Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) Exit from NPS for SG and SAB sector



Updated on: 30 August 2022

<u>DISCLAIMER</u>: For detailed provisions and regulations, please refer to the PFRDA (Exits and Withdrawals under the National Pension System) Regulations, 2015 and amendments thereof.

Q1	What is an exit?
	An exit is defined as the closure of the individual pension account of the subscriber under the
	National Pension System. In the following scenarios;
	(i). Upon attaining the age of superannuation;
	(ii). Before attaining the age of superannuation;
	(iii). Any time after attaining the age of superannuation till 75 years;
	(iv). Due to death or subscriber being declared missing by the employer; and
	(v). Due to invalidation or disability or premature retirement
Q2	What is the procedure to exit from NPS?
	A subscriber shall submit the exit or withdrawal application for the purpose of withdrawing
	the benefits upon exit as provided in the regulations, on or before the expected date of exit
	from the National Pension System (NPS) to the associated nodal office.
	In case of death or subscriber being declared missing by the employer, the nominee(s), family
	member(s) as specified under the service rules or legal heir(s) shall submit the claim
	settlement application along with the required documents to the associated nodal office of the
	deceased subscriber.
	Exit upon attaining the age of superannuation – Normal Exit
	अधिवर्षिता की आयु प्राप्त करने पर निकास – सामान्य निकास
Q3	What will be my benefits at exit?
	Annuitization – Minimum of 40% of accumulated pension wealth will be utilized for
	monthly annuity or pension.
	However, subscriber has the option to utilise more than 40% of accumulated pension wealth
	for purchase of annuity.
	Lumpsum – Remaining 60% of accumulated pension wealth shall be paid to the subscriber.
Q4	Can I defer my lump sum withdrawal?
	Yes, you can defer the withdrawal of the lump sum amount. Such deferment can be upto the
	age of seventy-five years.

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Q5	What will happen in case of death of subscriber during the period of deferment of lump sum
	withdrawal?
	In case of death of subscriber during the period of deferment, such deferred lump sum amount
	of the subscriber will be paid to nominee(s) or legal heir(s).
Q6	Can I defer the purchase of annuity?
	Yes, you can defer the purchase of annuity. Such deferment can be upto the age of seventy-
	five years.
Q7	Whether annuity can be purchased during the deferment period?
	Yes, the subscriber has an option to purchase an annuity at any point of time during the
	deferment period by submitting a request to NPS Trust or any intermediary or entity
	authorized by the Authority for this purpose.
Q8	What will happen to purchase of annuity in case of death of subscriber during deferment
	period?
	If death of the subscriber occurs before the due date of extended period of purchase of
	annuity, default annuity option shall be exercised.
Q9	Can I defer my both - lump sum and purchase of annuity?
	Yes, both lump sum and purchase of annuity can be deferred but the expenses, maintenance
	charges and fee payable under the NPS will continue to remain applicable.
Q10	What is the procedure to defer the lump sum withdrawal and/or purchase of annuity?
	The subscriber shall submit his/her written request for deferment of the lump sum and/or
	purchase of annuity, prior to fifteen days of attaining the age of superannuation, to CRA or
	NPS Trust.
Q11	Can I exit during the deferment period of lump sum and/or annuity?
	Yes, the subscriber can exit from the NPS at any point of time during the deferment period.
Q12	Can I completely withdraw my accumulated pension wealth without annuitization?
	Yes, if your accumulated pension wealth is equal to or less than a sum of five lakh rupees.
Q13	Will I get an annuity if I have completely withdrawn my accumulated pension wealth?
	No, the right of the subscriber to receive any pension or other amount under the NPS or from
	the government or employer, will extinguish.
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Q14	Can I continue to contribute to retirement account beyond the age of sixty years or the age of
	superannuation?
	Yes, the subscriber shall have the option to do so giving in writing upto which he/she would
	like to contribute to his/her individual pension account but not exceeding 75 years of age.
	In such cases, PRA shall require to be shifted from Government sector to All citizens
	including corporate sector and the expenses, maintenance charges and fee payable under the
	NPS shall continue to remain applicable.
Q15	What is the procedure to apply for continuation after attaining the age of superannuation?
	Such option shall be exercised at least fifteen days prior to the age of attaining sixty years or
	age of superannuation, by giving it in writing to CRA or NPS Trust.
Q16	What is the procedure in case of non-submission of written application for continuation at
	least fifteen days prior to the age of attaining sixty years or age of superannuation?
	Subscriber who has not exercised the option within the period of fifteen days but desires to
	continue with his/her individual pension account under NPS, beyond the age of sixty years
	or the age of superannuation, may do so by making an application in writing with reasons for
	such delay to the NPS Trust.
	The authorized officer of the NPS Trust, may condone such delay, if any, in exercise of such
	option by the subscriber, as he may deem fit.
Q17	Can I exit during the continuation/extended period?
-	Yes, the subscriber may exit at any point of time from NPS, by submitting a request to CRA
	or the NPS Trust.
Q18	If I continue my Tier - I of PRA even after retirement / superannuation, Can I avail the facility
	of deferment of lump sum and/or annuity during the extended period?
	No, upon exercise of the option of continuation after the superannuation, the options of
	deferment of benefits (lump sum and/or annuity) shall not be available.



