कर्मचारी भविष्य निधि संगठन

Employees' Provident Fund Organisation श्रम एवं रोजगार मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार

Ministry of Labour and Employment, Government of India मुख्य कार्यालय/Head Office

भविष्य निधि भवन, 14, भीकाजी कामा प्लेस, नई दिल्ली -११००६६

Bhavishya Nidhi Bhawan, 14, Bhikaji Cama Place, New Delhi -110066 Date: 2

No. Conf.3(2)/100thEC,CBT(EPF)/2021

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To,

All Members, Executive Committee, CBT (EPF).

Subject: Minutes of 100th meeting of the Executive Committee, CBT (EPF) held on 18.11.2021.

Madam/Sir,

I am directed to forward herewith the minutes of 100th meeting of the Executive Committee, CBT (EPF) held on 18.11.2021, duly approved by the Chairman of Executive Committee, CBT (EPF).

Yours faithfully,

(Pramod Singh)

Regional PF Commissioner-I(Conference)

Copy to:

- 1. PS to Secretary (L&E) & Chairman, EC, CBT(EPF), Ministry of Labour & Employment, New Delhi.
- 2. PS to Central Provident Fund Commissioner, Head Office, New Delhi.
- 3. Internal Circulation:- FA & CAO,CVO, All Addl. CPFCs (HQ), All ACCs EPFO Head Office, Director (PDNASS).
- 4. RPFC-I (NDC) with request to facilitate upload on EPFO's website.
- 5. Under Secretary (SS-II), Ministry of Labour & Employment, New Delhi.
- 6. Deputy Director (OL) for Hindi Version.
- 7. Guard File.

Regional PF Commissioner-I(Conference)

MINUTES OF THE 100TH MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, CBT (EPF) HELD ON 18TH NOVEMBER, 2021 AT 11 AM AT SHRAM SHAKTI BHAWAN

The 100th Meeting of the Executive Committee (EC), CBT (EPF) was held in hybrid mode & chaired by Shri Sunil Barthwal, Secretary to the Government of India, Ministry of Labour and Employment, New Delhi. List of attending members is at Annexure A.

CPFC welcomed the new Chairman and all other members to the landmark 100^{th} Meeting of the EC.

Chairman welcomed the members, and congratulated all on the occasion of 100th Meeting. He stated that EPFO has a rich history of consultation and discussions. He suggested that the EC should not discuss routine matters, but focus on matters of paramount importance. While appreciating the reduction in number of agendas he suggested that there is further scope of delegating the powers to CPFC or Addl. CPFC in-charge of Zonal Offices.

Chairman appreciated the work done by EPFO in recent years, especially during the pandemic. Stakeholders are recognizing the good services provided by EPFO, and EPFO is moving in the right direction.

Shri Sunkari Mallesham lauded the work done by EPFO in crediting the interest in Members' PF account. He also appreciated the information provided by CPFC in his monthly DO letter to CBT Members, and efforts made by the Organisation in KYC seeding of UAN especially in the unorganized sector.

Shri Dilip Bhattacharya informed that there are many coverable employees, who although eligible are not getting the due benefits and are deprived of the services provided by EPFO. Chairman stated that coverage is an issue of paramount importance and should be discussed in the EC and directed that there will be standing agenda on Coverage and related issues in the EC and directed that there will be standing agenda on Coverage and related issues in the EC.

Shri Sunkari Mallesham observed that there are some agenda items in CBT, which should be discussed in the EC first before being placed in the CBT. He suggested that there should be discussion on providing higher pension and medical facilities to pensioners of EPFO through ESIC or any other government agency. He observed about stagnation in Group B and C cadres even after Cadre Restructuring and raised issues relating to the dying cadres. He suggested constitution of a small committee to address these issues. He also stated that vacancies in various cadres may be immediately filled so that services to stakeholders are not affected.

Shri Govind Lele stated that although EPFO had facilitated employers during the COVID-19 pandemic by allowing extended time to make the payment of EPF dues, but similar relaxation is not being provided by the Income Tax Department, which is disallowing the IT exemption on EPF dues paid during the extended timelines. He suggested that the office memorandum issued on this subject by EPFO may be shared with the IT Department, and the matter may also be taken up with Ministry of Finance to resolve the issue.

