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DX/900/AGM-2015

24 Nov 15

**MINUTES OF THE 24<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM) OF NAVY  
FOUNDATION HELD AT KOCHI ON 11 OCT 15**

1. The 24<sup>th</sup> Annual General Body Meeting of the Navy Foundation was held at SNC Officers' Mess, Kochi on 11 Oct 15 under the Chairmanship of Admiral RK Dhowan, PVSM, AVSM, YSM, ADC, the Chief of Naval Staff and President Navy Foundation. The following were present: -

(a) **Invitees**

- |      |                                    |                   |
|------|------------------------------------|-------------------|
| (i)  | Vice Admiral Sunil Lanba PVSM,AVSM | FOC-in-C (South)  |
| (ii) | Cmde P Suresh                      | CO INS Venduruthy |

(b) **Members**

- |       |                                 |                  |
|-------|---------------------------------|------------------|
| (i)   | Vice Admiral AK Jain, AVSM, VSM | Vice President   |
| (ii)  | RAdm Sunil Anand, NM            | Secy RGC (West)  |
| (iii) | RAdm Pradeep Rana, VSM          | Secy RGC (East)  |
| (iv)  | Cmde Ajay Saxena, PDESA, VSM    | Secretary        |
| (v)   | Cmde VK Pisharody, NM           | Secy RGC (South) |
| (vi)  | Cmde AC Tiwari                  | Legal Member     |
| (vii) | Cmde HS Chopra, PDNPF (Retd)    | Treasurer        |

(c) **In Attendance**

- |       |                       |                         |
|-------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| (i)   | Cmde MK Jetly         | PDPA                    |
| (ii)  | Cmde Subhash Gadhavi  | PDECHS (Navy)           |
| (iii) | Capt DR Sharma (Retd) | Member Secretary, INCCB |
| (iv)  | Capt B Bhattacharya   | JDESA (NF)              |

(d) **Charter Representatives.**

- |     |                          |                          |
|-----|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| (i) | RAdm Arun Auditto (Retd) | President Mumbai Chapter |
|-----|--------------------------|--------------------------|

- |        |                              |                              |
|--------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| (ii)   | RAdm SR Sampatgopal (Retd)   | President Bengaluru Chapter  |
| (iii)  | R Adm Prem Kumar Nair (Retd) | President Kerala Chapter     |
| (iv)   | Cmde BR Sen (Retd)           | President Kolkata Chapter    |
| (v)    | Capt BK Sahu (Retd)          | President Odisha Chapter     |
| (vi)   | Lt Cdr GK Balaji (Retd)      | Member Chennai Chapter       |
| (vii)  | Cmde VK Gautam (Retd)        | President Chandigarh Chapter |
| (viii) | Cmde PK Malhoyra (Retd)      | President Pune Chapter       |
| (ix)   | Cmde MVS Kumar (Retd)        | Member Vizag Chapter         |
| (x)    | Cdr AK Wilson (Retd)         | Secretary Lucknow Chapter    |
| (xi)   | Cdr G Eswara Reddy (Retd)    | Secretary Hyderabad Chapter  |
| (xii)  | Cdr Ashutosh Sharma (Retd)   | Secretary Jaipur Chapter     |

**Item I: Welcome Address**

2. The Controller Personnel Services extended a warm welcome to all present and in particular, thanked the Veteran Flag Officers present and outstation representatives who had taken efforts to attend the Annual General Body Meeting of Navy Foundation. He also thanked the members of the NF Kerala Charter who had turned up in significant strength to participate in the AGM.

3. CPS apprised the gathering regarding the MoU with Jamia Milia College wherein sailors desirous of obtaining a graduation degree (three years) can write the examination after undergoing one year of distant learning. Time spent in Navy will be counted towards the remaining two years. He also apprised them regarding the importance of Aadhaar registration by all serving and retired personnel and their dependants and its seeding in PPOs. Navy's initiative of becoming a Registrar of UIDAI to facilitate issuance of Aadhaar by Commands. He informed them about the low percentage of compliance by veterans in forwarding Aadhaar details to NAVPEN and urged all present to forward the same in case not forwarded.

**Item II: Presentation by PDNPF**

3. PDNPF provided details of the various welfare measures undertaken by the DNPF and in particular highlighted the following aspects:-

- (a) Post Retirement Death Insurance Extension Scheme (PRDIES).
- (b) INBA Welfare Schemes.
- (c) Social Security Deposits.

**Item III Presentation by Director ECHS**

4. The Dir ECHS(N) covered the following aspects in his presentation:-
- (a) Details of the ECHS Scheme.
  - (b) Regional Centres.
  - (c) Types of Polyclinics.
  - (d) Management of Polyclinics.
  - (e) Proposal for Additional ECHS Polyclinics.
  - (f) ECHS Membership and eligibility.
  - (g) Disease Pattern.
  - (h) On-Line Processing of Bills.
  - (i) ECHS Budget.
  - (j) Recent Developments.
  - (k) Shortage of Medicines
  - (l) Shortage of ECHS Manpower.