Ex	it due to invalidation or disability or premature retirement as per applicable	
	service rules – Normal Exit	
लागू र	लागू सेवा नियमों के अनुसार निःशक्तता या विकलांगता या समयपूर्व सेवानिवृत्ति के कारण निकास - सामान्य	
	निकास	
Q19	Can I exit in case of invalidation or disability or premature retirement before the age of	
	superannuation?	
	Yes, if the employer certifies that the subscriber has been discharged from the services of the	
	concerned office on account of invalidation or disability or premature retirement as per the	
	applicable service rules.	
Q20	What shall be my benefits at exit?	
	Same as exiting from NPS upon attaining the age of superannuation (refer Q3 to Q18).	
Q21	What will happen to my accumulated pension wealth if I opt for pensionary relief provided	
	by the employer?	
	If employer provides pensionary relief in case of invalidation or disability during service, the	
	employer shall have the right to adjust or seek to transfer the part or full accumulated pension	
	corpus of the subscriber to itself as per the applicable service rules.	
	The remaining accumulated pension corpus, if any, shall be paid in lump sum to the	
	subscriber.	
	Exit before attaining the age of superannuation – Premature Exit	
	अधिवर्षिता की आयु प्राप्त करने से पूर्व निकास- समयपूर्व निकास	
Q22	When will be exit treated as premature exit?	
	(i). Leaving the service before attaining the age of superannuation prescribed by the service	
	rules applicable;	
	(ii). on resignation from service voluntarily; and	
	(iii). dismissed or removed by the employer.	
Q23	What will be my benefits at the exit?	
	Annuitization – Minimum of 80% of accumulated pension wealth will be utilized for	
	monthly annuity or pension.	
	Lumpsum – Remaining 20% of accumulated pension wealth will be paid to the subscriber.	
Q24	Can I completely withdraw my accumulated pension wealth without annuitization?	
	Yes, if your accumulated pension wealth is equal to or less than a sum of two lakh fifty	
	thousand rupees.	



