**Voluntary Provident Fund (VPF)**

The EPF allows an employee to contribute more than 12% of the EPF Wages. Any contribution over and above 12% of EPF Wages is being termed as VPF (Voluntary Provident Fund). EPF Wage shall be the wage on which employer is deducting PF on monthly basis and depositing the same with the Office of EPFO/Trust. An employee can opt for a maximum of 88% of EPF Wages as VPF. VPF is reflected as employee share, in the passbook, along with 12% of the amount deducted by the employer as statutory deduction.

**How can I contribute to VPF**

It is a very simple process. You need to connect to your HR to find out if there is a form or declaration (offline and online) to be filled up and provided. Once done than the employer will deduct the VPF and deposit the same with PF authorities along with the amount the statutory dues.

**Tax Benefits for VPF**

Any contribution by an employee towards VPF is eligible for deduction under Chapter VI A Section 80 C of The Income Tax Act 1961. The Maximum limit of deduction under section 80C is INR 1.50 lakh from Financial year 2014-15 / Assessment Year 2015-16.

**Withdrawal of VPF**

There are no separate provisions under The EPF Act governing the withdrawal of VPF. As such, the same process and rules are applicable to withdrawal of funds from PF are also applicable to VPF, which is part of employee share. While doing the withdrawal employee has to opt for a purpose that allows the withdrawal of employee share. There are various parameters which govern the withdrawal from PF e.g. period of service, purpose for which withdrawal is needed etc. which will allow a member to do the withdrawal.