

आईटीआईलिमिटेड ITI Limited पंजीकृतएवंनिगमितकार्यालय Registered & Corporate Office आईटीआईभवन, दूरवाणीनगर, ITI Bhavan, Dooravaninagar बेंगलूरु Bengaluru -560 016

Corporate HR Policy Circular No. 618 Date: 30-03-2023

Sub: Online submission of Joint Option Form under para 11(3) and para 11(4) of EPS-95 pursuant to Hon'ble Supreme Court Judgement dated 04.11.2022.

- 1. This is reference to our Circular No. 611 and 613 dated 31.01.2023 and 09.02.2023 respectively w.r.t Joint Option form submission under para 11(3) and para 11(4) of EPS 95. It was informed that the eligible EPS-95 members need to apply to the concerned EPFO Regional Office in the form and manner to be specified by them.
- 2. EPFO has now enabled the URL and eligible EPS-95 members need to exercise their option for higher pension in the URL link provided by EPFO on their website.

Employees and Ex-employees can submit their Joint Option Form through the following link in EPFO website.

https://unifiedportal-em.epfindia.gov.in/memberInterfacePohw/member

The user manual w.r.t submission of Joint Option Form (JOF) on EPFO website is enclosed for ready reference.

- 3. In view of the above, it is informed that Employees / Ex-employees are not required to submit option form in physical form (hard copies). It is further informed that in view of EPFO circular for submission of joint option online, all the joint option forms submitted in physical forms has become NULL and VOID and no cognizance will be taken in respect to joint option forms submitted in physical form to ITI Limited. However, the Joint Declaration Form duly signed by the Employer-Employee will be made available to the optees through respective Units/MSPs by email/direct. This form along with the affidavit duly signed by the optee (Deponent) is to be uploaded as single file having size 250 KB.
- 4. EPFO has sought following documents to upload while submitting the Joint Option Form Online, on their website.

Huis

- 4.1 Permission Letter under para 26 (6) of EPFO Scheme (pdf file of size 250 KB is allowed). A Copy of compliance to the Para 26(6) of the EPF Scheme, 1952, is enclosed.
- 4.2 Documentary proof such as Account Slip/Pay slip etc. (pdf file of size 250 KB is allowed).
 - 4.2.1 For Ex-employees would put "No" option, as there is no Accumulation available in his/her PF Account on account of Settlement at the time of their Superannuation/Separation,
- 4.3 Undertaking from the members to deposit the contributions along with interest due till date of payment through his/her last Employer (pdf file of size 250 KB is allowed). The Undertaking/ Affidavit Format is enclosed, which is to be uploaded after executing in stamp paper of appropriate value and duly notarized.
- 5. Further, it is also submitted that members opting for "Joint Option Form" should carefully read the declarations / undertakings given by them, which are available whilst submitting Online Option Form and also subject to any further Circulars and clarifications as provided by EPFO, till closure date of Joint Option on EPFO site.
- 6. This Affidavit is being issued as a precautionary compliance only and this course of action is being pursued due to absence of any format of undertaking by EPFO. This undertaking and certificate in lieu of permission under Para 26(6) of the EPF Scheme is subject to acceptance by EPFO/RPFC and any Clarification(s) /guideline(s) /Circular(s) issued by EPFO from time to time, including refilling of the undertaking in the format as issued by EPFO or filling online form on the website of EPFO.
- 7. As per the EPFO website, the last date for exercising the joint option has been extended up to 03/05/2023. However, after exercising the joint option for availing pension on higher wages by eligible EPS95 members, Employer (ITI Ltd.) has to verify and validate details in respect of each opting member and considering the quantum of work involved at ITI Ltd.'s end as well as the anticipated heavy load on EPFO website/URL, this exercise would require considerable time. Hence, it is requested the On-roll Employees/ Superannuated/ Separated Employees (or) members, to submit their Joint Option Form on or before 20/04/2023, in order to complete the submission process through online to EPFO.

Alis

These instructions are subject to directions/instructions of EPFO and/ or decision of court of law (if any) issued from time to time in this regard.

Since the option to be executed within the stipulated time, all the units HR dept. is required to take immediate steps to complete the process.

This has the approval of the Competent Authority.

For compliance by all.