Chairman while launching the online facility to employers for recording closure of business, congratulated EPFO for providing this voluntary facility to the employers, as this would not only facilitate employers but also help EPFO in updating their database and therefore reduce the compliance burden.

The Agenda Items were then taken up for discussion.

Item No. 1: Confirmation of minutes of the 99th meeting of the EC, CBT (EPF) held on 03.03.2021.

The proposal contained in the agenda was approved.

Item No. 2: Action Taken Statement in respect of decisions taken in the EC meetings held upto 03.03.2021 (99th EC Meeting).

While taking note of the Action Taken, it was directed by Chairman that the status of Double Entry Accounting System should be placed before EC in every meeting and for the current meeting it may be provided along with the minutes. He also advised early action on hiring agency/consultant for data analytics.

Item No. 3: Draft 68th Annual Report on the work and activities of the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation for the year 2020-21.

Shri Sunkari Mallesham suggested that Government schemes being implemented by EPFO can be reported in a separate chapter and details about Regional Committees should also be placed in the Annual Report.

Shri Dilip Bhattacharya stated that efforts may be made by EPFO to identify members in respect of unclaimed accounts. He also observed that defaulting exempted establishments list and action taken against defaulting establishments should be provided in the Annual Report.

Shri Govind Lele suggested that the Annual Report should only be provided in softcopy, only on demand hardcopy should be provided.

The proposal contained in the agenda was approved.

Item No. 4: Providing and Installation of Modular Furniture in under construction EPFO office building at Ranchi.

While discussing the agenda items pertaining to Physical Infrastructure Division, Chairman observed that a certain amount should be fixed below which the power may be delegated to CPFC. Further, a clause should be placed in the agreements with CPWD that items available in GEM Portal should only be purchased from GEM portal. Chairman directed that payment should be on actual basis, and a meeting of EPFO & DG (CPWD) should be convened to rationalize departmental charges and contingency charges as they appear to be on the higher side. Shri Govind Lele pointed out that there is no mention of GST in the estimate.

The proposal contained in the agenda was approved.

Item No. 5: Up-gradation and Special Repair works of staff quarters at RO, Shimla.

The proposal contained in the agenda was approved.

Item No. 6: Renewal of Lease agreement for Regional Office, Darjeeling.

Chairman reiterated that all out efforts should be made by EPFO to acquire own building and rental buildings should be phased out. If need be, land can be purchased outside the town. The available BSNL buildings may be explored for rental if land for construction is not available. Chairman directed that as a policy matter the rental proposal in future may only be processed for 03 years and the agenda item should detail the efforts made for acquiring own building.

The proposal contained in the agenda was approved.

Item No. 7: Renewal of rent of Regional Office, Patancheru

The proposal contained in the agenda was approved.

Item No. 8: Renewal of rent of Regional Office, Pune (Akurdi)

The proposal contained in the agenda was approved.

Item No. 9: Renewal of Lease agreement for Regional Office, Pune (Cantt)

The proposal contained in the agenda was approved.

Item No. 10: Misc. Civil/Electrical work at EPFO Office in BSNL premises at Sector 56, Gurugram: Providing and Installation of furniture and Misc. electrical work.

The proposal contained in the agenda was approved with the stipulation that "Make in India" policy and GEM procured guidelines are followed.

Item No. 11: Delegation of financial/administrative powers in case of retired employees of EPFO and/or their spouse/dependents in Head Office.

The proposal contained in the agenda was approved.

Item No.12: Continuation of Data Centre Services and Renewal of Agreement with M/s Railtel Corporation of India.

Chairman desired to know the steps taken to ensure quality of services being rendered by the agency. RPFC (NDC) apprised the committee that performance is being regularly monitored and payments are being made after deduction of penalty as enumerated in the penal clauses of the agreement.

The proposal contained in the agenda was approved.

