GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL FINANCE DEPARTMENT AUDIT BRANCH

No. 717-F

Date: 20.01.2005.

<u>ORDER</u>

In terms of Section 58(2) of the West Bengal Co-operative Societies Act, 1983 it is the obligation of the employer of to be more specific the D.D.O. to deduct from the salaries or wages and retiring gratuity or death gratuity which is payable to a member of a Co-operative Society from such employer such amount as specified in the agreement executed by the member in favour of the Co-operative Society providing that the employer shall be competent to make such deduction and pay the debt or other demands of the Co-operative Society against the employer of D.D.O. shall, on the requisition of the Co-operative Society in writing, make the deduction in accordance with the agreement and pay the amount to the Co-operative Society for so long as the Co-operative Society does not intimate that the debt or demand has been fully paid.

Also, in terms of Section 58(3) of the West Bengal Co-operative Societies Act, 1983, if the employer fails to make the deduction or defaults in making payment to the Co-operative Society, he/she shall liable to make the payment to the Society together with interest at twelve per cent per annum and the entire amount shall be recoverable, from the employer by the Co-operative Society as an arrear of land revenue and such amount shall rank in priority in respect of the liability of the employer as wages in arrear.

It has been brought to the notice of this Deptt. that a few DDO Heads of the Office are reluctant to recover the dues of members of Co-operative Societies. But this is contrary to the provisions of the aforesaid Act.

All concerned DDOs (through their Administrative Deptts) are instructed to take note of the provisions of West Bengal Co-operative Societies Act, 1983 and to discharge the duties and obligations rest upon them as per provisions of the said Act.

Sd/- P. K. Guha Ray

Special Secretary to the Government of West Bengal Finance Department.