

Draft.

Proceedings of the 4th Meeting of the West Bengal Building and Other Construction Workers' Welfare Board held on 9-02-07 at 11.00 a.m. at Writers' Buildings in the chamber of Hon'ble Sri Mrinal Banerjee, Minister-in-Charge, Labour Department & Chairman of the Board.

Hon'ble MIC, Labour Department, took the chair.

Hon'ble MOS, Labour Department was also present in the meeting.

A) Members present in the meeting :

- i) Dr. Subesh Kumar Das, I.A.S., - Principal Secretary, Labour Department.
- ii) Sri Satyabrata Chakrabarti, I.A.S., Labour Commissioner, West Bengal
- iii) Sri R.P. Chakraborty, Chief Inspector of Factories,
- iv) Sri Lakshman Seth, C.I.T.U.,
- v) Sri Dilip Chaudhary, Bengal Chamber of Commerce,
- vi) Sri Basudev Gupta, A.I.T.U.C.,
- vii) Sri Dilip Bhattacharya, U.T.U.C. Lenin Sarani,
- viii) Smt. Dipita Ghosh, Joint Secretary, Finance Department,
- ix) Sri K.C. Mondal, Joint Secretary, Municipal Affairs Department,
- x) Sri S.K.Roy, Dy. Welfare Commissioner for Welfare Commissioner.
- xi) Sri Indranil Sengupta, Additional Labour Commissioner, West Bengal & Secretary, WBB&OCW Welfare Board.

B) Other officers present in the meeting were:

- i) Sri M. Surai, OSD & Spl. Secretary, Labour Department, Govt. of West Bengal
- ii) Sri P.G.Routh, Additional Labour Commissioner, West Bengal.
- iii) Sri Ajoy Bhattacharyya, Deputy Labour Commissioner, West Bengal
- iv) Sri P.S. Chakraborty, Deputy Labour Commissioner, West Bengal.

1. With the permission from the chair, the Secretary of the WBB&OCW Welfare Board initiated the discussions, and handed over the proceedings of the third meeting of the Board held on 19/07/06 to the members which was duly confirmed by the members.

2. The Secretary of the Board read out the actions taken to implement the decisions taken at the 3rd meeting of the Board. He informed that the work of implementation of the provisions of B&OCW Act, 1996 and functioning of W.B.B. &O.C.W.W. Board was continuously being monitored by Hon'ble MOS & the Principal Secretary, Labour Department. Meetings are being held regularly and Hon'ble MOS are visiting the districts to create awareness for better implementation of the provisions of the Act.

3. He informed the members that 20,719 building workers were registered under the Act an amount of Rs.67,62,419/- was collected as Cess till 31st January, 2007.

4. A monthly target for registration of establishment was fixed and circulated to the regional Labour offices. The Board presently has an adequate stock of

forms and registers. A small booklet containing the salient features of the Act and Rules was printed and was circulated to regional offices and concerned trade unions. More booklets are being supplied as and when required.

5. Principal Secretary, Labour Department informed that a district level committee would soon be formed to oversee the implementations of the provisions of the Act and all Labour Welfare related activities in the district.
6. Hon'ble Chairman of the Board & MIC, Labour Department, enquired whether the registered workers were depositing the subscription amount regularly. Hon'ble MOS stated that the building workers are registering themselves with the Board at the beginning with the helps of trade unions. But later on they were finding it difficult to submit the subscription by going to the office of A.L.C. sometimes far away from their place of work or residence.
7. Sri Dilip Bhattacharyee UTUC (LS) informed that the reluctance of the employers to certify the construction workers was posing serious bottleneck to beneficiary registration. Hon'ble MIC informed that amendment of the Rules is under process.

After thread bare discussions on following decisions were arrived at:

- a) Available infrastructure under SASPFUW would be utilised for collection of subscription from registered workers and maintenance of records at regional offices. The collecting agents and retired persons working under SASPFUW scheme may be assigned with the job of collection of subscription from the building workers and maintenance of records. If required, additional number of Collecting Agents and Retired Persons would be engaged by the Regional Labour Offices and Secretary of the Board would submit a detailed proposal for issuance of necessary government order in this regard.
- b) A small high power sub committee will be formed to the process the applications for benefit submitted by the registered beneficiaries and to suggest ways and means for better implementation of the BOCW Act,
- c) In the next meeting, representative of Panchyat and Rural development be requested to attend as special invitees.
- d) Municipal Affairs department would circulate the order, issued by them requesting their field level offices to take action for the payment of Cess and ensure that the circulars reach those offices.
- e) A sizeable portion of the fund standing at credit in Board's account might be invested for higher returns. Secretary of the Board would take initiative in this matter.


- f) After all the government departments issue their circulars to field offices for taking action for payment of Cess, a booklet would be published, containing all such circulars.
- g) Regarding skill development of building workers, several programmes would be organised in districts with the help of government and employers organisations.
- h) The Builders Association would prepare a paper mentioning the topics to be covered on such training programmes and submit the proposal to the Labour Department at the earliest.

Secretary of the Board informed that an application for assistance was received from Sri Kamal Barman, of Chandamari village in CoochBehar district, a registered building worker. After due enquiry it is found that the applicant is entitled to get the assistance of Rs. 640/-. The application of assistance was approved by the members of the Board. It was decided that the applicant be paid in cash by withdrawing fund out of board's account. The amount would be paid to the applicant by the Hon'ble MOS, Labour Deptt. During his recent visit to Coochbehar on 17.02.07.

It was also decided that the Board would meet once in two months. The next meeting of the Board would be held in the month of April 2007.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

May be approved.


16/2/07

CM Saha
27.02.07.


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