[Brig. Girish Suri (Retd.)] General Manager-HR

Enclosures:-

- 1. User Manual
- 2. Permission Certificate U/s 26(6)
- 3. Affidavit format

To:

- 1. All Unit Heads/ Unit HR Heads/Corporate Departmental Heads
- 2. All employees /ex-employees through website.

Copy to:

3. PS to CMD/DP/DH/DF/DM/CVO- for kind information

Detailed Steps for filling the Joint Option Application Forms Online for Higher Pension on Actual Salary for Employees Superannuated/ing on or after 01.09.2014

URL for Application for validation of joint option –

https://unifiedportal-mem.epfindia.gov.in/memberInterfacePohw/

On clicking the above URL, below page will appear.



EMPLOYEES' PROVIDENT FUND ORGANISATION, INDIA

MINISTRY OF LABOUR & EMPLOYMENT, GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

Unified Member Portal / Pension On Higher Wages

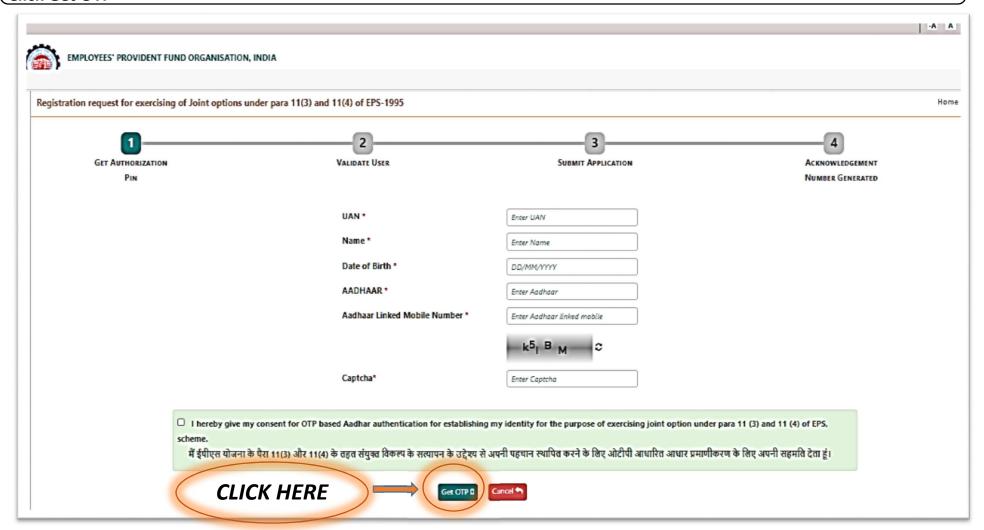
Exercise of joint option for the Employees who were in service prior to 01.09.2014 and continued to be in service on or after 01.09.2014 but could not exercise joint option under erstwhile proviso to para 11(3) of EPS-1995



