

Proceedings of the 11th meeting of West Bengal Building & Other Construction Workers Welfare Board held on 24.06.09 at 3-00 p.m. in the chamber of the Hon'ble Minister In-Charge, Labour Department & Chairman of the Board at Writers Buildings, Kolkata.

Shri Anadi Kumar Sahu, Minister of State, Labour Department, presided over the meeting in absence of the MIC, Labour Department & Chairman of the Board initiated discussion.

With the permission of the Chair, Shri Subal Biswas, Secretary of the Board placed the agenda of the meeting.

The proceedings of the 10th Board meeting held on 11.08.08 were confirmed.

The progress of implementation of B.& O.C.W. (RE & CS) Act & Rules and B. & O.C.W. Welfare Cess Act & Rules were reviewed.

The Secretary of the Board submitted that the target set for cess collection for the year 2008-09 was Rs.75 crores (cumulative). The said target has been achieved and at present the collected amount of cess is Rs. 92.45 crores (up to May 2009).

The MOS stated that although cess collection has reached the set target, we are yet to cover 22 Municipalities and a good number of Panchayat Samities for Cess collection. Necessary circulars in this respect have been issued repeatedly. The M.O.S. asked the Secretary of the Board to take up the issue with field level officers to visit the said Municipalities to appraise the authorities. It was also pointed out by him that the K.M.D.A. as well as the Municipalities and Panchayat Samities are not deducting advance cess during sanction of the project plan and the same needs to be pursued in the right spirit.

It has been decided that the Secretary, Labour Department shall take up the matter with the Principal Secretary, Municipal Affairs Department for deduction of Cess at the time of sanction of the plan.

The Secretary of the Board submitted that the enrolment of beneficiaries under this welfare Board have suffered quite a lot due to non issuance of pass books by UBI branches. Officers of different Regional Offices are complaining about non cooperation from the local UBI branches. The Secretary, Labour Department had several meetings with senior level UBI officials but the scenario has not improved. Under such a circumstance, the Board may decide whether the existing M.O.U with the UBI will be cancelled and pass books will be issued by the Assistant Labour Commissioner, acting as Beneficiary Registering Officers.

Shri Lakshman Seth, CITU also complained about harassment of construction workers during opening of Account and deposit of subscription in the banks. He also suggested whether introduction of one time deposit could be made

The Secretary of the Board stated that four construction workers of our state who have working in Manipur had been shot dead by the terrorists and whether any financial assistance could be extended to them. He also stated that necessary enquiry into the details of the family of the deceased construction workers have already been done and report in respect of 3 workmen of Patharpratima Block, South 24-Parganas have been obtained. The MOS opined that though the construction workers were not registered with the Board, as a special case, the nominee of

deceased workmen could be paid an amount of Rs. 1 lakh as death benefit. The members agreed to treat this matter as a special case to help the family of the deceased workmen. The MOS suggested that the core committee would examine the issue and thereafter place the matter to the Board for placing the same to the State Government for approval.

The MOS proposed that collection of subscription from the beneficiaries would be done by the Self Employed Labour Organizers (SLO) who would act as Commissioned Collecting Agent for the purpose. The Secretary, Labour Department suggested that collection of subscription could also be done at the Community Service Centers operating in the districts.

It has been decided that a Committee consisting of the following members shall be constituted to discuss welfare activities and other matters of the Board.


- 1) Shri Anadi Kumar Sahu, MOS, Labour Department — Chairman.
- 2) Shri Talleen Kumar, I.A.S., Secretary, Labour Department — Vice-Chairman.
- 3) Shri Satyabrata Chakrabarti, Labour Commissioner, W.B. — Member.
- 4) Shri Subal Biswas, Secretary, W.B. B. & O.C.W. W. Board — Convener.
- 5) Shri Lakshman Seth, CITU — Member.
- 6) Shri Qamruzzaman Qamar, INTUC — Member.
- 7) Shri Basudeb Gupta, AITUC — Member.
- 8) Shri S. S. Chawdhury, Bharat Chamber of Commerce — Member.
- 9) Shri N. K. Chatterjee, Indian Chamber of Commerce — Member.
- 10) Shri S. K. Basu, Chairman Builders Association — Member.
- 11) Shri N. R. Bala, C.F. & C.A.O., Labour Directorate — Member.

The Committee shall examine the following issues and submit a proposal to be placed in the next Board meeting :-

- Procedure for Registration of beneficiaries, mode of collection of subscription and issuance of pass books.
- Enhancement of the rate of existing financial benefit, including death benefit.
- Introduction of family pension.
- Payment of death benefit to the nominee of a beneficiary after attainment of 60 years of age.
- Payments of death benefit to the nominee of 4 unregistered construction workers of our State who were shot dead by the terrorists while on work in Manipur.

It has been decided that the Committee will meet on 30th June, 2009 at 2-00 p.m. in the chamber of Shri Anadi Kumar Sahu, Hon'ble MOS, Labour Department.

The meeting ended with thanks to and from the Chair.


(Anadi Kumar Sahu) 30/06/09
MOS, Labour Department
&
Chairman of the meeting of the Board.