

Proceedings of the 8th meeting of the West Bengal Building & Other Construction Workers Welfare Board held on 8th January, 2008 at 3.00 p.m. in the Chamber of Hon'ble Sri Mrinal Banerjee, Chairman of the Board and Minister-in-Charge, Labour and Power Department at New Secretariat Buildings, 7th Floor, 1, K.S. Roy Road, Kolkata – 700 001.

Shri Mrinal Banerjee, Minister-in-Charge, Labour Department & Chairman of the Board presided over the meeting. Shri Anadi Kumar Sahu, Hon'ble Minister of State, Labour Department was also present in the meeting.

A. Members present in the meeting

1. Dr. Subesh K. Das, IAS, Principal Secretary, Labour Department.
2. Shri Satyabrata Chakrabarti, IAS, Labour Commissioner, West Bengal.
3. Shri U.K. Pal, Joint Chief Inspector of Factories.
4. Shri Dipita Ghosh, Joint Secretary, Finance Department.
5. Shri S.K. Roy, Dy. Welfare Commissioner (Central)
6. Shri Basudeb Gupta, AITUC.
7. Shri S.S. Chowdhury, BCC.
8. Shri N.K. Chatterjee, ICC.
9. Shri K.C. Mondal, Joint Secretary, M.A. Department.
10. Shri S. Biswas, Addl. Labour Commissioner, WB & Secretary of the Board.

B. Other Officers present in the meeting are:

1. Shri Indranil Sengupta, Joint Secretary, Labour Department.
2. Shri Ajay Bhattacharyya, Deputy Labour Commissioner.
3. Shri P.S. Chakraborty, Deputy Labour Commissioner.
4. Shri K. Banerjee, Deputy Labour Commissioner.

After threadbare discussion, the following decisions were approved:

- 1) Proceedings of the 7th meeting of the Board held on 29.08.2007, which was circulated among the members, was unanimously approved by the members.
- 2) Principal Secretary, Labour Department, Dr. Subesh K. Das, IAS informed the Board members that Shri Subal Biswas, Additional Labour Commissioner, West Bengal has been appointed as Secretary of the Board with the approval of the Chairman of the Board & Minister-in-Charge, Labour Department. This was then ratified by the Board.
- 3) As a part of the review of progress of implementation, the district-wise report of beneficiary registration, subscription, establishment registration and cess collection was placed before the Board by Shri S. Biswas, Secretary of the Board. It was reported that Indian Railways & Metro Railways have included the cess component in their notices inviting tenders.


- 4) Shri Satyabrata Chakrabarti, IAS, Labour Commissioner, West Bengal briefed the members about the requirement of SLOs and the progress done regarding their appointment. Hon'ble Minister-in-Charge & Chairman of the Board suggested that in SC/ST dominated area SC/ST candidates and in Muslim-dominated area, candidates belonging to Muslim or minority community may be given preference for appointment of S.L.O. in those areas, as per Panchayat/Other department's circulars in this regard. Shri Anadi Kumar Sahu, Hon'ble Minister of State Labour Department suggested that there should also be adequate female representation in the appointment of S.L.O.s. The Board fully agreed to the views of the Chairman of the Board & MIC, Labour and views of the Minister of State, Labour Department. It was decided that similar circular may be issued by the Board.
- 5) Regarding the extension of benefits claimed by the workers, a check-list for verification by the B.R.O.s regarding different benefits was circulated among the members. It was decided by the Board that the check-list should be circulated to all R.L.O.s and all R.L.O.s should put up a copy of it in their office Notice Board for wide circulation.

An up-to-date position of the benefit prayed for was placed by the Secretary of the Board and it was decided that all claims should be disposed of within a month. Board also took the resolution that henceforth benefit claims will be sanctioned and disposed of by the Committee consisting of (1) Hon'ble Minister of State, Labour Department (2) Secretary of the Board and (3) Controller of Finance & Commercial Accounts Officer, Labour Directorate or Accounts officer of the Board. All the approved benefit cases were also ratified by the Board.

- 6) It was further resolved by the Board, that the minimum amount of pension to the Beneficiaries should be increased to Rs. 400/- instead of Rs. 150/- and the maximum amount of pension would be Rs. 770/- instead of Rs. 500/-.
- 7) Secretary of the Board informed the members regarding problems of maintenance of accounts of the Board. He put forward the idea of engaging a Chartered Firm for preparation of accounts for the financial year 2005-06, 2006-07, 2007-08, including Balance Sheet, report & return, audit matters and later on they will handle the day-to-day financial transactions with regular entry in Computer. The expenses in this regard shall be incurred by the Board. An amount of Rs. 25,000/- approx. may be paid for preparation of arrear accounts of the Board from January, 05 to December 07 and Rs. 5,000/- per month may be paid from January, 08 for regular maintenance of accounts including year-wise balance sheet. Moreover, the agency will provide their necessary software also. The Board members agreed to this proposal. The Accounts of 2005-06, 2006-07 may be placed in the next Board meeting for approval.
- 8) Secretary of the Board suggested that certain important offices be provided with Internet connections so that instantaneous reports may be sent by R.L.O.s by e-mail. Moreover two Computers and a Laptop shall be purchased for use of the Board and the Board approved the same. The expenses in this connection shall be incurred by the Board.

- 9) The Board also agreed to delegate the power to the Secretary of the Board to sanction expenditure not exceeding Rs. 5000/- in each case. Payment upto Rs. 5,000/- may be approved by the Secretary of the Board and payments exceeding Rs. 5,000/- may be made with the approval of Labour Commissioner, West Bengal.
- 10) It has been resolved that the Bank Account of the Board at High Court Branch of UBI, Kolkata and SBI Main Branch, Kolkata shall henceforth be operated by any of the following two Officers:
- (1) Labour Commissioner, West Bengal
 - (2) Secretary of the Board
 - (3) Controller of Finance & Commercial Accounts Officer, Labour Directorate, W.B.
11. It has been resolved that one Administrative account shall be opened for each RLO to be operated jointly by the Dy. Labour Commissioner with Assistant Labour Commissioner or Minimum Wages Inspector of that area to incur expenditure.
12. The beneficiary application form with minor alteration was approved by the Board and it was decided that proposals regarding amendment of rules, forms to be placed in the next Board meeting.
13. Regarding specification of medical benefits, it was decided that Secretary of the Board and Joint Secretary, Labour Department shall prepare the detailed policy with the approval of the Principal Secretary, Labour Department for submitting in the next Board meeting.
14. The Board also advised the Secretary of the Board to streamline the process of cess transfer by the Bank branches & regular reconciliation with the Bank in this regard.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to and from the chair.


(Mrinal Banerjee) 15/1/08
Chairman,
WBB&OCW Welfare Board,
&
Minister-In-Charge,
Labour Department.