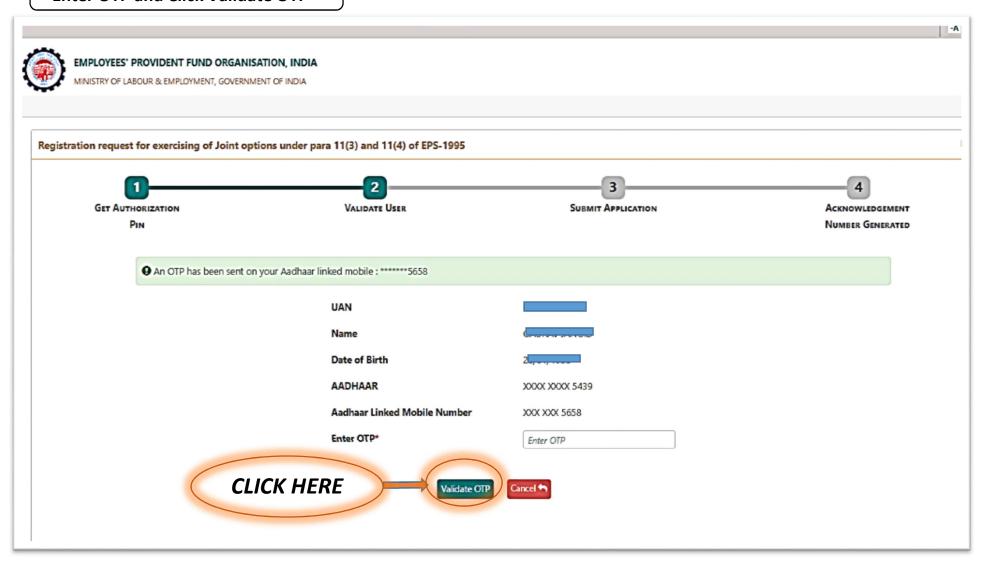
INSTRUCTIONS FOR UAN BASED

- 1 The following information being entered should be as per-EPFO records
 - 1. UAN of member
 - 2. Member's Aadhaar number, Name and Date of birth should be as available in EPFO records.
- Member should have a valid Aadhaar linked mobile number which is as per UIDAI records.

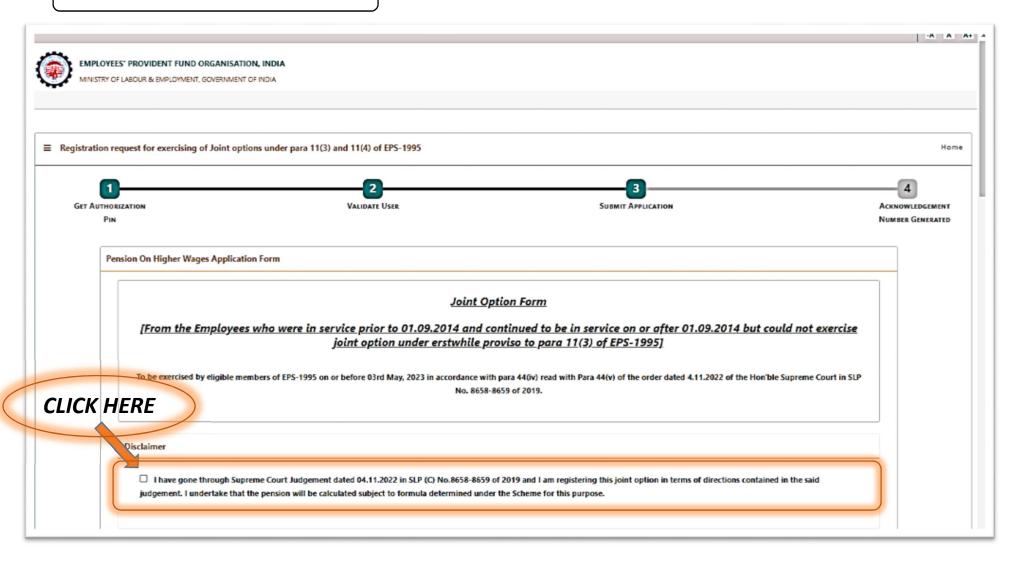
Put UAN, Name as per UAN/Aadhaar, Date of Birth as per UAN, Aadhaar Number, Mobile number Linked to Aadhaar, then Click Get OTP



