

JOINT COUNCIL OF ACTION OF INCOME TAX ASSOCIATIONS: WEST BENGAL

3, Govt. Place West:Kolkata-700 001.Phone: (033) 2210-3998

Joint Convenors : Sayantan Banerjee, Sumit Kumar Bose & Manmohan Nayak

Date: 01.09.2015

To

The Principal Chief Commissioner of Income Tax,
West Bengal & Sikkim,
Aayakar Bhawan, Kolkata- 700 069.

Sir,

Sub:- Resolution against proposed phasing out of 1633 posts from West Bengal Region
-matter regarding.

Kindly find enclosed a resolution of the Joint Council of Action of the Associations in Income Tax (JCA), West Bengal adopted on 28.02.15.

It may be recalled that per Annexure "N" of Scheme of distribution of posts forwarded vide CBDT's letter issued from F.No. HBO/CM/102/28/2013-14 dated 04.04.2014, 1633 posts were proposed to be phased out from West Bengal & Sikkim charge in four consequent years (starting from 2014-15). However, following the intense agitation of the JCA in West Bengal, the CBDT was forced to temporarily shelve the plan of phasing out of 1633 posts and form a committee under the chairmanship of the then JS(Admn) Shri J.S Lohani to review the issue. The committee after detailed discussion did not submit its report within the stipulated deadline for the reason best known to them. In the meantime the chairman of the committee retired and a second committee was constituted which met the same consequences as the first one. Now a third committee has been formed under the chairmanship of Ms. Vismita Tej, ADG (HRD)-2, New Delhi on 21.08.2015 to oversee the same matter. This committee met for the first time on 26.08.15 and its final meeting is slated for 10.09.2015. The committee is expected to submit its report thereafter. Hopefully the present committee will submit its report and will not prove itself to be reincarnation of its predecessor committees. Before all the committees the representative of JCA (this time the representatives being Com. Rupak Sarkar, Secretary General, ITEF & Com. Ajoy Goel, President ITGOA) have forcefully argued with facts and figures against this ill conceived move of phasing out 1633 posts from West Bengal & Sikkim charge.

We are however apprehensive that a section of CBDT is still bent upon persisting with the attempt to discriminate against West Bengal being oblivious of the fact that, while 17 out of 18 regions have been allocated with additional posts including newly created ones, only 68 permanent posts out of 20,751 newly created posts have been allocated to West Bengal region. It has also conveniently overlooked the fact that the proposed phasing out 1,633 existing posts i.e. 23% of current staff strength (in the cadres of MTS to Chief Commissioner) from West Bengal & Sikkim region in coming four(4) financial years (up to 2017-18) is in addition to diversion of the following posts in the recent past to other charges [2 Nos. of CCIT, one DGIT (Exemption), 2 nos. of CsIT (Administrative) and 22 CsIT (Appeal)] and discrimination meted out in 2006 by allocating only 91 post to this region out of newly created 7,051 posts.


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
The phasing out will adversely affect the ambitious plan of the Department to reach out to new assesseees and to provide better tax payer services in this region. The manpower in the charges of this region has to be significantly downsized because of this phasing out, creating a disconnect between the target set vis-a-vis achievement in different key result areas. Most importantly the career prospect of the members of the staff posted in this region, who are already facing acute stagnation, will be in jeopardy because of this phasing out whereas in some regions the newly allocated posts will remain vacant because of absence of eligible candidates.


Again following the acceptance of the Union Government's acceptance of the recommendations of 14th Finance Commission the total budgetary allocation to a state is directly linked to its total collection of central taxes. Direct Taxes being the biggest contributor in Central Taxes kitty, any attempt to curtail present working strength of West Bengal will bound to have a negative impact in Direct Tax collection of the state and the Budgetary Allocation to the state in turn. If west Bengal falters on this account, it will have severe repercussion of the economy of the State. This is bound to have a huge social and political ramification which has a potential of spinning out of control.

The CBDT till now is just stonewalling in an attempt to delay the legitimate demand of this region. As the career prospect of the officers and staff in West Bengal region gets bleaker with every passing day, we can't remain a mute spectator to such sorry state of events. The JCA has decided to observe sit-in dharna from 07.09.2015 to 10.09.2015 before your office to demand the present committee to revisit the proposal of allocation of manpower and redraw the same after recalling the phasing out proposal and undo the injustice meted out to this region at the earliest. You are also requested to impress upon the Board, the sentiments of the officers and members of the staff working in your region, the gravity of the situation, its possible social and political implication and seek the redressal of the legitimate grievance as the situation may snowball into a further crisis forcing us to stop the regular day to day office work of this region.


Yours faithfully,



Sayantan Banerjee
General Secretary,
ITGOA, W. B. Unit

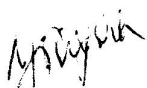

Sumit Kumar Bose
General Secretary,
ITEF, Bengal Circle
Joint Conveners


Manmohan Nayak
General Secretary,
ITEF, WB Circle Gr. D

Copy to the Joint Conveners, Central Joint Council of Action, New Delhi


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RESOLUTION ADOPTED IN THE MEETING OF JCA,W.B HELD ON 28.08.2015

This meeting of Joint Council of Action of the Associations in Income Tax (JCA), West Bengal unanimously resolves to demand the immediate withdrawal of the Phasing Out Plan as per Annexure "N" of Scheme of distribution of posts forwarded vide CBDT's letter issued from F.No. HBO/CM/102/28/2013-14 dated 04.04.2014 whereby 1633 posts were proposed to be phased out from West Bengal & Sikkim charge in four consequent years (starting from 2014-15).

This meeting also strongly condemns the procrastination of the CBDT on this issue and reiterates retention of all the existing posts in the West Bengal & Sikkim charge prior to Cadre Restructuring, 2013 and further demands that new posts of be immediately allotted to this charge to ameliorate the extreme stagnation in certain cadres.

The meeting also decided to launch a program of intense agitation which may eventually stop the regular office work of this Region if the CBDT fails to deliver the justice to this region.


(MRINAL KANTI CHANDA)

PRESIDENT OF THE MEETING