**Item IV : Status of Old Agenda Points.**

5. Status on eight actionable Agenda Points from the last AGM was provided to the forum. Details of the same are placed at **Appendix 'A'**.

**Item V: Discussion on New Agenda Points (Part I).**

6. Four new Agenda Points were discussed under the Chairmanship of CPS. Details of discussions and decisions arrived at are placed at **Appendix 'B'**.

**Item VI: President's Address.**

7. The President extended a warm welcome to the members for the Annual General Body Meeting - 2015.

8 The President requested all present to join him in paying homage to members who had departed for their heavenly abode since the last meeting by observing a two minute silence.

9. The President stated that since the last AGM, Navy has witnessed a high ops tempo and shown its operational footprint across the oceans of the world, wherein, IN Ships were deployed in the Western Pacific on the East and the North Atlantic on the West as also, in the Islands of Indian Ocean, Coast of Africa and South East

Asian countries on a flag-showing mission and equally important to showcase our capability and to create an environment of peace and harmony in the waters around us. In keeping with the Hon'ble Prime Minister's vision of security and growth for all in the region that is SAGAR, something which he had visualised during his visit to the Island nations, Indian Navy also provided assistance to the Indian Ocean Littorals.

10. The President informed that the Coastal Security has been taken in total earnest by the Navy. Towards this end Hon'ble RM had inaugurated Navy's Command, Control, Communication, Information and Network Information (C<sup>3</sup>I&N) last year at Gurgaon. This has integrated 51 nodes; 31 of the Coast Guard and 20 of the Navy and now provides a comprehensive Maritime Domain Awareness in the waters around us. To provide further impetus, 87 AIS stations linked through 46 node stations (36 on the coast line and 10 on the main land) have been set up. To map our coastal areas, sailors and officers of the Navy and Coast Guard had moved on foot and motor cycles and visited each and every coastal village, interacting with the fishermen and sensitising them on the importance of coastal security and their role as "eyes and ears" of the surveillance chain. The fishing community of almost 4 million have also been sensitised to the need for registering themselves and their boats. Issuance of bio-metric cards and fitment of AIS transponders are underway. This will facilitate interface of coastal boats through VHF and deep sea fishing boats through satellite link.

11. The President highlighted the challenges impinging on IN's Area of Operations since the Indian Ocean Region has emerged as the Centre of Gravity in the maritime domain in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. At any time there are 120 warships from over 20 nations operating in these waters. At the same time the PLA Navy has been actively deploying ever since 2008 with the Anti-Piracy Escort Force. The modus operandi being that they operate for 6 to 7 months. Then do a three months Gulf of Aden patrol and thereafter get replaced by another Task Force on task and then they carry out deployment in the IOR on overseas deployment. The last Anti-Piracy Escort Force being the 20<sup>th</sup> Escort Force, was relieved recently and is now on a round the world tour. There have also been occasional deployments of PLAN submarines. IN monitors every single action of the movement of PLA Navy ships and submarines and is building up its capabilities in this regard.

12. The President provided a broad overview of the naval operations over the recent months and stated that earlier this year during TROPEX (which is a Theatre Level Exercise held annually) 50 ships and submarines, both aircraft carriers with their Sea Harriers and MiG 29 K aircraft embarked, P-8I aircraft and the, Nuclear Submarine Chakra had participated. All the platforms were integrated through Navy Satellite Rukmani to provide Network Centric Operations. P-8I has been a very useful induction. They can cover large areas for surveillance, drop sono-buoys, locate submarine and fire Harpoon Missiles and torpedoes to take on Surface as well as Sub-surface target. Seven P8I aircraft have arrived with the eighth aircraft due to arrive in next 2-3 days after which all 8 initial aircraft would be in position.

13. The President also updated the forum on the induction plan in the Navy and informed that trials of Arihant were progressing satisfactorily. In keeping with the 'Made in India' initiative and indigenous programmes, 47 ships and submarines are

under construction in Indian Shipyards. The endeavour is to progressively increase the indigenous content so that future ships will be 100% made in India.

14. The President brought out that significant strides have been made in aspects related to maintenance and infrastructure. Phase-I of Karwar was complete. Approval for the next phase of the project - Phase 2A which will cost the nation Rs. 19,000 Crore has been obtained. With completion of this project IN will have adequate facilities to base its future ships and submarines at Karwar which is being maintained as a Marine Pollution Compliant Harbour. In the next phase it is envisaged to have a base with zero carbon foot print. The Navy has gone a long way in ensuring that our maintenance in the dockyards / NSRY at Port Blair, Karwar and Kochi have come up to the requisite standards.

15. Towards 'Digital Navy' initiative, the President informed the gathering that aspect from operations to maintenance to the aspect of looking after the governance of officers and sailors in terms of their Gen Forms, uniforms and other issues are now digital and computerised.

