

**Government of West Bengal  
Department of Panchayats & Rural Development  
Joint Administrative Building, Block HC-7, Sector III,  
Salt Lake, Kolkata -700106.**

**No. 3225-PN/N/II/2L-1/2009**

**Date: 14.07.2015**

**ORDER**

**Sub: Grant of Interest-free Festival Advance to the PRB employees for the year 2014-15**

The undersigned is directed by order of the Governor to say that the regular employees of Zilla Parishads/Siliguri Mahakuma Parishad, Panchayat Samitis and Gram Panchayats and the regular employees of DRD Cell of Zilla Parishads/SMP/GTA whose revised emoluments as on 31st March, 2015 exceeded Rs.24,000/- per month but did not exceed Rs. 35,000/- per month who apply for interest-free festival advance, they may be granted an advance up to a maximum of Rs. 3,500/- (Rupees three thousand five hundred) only during the ensuing festival.

2. The benefit of interest-free festival advance may also be allowed to (a) the whole time piece rated workers, either permanent or temporary and (b) the employees belonging to work charged/ contingent establishments. Such employees drawing revised emoluments exceeding Rs.24,000/- per month but not exceeding Rs 35,000/- per month on 31st March, 2015 may be allowed to draw the interest free advance of Rs. 3,500/- only if they apply for the same.

3. In case of the employees falling under para (2) above, the authority sanctioning the advance shall certify after being satisfied that the employee is likely to continue in service until the recovery is completed.

4. The advance sanctioned herein will be recovered from the salary of the employees concerned in not more than 10(Ten) monthly instalment. If the amount of advance is exactly divisible by ten, it will be recovered in ten equal monthly instalments. If not, the figure obtained by dividing the amount by Ten should be rounded off to the nearest rupees which will be the amount of each of the first nine monthly instalment, and the balance will be recovered in the tenth monthly instalment. The same method of calculation will apply mutatis-mutandis where the advance will be repaid in less than ten instalments. The recovery of the advance sanctioned under this order will begin either from the salary of the employees for the month of November, 2015 or from the salary for the month following the month in which the advance is drawn, which ever is later. However, recovery in all cases should be completed by the 31st August, 2016, at the latest.

5. The employees of Zilla Parishad/Siliguri Mahakuma Parishad, Panchayat Samities and Gram Panchayats and the employees of DRDC of ZPs/SMP/GTA who will leave/retire from the service on a date after issue of this order but before 1st November, 2015 will not be allowed any festival advance. However, an employee who will retire after 1st November 2015 will be eligible to interest-free festival advance sanctioned in this order subject to the condition the recovery should be completed on or before the month of superannuation.

6. (a) Persons who entered into service under the Zilla Parishads/Siliguri Mahakuma Parishad, Panchayat Samitis and Gram Panchayats and DRDC of ZPs/SMP/GTA for the first time after 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2015 but before 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2015 and who are not eligible to get the benefit of Ad-hoc bonus for the year 2014-15 will be entitled to the benefit of interest free-festival advance as sanctioned above subject to fulfillment of the terms and condition laid down in this order. Their emoluments for the purpose of payment of advance will be determined on the basis of their emoluments at the time of entry into service.

(b) The benefit of interest-free festival advance sanctioned above will also be admissible to the employees of Zilla Parishads/Siliguri Mahakuma Parishad, Panchayat Samitis, Gram Panchayats and DRDC of ZPs/SMP/GTA who have been appointed on regular or contract basis provided they are not eligible to draw ad-hoc bonus or ad-hoc bonus on pro-rata basis for the accounting year 2014-2015 and provided their regular or contract emoluments did not exceed Rs. 35,000/- per month.

7. The benefit of interest-free festival advance sanctioned above will also be admissible to the Confidential Assistants to the Sabhadhipatis belonging to temporary establishment of the Zilla Parishads/ Siliguri Mahakuma Parishad.

8. The term 'emoluments' in the case of employees drawing pay and allowances in the unrevised scale, will include basic pay, personal pay, special pay, specialist pay, dearness pay, dearness allowances, deputation (duty) allowance and special allowance (additional remuneration). For the employees who are drawing pay in the revised scale the term 'emoluments' will mean basic pay, (i.e. pay in the pay band plus grade pay), dearness allowance and non-practicing allowance, if any.

