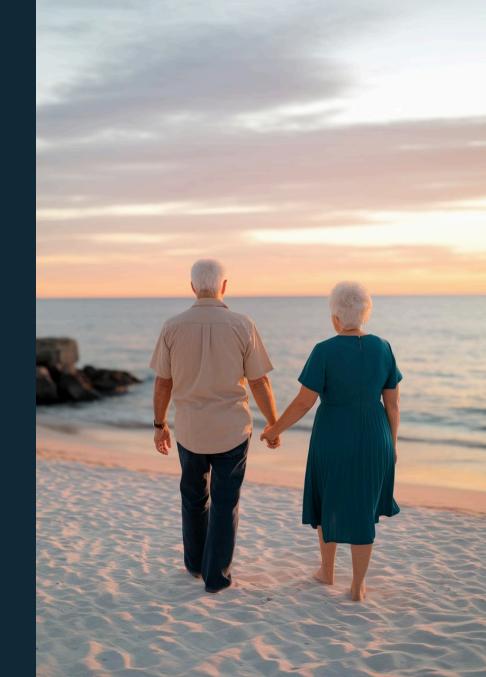
# Retirement Planning & Tax Benefits

Planning for retirement isn't just about saving money—it's about maximizing your wealth while minimizing tax liabilities. A well-structured retirement plan ensures financial security in your golden years while legally saving taxes on investments and withdrawals.

Let's explore the best retirement planning strategies along with tax-saving opportunities for FY 2025-26.





### Best Retirement Investment Options

### Employee Provident Fund (EPF)

Interest Rate: ~8% (subject to annual revision)

Tax Benefits: Employee contribution eligible for deduction under Section 8OC (₹1.5 lakh limit). Employer contribution exempt from tax (up to 12% of basic salary). Maturity amount is 100% tax-free if withdrawn after 5 years.

### Example

Amit contributes ₹50,000 annually to EPF for 25 years. At 8% interest, his EPF corpus grows to ₹39 lakh—completely tax-free!

# Public Provident Fund (PPF)

## Long-Term Tax-Free Investment

Interest Rate: ~7.1% (compounded annually).

Lock-in Period: 15 years (extendable in 5-year blocks).

#### Tax Benefits

Investment up to ₹1.5 lakh qualifies for 80C deduction.
Interest earned is tax-free under Section 10(11). Maturity amount is also fully tax-free.

### Example

Ramesh invests ₹1.5 lakh every year in PPF, he will accumulate ₹40-45 lakh in 15 years—all tax-free!





## National Pension System (NPS)

1

### **Extra Deduction**

80CCD(1) – Deduction up to ₹1.5 lakh (under 80C). 80CCD(1B) – Additional ₹50,000 deduction (exclusive to

NPS).

2

### **Employer Contribution**

Up to 10% of salary (14% for govt employees) is tax-free.

Tax-Free Withdrawal

3

At age 60, up to 60% of the corpus can be withdrawn tax-free. 40% must be used for annuity purchase (taxable as per slab).

# Tax Benefits on Pension & Withdrawals

### Pension Income

Monthly pensions received are taxable under "Income from Salary." Standard Deduction: ₹50,000 applies to pensioners, reducing tax liability.

Gratuity

If you work for 5+ years, gratuity is exempt up to ₹20 lakh. Government employees get full exemption on gratuity.

Example

Ravi retires after 20 years of service and receives ₹18 lakh in gratuity. Since the limit is ₹20 lakh, he pays zero tax on it!





## Avoiding Taxes on Retirement Savings



### Tax-Free Options

Max out EPF, PPF, and NPS contributions to ensure tax-free retirement wealth.



### Stagger Withdrawals

Spread withdrawals over multiple financial years to reduce tax impact.



### Example

Arun retires with ₹50 lakh. Instead of falling in the 30% tax bracket, he withdraws ₹10 lakh per year for 5 years, staying in a lower tax slab.

# **ESTMENT OPTI**

**VESTMENT OPTION** 



# Tax-Saving Plan for Retirees in 2025-26

Investment	Tax on	Tax on	Best for?
Option	Interest?	Maturity?	
PPF	No	No	Risk-Free Growth
EPF	No	No (if withdrawn after 5 years)	Salaried Employees
NPS	Partial (on annuity)	No (60% tax- free)	Pension Planning
Senior Citizen Savings Scheme (SCSS)	Yes	Yes	Fixed Returns
Fixed Deposits (FDs)	Yes (as per slab)	Yes	Regular Income
Tax-Free Bonds	No	No	Safe, Long- Term Growth

# Final Checklist for a Tax-Free Retirement

1 Maximize
Contributions

Maximize EPF, PPF & NPS
Contributions

Claim Deduction

Claim ₹50,000 Deduction on NPS (80CCD(1B))

3 Withdraw Smartly

Withdraw Retirement Corpus in Stages to Reduce Tax

4 Use Tax-Free Options

Use Tax-Free Bonds & SCSS for Stable Income

Plan Income

Plan Gratuity & Pension Income to Stay Within Lower Tax Brackets

# Secure Your Retirement with Smart Tax Planning!

With proper planning, you can retire stress-free while legally saving lakhs in taxes! Don't let your hard-earned money go to taxes—use these strategies to enjoy a financially secure future!

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