16. Regarding manpower related initiatives, the President stated that the man behind the machine the officers and sailors in uniform, remains the most valuable asset. Aspects related to their training, upkeep and their welfare have been accorded top priority. Also 2015 has been designated as the 'Year of the Sailor' and 'Year of the Schools' wherein every aspect regarding schooling and accommodation and facilities provided to our sailors and officers are being looked into with the intention to run a taut, efficient and happy Indian Navy

17. In conclusion the President stated that veterans were a wealth of experience and IN would like to reach out to them so that they remain part of the naval community. He also brought out the endeavour to make the IN web site and our communication system with the Ex-Servicemen more vibrant so that they can be part of the skill development programme of the nation and aspects related to employment of Ex-Servicemen.

**Item VII: Confirmation of Minutes of Meeting of last AGM.**

18. The Secretary confirmed that the minutes of 23<sup>rd</sup> AGM had been forwarded to all chapters. The motion for confirmation of the 23<sup>rd</sup> AGM minutes was proposed by Cdr G Eswara Reddy (Retd), Secy NF Hyderabad and seconded by Cmde MVS Kumar (Retd) Rep NF Vizag.

**Item IX: Secretary's Report.**

19. The Secretary presented the report on the activities of the Navy Foundation since the last Annual General Meeting held at New Delhi on 28 Sep 14.

20. He highlighted the change in the stewardship of a few Chapters since the last AGM and that he looked forward to a fruitful interaction ahead.

21. The rationale of the Navy, to register with the Unique Identification Authority of India or UIDAI as an independent registrar for enrolling serving and retired naval personnel and their dependents for Aadhaar registration was brought out. Aadhar

details of veterans were to reach NAVPEN by 30 Sep 15 but feedback indicated that a substantial number of veterans have either not communicated their Aadhaar details to NAVPEN or have still not got themselves and their dependents registered. All Chapters and particularly the Regional Governing Councils were requested to initiate steps to reach out to all our veterans and veernaris to come forwards and complete this process.

22. He informed the house that reports received from Chapters indicated that the Navy Foundation has been meeting the aims and objectives for which it was created. All the Chapters have been regularly conducting their AGM and get togethers which was being attended by majority of its members.

23. He subsequently read out important activities undertaken by the Charters in their alphabetical order.

### **Bangalore Charter**

24. The Bengaluru Chapter had conducted its second Adm RL Pereira Memorial Lecture on 10 Jan 15. The speaker Cmde AJ Paulraj (Retd), Padma Bhusan, recipient of Marconi Prize and Bell medal winner who is Emeritus Professor at Stanford University, USA delivered the talk on "Accelerating Technology Change and National Security". The CNS presided over the event and delivered the keynote address.

25. The chapter also facilitated update on veteran related issues for its members. During the get togethers, opportunity was utilised for presentations by eminent speakers on subjects like "How to make a will", "Biological Terrorism", "money saving tips and advice when travelling abroad" were held for the benefit of the members.

### **Delhi Chapter**

26. The Delhi Chapter conducted the 24<sup>th</sup> Adm RD Katari memorial Lecture on 16 Jan 15 at Dr DS Kothari Auditorium of DRDO Bhawan, New Delhi. The speaker, Shri Shyam Saran, former Foreign Secretary delivered the lecture titled 'A National Security for India and the Maritime Domain'. The CNS presided over the function. Mrs Lalita Ramdas daughter of the Late Admiral also addressed the gathering.

27. The Secretary informed that the birth centenary of Late Adm SM Nanda (Retd), the sixth CNS who steered the Indian Navy during the 1971 war was to be commemorated the same evening by the NF Delhi Chapter at NOM Varuna, Delhi for which the Chief of the Naval Staff had kindly consented to be the Chief Guest and would deliver the keynote address.

### **Goa Chapter**

28. The Goa Chapter conducted regular meetings with participation of serving naval officers dealing with veteran issues as also by officers from the Western Naval Command including a rep from NAVPEN, which has helped in expeditiously addressing the concerns of the members.

### **Hyderabad Charter**

29. The Hyderabad Chapter participated in the Navy Golf Cup Tournament held

with nine other teams from the units of the three Services located at Hyderabad. The chapter has kept up its effort to obtain advertisement for Quarterdeck. He also highlight the proactive initiative taken by the Chapter towards arranging advertisement for the Navy Foundation magazine Quarterdeck. Like all years, the Chapter has contributed Rs 5.32 Lakhs in the total corpus of Rs 6.02 lakhs raised for the forthcoming 2016 edition of the Quarter Deck.

### **Kerala Charter**

30. The Kerala Chapter continued its philanthropic services through contributions received from its members. The Chapter celebrated Onam by providing scholarship to five economically weak and deserving students. In addition, Chapter members celebrated Independence Day by hoisting the national flag at Kochi Marine Drive and participation in Independence Day Walk. Towards interaction between members and bonding as a community, the Kerala Chapter conducted a visit of its members to INA.

