

GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL CAPITAL TERRITORY OF DELHI
SERVICES DEPARTMENT (BRANCH IV), 5th Level, B-Wing
Delhi Secretariat, New Delhi.

F.10(62)/S-IV/Advice Cell/Shadow/DTTE/2023/478-482.

Dated: -17/04/2025

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: - Clarification regarding cut-off dates to process/approve such cases where the employees exercised one-time option to be covered under OPS in place of NPS in terms of DoPPW's O.M. dated 03.03.2023, however, final approval couldn't be accorded by the Competent Authority.

DoPPW, GoI in continuation of O.M. dated 17.02.2020, vide O.M. dated 03.03.2023 extended the coverage under Central Civil Pension Rules in place of New pension Scheme (NPS) in respect of all those government employees who have been appointed against a post or vacancy which was advertised/notified for recruitment/ appointment prior to notification for National Pension System i.e. 22.12.2003.

2. As per the OM dated 03.03.2023 the last date/ cut-off date for exercising one time option for coverage under CCS (Pension) Rules was 31.08.2023 and the necessary order for coverage under CCS Pension Rules was to be issued latest by 31.10.2023 which was later on extended till 31.11.2023.

3. However, various instances came to the notice of the competent authority wherein the concerned government employees exercised option for coverage under CCS Pension Rules within the stipulated time frame, however due to various administrative reasons/delays the matter couldn't be placed before the competent authority to accord approval for transition from NPS account to OPS account till 31.11.2023.

4. Consequently, in pursuance of directions of the competent authority the matter was examined in consultation with Finance Department, GNCTD and it was observed that with regard to non-finalization of a decision in respect of those government employees who exercised their one time option within the stipulated frame as laid out in OM dated 17.02.2020, DoPPW's OM dated 04.01.2022 inter alia stipulates as under:

"It has been come to notice that despite submission of options in the prescribed time limit by Government servants in terms of OM dated 17.02.2020 and 31.03.2021, some offices may not have decided these options in stipulated time schedule of these activities. Cut-off dates for Min/Depts for processing of cases were prescribed to ensure time bound disposal of cases and faster resolution of grievances of employees. These cut-off dates may not be taken as a reason to not to process an option given by the employee within due time."



5. The above said clarification was provided by DoPPW, GoI in respect of those government who exercised their one time option within the stipulated frame as laid out in OM dated 17.02.2020, but a final decision couldn't be taken before the cut-off date. However, it is apparent/evident that OM dated 03.03.2023 was issued by DoPPW in continuation of OM dated 17.02.2020 and no separate clarification has been issued regarding cut-off dates in reference to DoPPW's O.M. dated 03.03.2023. Thus the clarification regarding O.M. dated 17.02.2020 holds good in case of OM dated 03.03.2023 also.

6. Accordingly, the competent authority has approved the applicability of clarification dated 04.01.2022 in respect of DoPPW's OM dated 03.03.2023 also.

7. Therefore, all the departments under GNCTD are directed to process/finalize all such cases where the eligible government employee exercised the one time option within the stipulated time frame as provided in DoPPW'S O.M. dated 03.03.2023 strictly within a period of 06 months.

8. This issues with the approval of the competent authority.


(Bhairab Dutt)

DEPUTY SECRETARY (SERVICES)

To

All ACS/ Pr. Secy's/ Secretaries/ HoDs Govt. of NCT of Delhi.

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Copy for information to :-

1. PS to Principal Secretary to LG, Delhi
2. SO to Chief Secretary
3. PS to Pr. Secretary (Services), Govt. of NCT Delhi.
4. SO, Coordination Branch, Services Deptt. with the request to upload the same on the website of Services Department.


(Bhairab Dutt)

DEPUTY SECRETARY (SERVICES)