**H.P. Cabinet Decisions**

               The State Cabinet in its meeting held here today under the chairmanship of Chief Minister Shri Jai Ram Thakur decided to enhance the honorarium of part time water carriers engaged in Elementary and Higher Education Departments of the State Government by Rs. 300 per month from Rs. 2400 to Rs. 2700 per month.

 The Cabinet decided to provide a monthly ‘Loktantra Prahari Samman Rashi’ of Rs. 8000 per month to those persons who have undergone 1-15 days incarceration and   Rs. 12000 per month to those who have undergone 15 days or above incarceration during emergency between 25th June, 1975 to 21st March, 1977 under MISA –Maintenance of Internal Security Act and DIR-Defence of India Rules as a token of respect to them for standing up for democracy and fundamental rights of the people.

 It also gave its nod to the draft policy for engaging Part Time Multi Task Workers in government schools. It will initially provide an opportunity for 7852 eligible unemployed candidates to earn honorarium at local level. These workers will be paid an honorarium of Rs. 31.25 per hour for six hours per day for ten months in an academic year.

 The Cabinet gave its consent to establish a training academy centre at Barchwad in Sarkaghat area of Mandi district to train those youth who are willing to join Indian Army/Navy/Air Force and other para military forces to serve the country.

 It decided to open new Horticulture Division in Public Works Department at Shimla.  All the existing Sub Divisions of the Horticulture would be brought under the administrative control of this Division. This new Horticulture Division would help build green roads by ensuring road side plantation and slope stability activities through bio-engineering technology.

 With a view to provide flexibility to the employer in order to meet the challenges of globalization and methods of doing businesses, besides benefitting the workers, the State Cabinet approved the Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Himachal Pradesh (Amendment) Rules, 2019.  This would extend the provision of ‘Fixed Term Employment Workman’ in respect of industrial establishments under their domain as per provisions of Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1946 and Rules made thereafter. This would give the ‘Fixed Term Employment Workman’ the same statutory benefits as were being given to regular workers in a proportionate manner and thus decrease exploitation of contract workers as the employer would directly hire the workers without any mediator in the form of contract for a fixed term.

 It decided to lease out Skill Development Institute constructed by the Himachal Pradesh Buildings and Other Construction Workers Welfare Board at Palkwah Khas in tehsil Haroli of Una district to Indian Institute of Information Technology at the rates assessed by the Public Works Department.

  It granted its approval to adopt CPWD works Manual 2019 and other publication of CPWD in Himachal Pradesh Public Works Department. This will bring in transformative changes in the department by adopting new emerging construction technologies to gain dominance over the conventional construction practices. This will also serve as a guide book for State Public Works Department as the CPWD has its own Design Directorate headed by Director General.

 In order to reduce the number of registers/forms essentially required to be maintained under various Acts and for expedient compliance of the requirements of various Labour Laws in the State, the Cabinet gave its approval to Himachal Pradesh Ease of Compliance to Maintain Register under various Labour Laws, Rules, 2019.

 The Cabinet gave its nod to hire the resource persons of M/s Ernst and Young (EY) LLP for providing consultancy services for implementation of Ease of Doing Business (State Business Reforms Action Plan and District Business Reforms Action Plan) and Investment Promotion in the State.

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