



EPFO's New Facility on UMANG App

Why in News

Recently, the [Employees' Provident Fund Organisation](#) (EPFO) has started a facility on the [Unified Mobile Application for New-age Governance \(UMANG\) App](#) which enables members of the **Employees' Pension Scheme (EPS) 1995** to apply online for Scheme Certificates.

- EPS is a **social security scheme** that was launched in **1995** and is provided by EPFO.
- It makes **provisions for pensions for the employees in the organised sector** after the **retirement at the age of 58 years**.

Key Points

- **Scheme Certificate:**
 - It is issued to **members who withdraw their [Employees' Provident Fund](#) (EPF) contribution but wish to retain their membership** with EPFO, to avail pension benefits on the attainment of retirement age.
 - Members become eligible for pension only if they have been, **cumulatively, a member of the EPS, 1995 for at least 10 years**.
 - Upon joining a new job, Scheme Certificate **ensures that previous pensionable service is added to pensionable service rendered with the new employer** thereby, increasing the number of pension benefits.
 - Further, Scheme Certificate is also **useful for family members to avail family pension**, in case of the untimely death of the eligible member.
- **Requirements for Online Application:**
 - For availing the service, an **active Universal Account Number (UAN)** and a **mobile number registered with the EPFO** is required.
- **Benefits:**
 - The online application will help **members avoid unnecessary hardship of physically applying** for it, especially during **pandemic** times and will also **eliminate unnecessary paperwork**.
- **Role of EPFO in Current Times:**
 - EPFO was **already providing 16 services on the App** allowing EPF subscribers to access services during **Covid-19** from the comfort of their homes in a hassle-free manner.
 - By **successfully bringing state-of-the-art technology to the doorstep** of its subscribers, EPFO has **remained to be a very popular service provider** on UMANG App.
 - With India witnessing massive growth in digital connectivity through mobile phones, **EPFO is making more and more services digitally accessible to members even in remotest locations** through the App.

UMANG App

- It is a **unified, secure, multi-channel, multi-platform, multi-lingual, multi-service mobile app**.
- It is developed by the **Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology** (MeitY) and **National e-Governance Division** (NeGD) to drive mobile governance under **Digital India**.
- It **provides a single platform to citizens for accessing pan India e-Government services** ranging from central to local government bodies and other citizen-centric services.
- **Services Provided:** Filing income tax, EPFO services, **Aadhar**, **Pension**, **ePathshala**, e- Land Records, **Crop Insurance** etc.

Employees' Provident Fund Organisation

- It is a government organisation that **manages the provident fund and pension accounts for the workforce engaged in the organized sector** in India.
- It implements the **Employees' Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952**.
 - The Act provides for the institution of provident funds for employees in factories and other establishments.
- It is administered by the **Ministry of Labour and Employment**.
- It is **one of the world's largest social security organisations** in terms of clientele and the volume of financial transactions undertaken.

Source: PIB

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