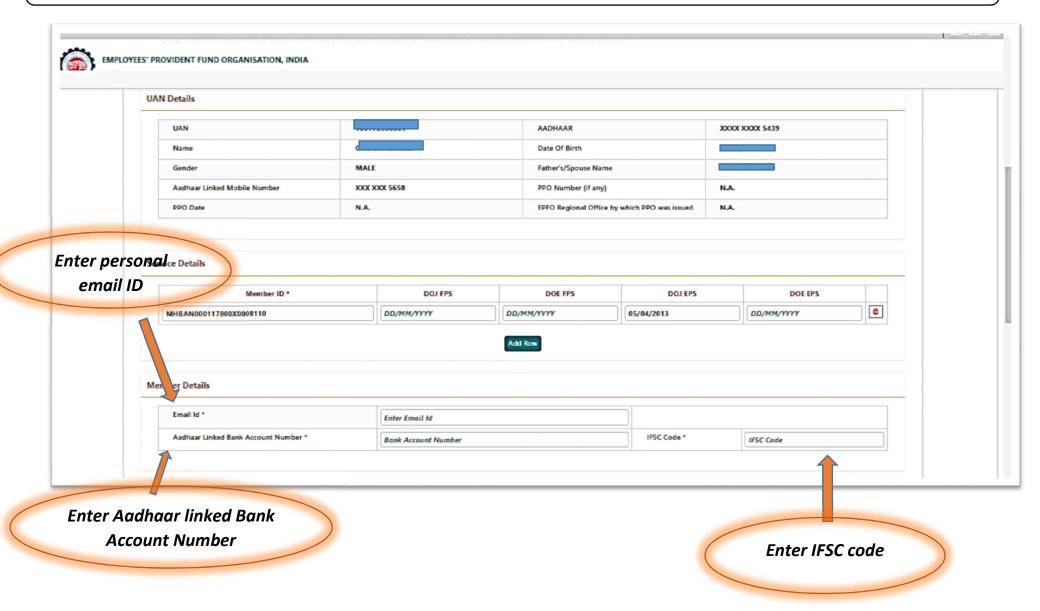
Enter OTP and Click Validate OTP -



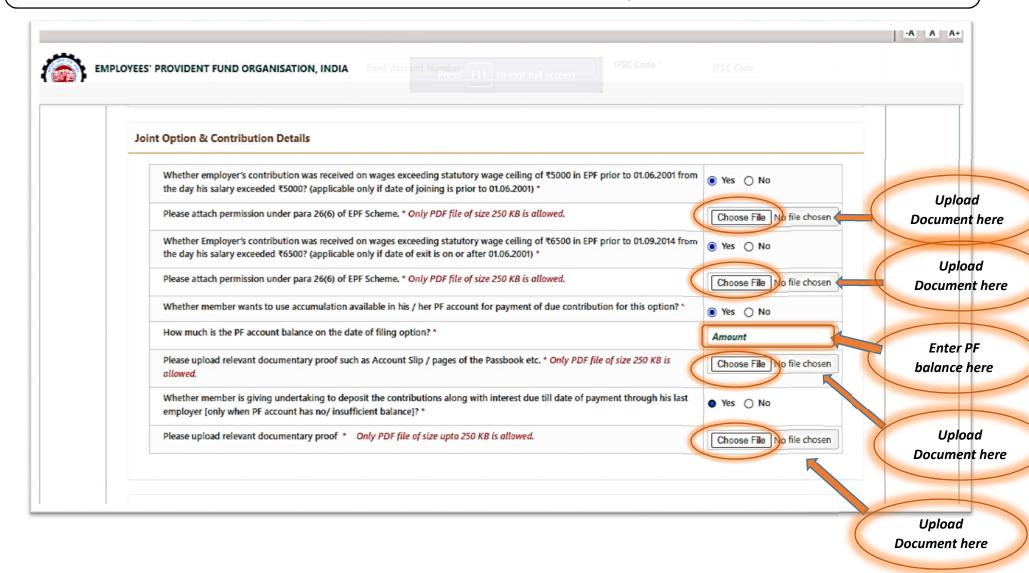
Tick the Check Box under Disclaimer -



Details will get auto Populated, optional details which are blank, if available with Employee can be also filled, put personal email ID & Aadhaar linked Bank Account Number and IFSC Code -



Click Yes in all the 4 options, put PF Balance. Upload 26(6) certificate in Point 1 & 2, Upload Latest 'PF passbook screenshot' in point 3, upload 'Standard undertaking to deposit the contribution in case of shortfall' in point 4. Only pdf files are allowed within 250kb size. (refer FAQ in Annexure II for more details on relevant documents which to be uploaded) -



General Declaration -



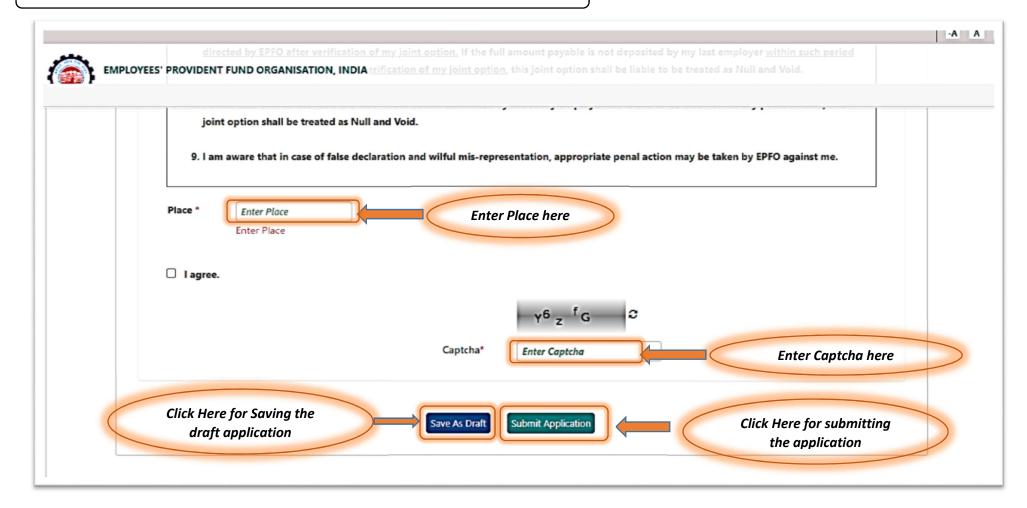
EMPLOYEES' PROVIDENT FUND ORGANISATION, INDIA



