

CORPORATE ACCOUNTS SECTION,
Bharat Sanchar Bhawan, 1st
Floor Harish Chandra Mathur
Lane, Janpath NEW DELHI -
110001.
TEL: 23734106, 23734107(fax)



भारत संचार निगम लिमिटेड
(भारत सरकार का उपक्रम)
BHARAT SANCHAR NIGAM LIMITED
(A Govt. of India Enterprise)

No-BSNLCO-CA/30/2022-CA-ERP-FICO

Dated-10.03.2023

To,
Central Provident Fund Commissioner (Pension) EPFO,
Head Office, Ministry of Labor & Employment,
Bhavishya Nidhi Bhawan, 14 Bhikaji Cama Place,
New Delhi-110066.

Sub: Request for considering payment of PF contribution on higher wages alongwith Administration charges by BSNL and its employees as deemed submission of Joint Option under para 26(6) for exercising option for higher pension in pursuant to your office Circular No. Pension/2022/54877/15149 dated-20.02.2023- Reg.

Ref- EPFO Circular No. Pension/2022/54877/15149 dated-20.02.2023 regarding Instructions in compliance of orders contained in PARA 44 (iii) & (iv) read with Para (v) of Hon'ble Supreme Court Judgment dated 04.11.2022 in the matter of Special Leave Petition (C) Nos. 8658-8659 of 2019.

In connection with the EPFO's letter referred above, vide clause 6 (vii) it has been provided that-

"Aforesaid joint option must contain the proof of remittance of employer's share in Provident Fund on higher wages exceeding the prevalent wage ceiling of Rs. 5000/6500 and proof of Joint Option under Para 26(6) of EPF scheme duly verified by the employer."

As per latest information available on EPFO website, the option for higher pension is to be exercised by using the link available on the website and wherein joint option under para 26(6) of EPF Scheme is to be mandatorily uploaded.

In this regard, we would like to submit that:

- Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd (BSNL) is a regular/ non-exempted establishment in terms of provisions of The Employees Provident Fund Act and pension scheme rules thereof.
- BSNL is a Govt. of India Enterprise and has been depositing the Employee share on actual pay (12% of Basic and DA) and Employer share on actual pay (12% of Basic and DA) along with Administration charges as applicable from time to time since beginning for all its Employees across the Country.

Regd. & Corporate Office: Bharat Sanchar Bhawan, H.C. Mathur Lane, Janpath, New Delhi-110001
Corporate Identity Number (CIN): U74899DL2000GOI107739 Website: www.bsnl.co.in

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10/3/2023

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- EPFO has also been accepting the contribution remitted by BSNL over and above the prevalent wage ceiling of Rs. 5000/6500/15000 since beginning for all the employees across the Country.
- BSNL has also been filing regular returns on the basis of actual pay (exceeding the wage limit of Rs. 5000/6500/15000) along with Administration charges as applicable from time to time and the same were/are being duly acknowledged by the respective offices of EPFO across the Country.
- BSNL and its Employees have contributed under the EPF Scheme, 1952 on actual wages (Basic + DA) higher than the statutory wage limit (Rs.5000/ 6500/15000) and the EPF account of the concerned employee has been updated by the EPFO on the basis of such contribution received. Thus, the actions of the employee, employer and EPFO, imply deemed exercise of joint option and acceptance of the same by the respective RPF in terms of para 26(6) of the EPF Scheme 1952 .

It is therefore requested to kindly acknowledge the above position of deemed exercise of the joint option and acceptance under para 26(6) of EPF Scheme by BSNL as Employer, its employees and the RPFs of EPFO while exercising the option for higher pension in pursuance of your office Circular No. Pension/2022/54877/15149 dated-20.02.2023.

Kindly acknowledge the above at an early date.

Yours sincerely
For and on behalf of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.


10/3/2023
Surajit Mandol
Sr. GM (CA)

Copy to:

1. Director(F)/ Director(HR), BSNL CO New Delhi.
2. PGM(Estt.)/PGM(SR)/GM(EF)/GM(PERS), BSNL CO New Delhi.
3. The Regional Provident Fund Commissioner, Bhavishya Nidhi Bhawan, 28 Community Centre, Wazirpur Industrial Area, New Delhi-110052.
4. CGMs of BSNL Circles, for wide circulation amongst employees of BSNL who were members EPF & EPS prior to 01.09.2014 and continue to be a member on or after 1.09.2014

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