

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3573
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10.08.2026**

PENDING CLAIMS ON THE HIGHER PENSION OPTION UNDER EPFO

3573. SHRI M K RAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of number of pending claims under the higher pension option of the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) in the country, State/UT-wise, particularly in Kerala;**
- (b) the details of number of applications received, processed, approved and pending along with the reasons for the delay;**
- (c) whether any directions have been issued by the Government to Regional EPFO offices and employers to expedite verification and processing of pending applications and if so, the details thereof;**
- (d) whether the Government proposes to introduce a time-bound mechanism for disposal of pending cases and release of pension arrears; and**
- (e) the details of measures taken by the Government to simplify the higher pension process, resolve employer-related issues and ensure timely disbursement of enhanced pension benefits to eligible pensioners in the country, particularly in Kerala?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
(SUSHRI SHOBHA KARANDLAJE)**

(a) & (b): The zone-wise disposal details of the higher pension application of the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) are annexed at Annexure.

(c) to (e): EPFO has taken action to implement the directions contained in the Hon'ble Supreme Court Judgment dated 04.11.2022 in a time-bound manner. An online facility was provided and applications for validation of Joint Options processed in accordance with the applicable provisions.

Instructions were issued time to time to Regional Offices for timely disposal of Pension on Higher Wages. Regular VCs were also held with all Zonal and Regional Offices.

The Government remains committed to ensuring maximum benefits for workers under the EPS-2026 Scheme while taking into consideration the health of the Fund and the future liabilities thereon.

Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) & (b) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question no. 3573 for 10.08.2026.

Zone wise disposal details of the higher pension applications as on 05.08.2026

Zonal Office	Total No. of Applications Received in FO	Applications pending for disposal
ANDHRA PRADESH (VIJAYWADA)	56,799	115
BENGALURU (BENGALURU)	1,09,307	9
GUJARAT (AHMEDABAD)	96,889	45
HARYANA	31,738	4
RAJASTHAN	38,788	25
TAMIL NADU(EXCLUDING CHENNAI)	77,147	4
TELANGANA (HYDERABAD)	1,65,331	501
DELHI, UTTARAKHAND & JAMMU	95,419	1389
CHENNAI & PUDUCHERRY (CHENNAI)	72,044	631
MAHARASHTRA(EXCLUDING MUMBAI)(PUNE)	1,26,311	1380
MUMBAI-1 (BANDRA)	1,26,444	406
KARNATAKA (OTHER THAN BENGALURU) & GOA (HUBLI)	91,699	237
ORISSA (BHUBANESWAR)	49,234	1341
WB, A&N ISLANDS & SIKKIM (KOLKATA)	57,906	327
UTTAR PRADESH	65208	236
BIHAR & JHARKHAND(PATNA)	29,944	134
MUMBAI-2 (THANE)	28,987	148
MADHYA PRADESH & CHATTISGARH (BHOPAL)	67,605	392
NORTH-EASTERN REGION (GUWAHATI)	10,954	16
KERALA & LAKSHADWEEP (THIRUVANANTHAPURAM)	81,665	1,251
PUNJAB & HIMACHAL PRADESH	44,946	3,004
Grand Total	15,24,365	11,595
