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CRS/1115/NF

23 Aug 17

**MINUTES OF THE 3<sup>RD</sup> MEETING OF NAVY FOUNDATION**  
**REGIONAL GOVERNING COUNCIL (WEST)**  
**HELD AT MUMBAI ON 16 JUL 17**

1. The third meeting of the Navy Foundation, Regional Governing Council (West) was held at WNC (O) Mess Conference Hall on 16 Jul 17 under the Chairmanship of Vice Admiral Girish Luthra, PVSM, AVSM, VSM, ADC the Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief Western Naval Command and President of Navy Foundation, Regional Governing Council (West). The following were present:-

(a) **Members.**

- |      |                        |           |
|------|------------------------|-----------|
| (i)  | RAdm Pradeep Joshi VSM | CSO (P&A) |
| (ii) | Capt BM Patil          | CRSO (W)  |

(b) **Invitees.**

- |        |                             |                          |
|--------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| (i)    | Surg RAdm Sharad Bajpai     | CMO                      |
| (ii)   | Cmde VK Pisharody NM        | Director RC ECHS         |
| (iii)  | Cmde S R Kapoor             | GMINCS                   |
| (iv)   | Cmde R K Dahiya             | CAPO                     |
| (v)    | Surg Cmde Naveen Chawla VSM | EXO, Asvini              |
| (vi)   | Cmde AA Abhyankar           | Cd Edu & Welfare Officer |
| (vii)  | Cmde CL Saini               | LOIC NAVPEN              |
| (viii) | Cmde MMS Shergill           | COMBRAX                  |
| (ix)   | Cmde A T Anandan            | LOIC NPO                 |
| (x)    | Cdr D S Suhag               | RM INCS Mumbai           |
| (xi)   | Cdr PVR Krishnan            | SO(Pen), NAVPEN          |
| (xii)  | Maj PP Jadhav               | ZSWO, Thane              |

(c) **Charter Representatives.**

- |       |                             |                             |
|-------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| (i)   | RAdm SR Sampathgopal (Retd) | President Bengaluru Charter |
| (ii)  | Cmde P K Malhotra (Retd)    | President Pune charter      |
| (iii) | Cdr CM Bhatia (Retd)        | Vice-President Goa Charter  |
| (iv)  | Cdr Vijay Vadhera (Retd)    | Secretary Mumbai Charter    |
| (v)   | Capt Sanjay Karve (Retd)    | Member NFMC                 |
| (vi)  | Capt SR Nadgouda (Retd)     | Member NFPC                 |

**Item I : Welcome Address**

2. C-in-C welcomed the NF members, particularly from outstation. He brought out that we have endeavoured and made all round efforts to improve our connect with veterans, not only officers but sailors and widows as well. We have made efforts to improve quality of life, increase the number of registrations and meeting the legitimate expectations of the retired community.

3. CRSO organisation is stabilised and has done substantial work in assisting the family of sailors post the death of the sailor. CRSO has established and strengthened the linkage with the help of ZSBs all over WNC and India.

4. NAVPEN, which is a single window available to veterans, has more than stabilised and has done substantial work to resolve all issues with pension. It has looked into pension issues of pre independence era also. Today we are looking into speedy redressal and satisfaction of individual pensioners. NAVPEN has also improved its connect with banks and have regular meetings with CCPCs of different banks to ensure the PDA are with us to resolve all issues with respect to pension. Banks also have their own interest in pension distribution as it is getting them financial gain and, therefore, are keen to do well. NAVPEN has a website which can be accessed for promulgated orders on 7<sup>th</sup> CPC, OROP etc and get the required details. Some of the PPO issued were having incomplete information as it did not have date of birth of spouse, qualifying service etc, which may create problems in implementation of OROP & 7<sup>th</sup> CPC. NAVPEN is in the process of rapidly digitising the data of veterans associated with pension. This will help the system to be fast and efficient.

5. C-in-C stated that there are many events in Mumbai where he met veterans. He added that coming out of Mumbai centric mindset we planned and had interaction in Bengaluru and Pune with the Navy Foundation members and similar interaction is planned in Goa after the monsoons. He mentioned that, in addition to discussing pay/ pensions and other service conditions, there are many areas of support to each other. The veterans community has a strong connect with the outside world, can convey the image of the Navy and can educate civilian people on the nuances of life at sea. He, therefore, brought out that veterans form the link between the Navy and the outside world.