Q25	Will I get an annuity if I have completely withdrawn my accumulated pension wealth?
	No, the right of the subscriber to receive any pension or other amount under the NPS or from
	the government or employer, shall extinguish.
Q26	What will happen if my accumulated pension wealth is more than a sum of two lakh fifty
	thousand rupees and my age is less than the minimum age required for purchasing any annuity
	from any of the empaneled annuity service providers?
	You will remain in NPS, until you attain the age of eligibility for purchase of any annuity.
	After attaining the age of minimum age required for purchasing any annuity, you can
	purchase the annuity as per your choice.
	Exit due to death before attaining the age of superannuation
	अधिवर्षिता की आयु प्राप्त करने से पूर्व मृत्यु होने पर निकास के प्रावधान
Q27	What are the provisions to settle the case upon unfortunate death of the subscriber?
	Annuitization – Minimum of 80% of accumulated pension wealth will be utilized for
	monthly annuity or pension.
	Lumpsum – Remaining 20% of accumulated pension wealth shall be paid to the nominee/s
	or legal heirs.
Q28	Can nominee/s / legal heir/s completely withdraw accumulated pension wealth without
	annuitization?
	Yes, if the accumulated pension wealth at the time of subscriber's death is equal to or less
	than five lakh rupees.
	However, upon such exercise of this option the right of the family members to receive any
	pension or annuity or other amounts under the NPS shall extinguish.
Q29	What will happen if nomination is invalid?
	Where no valid nomination exists in accordance with these regulations, at the time of exit on
	account of death of subscriber, the nomination, if any, existing in the records of his or her
	employer for the purpose of receiving other admissible terminal benefits shall be treated as
	nomination for exit under the NPS.
	The employer shall send a confirmation of such nomination in its records, to the NPS Trust
	or the CRA, while forwarding the claim for processing.
	However, if valid nomination cannot be established even after referring the employer's record
	as mentioned above, such case shall be settled to legal heirs.
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Q30	What will happen to accumulated pension wealth of deceased subscriber in case pensionary
	relief option provided by the employer?
	If employer provides pensionary relief to the family members as specified under the service
	rules or on the basis of the legal heir certificate of the deceased subscriber, the employer shall
	have the right to adjust or seek to transfer the part or full accumulated pension corpus of the
	subscriber to itself as per the applicable service rules.
	The remaining accumulated pension corpus, if any, shall be paid in lump sum to the nominees
	(s) or the legal heir(s).
Q31	What are the provisions in case a subscriber goes missing being declared by the employer?
	Twenty percent of the accumulated pension wealth shall be paid as an interim relief in lump
	sum to the nominee(s) or legal heir(s) of the subscriber and the remaining eighty percent out
	of the accumulated pension wealth of the subscriber shall be mandatorily utilized for purchase
	of default annuity after determination of subscriber as missing and presumed dead, as per the
	provisions of the Indian Evidence Act 1872 and amendments thereto.
	Other exit provisions
	अन्य निकास के प्रावधान
Q32	Whether employer can withhold accumulated pension wealth under the NPS?
	Yes, the employer reserves the right of withholding the part of pension wealth, accumulated
	through co-contributions made by the State Government as employer to the Tier-I account of
	the subscriber and the investment income accruing thereon, for the purpose of recovery of
	the whole or part of any pecuniary loss caused, provided such loss is established, in any
	departmental or judicial proceedings, initiated against such subscriber by the employer
	concerned.
Q33	When employer can exercise its right of withholding of accumulated pension wealth under
	the NPS?
	Right of withholding has to be exercised by the employer prior to the date of superannuation
	of the subscriber, pursuant to a notice to be given to the NPS Trust, and seeking to withhold
	the said pension wealth of such subscriber.
Q34	Whether subscriber will be eligible to receive the amount withheld by employer?
	The amount withheld which is payable under the NPS will not be paid to the subscriber until
	the conclusion of the departmental or judicial proceedings, and subject to the final orders,
	passed in such proceedings.