### **Kolkata Charter**

31. The Chapter conducted quarterly meetings for its members to facilitate interaction and take up welfare issues. On 01 Mar 15 the Chapter facilitated an interactive session for its members with Director, ECHS Kolkata to discuss health issues of concern.

32. The fifth Admiral AK Chatterji Memorial Lecture, which marked the Centenary Edition was conducted on 11 Apr 15. The lecture was delivered by Late Dr APJ Kalam to a packed Bhasha Bhawan Auditorium of the National Library who spoke on 'Strength Respects Strength'. The audience comprised serving and retired personnel from the three services, Coast Guard, Para Military forces, academicians, state government dignitaries and members of the late Admiral's friends.

### **Lucknow Charter**

33. Lucknow Chapter being the youngest Chapter, in addition to holding its regular meetings celebrated Navy Day 2014 by rganizing a get together at the Surya Officers' Institute which witnessed active participation from all its members.

### **Mumbai Charter**

34. The Mumbai Chapter conducted Admiral Soman Memorial lecture, for 2015 on 15 Feb 15 in Asvini Auditorium. The speaker for the occasion was Ms Shobhaa De. The Chapter also organised a Golf tournament between Serving verses Retired Officers at US Golf Club on 25 Jan 15.

35. The regular meetings conducted by the Chapter were also attended by Staff Officers from HQ WNC. The Chapter felicitates its octogenarian members on such occasions. The Chapter follows a noble gesture of nomination one member of the Chapter as a guide to each of the *veernaris* registered with them who facilitates her in every aspect feasible. During the last meeting, the Chapter decided to publish an obituary in the Times of India in the unfortunate event of demise of a veteran or his spouse.

36. In conclusion he re-assured all the members that DESA remained committed

in its endeavour to reach out to NF members and keep them updated on current policy issues effecting the veterans as also address their concerns. Towards this end, regular advisories to all Chapters were being communicated through e-mail as also by hosting them on DESA page in the IN web site and through the DESA blog. The quarterly e-Newsletter started in Jun 2014, was covering all aspects related to our veterans. Inputs and valuable suggestions received to make the newsletter more relevant and interesting had been incorporated to make it more informative and user friendly.

**Item X: Discussion on New Agenda Points (Part II).**

37. The President, NF presided over the balance four new Agenda Points Details of the same are placed at **Appendix 'C'**.

**Item XI: President's Concluding Remarks.**

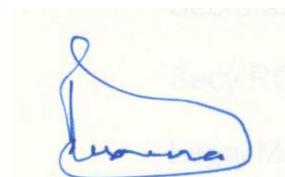
38. The President provided an overview on OROP with respect to the proposal of the Services, the Government's intension to resolve it early and the aspects related to VRS. He stated that the Government has been proactive and well intentioned in resolving the issue amicably. Hence, one will have to wait for the fine print of OROP promulgation letter. He also apprised the gathering regarding the ground work done both by individual Services and jointly to ensure a comprehensive 7<sup>th</sup> Pay Commission package with respect to parity, adequate allowances and removal of anomalies.

39. In conclusion he informed the House regarding the development in the field of Skill Development of retiring / retired armed forces personnel under the agies of the MoU signed between the MoD and MSDE. He also brought out the initiative by the Navy to develop a National Portal that will indicate the skill sets of the ESM in a manner that is easily comprehended by the prospective employers and facilitate employment of ESM in the Corporate Houses.

**Item XII: Vote of Thanks.**

40. The AGM ended with a vote of thanks by Secretary, Navy Foundation on behalf of the President, Navy Foundation.

41. There being no other points, the meeting was adjourned. The minutes are issued with the approval of the Chairman.



(Ajay Saxena)  
Commodore  
Secretary  
Navy Foundation

**Distribution:** - Normal

**STATUS OF OLD AGENDA POINTS**

**Item III (22<sup>nd</sup> AGM) - Inability to Utilise Railway Passes Issued to Gallantry Award Winners (Kolkata Charter)**

1. **Issue.** Kolkata Charter had brought out that gallantry award winners are unable to utilise the facility of free railway pass since they were being allotted side upper berth in II AC.
2. **Update.** The issue was once again taken up with Railway authorities and it was reiterated by them that the system is fully automatic and no manual intervention is feasible. Allotment of berth for on line booking is done by computer generated sequence which factors in the time of booking vis a vis the number of berths available, the choice exercised and age of the passenger. The on line reservation programme does not take into account any type of concession or pass. Also no different set of rules for allocation of berths to concession or privileged pass holders exists.
3. **Status.** Point to be closed.

**Action: - PDPS**

**Item IV (22<sup>nd</sup> AGM) - Charter Run OAH for Needy Widow / Widower Spouses/Veterans (Mumbai Charter)**

4. **Issue.** Mumbai Charter had proposed a Charter run one-bedroom accommodation for needy single veterans or spouse be set aside in AFNHB or Adarsh Building (if given to Defence).
5. **Update.**
  - (a) After deliberations in the last AGM, NF Chapters were requested to indicate firm requirements along with the preferred location for such OAHs as also the preferred model on which these OAHs could be managed and a rough indication of cost that could be paid by the veterans. Chapters were requested on various occasions to forward inputs. The response to the proposal has not been encouraging.
  - (b) As a fall out of discussions in the last Commanders' Conference, the concept of Old Age Homes is being examined afresh with the idea of Navy constructing them akin to the Army and Air Force.
6. **Status.** The point pertaining to Chapter-run-OAH to be closed. The issue regarding OAH akin to the Army and Air Force would be examined separately.

