Proceedings of the 27th meeting of West Bengal Unorganised Sector Workers' Welfare Board held on 04.05.2023 at 2.30 PM at the Conference Hall of the Labour Department, N.S. Buildings (12th Floor), 1, K. S. Roy Road, Kolkata –700 001

List of members who attended the meeting is enclosed herewith as Annexure – I.

The meeting was presided over by Shri Moloy Ghatak, Hon'ble Minister-in-Charge, Labour Department, Government of West Bengal and Hon'ble Chairperson of the West Bengal Unorganised Sector Workers' Welfare Board. He welcomed all Hon'ble Members and requested Sri Tirthankar Sengupta, Additional Labour Commissioner, West Bengal and the Chief Executive Officer of the Board to initiate discussion agenda-wise.

Agenda No. 1 - Confirmation of the Proceedings of the 26th Board meeting held on 14.12.2021

The Proceedings of the 26th Board meeting held on 14.12.2021 was placed before the Hon'ble Members of the Board and was approved unanimously.

Agenda No. 2 -Post facto approval of the expenditure incurred by the Board during 01.04.2021 to 31.03.2023

The Statements of Account for the period from 01.04.2021 to 31.03.2023 was placed before the Hon'ble Members and discussed. Thereafter, it was approved by the Hon'ble Members.

Agenda No. 3 - Approval of the Status Report under BM-SSY during 01.04.2021 to 31.03.2023

The Status Report under BM-SSY for the period from 01.04.2021 to 31.03.2023 was placed before the Hon'ble Members for perusal and discussion. After discussion, the report was accepted.

Agenda No. 4 - Post facto approval of new modules which have already been introduced in BMSSY Portal

For delivering better citizen centric services through online mode and to facilitate faster implementation of the scheme, the following new Modules in the BMSSY portal had been introduced which were approved post facto by the Hon'ble Members:-

- (i) Death Benefit Module;
- (ii) Disability Benefit Module;
- (iii) PF Benefit Module;
- (iv) Offline Claim Entry Module; and,
- (v) Data Sanitization Module.

Agenda No. 5 - <u>Pre-validation of Bank Accounts of the beneficiaries under BMSSY through</u> concerned banks

With a view to avoiding the failure of transactions (NEFT Return) and minimising the possibility of crediting the benefit amount in wrong account, an elaborated discussion on availing the facility of prevalidation of Bank Accounts of the beneficiaries under BM-SSY through concerned banks was held and approved unanimously.

Agenda No. 6 – <u>Post facto approval of various important official decisions taken by concerned Appropriate Authority</u>

A comprehensive list of all important official orders and copies thereof were placed before the Hon'ble Members which were already issued on administrative necessity. These were discussed and approved.

Moreover, it was decided that all the relevant Orders / Circulars will, henceforth, be circulated among Hon'ble Members of the Board at the time of issuance thereof.

Agenda No. 7 - Post facto approval of Budget for F.Y. 2023 - 24

The Budget of the Board for F.Y. 2023-24 was placed before the Hon'ble Members and it was approved by the house.

Agenda No. 8 - Post facto approval of Engagement of

- (i) Audit Firm (Sri Tarun Chandra Pal, CA, Partner of T.C. Pal & Co.) for internal Audit w.e.f. the F.Y. 2019-20;
- (ii) Accounts Firm (Sri Provas Kumar De, Partner of Bhattacharyya De & Co.) for preparation of accounts w.e.f. the F.Y. 2019 20;
- (iii) Income Tax Consultant (Parakh & Chowdhury, Chartered Accountants).

Engagement of Audit Firm (Sri Tarun Chandra Pal, CA, Partner of T.C. Pal & Co.) and Accounts Firm (Sri Provas Kumar De, Partner of Bhattacharyya De & Co.) has been approved post facto by the house.

Hon'ble MIC & Chairperson of the Board suggested that the routine work related to Income Tax should be done by the Accounts Firm itself and no separate Income Tax Consultant should be engaged henceforth for this purpose. Rather, competent Income Tax Lawyer may be engaged for dealing litigations related to Income Tax matter, if any, as and when required.

