

Proceedings of the 20th Meeting of the West Bengal Building & Other Construction Workers' Welfare Board held at the chamber of the Hon'ble MIC, Labour Department on 12.10.2012.

Members present:

1. Shri Purnendu Basu, Hon'ble MIC, Labour Department & Chairman.
2. Shri P.Ramesh Kumar, Principal Secretary, Labour Department, West Bengal
3. Shri Amal Roy Chowdhury, Labour Commissioner, West Bengal
4. Shri A.K.Naskar for Chief Inspector of Factories, West Bengal
5. Shri Jayanta Kumar Basu, Joint. Secretary, Municipal Affairs Department
6. Shri N.K. Chatterjee, Indian Chamber of Commrce
7. Shri Sudip Kumar Dutta, Builders' Association of India
08. Smt.Dola Sen, INTTUC
09. Shri Dilip Bhattacharya, AIUTUC
10. Shri Qamruzzaman Qamar, INTUC
11. Shri Biplab Bhatta, AITUC

Officials who attended the meeting are as follows:

1. Shri A.K.Roy Chowdhury, Special Secretary, Labour Department.
2. Shri Goutam Ghosh, Director, ESI (MB Scheme & Chief Executive Officer, RSBY).
3. Shri Aziz Rasul, Secretary, WBOCW Welfare Board.
4. Shri Ajay Bhattacharya, Joint Labour Commissioner.
5. Smt. Sumita Mukherjee, Deputy Labour Commissioner.
6. Shri Kingshuk Sarkar, Deputy Labour Commissioner.
7. Shri Patit Paban Das, Assistant Labour Commissioner.

The meeting was presided over by Shri Purnendu Basu, Hon'ble MIC, Labour Department, West Bengal and Chairman, West Bengal Building & Other Construction Workers' Welfare Board, He requested the Principal Secretary of the Department to initiate discussion. Shri P. Ramesh Kumar, Principal Secretary, Labour Department then welcomed all and initiated the discussion agenda-wise.

Sri Aziz Rasul, Secretary, West Bengal Building & Other Construction Workers' Welfare Board placed the proceedings of the 19th meeting for confirmation and also presented the action taken report on the decisions taken during the 18th meeting. The issue of inclusion of construction worker into RSBY were thoroughly discussed. Principal Secretary requested the Board members to review the decision for inclusion of registered beneficiaries under RSBY keeping in mind for financial liability.

Discussions were also held on the following issues i) the Estimated Annual Budget of the Board for the F.Y. 2012-13, ii) Nomination of the Principal Secretary/Secretary Labour Department as Vice Chairman of the West Bengal Building & Other Construction Workers' Welfare Board, iii) provision of Rs. 10,000/- as Permanent Advance for petty expenses including expenses for Board meeting, seminar and meeting with the officials of the regional offices of the Board, iv) purchase of 15 Xerox Machines to be installed at different Regional Offices of the Board, office of the Hon'ble Chairman and at the office of the Labour Commissioner, v) up gradation of existing Broadband to BSNL Combo Broadband Unlimited Business Plan in 13 offices, vi) expenditure already incurred by the Board for the period from 01.04.2012 to 30.09.2012, vii) enhancement of expenditure limit of the Secretary of the Board from Rs. 10,000 to Rs.20000/ and

viii) enhancement of amount from Rs.5 lakh to Rs.10 lakh for transfer of fund by the Secretary of the Board for disbursement of benefits to the RLOs i.e. the Regional Offices of the Board from time to time.

Shri A. K. Roychowdhury, Special Secretary, Labour Department opined that the Labour Commissioner, West Bengal may be nominated as 'Executive Vice- Chairman" of the Board for easy and smooth functioning of the Board .

The issue of computerization of BOCWA and Transport Workers' Welfare Schemes was also discussed and Shri A. K. Raychaudhury apprised the house that a detailed project report (DPR) has already been submitted by the State e-Governance Mission Team (SeMT) under IT Department and Labour Department has already requested the Central Government for releasing necessary fund for the computerization of BOCWA and Transport Workers' Welfare Schemes under e-governance schemes. The initial expenditure for data digitization for BOCWA may , however, be made from the Board . The cost of digitization should not exceed **Rs. 2/- per beneficiary.**

Smt. Dola Sen, representative of INTTUC stressed for enrollment of beneficiaries under the scheme and proposed for making permanent sheds at the prominent places where construction workers normally gather so that the registration of beneficiaries and collection of subscriptions become easier and accessible. She also requested to review the need of introduction of SLO and collecting Agents under BOCWA scheme.

