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To  
The Land Reforms Commissioner  
&  
Secretary  
L. & L.R. & R.R. & R. Department  
West Bengal

**Sub: Creation of W.B.L.R.S. comprising S.R.O.-II & S.R.O.-I - regards**

**Respected Madam,**

Vide Notification No. 406/1E-02/2020-Applt, dated. 11.02.2021(copy enclosed), the State Government was pleased to declare the intention to constitute **West Bengal Land Reforms Service** comprising eligible S.R.O.-II and S.R.O.-I and the Committee of Secretaries being the highest bureaucratic forum was assigned the task of finalising the modalities, etc. for the constituted Service. It is also learnt that such function has already been accomplished and the revered group is /was prudent enough to hold that the entire strength of S.R.O.-II + S.R.O.-I as qualifying for the State level Service. However, despite all such procedures as adopted on the course directed by the Cabinet Memo., the W.B.L.R.S. as notified to have been framed could not be given effect to yet. In fact, it is very disheartening to learn that the matter has been referred back again with some clarifications, etc.

We submit the following:

- 1) The extent of anomaly in comparison to equivalent officers in terms of mode of recruitment is depicted below:
  - a. The existing mode of Recruitment:- According to the merit list of successful candidates of the Group – 'C' of the W.B.C.S.(Exe) & Etc. Examination conducted by the West Bengal Public Service Commission.
  - b. Present cadre prospect:

W.B.S.L.R.S. Gr-I -1st Promotion(7-8 years)→S.R.O.-II (functional post B.L.&L.R.O.)→2nd Promotion(20 years from initial stage)→ S.R.O.-I  
(Scale No.14 of ROPA'98) (Scale No.15 of ROPA'98) (Scale No.16 of ROPA'98)

Or

WBSLRS Gr-I---1st Promotion(7-8 years) →S.R.O.-II(functional post B.L.&L.R.O.)→2nd Promotion(17years from initial stage)→W.B.C.S.  
(Scale No.14 of ROPA'98) (Scale No.15 of ROPA'98) (Scale No.16 & further being State Service)

c. Comparison with other comparable cadres in terms of the same mode of recruitment:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Promotion(7-8 yrs) enters State Service  
i. Jt. B.D.O.-----> W.B.C.S.(exe) -----> Scale No.17 and beyond  
(Enters at scale 14) (Scale No.16)
- 1<sup>st</sup> Promotion(9-10yrs) enters State Service  
ii. A.C.T.O.-----> C.T.O.-----> Scale No.17 and beyond  
(Enters at scale 14) (Scale No.16)


Thus, it is obvious that the basic anomaly is that while Jt. B.D.O. / A.C.T.O., etc. enter State Service structure on 1<sup>st</sup> promotion, the W.B.S.L.R.S., Grade-I though similarly recruited do not have this opportunity and hence are subject to perennial anomaly throughout their career and are compelled to end at designated Scale No. 16 ( ROPA'98) and non-functional Scale No.17 while the comparable cadres move on to Scale No.19 and even beyond.

- 2) That the issued Notification has already provided for direct recruitment @ 20% and from the initial level of State Service. Experience at field suggests that departmental work of the L&LR department is highly based on experience and to prosper in this service and to offer best public service, experience of grass-root work is highly required and the would-be direct recruits are already shed off the experience that may be gathered as functioning RO and if they do not start as and from BLLRO, at least, then their service in the department would be superfluous and without any value addition. Thus, the youngest BLLRO must also be a part of the State Service cadre.

In this connection, it is incidental to iterate that beyond meeting Hon'ble C.M. in Jan'2018, by the Association and at her instance, the then L.R.C. & Principal Secretary was gracious enough to offer the views on creation of State Service as encapsulated in File No.552-LRC& Pr. Secretary/18 and while the file was reaching finality the same went untraced. It was highly at the instance of the department and under the leadership of the L.R.C. & Principal Secretary that at the vital juncture in the month of February, 2021, the present file 1E-2/20-Appptt was restructured and the Cabinet approval for W.B.L.R.S. was notified. However, the subsequent developments are again very disheartening and despairing for us, the clear direction of the Government led by Hon'ble C.M. appears to be purposely nullified by some heinous lobby. We expect the department will take the lead in getting the issue settled and **W.B.L.R.S.** with the entire strength of S.R.O.-II + S.R.O.-I and W.B.S.L.R.S., Grade-I being the sole feeder would be soon published in the form of a Rule.

Thanking you.

Sincerely yours,



( Debashis Sengupta )  
General Secretary

**West Bengal Land & Land Reforms Officers' Association**