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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 - 110066

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File No. IWU/7(14)2008/Singapore

Dated:

14 MAR 2017

To,

All Addl. CPFCs (Zones)

All Regional PF Commissioners in Charge of ROs and SROs

Subject : Special Provision In respect of International Workers-- Exemption granted under the Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement between the Republic of India and the Republic of Singapore (CECA-2005) to Singapore citizens working in India from contributing to social security schemes in India - Clarification regarding.

Under the provisions of Para 83 (1) read with substituted clause of Para 2(f)(ii) of the EPF Scheme 1952 in respect of International Workers, the term "Excluded Employee" has been explained with reference to the definition of International Worker, which reads as follows

Para 2 (f)(ii) :- " Excluded employee " means an "International Worker" is one who is contributing to a social security programme of his country of origin, either as a citizen or a resident, with whom India has entered into a bilateral comprehensive economic agreement containing clause on social security prior to 1st October 2008, which specifically exempts natural persons of either country to contribute to the social security fund of the host country".

The Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement between the Republic of India and the Republic of Singapore (CECA-2005) has been signed on 29.06.2005 and is effective from 1st August 2005,

However, it has been brought to the notice of Govt. of India, EPFO and Embassy of Singapore in India that the field offices of EPFO are not taking due cognizance of the provisions regarding the "excluded employees" as defined under Para 83 read with Para 2 (f) (ii) of the EPF Scheme, 1952.

It is hereby, reiterated, that the Singapore citizens working in India purely as temporary workers and who do not hold the status of permanent residents in India are to be treated as "Excluded employee" under the special provisions of Para 83 of the Employee's Provident Fund, Scheme 1952 as applicable to International Workers.

All field offices are, therefore advised not to insist on deduction of EPF and EPS contributions from salaries of Singapore citizens working purely as temporary workers in Establishments covered/coverable under the EPF & MP Act 1952 and who do not hold the status of permanent residents in India .

[This issues with the approval of CPFC]



(S.K. Thakur)

Additional Central Provident Fund Commissioner (IWU)

Copy for information and record to:-

1. Shri. R.K Gupta, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Labour & Employment Government of India.
2. Shri. Ali Raza Rizvi, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Commerce, Government of India.
3. Shri. Kashnan Dara, First Secretary (Economic High Commission of Singapore in New Delhi India.
4. Shri. Nagraj Naidu, Joint Secretary (ITP & ES) Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India.

**HIGH COMMISSION OF SINGAPORE IN NEW DELHI
CONSULAR BULLETIN MAY 2016**

Dear fellow Singaporeans,

1) Exemption for Singapore Citizens Contributing to India's EPF

Singapore Citizens working in India were previously required to contribute to India's Employees' Provident Fund (EPF). It has now been agreed that Singapore Citizens will now be exempted from this requirement.

As of 1 January 2016, Singapore Citizens will no longer have to contribute to the EPF. If you have previously contributed to the EPF, you will be allowed to withdraw your past contributions. However, this can only be done after your employment contract in India ends.

For Singapore Citizens who are working in India

If you are currently working in India and contributing to the EPF, you should apply to the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) for an exemption from contributing to the EPF. To do so, you must complete the EPFO's Provident Contribution Form and get it certified by a Certifying Authority of the Singapore Government. This can be done through the Ministry of Trade and Industry in Singapore or the Singapore High Commission in New Delhi or the Consulates in Mumbai and Chennai.

You will be able to withdraw your past contributions after your employment in India ends. Please go to http://epfindia.gov.in/site_en/Downloads.php?id=sm8_index#Claim_Form for the relevant forms and instructions on how to do so. You will need an Indian bank account to which EPFO can credit your past contributions.

For Singapore Citizens who are about to start working in India

If you are about to start working in India, you will not be required to contribute to India's EPF, if you submit the certified Provident Fund Contribution Form to the EPFO before you start. The same process of certification through the Ministry of Trade and Industry in Singapore or the Singapore High Commission in New Delhi or the Consulates in Mumbai and Chennai applies.

For Singapore Citizens who have left India

For those who may have worked in India and contributed to the EPF, but have since left without being allowed to withdraw your contributions. If you still have an Indian bank account, you will now be able to withdraw your contributions. Please go to http://epfindia.gov.in/site_en/Downloads.php?id=sm8_index#Claim_Form for the relevant forms and instructions on how to do so.

For more details on EPF withdrawal procedures, please refer to following link:

<https://www.mti.gov.sg/MTIInsights/Pages/Comprehensive-Economic-Cooperation-Agreement--EPF-Exemption0404-7686.aspx>

2) Registration of Minors

An overseas-born minor (child) may be eligible for Singapore Citizenship by Descent under Article 122(1) of the Constitution of the Republic of Singapore. The application has to be submitted within one year of the child's birth. Otherwise, a letter of explanation and additional documents are required for the late submission.

You may apply either online at <https://esc.ica.gov.sg/esc> or at the Singapore High Commission or the nearest Consulate in person.

For more information, please refer to the following link:

<http://www.ica.gov.sg/page.aspx?pageid=132>

3) Registration with the High Commission

We would like to take this opportunity to encourage all overseas Singaporeans to e-register with the High Commission at <https://eregister.mfa.gov.sg>. This will help enable us to contact and render necessary assistance in the event of an emergency or any crisis situation. You may wish to advise other Singaporeans to e-Register if they have not already done so. Should you require any assistance, please feel free to contact us directly at the following numbers:

Mr Mejar Singh Gill
Counsellor (Admin & Consular)
Mobile No: 97172 69911

Mr Khairulanwar Rahmat
Attache (Admin & Consular)
Mobile No: 88264 22118