**Action: - PDESA**

**Item I Adoption of the Revised MoA (Secy NF)**

7. **Issue.** Adoption of the Memorandum of Association.

8. **Update.**

(a) Many changes had occurred since the MoA was brought into force but the same were not incorporated in the MoA. The last GCM and the AGM had approved 10 amendments to the MoA. The revised MoA of Navy Foundation was adopted and ratified by the 23<sup>rd</sup> AGM and 23<sup>rd</sup> GCM of NF respectively on 28 Sep 14. Extant regulation enshrined in '***The Societies Registration Act 1860***' necessitated that a second special meeting (after its adoption and ratification by AGM and GCM respectively) be convened after an interval of at least one month and the MoA adopted by 3/5<sup>th</sup> of the members present.

(b) To meet this procedural requirement of convening aq second special meeting, the AGM at Kota House on 05 Jul 15 was organized by NFDC wherein outstation members also attended. Also the meeting notice along with hard copy of revised MoA was forwarded to all Chapters by post. The revised MoA was adopted unanimously by the Special GBM with Cdr Vijay Vadhera (Retd), Secretary Mumbai Charter proposing the motion and Cmde SR Vasan (Retd) Member Chennai Charter seconding it.

(c) Submission of the amended MoA for final approval of the registrar is pending since end Jul 15, due to trifurcation of the existing Society in line with the Delhi Municipal Corporation organisation. The approval of the Registrar is likely to be obtained by Dec 2015.

9. **Status.** Point to be monitored.

**Action:** - PDESA

**Item III Incentive for Veterans on Attaining Age of 75 years (Mumbai Charter)**

10. **Issue.** It was proposed that Navy should pay an incentive to veterans who attain the age of 75 yrs, in line with Army policies.

11. **Update**

(a) The issue was examined on file and a policy letter promulgating that a silver salver of 6 inch diameter along with a letter from the Chief of Naval Staff be sent to veteran officers, except those dismissed from service, who attain the age of 80 years from 01 Jul 15.

(b) After promulgation of the letter, requests to increase the ambit to all octogenarians and not limit the proposal to veterans attaining the status of octogenarian from 01 Jul 15 onwards were received. The issue is being reviewed and has now been linked with felicitating octogenarian sailors. Final guidelines would be promulgated.

12. **Status.** Point to be monitored.

**Action:** - PDESA /PDNPF

#### **Item IV Exemption of Toll Tax for ESM (Mumbai Charter)**

13. **Issue.** Immediate case be taken up with the NHAH for restarting Toll Tax exemption for the Retired Officers also on the Toll Booths of all the National Highways.

14. **Update.** As per last AGM decision, the case has been taken up with PPOC. The three Services are in agreement with the proposal. However the COSC Sect has clarified that since the issue regarding Toll Tax exemption for Serving Personnel has been taken up with Ministry of Road Transport and Highway and is at the final stages. Case for extending the exemption to Ex-Servicemen would be taken up subsequently.

15. **Status.** Point to be monitored.

**Action:** - PDESA

#### **Item V Launching of Naval Veterans Grievance Handling Portal Akin to Army (Mumbai Charter)**

16. **Issue.** Launch a Naval Veterans Grievance Handling portal like the one started by Indian Army.

17. **Update.**

(a) Various mechanisms and channels of communication have been put in place by the Navy for expeditious registering of the grievances of veterans, NoK and widows. Namely – the 24 x 7 toll free Landline with DESA, NAVPEN Toll Free Help Line, DESA e-mail for sending messages and the DESA Blog. The response on the DESA Blog is encouraging and has become an interactive mode for exchanging views.

(b) To address the issue, inputs were solicited on the specific nature of difficulty experienced by any veteran in having his query or grievance heard despite the various existing mechanism in place was solicited to ascertaining the need for a separate grievance portal for Naval ESM or modify the existing system. No feedback was received from any Chapter.

(c) The same notwithstanding, efforts are in hand to have a grievance portal linked to the new IN website. Though the migration to the new website has taken place on 01 Oct 15, the launch of the grievance portal would be undertaken in the second phase due to requirements of suitable programming and software development which is a long drawn process.

18. Point to be closed.

#### **Item XIV – Disbursement of Navy Calendars.**

19. **Issue.** New Year calendars not being received by the various Chapters in time.

20. **Update**. Consequent to the discussions, responsibility to distribute the calendars now rests with DESA. Procedure for timely distribution of calendars has been streamlined. Despatch of 2016 calendars will be ensured by Early Dec 2015.

