

POSTAL NEWS

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1. Postal workers meeting with bargaining committee

Updated: Sun May. 29 2011 3:11:35 PM

The Canadian Press

OTTAWA — Officials with the Canadian Union of Postal Workers say there is little progress in negotiations with the post office as talks have paused.

Union officials say they'll meet with members of the bargaining committee this weekend to evaluate the situation and decide the next move.

A union email says there is no indication Canada Post is prepared to seriously discuss issues like staffing, workload and safety.

They say the post office seems more concerned about eliminating sick leave and imposing less pay and benefits on its urban workers.

The union has not issued a 72-hour strike notice, but it is telling its members they should be prepared to participate in job action in the "very near future."

Canada Post says it has put forward an offer giving employees better wages and no change to their existing pension and job security.

CUP-W represents 50-thousand urban postal workers.

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Monday, May 30, 2011

2. Bankers group warms to postal bank

KYODO

The Japanese Bankers Association may grant "observer" status to Japan Post Bank Co. as an entity not involved in its decision-making process, sources familiar with the issue said Sunday.

While the association has refused to grant membership to the banking arm of Japan Post Holdings Co. on the grounds that it hinders private-sector businesses, cooperative ties with the postal bank have developed recently in the wake of March's quake and tsunami and in connection with tackling financial crime.

The formal decision will be made at the association's board meeting in June at the earliest, the sources said.

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3. Regional transport offices in Mumbai struggle to deliver licences

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By Akshay Deshmane | Place: Mumbai | Agency: DNA

Shocked by the increasing number of driving licences being returned by the postal department to the regional transport office (RTO) in Tardeo, the transport department has set up a committee to look into the practical problems in the implementation of the scheme that has mandated home delivery of licences.

Recently, at least 1,900 driving licences which were to be delivered, have been returned by the postal department to the Central RTO in Tardeo, the first office in the state to start implementing the scheme. A senior official from the transport department, on the condition of anonymity, said, "The committee will study the problems associated with implementation of the scheme and suggest solutions. In the interim period, applicants who didn't get their licences delivered can go to the concerned RTO to get their licences and RC books by displaying identity cards."

In an article on April 28 ('DL home delivery a damp squib'), DNA revealed several issues that plagued the scheme during its trial phase at the Tardeo RTO. Of the 4,300 licenses and 1,705 registration certificates (RC books) dispatched from the RTO in the first month of the scheme's implementation, 27 driving licences and one RC book had been returned for various reasons. Lack of clarity about certain rules and operatives procedures concerning the practical implementation of the scheme have resulted in the number shooting up to at least 1,900.

The official said state transport commissioner Dilip Jadhav is monitoring the progress of the scheme. “Soon, all the problems of practical implementation will be rectified,” he assured.

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