

Proceedings of the 22nd Board Meeting of the West Bengal Building & Other Construction Workers' Welfare Board held at the Chamber of the Hon'ble MIC, Labour Department at Writers' Buildings on 3/4/2013

Members Present:

1. Shri Purnendu Basu, Hon'ble MIC Labour Deptt. & Chairman
2. Shri Amal Roy Chowdhury, IAS, Secretary, Labour Deptt, & Vice Chairman
3. Shri Jawaid Akhtar, IAS, Labour Commissioner & Executive Vice Chairman
4. Shri R.C. Dutt, Chief Inspector of Factories
5. Shri A.K. Sarkar, BNCCI
6. Smt Dola Sen, State President, INTTUC
7. Shri Dilip Bhattacharya, AIUTUC
8. Shri Qamruzzaman Qamar, INTUC

Officials other than members who attended the Meeting:

1. Shri Aziz Rasul, Secretary, WBBOCW Welfare Board
2. Shri Ajay Bhattacharya, Joint Labour Commissioner
3. Shri Aniruddha Dasgupta, CF&CAO, Labour Directorate
4. Smt. Sumita Mukherjee, Deputy Labour Commissioner
5. Shri Partha Sarathi Chakraborty, Deputy Labour Commissioner
6. Shri Abhijit Kumar Naskar, Deputy Chief Inspector of Factories
7. Shri Patit Paban Das, Assistant Labour Commissioner
8. Smt. Sukanya Bhattacharjee, Assistant Labour Commissioner

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

The Secretary of the Board then placed the proceedings of the 21st Board meeting held on 8.1.2012 for confirmation along with the action taken report on the issues discussed & decisions taken during the 21st Board meeting. After confirmation of the proceedings of the 21st Board meeting, the Secretary of the Board placed the status report under BOCWA upto February, 2013 and the other agenda points were discussed.

On the issue of conducting skill development programme for construction workers and their dependants Hon'ble Chairman of the Board emphasized on involving various organisations in addition to Government Organizations and it was agreed by all that BNCCI, George Telegraph, Ramkrishna Sarada Mission etc. might be approached in this regard. The Secretary, Labour Deptt proposed to start full-fledged skill development programme by the first week of May.

The issue of engagement on contractual basis of two technical persons with expertise in the field of information & communication technology was discussed. The Secretary, Labour Department requested the Secretary of the Board to initiate the recruitment and also to take the help of Employment Bank under the Directorate of Employment for collecting the names of the candidates.

On the issue of computerization of BOCW Welfare Scheme through National e-governance project the Vice-chairman requested the Board to take initiatives so that the process can be completed timely. It was discussed that official correspondence with Department of Information and Technology will be made to complete the project in a time bound manner.

For engagement of Chartered Accountant Firm to carry out internal audit of the accounts of regional offices of the Board, the Board members were apprised of the quotations asked for in this regard and it was discussed that carrying out of internal audit may not be possible by only one firm. The Secretary Labour Department proposed to cancel previous process as the rate quoted by the participating firm was too high and to go for inviting fresh quotation detailing the scope of work and the areas where the audit is to be carried out.



Separate Audit Reports (SARs) for the Financial Year 2010-11 was placed before the Board members for adoption and it was proposed that the Chartered Accountant Firm will be directed to conduct audit of accounts as per norms of the CAG & Income Tax Department.

Regarding loss of cess due to dishonoured cheques it was conveyed by the Secretary, Board that the respective CESS payers were informed immediately and were directed to remit the same in the regional offices. Regional offices were also communicated in this regard and were requested to take necessary measures so that cheques are remitted within time.

The Board members were also apprised of the order No.2261-F(Y) Dated 15th March,2013 issued by the State Finance Department regarding investment by the State Government institutions in the Term Deposit where it clearly says that deposits shall be placed with the banks(s) with whom the State Government institutions have a regular course of business , including public sector banks. The Board has dealings with UBI&SBI

Lastly the statement of expenditure incurred for the period from 1/10/2012 to 28/2/2013 was placed for post- facto approval by the Board On the issue of expenditure of the Board for the period from 1.10.12 to 28.02.13, it was pointed out by the Hon'ble Chairman that under the sub-head 'other expenditures' a huge amount of fund was disbursed and It was requested by him to segregate the other expenditure into sub heads

Discussions were held on the following issues also:

- i) Regarding construction of shed near Ultadanga Smt Dola Sen, State President, INTTUC said that she would request D.C. Traffic Shri Dilip Adak to reconsider their views regarding objection of Police Department in the location previously selected by the Board .
- ii) Regarding collection of cess , the Labour Commissioner & Executive Vice Charman of the Board proposed to approach the Director General (Civil)Kolkata Corporation and Executive Engineers of the Municipalities for advance collection of cess . In this regard the Vice Chairman also recommended that the Board may approach Municipal Affairs Department for revision of rates as those rates were based on 2007-08 and the expenditure has increased many times.Hon'ble Chairman emphasized on regular correspondences with HIDCO and Rajarhat, Madhyamgram and Barasat Municipalities for realization of cess.
- iii) The Secretary, Labour Department and Vice -Chairman of the Board proposed for amendment of Rules to include Brick- Kiln and stone- crushing workers in the list of Construction Workers. It was informed that the Board already decided to include Brick- Kiln and stone- crushing workers in the list of Construction Workers in its 18th meeting held on 23.03.2012 and which is required to be notified by the State Government in the Labour Department as per Section 2(1)(d) of the Building & Other Construction Workers' (RE&CS) Act, 1996 .
- iv) Honourable Chairman of the Board proposed for reduction of lock- in- period for cycle benefit from two years to six months and marriage benefit from three years to one year and the proposal was agreed by all other members of the Board.

After a threadbare discussion, the following decisions were taken:

1. **Confirmation of the Proceedings of the 21st Board meeting :**The proceedings of the 21st meeting of the Board held on 8.11.2012 was confirmed.
2. **Skill Development Training for registered construction workers etc.:** It was decided that BNCCI, George Telegraph, Ramkrishna Sarada Mission and other such organisations would be approached and in this regard the Secretary of the Board will take necessary steps after discussing with the Labour Commissioner & Executive Vice Charman of the Board
3. **Contractual engagement of two technical persons having expertise in the field of Information & Communication Technology (ICT):** The Secretary of the Board will approach the Directorate of Employment for engagement on contractual basis of two technical persons with expertise in the field of information & communication technology such as, MCA or B.Tech Degree holders who are registered with the Employment Bank under the Directorate of Employment and it was agreed by all that recruitment will be done through interview by a selection Committee under the Chairmanship of the

Labour Commissioneras decided in the 21st meeting of the Board following the recruitment norms of the Employment Bank, if any.

4. **Engagement of a Chartered Accountant Firm for carrying out the Internal Audit of the Accounts and related matters of the Board including that of regional labour offices:** It was decided that that fresh sealed quotations will be invited from the already listed 12 firms, detailing the scope of work and the areas where the audit is to be carried out. The Secretary of the Board will take necessary steps in this regard and a pre-bid meeting will be held with the said firms before submitting quotations
5. **Adoption of separate audit reports (SARs) for the FY 2010-11 :** The separate audit reports (SARs) for the FY 2010-11 as ratified by the CAG has been adopted by the Board with a proposal that the Chartered Accountant Firm will be directed to conduct audit of accounts as per norms of the CAG & Income Tax Department. The Secretary of the Board will take necessary steps in laying the SARs before the State Legislative Assembly after getting the same printed as usual.
6. **Post-facto approval by the Board of the expenditure incurred for the period from 1.10.2012 to 28.02.2012:** The Board has approved the total expenditure of Rs.21,43, 27,311/- (Details in Annexure-A) for the period from 1.10.2012 to 28.02.2012. As suggested by the Hon'ble Chairman the Sub-head 'other expenditures' (i.e. Rs. 1486946/-) will be shown in detailed break-ups for better understanding .
7. **Micellaneous:**
 - a) The Annual statement of Accounts of the Board for the financial year 2011-12 will be sent to the members of the Board for their kind perusal along with the copy of the proceedings of the 22nd meeting so that the members may give their views in the next meeting of the Board.
 - b) Regarding construction of shed for construction workers at Jagatpur in between VIP Road and Rajarhat, the Chairman of Rajarhat Municipality will be approached .
 - c) Regarding advance collection of cess ,the Director General (Civil)Kolkata Municipal Corporation and the Executive Engineers of other Municipalities will be further approached.
 - d) The Board will approach the Municipal Affairs Department for revision of the guidelines for determination of the cost of construction as issued by the Municipal Affairs Department vide letter No.639(126)/MA/O/C-4/2E-2/06 Dated 24.09.2007.
 - e) Regular correspondences will be made with HIDCO, Rajarhat, Madhyamgram and Barasat Municipalities for realization of cess.
 - f) For inclusion of Brick- Kiln and stone- crushing workers in the list of Construction Workers, The Secretary of the Board will take necessary steps for issue of notification by the State Government in the Labour Department as per Section 2(1)(d) of the Building & Other Construction Workers' (RE&CS) Act, 1996 .Expert Committee of the Board will be requested to take necessary measures for such amendment.
 - g) For reduction of lock- in- period for cycle benefit from two years to six months and marriage benefit from three years to one year w.e.f.1.04.2013 the Secretary of the Board will take necessary steps for approval from the State Government in the Labour Department as per rule 282 of the West Bengal Building & Other Construction Workers' (RE&CS) Rules, 2004

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