Q35	Whether the amount withheld will remain subscribed to existing scheme or will it be
	liquidated?
	The amount withheld by the employer will remain subscribed to the scheme in the mode and
	manner in which it was held prior to resorting to such action by the employer specified.
Q36	When will the amount withheld be settled?
	The amount withheld becomes payable to the subscriber on the final settlement, as certified
	by the employer specified, which has sought withholding of such benefits, and will be paid
	to the subscriber as per applicable regulation while executing exit as soon as possible and in
	no case beyond ninety days of receipt of the final order by the NPS Trust.
	Provided that, in case the amount withheld becomes payable after the death of subscriber, on
	the final settlement, the benefits, will be paid to the nominee(s) or legal heir(s) of such
	subscriber as per the applicable regulations.
	Exit from Tier-II
	टियर -॥ से निकास के प्रावधान
Q37	What will happen to Tier – II account in case of exit from Tier-I?
	Upon exit from tier-I of the NPS, the tier-II account of the subscriber will also be
	simultaneously and automatically closed, even if an application so specified for the purpose
	has not been received from the subscriber or nominees or legal heirs, and amounts under the
	said account will be paid to the subscriber or nominees or legal heirs.
Q38	Can I continue Tier - II account after exercising the option of continuation of Tier - I account?
	Yes, you can continue with Tier - II account as per your requirement, till closure of Tier - I
	account.
Q39	How many times can I withdraw from Tier – II account?
	You can withdraw any number of times from Tier – II account.
Q40	How much can I withdraw from Tier – II account?
	A subscriber can withdraw the accumulated wealth either in full or part, at any time.
	There shall be no limit on such withdrawals till the account has a sufficient amount of
	accumulated pension wealth to take care of the applicable charges and the withdrawal
	amount.
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	Partial withdrawal (during accumulation phase)	
	आंशिक प्रत्याहरण (जमा / जारी रखने के दौरान)	
Q41	Can I partially withdraw funds from my accumulated pension wealth before exit ?	
	Yes	
Q42	How much funds can be partially withdrawn?	
	Up to 25% of own contributions (without considering the appreciation / returns on the	
	amount) as on the date of application of such withdrawal.	
Q43	How many times can I partially withdraw funds?	
	You are allowed to partially withdraw maximum of three times during the entire tenure of	
	subscription under the NPS.	
Q44	When can I initiate my first partial withdrawal?	
	You can initiate first partial withdrawal after completing period of three years from the date	
	of your joining.	
Q45	Is there any time gap between two partial withdrawal applications?	
	No	
	However, you will receive 25% of own contribution made between two partial withdrawals.	
Q46	What are the conditions under which partial withdrawal can be exercised?	
Q46	Partial withdrawal is allowed for the following specific purposes only.	
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	(v). Major Organ Transplant;
	(vi). Coronary Artery Bypass Graft;
	(vii). Aorta Graft Surgery;
	(viii). Heart Valve Surgery;
	(ix). Stroke;
	(x). Myocardial Infarction
	(xi). Coma;
	(xii). Total blindness;
	(xiii). Paralysis;
	(xiv). Accident of serious/ life threatening nature.
	(xv). any other critical illness of a life-threatening nature as stipulated in the circulars,
	guidelines or notifications issued by the Authority from time to time.
	(e). to meet medical and incidental expenses arising out of the disability or incapacitation
	suffered by the subscriber.
	(f). Towards meeting the expenses by subscriber for skill development/re-skilling or for
	any other self-development activities, as may be permitted by the Authority by issuance
	of appropriate guidelines, in that behalf.
	(g). Towards meeting the expenses by subscriber for establishment of own venture or
	any start-ups, as may be permitted by the Authority by issuance of appropriate
	guidelines, in that behalf.
Q47	What is the procedure, if I am unable to submit my partial withdrawal application due to
	specified illness?
	The request for withdrawal may be submitted through any family member of such subscriber.
	Nomination
	नामितिकरण
Q48	Is nomination mandatory in NPS?
	Yes
Q49	Who can be nominated?
	If a subscriber has a family at the time of making a nomination, the nomination shall be in
	favour of one or more persons belonging to his/her family.
Q50	What is the definition of family for the purpose of Nomination under NPS?
	For the purposes of nomination wherever provided in the regulation;