21. **Status**. Point to be closed.

**Action**: - PDESA

**NEW AGENDA POINTS (PART I)**

**Item I Admission to Army/Navy/Air Force Schools for Grand Children of ESM (Vizag Chapter)**

1. Admission may be allowed to Grand Children of ESM in Army/Navy/Air Force Schools under special category.

2. **Deliberations.**

(a) For admission to various Navy Children School there are 07 reserve categories as follows:-

- (i) Category I – Children of serving Naval Personnel.
- (ii) Category II – Children of serving Army/ IAF/Coast Guard personnel who are on deputation to Navy.
- (iii) Category III – Children of retired Naval Personnel.
- (iv) Category IV – Children of retired Army and Air Force personnel.
- (v) Category V – Children of NCS Staff.
- (vi) Category VI – Children of Defence Civilian personnel.
- (vii) Category VII – Others

(b) Input from Commands indicates that the Navy is presently experiencing difficulty in meeting the admission requirements of personnel from Category I and II alone.

(c) The Navy is aware of the problem and 2015 has been declared as the Year of the School – wherein amongst a host of measures being implemented the Navy is opening new branches of NCS and Kendriya Vidyalayas in various naval stations including second NCS in many stations.

(d) Provision exists in schools run by Army and Air Force for admission of grand children of ESM. However, the overall priority accorded to this category both by the Army and the Air Force is very low.

(e) Approval of the Chairman Naval Education Society (NES) has been sought to include the issue regarding admission of grand children of ESM under a separate category as an agenda point for the forthcoming Annual Navy Education Society Conference scheduled for 05-06 Nov 15.

(f) CPS opined that it will be difficult to fulfill the requirement presently due to limit infrastructure of NCS. The situation is further aggrieved with wards of sailors who were earlier going to Kendriya Vidyalays are now opting for NCS. Accommodating wards of retired Naval personnel is also becoming difficult. He informed that, with new NCS coming up, grandchildren will be accommodated, wherever possible.

3. **Decision.** The issue to be examined and final outcome informed to all Chapters.

**Action:** - PDNE

**Item II Seeding of Aadhaar Data and Registration of Aadhaar Registration for Veterans (Kolkata Chapter)**

4. Kolkata Chapter has brought out that many Veterans/widows are still not in possession of Aadhaar Card to meet the requirement of seeding Aadhaar data in PPO and for Jeevan Praman Portal. Hence, it requests that Aadhaar Camp be conducted at Kolkata and disbursement of pension through e - PPOs be held in abeyance till 100% veterans/widows have Aadhar cards or else veterans / widows not in possession of the card may have problems in drawing of pension.

5. **Deliberations.**

(a) In consonance with the ***'Pro-Active Governance and Timely Implementation'*** acronym PRAGATI, an initiative of the Hon'ble PM, the process of generating e-PPOs, and seeding of Aadhaar data in the records of retired personnel for generation of e-PPOs is underway at NAVPEN. Issues pertaining to NPR status (like West Bengal) were highlighted.

(b) Navy has become an independent registering authority under the Unique Identification Authority of India i.e. UIDAI to facilitate the serving and retired naval personnel and their dependents.

(c) Commands are conducting Aadhaar registration through Enrolment Agencies already registered with Regional Offices of UIDAI. In addition, liaison is being maintained with corresponding formations of other Services to coordinate attendance of naval pensioners in the Aadhaar registration / Jeevan Pramaan camps being conducted by them.

(d) With regards to the request by Kolkata Chapter to hold issue of e-PPOs in abeyance, it was clarified that the existing procedure for disbursement of pension and submission of Digital Life Certificate will presently continue.

(e) President Kolkata Chapter stated that there are about seven veterans in Kolkata who are bedridden and the apprehension is that in case Aadhaar is not generated they may not be able to draw their pension in future. CPS apprised regarding the inability of UIDAI to meet the requirements which has prompted Navy to become a registrar. CSO (P&A) HQ WNC stated that provision of portable device exists which can be used for bedridden veterans to generate Aadhaar. CSO (P&A) HQ ENC stated that ads were being put out informing ESM regarding Aadhaar Camps and lot of DSC and Army veterans are availing the facility set up by HQ ENC. He further stated that based on inputs on concentration of ESM the Aadhaar registration camps could be held accordingly and requirement of bed ridden veterans will be met.

(f) PDPA informed that having the Aadhaar details seeded in the PPO is desirable but noncompliance will not affect the drawing of Pension by ESM. CPS stated that Aadhaar will be essential in future hence all veterans should endeavour to get their Aadhaar registration.

6. **Decision.**

(a) RGC (East) was requested to render all assistance in resolving Aadhaar card issues for veterans of West Bengal.

(b) Being, bilateral in nature, the point was closed.