After a threadbare discussion, the following decisions were taken:

1. The proceeding of the 19th meeting of the Board held on 27.04.2012 was confirmed in anticipation that the decision of inclusion of Registered Building & Other construction workers under RSBY would be reviewed.
2. Budget for the financial Year 2012-2013 will further discussed in the next Board meeting.
3. The Principal Secretary / Secretary Labour Department will be nominated as " Vice Chairman" of the West Bengal Building & Other Construction Workers' Welfare Board and the Labour Commissioner, West Bengal will be nominated as " Executive Vice Chairman" of the West Bengal Building & Other Construction Workers' Welfare Board. The Board will take up the issue with the Government for necessary Notification in this regard.
4. The Board has also authorized The Labour Commissioner & Executive Vice Chairman of the Board to sanction expenditure @Rs. 50,000/- per item.
5. The Board has approved the provision of Rs.10000/ (Rupees Ten Thousand) Only as Permanent Advance for petty expenses including expenses for Board meeting, seminar and meeting with the officials of the regional offices of the Board for which a separate register shall be maintained by the board office.
6. The Board has accorded post-facto approval for purchase of 15 Xerox machines to be installed at the different Regional offices of board etc., as shown at in **Annexure-A** as a part of infrastructural development of the different regional offices of the board.
7. The Board has accorded post-facto approval regarding expenditure as shown at **Annexure-B** for the period from 1.4.12 to 30.9.2012 of Rs. 14,72, 90, 518/- (Rupees fourteen crore seventy-two lakh ninety thousand five hundred and eighteen) only incurred from the Board's fund towards disbursement of benefits and related other purposes.

8. For the purpose of administrative convenience and speedy communication the Board has approved for providing Fax machines to 20 (Twenty) RLOs as shown at **Annexure-C**.
9. The Board has approved the proposal for up gradation of existing Broadband to BSNL Combo Broadband Unlimited Business Plan (i.e BBG COMBO ULD 850) in 13 offices as shown at **Annexure-D**. The matter will be taken up with the BSNL for up gradation of the same.
10. The board has enhanced the expenditure limit of the Secretary of the Board from Rs, 10000/- per item to Rs.20000/- for administrative convenience w.e.f. 01.11.2012.
11. Henceforth, the secretary of the Board is authorized to transfer fund upto Rs. 10 lakh to the administrative accounts of the different Regional offices for disbursement of benefits by the said offices.
12. It has also been decided that:
 - I. As a test case, three sheds are required to be constructed at Dasnagar Rly Station, Ultadanga Rly Station and Garia Bus Stand where registration of beneficiaries and collection of subscription would be made. For the purpose, the Board will take necessary steps with the assistance of Kolkata Municipal Corporation and others.
 - II. Emphasis will be given for involvement of employer, Unions & other available machinery for speeding up the enrollment of beneficiaries.
 - III. For smooth collection of cess under the Building & Other Construction Workers' Welfare Cess Act, 1996, the Principal Secretary to the Government of West Bengal, Municipal Affairs Department, the Principal Secretary to the Government of West Bengal, Urban Development Department, the Principal Secretary to the Government of West Bengal, Panchayat & Rural Development Department and the Municipal Commissioner, Kolkata Municipal Corporation may be requested to be present during the next meeting of the Board.
13. It is decided that the expenditure for digitization of data of BOCWA will be borne by the West Bengal Building & Other Construction Workers' Welfare Fund till required fund is received from the Central Government under e-governance scheme. The cost of digitization should not exceed **Rs. 2/-** per beneficiary. The concerned DLCs will monitor the entire procedure as decided in the 19th meeting.

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



(Purnendu Basu)

Hon'ble MIC, Labour Department

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Chairman , W B B & O C Workers' Welfare Board