



EMPLOYEES' PROVIDENT FUND OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION
EMPLOYEES' PROVIDENT FUND ORGANISATION
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT, GOVT. OF INDIA
Regional Office, Sham Nagar, Near General Bus Stand, Ludhiana – 141001 (Punjab)

(Regn. No. 33/2015)

Phone: 0161-2440559, 9655565892

Fax: 0161-2402206

WhatsApp: EPF Officers' Association (9655565892)

PAN: AAAAE7689J

Email: epfooa@gmail.com

Web: www.epfoa.in

Facebook: Epfoa India

Twitter: @epfoaindia

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Regional PF Commissioner-I

WORKING PRESIDENT

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Regional PF Commissioner –I

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Smt. Ritu Kanojia

Assistant PF

Commissioner

April 7th 2025

To,

**Shri Ramesh Krishnamurthy, IRS,
Central P.F. Commissioner,
Employees' Provident Fund Organisation,
NEW DELHI 110023**

Subject: Stagnation of lease amount of residential accommodation of officers - Discontinuation of 2 months' salary advance on transfer - providing hired accommodation by CBT –regarding

Sir,

The EPF Officers' Association sincerely thanks you for issuing timely annual general transfer (AGT) orders for EPFO officers (and staff) on March 27, 2025. The timely issuance before March 31 allows everyone to plan their personal lives, including children's education. Additionally, the orders follow a new, more humane transfer policy.

2. These transfers would necessarily result in relocation of officers to their new duty stations. Residential accommodation is not available / not available in sufficient numbers at most of the EPFO locations. Officers have to individually scout for residential accommodation. We bring to your kind attention following facts requiring urgent and immediate action:

- i. EPF officers are allowed lease entitlements if official accommodation is not available. The extant instructions allow CPFC to revise the lease entitlements by 15% every three years. Orders for the next revision due since 1st March 2025 are yet to be issued. We request that the same may be issued immediately to facilitate acquisition of residential accommodation.
 - ii. To further facilitate relocation and to provide financial cushion for relocation costs related to children's education and residential accommodation, a **refundable advance equal to two months' pay & DA** were approved by the Executive Committee in December 2006. Without any reference to the Executive Committee, this has been discontinued since 2017 by erroneously considering it as advance of pay. EPF Headquarters had specifically clarified in 2008 that this facility is not advance pay but advance equal to two months pay (Basic + DA).
 - iii. As the officer have started joining their new duty stations, it is requested that the above two orders may be issued immediately to facilitate acquisition of decent residential accommodation and to meet associated costs on relocation, post transfers.
3. We also request that the lease entitlements be reviewed and revised to allow adequate amount for decent accommodation. Following is submitted for consideration:
- i. The leased accommodation is accommodation hired in the name of Central Board.
 - ii. The Employees' Provident Funds, Central Board Employee's (Allotment of Residencies) Rules, 1972 {Rule 3(m)} states that *"residence" means a residence hired or owned by the Central Board"*
 - iii. Officers' entitlement for residential accommodation is defined as per their respective pay grades.
 - iv. Lease entitlements may be revised to permit acquisition of entitled accommodation within 8 kms of their duty stations.
 - v. Lease entitlements thus would allow reimbursement of actual cost incurred for procuring a house and not be bound down by financial limits which get eroded over time.

- vi. The above exercise may be completed in a time bound manner and well before the next round of AGT.
4. We request that necessary orders for ensuring the same are issued urgently. We expect that the magnanimity and good faith as reflected in this round of AGT gets extended to above mentioned issues. We, on part of the officers' community assure you of continuing support and cooperation in all endeavours for taking EPFO forward.

Thanking you

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'A. Swami'.

[Saurabh Swami]
Secretary-General