



SOUTH BENGAL STATE TRANSPORT CORPORATION

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(A Government of West Bengal Undertaking)

CIRCULAR

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Sub: Online Submission of 'Joint Option Form' under Para 11 (3) and Para 11(4) of Employees Pension Scheme, 1995 as per direction of Hon'ble Supreme Court Judgement dated 04th November, 2022.

1. South Bengal State Transport Corporation (SBSTC) has approached EPFO vide letter no. 1771/SBSTC/23 dated 01.02.2023 seeking guidelines for submission of Joint Option Form for exercising the pension on higher wages under EPS'95 in terms of the Judgement dated 04th November, 2022 of Hon'ble Supreme Court. As said guidelines from EPFO for submission of Joint Option Form for exercising the pension on higher wages under EPS'95 was not provided at that time, to adhere the time limit for submission of joint option form as per Judgement dated 04.11.2022, we issued the Circular No. 1835(40)/SBSTC/2023 dated 10/02/2023, as a measure of preparedness for the interest of employees/ex-employees of SBSTC.

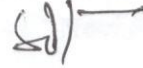
2. Accordingly duly filed up & signed hard copies of joint option form, as received, as per Circular No. 1835(40)/SBSTC/2023 dated 10/02/2023, with endorsement of the employer has been sent to the office of RPF, Durgapur, but, they refused to receive the same, in physical form. Therefore, finding no other option, we had sent it through courier (DTDC) on various dates 24/02/2023, 27/02/2023, 28/02/2023, 01/03/2023 & 02/03/2023 to them. Out of the above, they only received our submission of dated on 24/02/2023 & 27/02/2023 through Courier DTDC but refused to receive other submission dated 28/02/2023, 01/03/2023 & 02/03/2023 from the courier DTDC, and the said courier returned those forms to our office undelivered.

3. Meanwhile, EPFO, Head Office, New Delhi vide their Circular No. Pension/2022/56259/16541 dated 20/02/2023 provided the manner of submission of above joint option form **online** through their official web portal URL

4. Thus, as per EPFO guidelines, the above submission of physical joint option forms as per our circular no. 1835(40)/SBSTC/2023 dated 10/02/2023 will in no longer become effective to claim pension on higher wages under EPS'95 in terms of the Judgement dated 04th November, 2022 of Hon'ble Supreme Court

5. Therefore, all concerned are hereby informed to go through the guidelines and manner regarding submission of online joint option form as prescribed by the EPFO for implementing pension on higher wages under EPS'95 in terms of the Judgement dated 04th November, 2022 of Hon'ble Supreme Court and willing employees/ex-employees of SBSTC may exercise this option online as per guidelines of EPFO. Clarification, difficulties for such submission may be dealt with them. Any further update or clarification received by us from the EPFO in this regard will be shared in due course through official website of the Corporation (www.sbstc.co.in). All concerned are requested to visit and keep in touch with the website of the Corporation in a regular manner for this purpose.

Disclaimer: This circular is being issued for information to all concern reading present guideline(s) of EPFO for exercising online joint option on implementing pension on higher wages under EPS'95 in terms of the Judgement dated 04th November, 2022 of Hon'ble Supreme Court which subject to acceptability of EPFO authority. Therefore, the online joint option form submitted by eligible employees does not confer any right to receive or obligation upon South Bengal State Transport Corporation (SBSTC) to pay higher pension to them.



Managing Director,
South Bengal State Transport Corporation

Memo No **2037(40)**/SBSTC/23

Date: - **20/03/2023**

Copy forwarded for information and necessary action to:-

1) The C.A.O., SBSTC, 2) The Dy. M.D. (Tech.) 3) The Dy. M.D. (Op)(Officiating) & Division Manager, Durgapur, 4)The Divisional Manager, Belghoria Division, 5) The Divisional Manager (Acting), Jangal Mahal Division, 6) The Sr. Administrative Officer, 7) The Traffic Manager, 8) The W.I., Durgapur Divisional Workshop, 9) The Dy. C.O.S.P., 10) The P.R.O., 11) The M.O., 12) The Secretary, SBSTC C.P.F., 13-32) The Depot In-Charge, Durgapur / Asansol / Bankura / Burdwan / Suri / Rampurhat / BarnoParichay, Beharampur / Kalna / Arambag / Belghoria / Howrah / Haldia / Digha / Medinipur / Purulia / Jhargram / Falta / Khirpai / Manbazar / Bandwan Depot.- all Depot In-Charge(s) are requested to depute one or more personnel having knowledge on computer from his depot for this job to enable to complete the process within the time limit, 33-34) The In-Charge, EDP Section, Durgapur / Belghoria.,- he is requested to upload the circular in the official website of this Corporation immediately, 35-36) The In-Charge, S.B. Section, Durgapur / Belghoria, 37) The In-Charge, Pension Cell, SBSTC 38-40) Notice Board- Durgapur / Belghoria / JangalMahal Division.



Managing Director,
South Bengal State Transport Corporation