	(i) in relation to a male subscriber shall mean his legally wedded wife his shildren
	(i). in relation to a male subscriber, shall mean his legally wedded wife, his children,
	whether married or unmarried, his dependent parents and his deceased son's widow and
	children;
	(ii). in relation to a female subscriber, shall mean her legally wedded husband, her
	children, whether married or unmarried, her dependent parents, her husband's dependent
	parents and her deceased son's widow and children;
	(iii). in relation to any subscriber who does not identify themselves as male or female -
	their legally wedded spouse, their children, whether married or unmarried, their
	dependent parents and their deceased son's widow and children;
	Explanation – in any of above three, if the child of a subscriber or as the case may be, the
	child of a deceased son of the subscriber has been adopted by another person and if, under
	the personal law of the adopter, adoption is legally recognized, such a child shall be
	considered as excluded from the family of the subscriber.
Q51	What happens if I nominated a person not belonging to my family, despite having family?
	Any such nomination made in favour of a person not belonging to your family shall be invalid
	and the you (subscriber) have to submit fresh nomination belonging to your family.
Q52	What happens if the nominee predeceases the subscriber?
	Such Nomination shall become void and the subscriber has to submit nomination again.
Q53	Can I nominate more than one person and what shall be percentage of accumulated pension
	wealth among nominees?
	Yes, you can nominate more than one nominee and can assign percentage of accumulated
	res, you can nominate more than one nominee and can assign percentage of accumulated
	pension wealth among them in a way that total of such assignments should be equal to 100%.
Q54	
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Q57	Can I nominate a minor?
	Yes - the nomination can be wholly or partly in favour of a minor.
	Further, the subscriber may appoint a major person of his family, to be the guardian of the
	minor nominee in the event of the subscriber predeceasing the nominee and the guardian.
Q58	Can I appoint any other person to be guardian to minor nominee?
	Yes – if there is no major person in the family
Q59	How many times can I modify the nomination?
	You can change the nomination any number of times.
	Annuity / Pension (monthly or periodical pay out)
	वार्षिकी/ पेंशन (मासिक या आवधिक भुगतान))
Q60	What is annuity?
	Annuity means series of payments/benefits to the subscriber at specified intervals as per the
	choice of subscriber paid by annuity service provider (ASP).
	The main objective of an annuity is to give regular income to the subscriber even after
	retirement/working age.
Q61	What is default annuity under the NPS?
	The following shall be the default annuity contract applicable providing annuity for life of
	the subscriber and his or her spouse (if any) with provision for return of purchase price of the
	annuity and on the demise of such subscriber and his or her spouse, the annuity be re-issued
	to the family members in the order specified hereunder, at the rate of premium prevalent at
	the time of purchase of such annuity by utilizing the purchase price required to be returned
	under the annuity contract (until the family members in the order specified below are
	covered):
	(a). living dependent mother of the deceased subscriber;
	(b). living dependent father of the deceased subscriber.
	After the coverage of the family members specified above, the purchase price or the amount
	which was to be utilised for purchase of annuity shall be returned to the surviving children of
	the subscriber and in absence of children to the legal heir(s) of the subscriber.
Q62	What are the options in the absence of default annuity?
	In the absence of or non-availability of default annuity for any reason, the subscriber can
	choose any annuity within annuity types or contracts made available by the annuity service
	providers empanelled by the Authority.



Q63	Is default annuity mandatory?
	Choice of default annuity is not mandatory. The subscriber has the option to opt out of the
	default annuity (not selecting default annuity) and choose any annuity within annuity types
	or contracts made available by the annuity service providers empanelled by the Authority.
	However, default annuity option is mandatory in case of exit due to death and also in case of
	a missing person.
Q64	Is it mandatory to purchase annuity under NPS at the time of exit?
	Yes, except there are some scenarios where the subscriber/nominees/legal heirs can withdraw
	the whole accumulated pension wealth as mentioned above.
Q65	Which companies are empaneled by the PFRDA as ASPs to provide annuities under NPS?
	Annuity shall be purchased from Annuity Service Providers (ASPs) empaneled with the
	PFRDA. The list of 14 ASPs empaneled is as under:
	(i). Aditya Birla Sun Life Insurance Company Limited
	(ii). Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance Company Limited
	(iii). Canara HSBC Life Insurance Company Limited
	(iv). Edelweiss Tokio Life Insurance Company Limited
	(v). HDFC Life Insurance Company Limited
	(vi). ICICI Prudential Life Insurance Company Limited
	(vii). IndiaFirst Life Insurance Company Limited
	(viii). Kotak Mahindra Life Insurance Company Limited
	(ix). Life Insurance Corporation of India
	(x). Max Life Insurance Company Limited
	(xi). PNB MetLife India Insurance Company Limited
	(xii). SBI Life Insurance Company Limited
	(xiii). Star Union Dai-ichi Life Insurance Company Limited
	(xiv). Tata AIA Life Insurance Company Limited
	* For any update in empaneled Annuity Service Providers (ASPs), you are requested to refer
	PFRDA's website.
Q66	In case of exit before attaining the age of sixty years from NPS, when will annuity start i.e.
	immediately or after the age of superannuation?
	Annuity starts immediately after the minimum age as required for purchasing any annuity
	(depending upon choice of ASP and Annuity scheme for e.g. 30, 35, 38) from any of the

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) Exit from NPS for SG and SAB sector