6. Coming to the ECHS, in Mumbai, the C-in-C said that we have a challenge to empanel hospitals due to existing high prices demanded by hospitals and low amount offered by ECHS. In spite of that, RC ECHS is ensuring that more hospitals are being empanelled. Problems associated with medicines are also being resolved and in a major step towards this, local purchase of medicines is being permitted to overcome shortages. Settlement of bills online has already reduced time to clear bills and further reduction of time is being pursued. He also requested veterans to see that the facility is not misused by inflating bills etc.

7. As far as activities for Navy Week are concerned, he mentioned that the Command had gone overboard and the activities are stretched from early Oct to early Jan. This requires huge admin and logistic efforts. The Command was also concerned about safety, security and other service activities which go along with Navy Week activities. Due to

current situation, security has become a big challenge and difficult to manage. It causes lot of inconvenience to people but considering the reality one has to cope up with it. Security is of a high priority along with readiness of our platforms. Therefore, the Command has to rationalise the Navy Week activities so that we do not overstretch and compromise on core competence or lower our guard. The C-in-C stated that he is planning to reduce some activities and concentrate on others.

8. Veterans Day celebration on 14 Janwas started in 2016. In Mumbai, IN is the lead Service.Pune hasArmy as the lead service. This is an additional activity of the Navy Week which is common for veteran officers and men of all three Services.

9. He concluded with, “we will further enhance interaction with all Chapters in WNC and will keep it going and improve upon”.

### **Pending Points of 2nd RGC Meeting**

#### **Item II : Community Centre at Navi Mumbai**

10. **Point.** Community Centre at Navi Mumbai is required for retired naval fraternity.

11. **Deliberations.**

(a) Secretary NFMC mentioned that, it is a great facility and the layout plan be shared with us so that it is to everybody’s satisfaction. He is in touch with concerned people at GoM and will be able to follow it. He also brought out that the location is very good and area of 2499 sq m is sufficient. ECHS from Nerul could be shifted here. Approvals could be obtained ASAP and target date is set for completion.

(b) ZSWO, Thane brought out that approval of CIDCOand some of the government agencies in under process and tenders will be out by Oct/Nov 17. The present cost indicated is Rs. Eight Cr and is expected to go up to Rs 11 to 12 Cr. He also mentioned that, as far as ECHS is concerned the required space would be given in the form of a covered hall to be modified as required by ECHS. In addition, hostel facility for about 50 girls and 50 boys, accommodation in the form of rooms & dormitories, and a multipurpose hall are planned. The cost of construction will be met through special fund held with state Govt.

12. **Decision.**C-in-C directed that:-

(a) Required approval/NOC is to be obtained and target set to issue tender and starting work for construction.

(b) Plan is to be shared with HQWNC so that a suitable facility could be created.

(c) Plan is to be shared with RCECHS so to superimpose their plan for the polyclinic.

**Action: ZSB, Thane/ RC  
ECHS/ NFMC**

### **Item III : ECHS Polyclinic at Thane**

13. **Point.** The proposal for setting up of ECHS polyclinic at Thane be expedited.

14. **Deliberations.** ZSWO, Thane informed the house that the subject land at Thane is not sufficient for a polyclinic as only about 10 Sq m is left due to encroachment by police memorial and rest house. We should think of moving it to WEU land which is considered ideal to have a veteran's complex. The land being a part of the high security area, there is a need to have a separate access.

15. **Decision:** C-in-C directed that:-

(a) Based on encroachment of land and IN providing alternate land for the purpose, IN must approach state government to provide compensatory land. Area can be decided as and when required.

(b) The extent of land required and the location be checked by Station Commander in consultation with WEU and proposal be put up for NOC/ concurrences from various authorities as required.

(c) While the land availability is being worked out, RC ECHS can go ahead with its proposals for additional sanctions.

**Action: INS Tanaji/ WEU/ RC  
ECHS/ HQWNC(CWO)**

### **Item IV : Scanned Copy of Investigation Reports by Email**

16. **Point.** The NFMC requested that investigation reports be emailed to the veteran to avoid additional visit for the collection of the same.