**Action: - RGC (East)**

**Item III Compilation of Compendium/ Directory of All Veterans (Kolkata Chapter)**

7. The requirement of a compendium containing records of veterans to facilitate in keeping connected is essential. While web based directory would be preferred, but for security considerations, a compendium may be brought out by the Navy, which veterans could purchase so as to defray the cost of voluminous production. If this is not feasible, all Navy Foundation Chapters be asked to have such details on their website so that interested veterans can access the details.

8. **Deliberations.**

(a) CPS stated that IHQ MoD (N) was facing difficulties with respect to establishing contact with veterans and to maintain contact details. This was evident during the commemoration of 1965 war Golden Jubilee when some senior retired officers could not be contacted as per details available since they had not updated their addresses. Hence, support of NF Chapters was required to get the updated contact particulars of veterans. This would facilitate a comprehensive directory which DESA is in the process of compiling.

(b) Directory of Veterans is being compiled by DESA as an ongoing initiative. The same is hosted on the Navy's website. Screen shot view of the website where the Directory is located was shown to all present.

(c) The process of migration of data of Directory of Veterans from IRFC to IN website has been completed. An advisory has been sent out by DESA to this effect with a request to the veterans that any difficulty encountered in accessing data from the new site be intimated directly to DESA through e-mail or any other alternative means.

(d) NF Chapters were requested to share information of self and other colleagues whose details are observed to be missing or outdated in the Directory with DESA.

9. **Decision.** The Directory of Veterans be printed by DESA by Jan 2016. Point to be monitored.

**Action: - PDESA**

**Item IV Requirement of New Service Certificate (Discharge Book) for Veterans be Reconsidered (Kolkata Chapter)**

10. Necessity of the new 'Certificate of Service' for retired officers be reconsidered.

11. **Deliberations.**

(a) The old Certificate of Service issued before 2014 to retiring officers was a A4 size folded card document with two pages inside it. The left page carried personal particulars of the officer and the right page contained Record of Service under the heads of Afloat and Ashore appointments.

(b) The new Certificate of Service being issued is a pass port size booklet which has additional information of family particulars with joint photograph, passport size photo of the veteran in uniform, family details, present and permanent address.

(c) Army and Air Force are also issuing similar booklets to all its retiring personnel

(d) The necessity has arisen due to Zila Sainik Boards (ZSBs) insisting for this document before undertaking issue or renewal of an Ex-servicemen (ESM) I-Card as also for issue of widows' I-Card on demise of the veteran. The I-Card in turn is a pre-requisite to avail Government facilities / concessions for ESM that are disbursed through KSB. Hence, an advisory was sent to all NF Chapters to renew the new Booklet type 'Certificate of Service'.

(e) Based on feedback received from the veterans, the process to apply for the new Certificate of Service has been simplified. Veterans now need to submit the passport size photograph in civil dress as against in uniform earlier and also the forms need not be countersigned by ZSB or RSB.

(f) President Kolkata Chapter stated that requirement of ESM cards was for retirees specially sailors who are settled away from Naval Stations. Hence, officer Veterans who have a retired officer's I-Card need not go for ESM I-Card issued by Zila Sainik Boards.

(g) Secretary NF apprised that the I-Card issued to Veteran Officers by Kunjali had no locus standi. Also KSB has been requesting that the retired Officer's I-Card by Navy be discontinued so that all retired officers also register with them for compilation of correct census details which determines the scale for perks from the Government. Cmde MVS Kumar, Rep Vizag Chapter also brought out that the population of ESM in an area as per ZSBs records is considered for starting new ECHS Policlinics.

(h) President Pune Chapter stated that in Maharashtra holders of ESM card issued by their ZSBs do not qualify as domicile unless one spends 15 years. Secretary NF brought out that welfare of ESM being a State variations

exist from State-to-State. However, the issue could be taken up with the appropriate authority through KSB.

(j) Cmde MVS Kumar, Rep Vizag Chapter stated that states were not accepting ESM cards to accord domicile status since ESMs after retirement settle at any station outside their parent state and seek admission in institutions for their wards on grounds of domicile by using the ESM card

(k) President Kolkata Chapter stated that the ESM Card issued by ZSBs do not qualify for availing Defence concession of airlines since they do not have serial numbers. Hence, the Retired Officers' I-Card being issued by Kunjali should not be discontinued.

12. **Decision.** The process of issuing Service Certificate (Discharge Book) having been simplified, should now facilitate veterans in obtaining the same from Navy. Point to be closed.

**Action:** - PDESA/PDOP

**NEW AGENDA POINTS (PART II)**

**Item V Dependent Cards Issued to Veterans be Like Smart Cards (Mumbai Chapter).**

1. On retirement, the Veteran receives smart identity card, however, the cards issued to the Spouse and dependent family members are of a big size and made of card paper with the result, even after lamination, the card gets frayed. It is therefore suggested that dependent cards for family members should also be made like smart cards.

2. **Deliberations.**

(a) Secy informed all members that the procedure for issue and renewal of Identity cards covered by Navy Order has been revised recently. As per the revised order, the new dependent cards as also existing cards on their renewal are to be replaced with redesigned cards of PVC material, as per the colour code, by nearest Naval unit authorized to issue these cards on payment of Rs 50/= for each card.