9. Application for interest-free festival advance on the strength of this order by the employees of three tiers PR Bodies and the employees of DRDC of ZPs/SMP/GTA shall be made in case of Muslim employees by 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2015 and in case of other than Muslim employees should be made in between 5<sup>th</sup> October, 2015 to 9<sup>th</sup> October, 2015.

10. The expenditure incurred for payment of interest-free festival advance to the employees of Zilla Parishads/Siliguri Mahakuma Parishad, Panchayat Samitis and Gram Panchayats and the employees of DRD Cell of ZPs/SMP/GTA will be debited from the provision made during the current financial year 2015-16 under the concerned salary head of account of the aforesaid employees of the three tiers of Panchayati Raj Bodies viz:-

(i) "012-Grants-in-aid/contributions to the Zilla Parishads Contribution towards salaries of the employees of the Zilla Parishads [PN]-V-31-Grants-in-aid-01-Salary grants",

(ii) "010-Grants-in-aid/contribution to Panchayat Samitis-Contribution towards salaries of the employees of Panchayat Samitis [PN]-V-31-Grants-in-aid-01-Salary grants",

(iii) "004- Contribution towards salaries of Employees of Gram Panchayats [PN]-V-31-Grants-in-aid-01-Salary grants"

**Under head of account** "2515-Other Rural Development programmes-00-101-Panchayati Raj-NP-Non Plan" in the current financial year.

iv) The expenditure incurred for payment of interest-free festival advance to the employees of DRD Cells of Zilla Parishads/ Mahakuma Parishad/ DGHC will be met from the provisions for salaries of the said employees received in the designated bank accounts by the respective Zilla Parishads/ Mahakuma Parishad/GTA from the State Government as well as the Government of India in the current financial year.

12. This order issues in terms of Finance Department Memo No. 5334-F(P2) dated 09/07/2015.

  
(E. Sengupta)  
Joint Secretary  
Panchayats & R.D. Department

No.3225/1(8)-PN/N/II/2L-1/2009

Date: 14.07.2015

Copy forwarded for information to:-

1. The Principal Accountant General (A&E), West Bengal, Treasury Building, Kolkata-700001.
2. The Principal Accountant General (Audit), West Bengal, Treasury Building, Kolkata-700001.
3. The Accountant General (L.B.A), West Bengal, CGO Complex, MSO Building DF-Block, Salt Lake, Kolkata-700064.
4. The Examiner of Local Accounts, CGO Complex, MSO Building DF -Block, Salt Lake, Kolkata-700064.
5. The Finance (Budget) Department of this Government.
6. The Finance Department (Group-G), of this Government.
7. The Finance Department (Group-P), of this Government.
8. The Director of Treasuries & Accounts. New India Assurance Building, 4, Lyons Range Kolkata – 700001.

  
(E. Sengupta)  
Joint Secretary  
Panchayats & R.D. Department

No.3225/1(8)-PN/N/II/2L-1/2009

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Copy forwarded for information to:-

1. The District Magistrate, \_\_\_\_\_ (All)
2. The Executive Officer, \_\_\_\_\_ Zilla/Mahakuma Parishad, P.O. \_\_\_\_\_, Dist \_\_\_\_\_ (All)
3. The Secretary, \_\_\_\_\_ Zilla/Mahakuma Parishad, P.O. \_\_\_\_\_, Dist \_\_\_\_\_ (All)
4. The District Panchayat & Rural Development Officer, \_\_\_\_\_

Spare copies are enclosed for distribution among the S.D.Os., B.D.Os. & T.Os.

5. The Sub-Divisional Officer \_\_\_\_\_ (All)
6. The Block Development Officer, \_\_\_\_\_ P.O. \_\_\_\_\_, Dist \_\_\_\_\_ (All)
7. Treasury Officer, \_\_\_\_\_ (All)
8. The Guard File of Cell-II/III/V of this Department.

  
(E. Sengupta)  
Joint Secretary  
Panchayats & R.D. Department