

Proceedings of the 51st meeting of the Screening Committee on FAWLOI held in the Conference Hall of the Labour Department, Government of West Bengal at New Secretariat Building, 12th Floor, 1, K.S.Roy Road, Kolkata- 700001 on 05.03.2019 at 11.00 a.m..

Members Present

1. Sri S. Suresh Kumar , IAS, Additional Chief Secretary, Labour Department, Govt. of West Bengal
2. Sri Jawaid Akhtar, IAS, Labour Commissioner & Secretary to the Govt. of West Bengal
3. Md. I. Islam, Special Secretary, Labour Department, Govt. of West Bengal
4. Sri P. Mondal, Addl. Director, ESI(MB) Directorate, Govt. of West Bengal
5. Sri S. Mitra, Deputy Chief Inspector of Factories, Factories Directorate, Govt. of West Bengal
6. Sri Manabendra Das, Commissioner of IR & PE Department, Govt. of West Bengal
7. Smt. Dola Sen, INTTUC
8. Sri Niharendu Dutta, BMS

Other Officials Present

1. Sri Md. Nasim, Additional Labour Commissioner, Govt. of West Bengal
2. Sri. Partha Biswas, Deputy Labour Commissioner, Jalpaiguri, Govt. of West Bengal
3. Sri Bikram Mohalanobish, Assistant Labour Commissioner, Govt. of West Bengal

Sri S. Suresh Kumar,, IAS, Additional Secretary, Labour Department, Govt. of West Bengal and Chairman, Screening Committee took his Chair and welcomed the members present. The proceeding of the 50th meeting of the Committee held on 31.08.2018 was approved. There after agenda-wise discussion took place.

During the course of discussion it was felt that some relaxations of the FAWLOI Scheme are necessary to address the acute financial crisis and hardship of the workers of jute mills of the State, wherein Suspension of Work/ Closure/ lockout declared by their management. A similar relief was given earlier to the workers of abandoned tea gardens of the State vide Labour Department Order No. 897-IR/ IR/12L/16/08 dated-8th July, 2014.

After threadbare discussion, considering the gravity of the matter and in order to avoid any sort of discrimination amongst the industrial workmen the following guidelines have been considered for providing financial assistance to the distressed workers of the jute mills/ other industrial units of the State, under SOW/Closure/ lock out, in relaxation of the existing norms of FAWLOI contained in Resolution No. 506-IR dated-14.05.98:

1. The workers of the jute mills, wherein SOW/Closure/ lock out declared by their management, may be covered under FAWLOI Scheme provided such jute mills are not in operation for at least six month due to such SOW/Closure/ lock out.
2. The workers of the industrial units other than jute mills, wherein SOW/Closure/ lock out declared by their management, may be covered under FAWLOI Scheme provided such industrial units are not in operation for at least six month due to such SOW/Closure/ lock out.

In line with the above guidelines the following four units would qualify to be covered under the Scheme with effect from the date as mentioned against their names in the following table:-

<u>Sl. No.</u>	<u>Name and address of the unit</u>	<u>Approx. No. of regular workers</u>	<u>Date of Suspension of Work/ Abandonment</u>	<u>Date of coverage w.e.f</u>
1	Demdima T.E. P.O. Birpara, Dist- Alipurduar; Pin- 735204	1647	14.06.2018	From the date of notification

2	Lankapara T.E. P.O. Ramjhora, Dist-Alipurduar, Pin-735228	2132	20.09.2016	From the date of notification
3	M/s. Murlidhar Ratanlal & Exports Ltd. Unit: Gondalpara Jute Mills Gondalpara, Chandannagar, Hooghly, Pin-712137	4500 (approx)	27.05.2018	From the date of notification
4	M/s. Murlidhar Ratanlal & Exports Ltd. Unit: India Jute Mills, Serampore, Hooghly, Pin-712201	3048	29.05.2018	From the date of notification

Benefit of FAWLOI was discontinued to the workers of M/s. Hooghly Mills Project Ltd., Mongalpur Unit, Raniganj, Dist- Paschim Bardhaman w.e.f. 01.04.2018 since a question from reliable source was raised regarding the eligibility of the said workers for the coverage under the scheme. A thorough investigation into the matter was conducted by the officials of Assansol RLO and it was found on enquiry that all the beneficiaries have valid P.F. and ESI No. Accordingly RLO Asansol recommended for continuation of financial assistance to the said workmen. The recommendation of the Asansol RLO was considered by the Committee and approval given.

Regarding contractual workmen of M/s. Vivekananda forgings Ltd., who are on the roll and worked for 240 days in a year prior to SOW, the Committee decided to seek report from RLO, Ulberia regarding the status of contractual workers on the muster roll of the Company.

As there was no other issue left for discussion, the meeting ended with vote of thanks to and from the Chair.



(S. Suresh Kumar)
Additional Chief Secretary
Labour Department, West Bengal
&
Chairman, Screening Committee