Internal Communications

Ref: TRF/HR/43/2023

Date – 28th February 2023

Addendum to Circular Dt. 21.02.2023 in respect of Employees' Pension Scheme-1995

This Addendum is with reference to Circular Dt. 21.02.2023 issued by the Company in respect of the judgment pronounced on 4th November 2022 (Judgment) by Hon'ble Supreme Court in respect of Employees' Pension Scheme-1995 (EPS).

Vide the above Circular Dt. 21.02.2023, the employees who wished to submit their 'Joint Declaration Option' (JDO) were advised by the Company to download pre-filled forms from their mail ids or collect it from their HODs, sign the form and submit it to Accounts Payroll Section either through mail or hard copy and other employees / ex-employees who have crossed 58 years of age and are availing EPS were advised to fill up the JDO off-line.

However, as a further development, it may be noted that EPFO has issued a Circular on 20.02.2023 and now the Company has received further credible information, from the EPFO, through CII, which is shared as per below:

i. EPFO is expected to issue another Circular in next few days, by which they will clarify all the aspects regarding the Joint Declaration option (JDO) for seeking higher pension.
ii. EPFO shall publish its URL and the employees / ex- employees shall be given time till 03rd May'23 to submit their JDO through the said URL.
iii. EPFO shall not accept any other JDO forms published by the establishments at their own levelor submitted by the employees / ex-employees independently, but they will accept the JDO Forms, submitted only through the URL published by the EPFO.

Therefore, in view of the above information received from the EPFO, it has now been decided by the Company to stop the current process of seeking 'Joint Declaration Option' (JDO) from the employees / ex-employees, in the pre-filled format as published by the Company vide its earlier Circular Dt. 21.02.2023, with immediate effect.

Further, all the employees / ex-employees who are interested to submit their JDO, are hereby advised to apply along with the requisite documentation only through the URL that will be mentioned in the EPFO circular expected to be published in next few days, in this regard.

It may be once again herein pointed out that submission of the JDO by employees/ex-employees does not cast any obligation on TRF towards any higher amount of pension payable to the applicant and they are advised to evaluate the benefit to the best of their own judgement and take an informed decision regarding the option to avail the enhanced pension.

(Anand Chand)
CFO

(Md. Rashid Jaffrey)
CHRO