

ABCBEF**ALL BENGAL CO- OPERATIVE BANK EMPLOYEES' FEDERATION****Functional Office :- 25D, Shakespear Sarani, Kolkata- 700 017****Mobile No. : 9433071385****Website : www.abcbef.in****Whatsapp : 9748434348****Email : abcbef.kol@gmail.com**

Date: 02/11/2023

To
Mr. Pradip Mazumder,
MIC, Dept. of Cooperation,
Govt. of West Bengal

**Sub: Drawing your kind attention to the present day situation of Cooperative sector in West Bengal.
Through:- Range ARCS / Deputy registrar of C. S.**

Sir,

We congratulate Hon'ble Govt. of W.B. for inflicting you the charge of Cooperation Department and also congratulate you to take over the same. We also wish you Happy Bijoya Dashami and Happy Dushhera.

This is for your kind information that All Bengal Cooperative Bank Employees' Federation (ABCBEF) is an affiliated body of Bengal Provincial Bank Employees' Association (BPBEA), which is again the member of All India Bank Employees' Association (AIBEA), is an age old and largest organisation of the employees' of Cooperative sector. As you know that the cooperative sector is divided into three folds namely, 1) District Central Cooperative Banks (DCCB / CCB), 2) Primary Cooperative Agriculture and Rural Development Banks (PCARDB) and 3) Urban Cooperative Banks (UCB). We report all the aforesaid sectors.

The difficulties that this sector faces for not having elected board of director are that 1) audit work could not be completed in due time because question arises that who will accept the audit report in absence of valid BOD, 2) new members could not be adopted in absence of BOD, 3) the routine checks and control by the BOD in the internal matters of the societies could not be carried out, 4) AGM of members could not be held and this prevents to fixing the borrowing power of the societies and borrowing limit of an individual members of the societies, 5) Cooperative Banks are also not in a position to extend loan facilities to these societies having above mentioned problems, 6) Wage revision of the employees of a large section of Co-op. Banks are pending more than a decade.

A make shift arrangements has been made by appointing Special Officers from among the officers of the Cooperation Department, Cooperative Audit Department and engaging the Cooperative Bank employees in those societies where valid BOD are not functioning. This is also not adequate. The situation is so alarming that a single individual has to handle the affairs of more than one societies some times the number various from two to five societies. The above mentioned persons are the supervisory authority but they have to manage the day to day affairs of the society. Thus the lack of supervising attracts the mishandling of the societies fund and misappropriation of funds leads to the society as loss making or non-functioning one.

**CENTRAL OFFICE :****3B, LALBAZAR STREET
KOLKATA- 700 001
TEL NO. : 22489371
FAX NO. : 033- 22486072**

The State Govt. having its aim to include all eligible people under the fold of cooperative sector for meeting their various needs but absence of valid Board of Directors (BOD) makes hindrance to this policy of State Govt. This is needless to say that Cooperative Sector can function smoothly while having an Elected Board of Directors for its day to day business.

It is also worthy to be mentioned that though the State Govt. had withdrawn the ban on the election of other public bodies, Cooperative Housing Societies, Employees Cooperative Credit Societies but the ban is still prevailing in the Cooperative Sectors. But some of the PACS, DCCB and other Cooperative Societies had made an appeal to the Calcutta High Court to allow them to conduct cooperative election and constitute valid BOD and with the help of the verdict from the same they had completed the process of constituting valid BOD.

In our last 21st State Conference held at Krishnanagar in the month of August 2023, it was unanimously resolved by the delegates to bring the precarious situation of Co-op. Sectors to your kind notice.

Therefore, it is our timely & humble submission to your good self that kindly lift the ban on the election in Cooperative Structures for appointing valid BOD in the all types of Cooperatives to avoid further detriment in this sector which is very much in existence since 1905 in India.

Thanking You.

With Kind Regards,

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General Secretary