avoid further delay on the matter. Copy of option form is enclosed as annexure-1. It is requested to obtain the option from all the members of EPS Scheme, 1995 who had contributed on higher wages exceeding the statutory wage ceiling of Rs.6500/- to the Provident Fund, to divert 8.33% of the salary exceeding Rs.6500/- with up-to-date interest to the Pension fund to get the benefit of pension on higher salary. A copy of the application under para 26(6) of EPF & MP Act 1952 already obtained from the EPF subscribers for contributing higher amount based on the wages exceeding Rs.6500/- also may be sent to this office for reference and record.

The collected option forms (in duplicate) may kindly be submitted to this office before 15th November 2017. The same will be submitted to EPF Authorities on receipt of further instruction from corporate office.


Dy. General Manager (ERP&CSC)