(b) He further informed the members that, Navy is the lead service that is steering the project on implementation of Chip based Smart Identity Cards. Approval of the Defence Acquisition Council for introduction of the new Chip based Smart Identity Cards Navy-wide has already been obtained. The project would be implemented Navy wide at a cost of Rs 231 Crs in two phases. He also apprised them of the Categories of Ex-Servicemen and their dependents who will be covered by this new RFID project and its multiple application support wherein, the same card could be used as an identity card, as a canteen card and as ECHS Card and for any other applications as required. RFP for the project is expected to be issued by Dec this year.

(d) The President stated that it is the unique initiative of the Navy and is the only Service to have taken this initiative. The delay has taken place due to protracted interaction with the Army and the Air Force to take them on board. Finally, MoD has directed the Navy to go ahead and be the lead Service. Based on Navy's experience the other two Services would implement the same. The Navy is determined to make it happen and implement successfully.

3. **Decision.** Point to be closed

**Action: PDESA**

**Item VI - Utilisation of Services of Veterans to Groom Newly Inducted Naval Personnel (Mumbai Chapter)**

4. Veterans could play a useful role in supporting the Navy's efforts in transforming young men and women entrants.

5. **Deliberations.**

(a) Secy stated that the point raised was in line with one of the main objectives outlined in the Human Capital Strategy (HCS) document of the Navy, which aims for creation of a 'Pool of vertically specialised training faculty across all domains of naval warfare by harnessing civil academia and retired service personnel. Towards this end database on such experts, in various disciplines, is maintained by HQ SNC. The database hosted on IN's intra net is utilised by Commands and training institutes to invite them as visiting guest faculty under extant financial provisions. For the information of all present details of veterans in the list of Experts were flashed and Navy Foundation Chapters were urged to apprise their members regarding the present policy and those willing to interact as Retired Experts be advised to forward details of their area of expertise / experience to DESA for inclusion in the database.

(b) The President stated that a huge wealth of experience resides amongst the Ex-Servicemen community that needs to be harnessed and utilise their expertise by including them in the database so that the Service could benefit at large.

6. **Decision.** President stated that an update on this to be provided during the next AGM by DESA.

**Action: PDESA/PDNT**

**Item VII - Annual Visit to NF Chapters by Senior Officers (Odisha Chapter)**

7. Officers from related Directorates/Offices like DESA/ Pension Cell/ECHS etc visit the NF Chapters at least once a year for interaction with the retired community.

8. **Deliberations.** Secy stated that there is merit in the proposal. As a start, at least one visit every year by serving officers from respective RGCs could be undertaken. Also visits by senior officers from IHQ MoD (N) could be planned on case to case basis to coincide with any major activity of the Chapter. Towards this guidelines need to be promulgated to institutionalise the process. He informed that regular visits were being undertaken by CRSOs to interact with veernaris in their area of jurisdiction details of these visits would be intimated. He further stated that the issue could be examined in detail by DESA and guidelines promulgated.

9. **Decision.** Point to be monitored.

**Action: PDESA/ Secretaries RGC**

**Item VIII - Lowering of Veterans' Qualifying Age for 'Golden Age Leaf' of Quarterdeck from 85 to 80 years (Mumbai Chapter)**

10. Lowering of contributor's age from 85 to 80 years for contribution in the Golden Age Leaf section in Quarter Deck magazine.

11. **Deliberations.**

(a) The Secy stated that crossing 80 years is a milestone in the life of a veteran. Also, lowering of contributor's age to 80 years will encourage

maximum octogenarians to contribute to Quarterdeck which essentially is a Navy Foundation magazine. Space constraint was one of the factors towards the decision to keep the minimum age of contributors as 85 years. Hence, in the event of there being more contributions that are suitable for printing leading to space constraints, the articles could be abridged by the editor or the number of pages allocated to this section could be increased accordingly.

(b) The President agreed that attaining 80 years age is a milestone and this is recognized (by way of increase in pension) and Navy (by forwarding a token of remembrance), hence same yardstick should also be applied for contributions to this section in the and it should also be part of Quarter Deck magazine.

12. **Decision.** Age of contributors to Golden Age Leaf section of Quarterdeck magazine be lowered to 80 years.

**Action:** PDESA/ Editor QD

**Item IX - Grant for NF Charters by CNS from IHQ MoD (Navy) Funds (Mumbai Charter)**

13. In keeping with the past precedence, CNS provides a grant to the various Chapters of the Navy Foundation once in his tenure. An allocation of Rs 18 Lakhs had been catered for in the current Financial Year for disbursement to all NF Chapters.

14. **Deliberations.** The gathering was informed that the Chapter wise breakdown of the grant is based on the strength of the chapters, their relative ease to obtain sponsorship (dependent on proximity to industrial / business towns) and the need to support the new chapters in helping them to establish themselves.

15. **Action.** The President handed over the cheque to charter reps.

**Action:** PDNPF