ASSOCIATION OF LAND AND LAND REFORMS OFFICERS', WEST BENGAL



এ্যাসোসিয়েশন অব ল্যান্ড এন্ড ল্যান্ড রিফমর্স অফিসার্স, ওয়েষ্ট বেঙ্গল

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CENTRAL COMMITTEE

Memo No.01/ALLO/2023 Date: 03/01/2023

To,

The Secretary

&

Land Reforms Commissioner, West Bengal Land & Land Reforms & Refugee Relief & Rehabilitation Department NABANNA, Howrah-711102.

Subject: Atrocities and man-handling of BLLROs by mineral mafias.

Respected Madam,

With deepest anguish and concern, I would like to lodge my protest on behalf of our association against the derogatory atrocities inflicted on BLLROs and its staff by the mineral mafias. The frequency of such heinous crimes is on the rise. Three incidents have already occurred in December 2022 in Shilda, Jhargram (15th), Saithia, Birbhum (27th) and Baraboni, Paschim Bardhaman (29th).

It is well known that BLLRO offices are ill-equipped and are in acute shortage of staff strength. The BL&LRO and ROs including the other officials are forced to undertake raid duties against the plunderers of the mining fields of sand and earth as if they are sent to the forefront bare-armed against 'Kalashnikovs'.

We have a strong apprehension that certain echelons in the government as well as the media have a strong propensity to derogate our cadres under false pretext for the cause well known to them.

Earlier, we have witnessed even the SDOs of IAS cadres personally launched FIRs against sand mafias, which was of no avail.

If any of our cadre is found guilty, we demand immediate and early proceeding without delay. This is needless to say that earlier in several occasions it is found that BL&LROs and ROs are falsely maligned/accused by the authorities/media. The poor officers of our cadre are the scapegoats. This cacophony must be stopped immediately. The reluctance to bring the culprits to the book results in flexing of muscles. The culprits/miscreants must be arrested and interrogated effectively to get the root of the crime and to break the rackets, if any.

We welcome ACBs introduction into investigation of illegal mining and wish all success in-spite of their performance so far.

Finally, we would like to suggest to withdraw this extra burden from ISU setup which is extremely stressed with citizen centric works and quasi-judicial matters and the job may be entrusted with some other department/ dedicated task force as may be deemed fit and relieve us of this extra departmental work. We will surely help them, as we did with Irrigation dept. in the past.

We have faith in our administration and thus submit to yourself to take stern actions to save our souls.

The matter may please be looked into in the socio-political perspective in order to take effective measures to defend the dignity of the cadres as well as the department and to bring the culprits to the book.

With regards,

Yours faithfully,

Krishanu Deb

Krishanu Deb

Krishanu Deb General Secretary