Item No. 13: Creation of Sandbox Environment and Preparation of Architecture and Implementation Plan for the Common UAN Program for Organized and Unorganized Sectors by C-DAC.

Chairman observed that as of now EPFO is allotting Aadhaar based UAN to its contributory members and since 26th August 2021 e-shram is also allotting Aadhaar based UAN to the workers of unorganized sector. This agenda is for creating a common infrastructure for allotting Aadhaar verified Universal Account Number (UAN) to all workers of the country. This will help workers to get their rights as enumerated under Social Security Code and also realization of Government of India's goal of universalization of the social security.

All members of the Executive Committee appreciated the plan to allot Aadhaar seeded UAN to all the workers of the country. The Joint Secretary (Social Security) stated that this facility also facilitate the appropriate government in proper implementation of different labour schemes and designing of the project should envisage this aspect. Members observed that as data security is of the paramount importance, appropriate measures be taken for the purpose.

Chairman directed that a small committee chaired by CPFC may be constituted to oversee the project and ensure that the project is designed to fulfill the objective of Universal Social Security. The committee may have representatives from MoL&E, EPFO, ESIC, CLC, DGLW and State Government representatives from Haryana and Madhya Pradesh.

The proposal contained in the agenda was approved.

Item No. 14: Renewal of Essential Services i.e. MPLS-VPN Connectivity and Internet Leased Line (ILL) at Co-located Railtel Data Centres (Data Centre, Gurugram, Disaster Recovery Centre, Secunderabad, National Data Centre, EPFO, Dwarka, New Delhi and EPFO Field Offices through RailTel, BSNL & PGCIL.

Chairman stated that penal clauses must be stringent to compensate for public inconvenience due to service outage. RPFC (NDC) informed that stringent penal clauses are part of the agreement.

The proposal contained in the agenda was approved.

Item No. 15: Deployment and Management of Diagnostic and Performance Tools as 'Managed Service' by M/s Railtel Corporation of India Ltd. (A Govt. of India Category I – Mini Ratna – Enterprises under Ministry of Railways) as per the recommendation of M/s C-DAC, the Technical Consultant to the EPFO.

Chairman directed that the parameters for performance monitoring should be defined in the agreement which should be reviewed by EC.

The proposal contained in the agenda was approved subject to consultation with CERT-In & STQC. The expenditure that may be incurred for the CERT-In & STQC consultation was also approved.

Item No. 16: Proposal for Procurement of Additional Storage Hard Disks for Capacity Upgradation of the existing storage systems at DC, Gurugram and DR, Secunderabad.

The proposal contained in the agenda was approved.

The 100th Executive Committee Meeting was concluded with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

ANNEXURE A

<u>List of attending members at the 100th Meeting of Executive Committee, CBT(EPF)</u>

1.	Shri Sunil Barthwal, IAS	Chairman
	Secretary to the Government of India,	
	Ministry of Labour & Employment	
2.	Ms. Sibani Swain,	Central Government Representative
	Additional Secretary & Financial Advisor,	
	Ministry of Labour & Employment	
3.	Shri Ram Kumar Gupta,	
	Joint Secretary to the Government of India,	
	Ministry of Labour & Employment	
4.	Dr. Raja Sekhar Vundru	
	Additional Chief Secretary, Govt. of Haryana	State Government Representatives
5.	Shri Prem Prakash Singh (Virtually)	
	Principal Secretary (Labour), Govt. of Uttar	
	Pradesh, Labour & Employment Department	
6.	Shri Arun Chawla (Virtually)	Employers' Representatives
7.	Shri Sougata Roy Choudhury	
8.	Shri Govind Lele (Virtually)	
	Shri Sunkari Mallesham (Virtually)	
9.		Employees'
10	01 : 5::: 51	Representative
10.	Shri Dilip Bhattacharya (Virtually)	
11.	Shri Mukhmeet Singh Bhatia, IAS	CPFC & Member
		Secretary
		(Ex-Officio)

The following members could not attend the meeting:-

1. P	Principal Secretary (Labour), Govt. of	State Government
N	Maharashtra, Labour Department	representative