Declaration

- 1. I hereby declare that I have read and understood the Judgement in SLP (C) No.8658- 8659 of 2019 dated 04-11-2022 of the Hon'ble Supreme Court and I am exercising this joint option in terms of the directions contained in the said judgement.
- I understand and agree that as a member of the Employees' Pension Scheme, my rights to claim pension are limited to the scope of judgement and within the EPF & MP Act, 1952 and the Schemes framed thereunder.
- 3. I further understand that the Central Government is empowered to amend the scheme as it may deem fit.
- 4. I do hereby agree that the details of contribution and interest given by my employers are essential for the computation of dues payable for this application, and this is the full and final submission.
- 5. I hereby undertake that the service details in the above form are correct and no material fact has been misrepresented or hidden by me.
- 6. I hereby agree to pay due contribution in a single tranche as specified by EPFO, along with interest at rates declared under Para 60 of EPF Scheme 1952 or at the rate declared by the concerned trust of such establishment, from time to time, whichever is higher, if any.
- 7. I hereby jointly opt along with my employer to pay full amount of contribution on salary exceeding wage ceiling under erstwhile para 11(3) (since deleted) and Para 11(4) of EPS 95 along with interest up to the last date of the month in which payment is made, in accordance with the judgement dated 04.11.2022 of the Hon'ble Supreme Court through my last employer within such period as may be directed by EPFO after verification of my joint option. If the full amount payable is not deposited by my last employer within such period as may be directed by EPFO after verification of my joint option, this joint option shall be liable to be treated as Null and Void.
- 8. I undertake that all the facts are true. If the details submitted by me or my employer are found to be incorrect at any point of time, this inint option shall be treated as Null and Void

Enter Place & click I agree. Enter Captcha and click 'Submit application'



After submission, an Acknowledgement number will be generated. The application will be available in Employer login at EPFO portal for verification and approval/ rejection (if any). After approval the application will route to respective EPFO.

FAQ on higher pension of EPS-95 on Actual Salary

- 1.•Whether exercising the joint option for higher pension for employees superannuated on or after 01.09.2014 is UAN or PPO based?
- Application for Joint option is UAN based and not PPO based.
- 2.•Which fields have mandated checks as per EPFO records?
- UAN of the employee, employee Aadhaar number, employee name and Date of Birth should be as available in EPFO records. Further, employee should have a valid Aadhaar linked mobile number, which is as per UIDAI records, for validating the application on Aadhaar based OTP.
- 3.•What pension spouse/children is eligible to receive, if the employee dies while in service? When the employee dies while in service before superannuation under the EPS-95 scheme then Spouse will receive 100% of monthly member's pension and maximum 2 children up to the age of attaining 25 years will receive 25% of the monthly member's pension. There is no ROC option under EPS-95 Pension.
- 4.•What pension spouse/children is eligible to receive, if the employee dies after superannuating from EPS-95 scheme?
- When the employee dies after superannuating under the EPS-95 scheme then Spouse will receive
- 50% of monthly member's pension and maximum 2 children up to the age of attaining 25 years will receive 25% of the monthly member's pension. There is no ROC option under EPS-95 Pension.



आईटीआईलिमिटेड ITI Limited पंजीकृतएवंनिगमितकार्यालय Registered & Corporate Office आईटीआईभवन, दूरवाणीनगर, ITI Bhavan, Dooravaninagar बेंगलूरु Bengaluru -560 016

Permission Certificate in Lieu of Para 26(6) of the EPF Scheme, 1952

This certificate is being issued to the employees complying with the requirement mandated vide EPFO circular No. Pension/2022/56259/16541 dated 20th February, 2023 for online submission of Joint Option Form provided in EPFO website. As per clause 6 (vii) of this circular, employees are required to submit the proof of remittance of employer's share in Provident Fund on higher wages exceeding the prevalent wage ceiling of 5,000 /6,500 and 15,000 proof of joint option under Para 26(6) of EPF Scheme duly verified by the employer.

