

IN THE CENTRAL GOVT. INDUSTRIAL TRIBUNAL-CUM-LABOUR COURT,
GUWAHATI, ASSAM.

Present: - Smt. Indira Barman, M.A., LL.B.,
Presiding Officer,
CGIT-Cum-Labour Court, Guwahati.

Appeal U/S 7-I of the Employees' Provident Fund &
Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952.

E.P.F. A. No. 04/2026.

Arunachal Plywood Industries Ltd., P.O.- Namsai, Dist- Namsai,
Arunachal Pradesh-792103.Appellant.

-Vrs-

The Regional Provident Fund Commissioner-II and Recovery officer,
Employees Provident Fund Organization, Regional Office, Bhavishya
Nidhi Bhawan, Amar Complex 2nd Floor Hijuguri, Tinsukia, Assam,
Pin-786125.OP/Respondent

REPRESENTATIVE:

For the Appellant..... 1) Mr. G.R. Dutta, learned advocate.
2) Mr. A.R. Borooah, learned advocate.
3) Mr. Prasanta Choudhury, learned advocate.
4) Ms. Akriti Newar, learned advocate.

29-07-2026

The Appellant is appeared through Mr. G.R. Dutta, learned advocate.

The Appeal has preferred by the authorised representative Sri Sunil Jagtiani, the Company Director of Arunachal Plywood Industries Ltd., Arunachal U/S 7-I of the Employees' Provident Fund & Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952. Memo of Appeal has been presented in triplicate on 29-05-2026 along with a Bank Draft No. 305246 dated 26-05-2026 of ₹ 2,000/- in favour of the Registrar, CGIT. It appears that Rule 4 of EPF Appeal Tribunal (Procedure) Rules 1997 has been complied.

Seen the scrutiny report submitted by the Registrar and perused the record. It appears that the Appeal has been preferred against the orders No.NE/TSK/0000091/000/Enf 105/Damages/2277 dated 30-03-2026 passed by the Regional Provident Fund Commissioner-I, Regional office, Tinsukia, Assam against the appellant in respect of penal damages of ₹ 16,85,586/- levied under section 14-B and interest of ₹ 8,05,540/- levied under section 7-Q totalling a sum of ₹ 24,91,126/- for the period from 03/2009 to 10/2016, of the Employees Provident Fund and Misc. Provisions Act, 1952, within 15 days of the receipt of the said order.

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Heard learned Counsel for the Appellant.

Learned counsel for the appellant submitted that the impugned order(s) dated 30-03-2026 were received by the Appellant by post on 13-04-2026 and filed the Appeal within the period of limitation.

Learned Counsel for the appellant prayed for admitting the appeal and to set-aside the impugned order dated 30-03-2026 passed by the RPF-C-I, Tinsukia.

Learned counsel for the appellant further prayed to direct the respondent not to issue any show cause or warrant of arrest for the dues of demand as interest and damages also prayed for stay the operation of the impugned order dated 30-03-2026 and not to take any coercive action against the appellant till disposal of this Appeal.

Learned counsel for the appellant also filed an application praying to waive the amount as required under section 7-O of the Act and admit the application without depositing any amount.

Record reveals that the respondent passed the order dated 30-03-2026 levying damages of ₹ 16,85,586/- under Section 14-B of the Employees Provident Fund and Misc. Provisions Act, 1952 and ₹ 8,05,540/- under Section 7Q imposing interest, totalling ₹ 24,91,126/-.

Heard the submission of the learned advocate for the Appellant. Considered the submission and the amount assessed against the appellant in the impugned order. Appeal is admitted. The appellant is hereby directed to deposit 10% of the assessed amount under sections 14-B and 7-Q within 30 days from the date of order in favour of Registrar, CGIT through demand draft. In the meantime, no coercive action shall be taken by the Respondent against the Appellant. The order dated 30-03-2026 is hereby stayed till next date.

A copy of the order alongwith memo of appeal be communicated to the Respondent. Appellant is directed to take steps within 7 days.

Fix 02-09-2026 for filing reply of Appeal, if any by the Respondent.

Sd/-Indira Barman,
Presiding Officer,
CGIT-Cum-Labour Court, Guwahati.