

**west bengal  
land & land reforms  
officers' association**



**পশ্চিমবঙ্গ  
ভূমি ও ভূমি মন্ত্রণালয়  
আধিকারিক সমিতি**

(Registered under the Societies Registration Act, XXVI 1961)

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

**Sub:** Submissions of the Association in the wake of publication of W.B.L.R Rules

**Respected Madam,**

We thank you yet again for much awaited publication of the rules vide Notification in The Kolkata Gazette being number 1200-Estt./1E-02/2020-Apptt dated Howrah, the 29<sup>th</sup> March, 2023.

Now we will like to bring to your kind notice our observations in respect of the above publications:-

- a) The Rule 6 may be revisited to specifically clarify as to whether for initiation the 522 S.R.O.-IIs shall be given 1 time option for W.B.C.S./W.B.L.R.S., the language is ambiguous. Similarly, future S.R.O.-IIs may be called to submit option once vacancy in W.B.C.S./W.B.L.R.S. arises as per zone of consideration drawn, the provision of providing option at the time of becoming S.R.O.-II holds no apparent meaning. In this regard the Association would like to submit that the Department should follow existing promotional norms of S.R.O.-IIs
- b) The Rule 3 seems to suggest that State Service would be initiated by absorbing 734 S.R.O.-II+S.R.O.-I but proviso to Rule10 suggests that for attaining level 17 & 19 there has to be 5 years seniority in level 16 & 17 respectively, these two provisions run contra to each other and hence may be modified/clarified so that there be absolutely no hassle in immediately initiating State Service with entire strength of 734 officers and having men/women against assigned posts as per cadre schedule as would be framed.
- c) In rule 7 it is stated that the pay of each officer to be fitted/fixed to the same cell.....  
Now we say that after induction into service pay of the officers may be fixed in the following ways depending on the modes of their induction into service.

1. In case of change of level due to induction into service, one increment shall be given in the level at which the officer belongs prior to induction into service and shall be placed at a cell equal to the figure so arrived at in the level to which he/she is going to belong and if no such cell is available he shall be placed at the next higher cell of the new level.
2. In case of no level change but movement from non-functional to functional in the same level, one increment shall be given to the officer in his existing level of pay and he/she shall be placed at the next higher cell of that level.

This will minimize pay anomaly and future complications. If opportunity is given the association can explain the same mathematically through figures and practical examples.

- d) Another important question is availability of level 21, i.e., pre-revised scale 19 which is found missing in the Rules. Every constituted service has the provision of level 21. If the same is not allowed this will cause anomaly in future because only direct recruits can avail the same as M.C.A.S. after completion of 25 years of service.
- e) The next point that needs clarity is with relation to the gradation list and the date.
- f) Since no provision for giving or opting for effect from 08.02.2021 is mentioned those who have got retired in the intervening period will not get any benefit.
- g) The Department has created 734 posts in the W.B.L.R.S. and reduced the post of S.R.O.-II to  $347.734+347=1081$ . Previously the sanctioned strength of S.R.O.-II was 869 and for S.R.O.-I there was no sanctioned official strength. But on the date the last SRO-I promotion was given the total strength of S.R.O.-I in the state was 217. So if we consider that number the total promotional posts available through hierarchical structure at W.B.S.L.R.S. Grade-I was 1086.

With introduction of W.B.L.R.S. 5 posts have got reduced. We are not going into it.

As on date officially one Revenue officer through S.R.O.-II gets promoted to W.B.C.S.(Exe) and the quota is 53%. The number of vacancies depends year-wise. But considering the total posts in W.B.C.S.(Exe) to be 1747 and the number of promotional posts to be 874, the total posts available to our cadre members through 53 % quota was 463. Now if such quota is reduced to 30 % then the total posts available becomes 263. So there is a straight way reduction in 200 posts in the erstwhile scale 16 and vertical mobility then on.

Now to avoid curtailment of existing benefits to the Revenue officer or W.B.S.R.L.S. Gr-I the same, i.e., curtailment should not be allowed.

If the Government decides to go ahead with the curtailment then a minimum of 200 posts in scale number 16 may be increased with simultaneous increase in higher scales following the 6:3:1 ratio.

For that and to avoid complications we propose that the entire strength of 1081 officials who are functioning in the field should be brought under the ambit of W.B.L.R.S.. The W.B.S.L.R.S. Gr-I will then opt either for W.B.L.R.S. or W.B.C.S.(Exe) with 30% quota.

- h) Previously we had said that we get inducted in this set up through W.B.C.S.(Exe) and Etc Examination conducted by P.S.C or through promotion from Revenue Inspectors. The scale that we are inducted in is Scale number 14. While similarly recruited Jt B.D.O. and A.C.T.O. gets promoted to B.D.O. and C.T.O. who are in scale number 16, in our case the intermediate scale number 15 and the post of S.R.O.-II still remains.

Our Association has been fighting with this agenda and demand for right to equality since many years. Though we thank the Government for realizing the specialized job pattern of this cadre after a struggle of many years but we are sorry to highlight this fact that the basic cause of our struggle still remains.

We expect your authority not to give go ahead to the proposal of curtailment of quota if any till the posts in W.B.L.R.S. are increased suitably.

With expectations that the authority will think over the issues and will work for betterment of our cadre as they have done in recent years.

Thanking you.

Enclosures:

1. Cadre Schedule in respect of W.B.L.R.S.
2. Cadre Schedule in respect of R.O. & S.R.O.-II

Sincerely yours,



( **Sumit Mukherjee** )

**General Secretary**

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

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