M/s ITI LTD, is an exempted establishment under para 27A of the Employee Provident Fund Scheme, 1952. ITI Ltd; has five Provident Fund Trusts located at Bengaluru(Karnataka), Mankapur(UP), Naini(UP), Palakkad(Kerala) and Rae Bareli(UP). Exemption under EPF Scheme to the ITI Ltd; at various locations have been granted by the EPFO Authorities at the respective locations including approval of the respective PF Trust Rules.

The establishment has been complying with the respective Trust Rules, and provident fund contribution of the members at 12% of actual wages have been deducted from their Wages / Salaries and credited to the member's individual PF account. Further, the Employer's contribution at 12% on actual wages / salaries also been credited to Provident Fund along with members contribution under Respective Rules of the Trust, by which, we have been complying with the Rule 26(6) of the Provident Fund Scheme, 1952.

As per the said Provident Fund Rule of the Trust, the permission has already been granted through the Provident Fund Rules of the Trust for contributing on actual wages/ salary. Under these circumstances, the provisions of para 26(6) of the EPF Scheme, 1952 have been complied with by the establishment.

Place: Bangalore Date: 30-03-2023

[Shashikant Pawar] Deputy General Manager-HR

शशिकांत प्वार / SHASHIKANT PAWAR
उप महाप्रबंधक – मा.सं., रा.भा.एवं जनसंपर्क
Dy. General Manager - HR, OL & PR
आईटीआई लिमिटेड / ITI Limited
पंजीकृत एवं निगमित कार्यालय/ Regd. & Corporate Office
आईटीआई भवन, दूरवाणीनगर/ITI Bhavan, Dooravaninagar,
बेंगलूरु / BENGALURU - 560 016

AFFIDAVIT

l,	<i>my</i> Emp. No	, UAN
PF Member ID		, PPC
Nosolemnly affirm and state as follows:	, worked / working in ITI	LTD do hereby

- That, I undertake to deposit the additional contributions along with interest due till the date of payment to my EPS Account has been maintained with RPFC through my employer (i.e, ITI LTD).
- 2) That, I also undertake that in case my corpus/balance in PF Account is insufficient to meet the aforesaid requirement, I am ready to pay the differential amount to RPFC thus making me eligible for drawing pension on the basis of actual salary / wages instead of on the salary I wages as per prevailing ceiling under the Act.
- 3) That, I understand that the above declaration is made to opt for higher pension on higher salary as per the Hon'ble Supreme Court Ruling dated 4th November 2022 with respect to the Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995.
- 4) That, I understand and agree that as a member of the Employees' Pension Scheme, my rights to claim pension are limited to the scope of judgement of the Supreme Court and within the EPF & MP Act, 1952 and the Schemes framed thereunder.
- 5) That, I do hereby agree that the details of contribution and interest given by my employer is essential for the computation of dues payable for this application, and this is the full and final submission.
- 6) That, I hereby agree to pay due contribution in a single stretch as specified by EPFO, along with interest at rates declared under Para 60 of EPF Scheme 1952 or at the rate declared by the concerned ITI LTD PF Trust (erstwhile), from time to time, whichever is higher, if any.
- 7) That, I hereby jointly opt along with my employer to pay full amount of contribution on salary exceeding wage ceiling under erstwhile para 11(3) (since deleted) and Para 11(4) of EPS 95 along with interest up to the last date of the month in which payment is made, in accordance with the judgement dated 04.11.2022 of the Hon'ble Supreme Court through my employer within such period as may be directed by EPFO after verification of my joint option. If the full amount payable is not deposited by me within such period as may be directed by EPFO after verification of my joint option, this joint option shall be liable to be treated as Null and Void.
- 8) That, the contents of this Affidavit are true and correct to my knowledge.

DEPONENT

VERIFICATION

I, the above named deponent do hereby verify that the facts stated in the above affidavit are true to my Knowledge. No part of the same is false and nothing material has been concealed there from.

DEPONENT