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	empaneled annuity service providers. Subscriber/nominees/legal heirs need not wait till the age of superannuation.
Q67	What are the annuity options available under NPS?
Q07	The following are the most common variants that are available:
	 (a). Annuity for life with return of purchase price (amount given to annuity service provider) on death- Subscriber will receive payment of annuity till he/she is alive and
	payment stops after the death of subscriber. However, purchase price will be returned to
	nominees / legal heirs.
	(b). Annuity guaranteed for 5, 10, 15 or 20 years and for life thereafter -
	On death during the guarantee period – Subscriber will receive payment of annuity
	till he/she is alive and thereafter during the remaining guaranteed period, annuity will
	be paid to the nominee till the end of the guaranteed period after which the same
	ceases/stops. However, return of purchase price will not be returned to nominees /
	legal heirs.
	On death after the guarantee period – Subscriber will receive payment of annuity
	till he/she is alive even after the guaranteed period is over. Payment of annuity stops
	after the death of the subscriber. However, return of purchase price will not be
	returned to nominees / legal heirs.
	(c). Annuity payable for life - Subscriber will receive payment of annuity till he/she is
	alive and payment stops after the death of the subscriber. However, return of purchase
	price will not be returned to nominees / legal heirs.
	(d). Annuity for life increasing at simple rate of 3% p.a. – Subscriber will receive
	payment of annuity till he/she is alive increasing at simple rate of 3% p.a. and payment
	stops after the death of the subscriber. However, return of purchase price will not be
	returned to nominees / legal heirs.
	(e). Annuity for life with a provision for 50% of the annuity to the spouse of the
	annuitant for life on death of the annuitant/subscriber - Subscriber will receive
	payment of annuity till he/she is alive and thereafter spouse will receive 50% of payment
	of annuity till he/she is alive. Payment of annuity stops after the death of spouse.
	If the spouse predeceases the subscriber, payment of annuity will cease after the death
	of the annuitant.
	It may be noted that this annuity variant may be taken with or without return of purchase
	price.



	(f). Annuity for life with a provision of 100% of the annuity payable to spouse	
	during his/her lifetime on death of the annuitant/subscriber – Subscriber will receive	
	payment of annuity till he/she is alive and thereafter spouse will receive payment of	
	annuity till he/she is alive. Payment of annuity stops after the death of spouse.	
	If the spouse predeceases the subscriber, the annuity ceases after death of the annuitant.	
	It can be with or without return of purchase price.	
	It may be noted that this annuity variant may be taken with or without return of purchase	
	price.	
	*Subscriber can also add spouse in any of the variants above.	
	**All ASPs may not provide all the variants. It may vary from ASP to ASP.	
	***Pricing of annuity also varies from ASP to ASP.	
Q68	Whether amount invested in annuity will be returned?	
	Only in annuity types where there is a provision of return of purchase price.	
Q69	Where can I check the rates offered by the annuity service providers on various type of	
	annuities?	
	Details of annuity rates and other details may be checked on CRAs' website [Computer Age	
	Management Services Limited, KFin Technologies Limited and Protean eGov Technologies	
	Limited] and website of respective empaneled ASPs.	
Q70	Can I change my annuity service provider or annuity type any time?	
	Once an annuity is purchased, the option of cancellation or reinvestment with another	
	Annuity Service Provider or in other annuity scheme shall not be allowed unless the same is	
	within the time limit specified by the Annuity Service Provider, for the free look period as	
	provided in the terms of the annuity contract or specifically provided by the Insurance	
	Regulatory and Development Authority.	
	Tax provisions at withdrawals under the NPS	
एनपीएस के तहत निकास पर कर प्रावधान		
Q71	What are tax benefits available?	
	<u>Tier – I</u>	
	Lump sum Withdrawal - In case of exit upon attaining the age of 60 years or	
	superannuation lump sum withdrawal i.e. 60% of the total accumulated pension wealth	
	is tax exempted.	
<u> </u>		



Annuity - The amount utilized for purchase of annuity at exit upon attaining the age of 60 years or superannuation is tax exempted. However, the annuity income (pension) received will be taxed in the year of receipt as per the applicable tax slab of the subscriber.

Partial Withdrawal – The amount received by employee under the NPS is tax exempted.

<u>*Tier – II*</u> – No tax benefits