Miscellaneous Agenda:

The following matters were discussed with the approval of the Hon'ble Chairperson:-

- a) Annual Accounts along with Internal Audit Report for the F.Y.2019-20, 2020-21 and 2021-22 of the Board. Those accounts will now be sent to the office of the Principal Accounts General (Audit-I), West Bengal for auditing.
- b) As per observation of the Principal Accounts General (Audit-I), West Bengal in course of auditing the accounts of the Board, the facility of auto sweep with the S/B Accounts bearing no.30544370491 maintained at SBI, Bagmari Branch is to be availed.
- c) Most of the Administrative accounts of the RLOs are Current Accounts maintained in SBI. As per observation of A.G. Audit team while auditing the accounts in various RLOs, it was held that the current accounts do not get any interest. They suggested converting the administrative accounts from current account to savings account to avoid the loss of bank interest.

- d) Demand of Income Tax Department of Rs.29,03,770/- for the A.Y.2014-15 has been paid in this year.
- e) One Xerox machine has been purchased for the use of Board.
- f) Subscription, Matching Grant and Interest of Provident Fund (PF) for the beneficiaries registered under this Board are kept in the PD a/c maintained at 44 Treasuries of this State. Those PD a/cs are operated by 44 RLOs. The final payment of PF are made to the beneficiaries (on maturity or due to death or due to discontinuance as a beneficiary under the scheme) by those RLOs out of the fund of those PD a/cs.

As reported on 31.03.2023, an accumulated amount of Rs.2848.86 cr. is lying with those PD a/cs.

- A proposal will be initiated before the Finance Department either to park this accumulated amount into an interest bearing Head of Account (HOA) under Finance Department or to invest into a scheduled nationalized bank duly approved by the Reserve Bank of India or in either manner as detailed above in a proportion as may be decided to avail the benefit of additional interest on that accumulated fund meant for PF.
- In that case, the claims for final payment of PF as mentioned above may be made from that interest bearing Account as and when required.
- g) Every non-official member of the Board will be paid a sitting allowance @ Rs.1,000/- (Rupees One Thousand only) for attending a meeting of the Board w.e.f. this meeting.
- h) The Action Taken Report on decision taken in the 26th meeting was placed before the house.

All the above matters were discussed and approved by the Hon'ble members.

There being no other issues for discussions, the meeting ended with thanks to and from the chair.

(Sri Moloy Ghatak)

Hon'ble Minister-in-Charge Labour Department

Government of West Bengal

&

Chairperson WBUSWW Board

List of Hon'ble Members and Officials of the West Bengal Unorganised Sector Workers' Welfare Board who were present in the 27th meeting of the Board held on 04.05.2023at 2.30 PM at the Conference Hall of the Labour Department, Government of West Bengal

- 1. Sri Moloy Ghatak, Hon'ble Minister-in-Charge, Labour Department, Government of West Bengal & Chairperson, WBUSWW Board.
- 2. Sri N. N. Datta, Joint Secretary, Labour Department, Government of West Bengal.
- 3. Sri Abhijit Bose, Addl. Director, ESI (MB) Scheme, Government of West Bengal.
- 4. Sri Mona Chandra Singh Sawaiyan, Deputy Secretary, MSME & Textile Department, Government of West Bengal.
- 5. Md. Qamaruzzaman Qamar, President, INTUC, W. B. State Branch.
- 6. Sri Sumahan Chakraborty, CITU.
- 7. Sri Mihir Pahari, AITUC.
- 8. Sri Dilip Bhattacharya, All India Secretariat Member, AIUTUC.
- 9. Sri Ujjwal Mukherjee, Jt. Secretary, FOSMI.
- 10. Sri TirthankarSengupta, Addl. L. C., Labour Commissionerate & CEO, WBUSWWB.
- 11. Sri KalyanGanguly, CF & CAO, Labour Commissionerate & CCF, WBUSWWB.
- 12. Sri Sandip Nandi, Addl. L.C. (P), Labour Commissionerate.
- 13. Sri Debojyoti Bose, Jt. L.C. (P), Labour Commissionerate.