GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 220 TO BE ANSWERED ON 01.12.2025

EPF PENSION ON HIGHER WAGES

220. SHRI N K PREMACHANDRAN:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a)whether the Government has initiated action to implement the judgment of Supreme Court in a time bound manner to fix and disburse Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) pension on higher wages, if so, the details thereof;
- (b)the details of the total number of applications received for pension on higher wages till date;
- (c)the details of the total number of applications in which higher pension was sanctioned till date;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to withdraw the pro-rata pension, if so the action taken thereon and if not the reason thereof;
- (e)whether the Government has considered the recommendations of High Empowered Monitoring Committee for the comprehensive revival of Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) pension scheme and if so, the details of action taken thereon; and
- (f)whether the Government proposes to increase the minimum pension of EPF, if so, the details thereof, and if not the reason thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SUSHRI SHOBHA KARANDLAJE)

(a) to (c): EPFO has taken action to implement the directions contained in Hon'ble Supreme Court Judgement dated 04.11.2022 in a time bound manner. An online facility was provided and a total 17.49 lakh Applications for Validation of Joint Options were successfully submitted by pensioners/ members till last date i.e. 11.07.2023 out of which around 15.24 lakh applications were

forwarded by employers to EPFO till last date i.e. 31.01.2025. As on 24.11.2025, nearly 99% of applications received in EPFO have been disposed of. A total of 4,27,308 Demand Letters have been issued, out of which 34,060 cases have been found ineligible later on mainly due to non-remittance of demand amount. Around 2,33,303 applicants have deposited the demand amount/ consent out of which 96,274 are continuing in service and 1,37,029 have already retired. Out of these already retired applicants, PPOs have been already been issued to a total of around 1,24,457 applicants while 12,572 PPOs are under finalization.

- (d): Pro-rata basis for calculation of pension is provided in Para 12 of the Employees' Pension Scheme and is equitable, treating both categories of pensioners i.e. pensioners under wage ceiling and those with higher wages on an equal footing and the Hon'ble Supreme Court also did not find the same ultra-vires.
- (e) to (f): The EPS, 1995 is a "Defined Contribution-Defined Benefit" Social Security Scheme. The corpus of the Employees' Pension Fund is made up of (i) contribution by the employer @ 8.33 per cent of wages; and (ii) contribution from Central Government through budgetary support @ 1.16 per cent of wages up to an amount of Rs.15,000/- per month. All benefits under the scheme are paid out of such accumulations. The fund is valued annually as mandated under paragraph 32 of the EPS, 1995 and as per the valuation of the fund as on 31.03.2019, there is an actuarial deficit. However, the Government is providing a minimum pension of Rs. 1000 per month to the pensioners under the EPS, 1995 by providing budgetary support, which is in addition to the budgetary support of 1.16 per cent of wages provided annually towards EPS to Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO). The Government of India is committed to ensure maximum benefits for workers under the EPS-95 scheme, duly taking into consideration the health of the respective funds as well as the future liabilities thereon.