17. **Deliberations.** EXO Asvini mentioned that the facility of mailing has commenced and is extended even if a veteran approaches on phone. Sec NFMC expressed his satisfaction with the facility. ZSWO, Thane brought out that some of the veterans have approached to get discharge documents indigitised form. EXO Asvini brought out that hospital documents are confidential and cannot be given to patients. Discharge summary is made which is reasonably comprehensive and handed over to patient at the time of retirement and is considered sufficient.

18. **Decision.** Point closed.

**Action: INHS Asvini/ NFMC**

## **New Agenda Points**

### **Item V : Provision of Resource/Infrastructure and Allocation of Funds to NF with No Naval Support**

19. **Point.** The following are considered very essential for the Chapter to function effectively and be in a position to provide help/assistance to the naval veterans and their family members:-

(a) **Office.** Pune Chapter has been allocated an office by a member with nil office staff. Recommend a suitable sailor may be attached to local unit for duties with NFPC.

(b) **Venue for Quarterly Meetings.** It is quite difficult to find a suitable venue to conduct local Navy Foundation meetings.

(c) **Allocation of additional Funds.** Enhanced grants to NFPC may be considered due no station support available from IN units.

### 20. **Deliberations.**

(a) President NFPC brought out that the shortage of manpower is understandable. He also brought out that he was thankful to C-in-C and CNS for holding interaction for the first time in 33 years. He brought out that holding of quarterly meeting is charged at Rs. 50,000/- + Rs. 15 per plate for venue alone, which is very stiff. Concessional rates are not agreed to as the organisation has to cater for others requirements also. The alternative, therefore, is to reduce the number of meetings or find a suitable place.

(b) Since there is no Naval land holding at Pune to create a facility, venues at INS Shivaji, NAI, Peacock NDA, Naval NCC unit, ZSB community hall were discussed but were not considered suitable. CSO(P&A) suggested that, as a permanent solution, we can seek land from Army for NAI, being the only IN unit in Pune.

21. **Decision.** Additional funds have been provided. WNC can seek land from Army for NAI as a permanent solution and activities of NFPC can continue as hitherto, with requisite official communication from Command on as required basis.

**Action: HQWNC(CRSO/ CWO), NFPC**

### **Item VI : Felicitation of Octogenarians by Navy**

22. **Point.** NFPC has been following the tradition of felicitating the octogenarian members by presenting them with mementos for the past four years. All members who attain the age of 80 years may be considered to be felicitated by the Command pending final details being resolved by IHQMoD (N).

23. **Deliberations.** Most of the issues are resolved by IHQMoD(N) and are likely to commence felicitation shortly.

24. **Decision.** Point to be monitored.

**Action: Hqwnc(CRSO)**

### **Item VII : Revised PPO**

25. **Point.** Most of the pensioners felt that CDA (N), Mumbai is very slow in issuing revised PPOs. Recommend, CDA(N) may be directed to issue revised PPO on priority for retirees pre- 2006.

26. **Deliberations.**

(a) LOi/C NAVPEN informed that PCDA (N), Mumbai is responsible for issue of corrigendum PPOs in respect of post 01 Nov 86 naval pensioners. Post implementation of 6<sup>th</sup> Pay Commission, CGDA had launched "Project Sangam" to issue Corrigendum PPOs of all pre-2006 pensioners. However, after issue of few corrigenda, the project was suspended for OROP and 7<sup>th</sup> CPC revision to take place. IHQ MoD(N) has taken up the case with Government for consideration of issue of Corrigendum PPOs post OROP/ 7<sup>th</sup> CPC. It is expected that Project Sangam will be revised in due course to complete the process. In the meantime Corrigendum PPOs are being issued by PCDA (Navy) on priority in respect of cases where information such as date of birth of spouse, qualifying service etc is not endorsed in original PPO. Pensioners are advised to contact NAVPEN to take up such cases with IHQ MoD (Navy)/PCDA for issue of corrigendum PPO so that, their pension revision does not get held up.

(b) CSO(P & A) brought out that as per Govt directives issue of e-PPO has commenced, however, digitising of old PPO is difficult due sheer volume but is still being pursued.

27. **Decision.** C-in-C requested the Governing Council members to advise veterans to take up cases for issue of corrigendum PPO for cases where DoB of spouse and qualifying service is not indicated on original PPO to have a smoother transition to implementation of OROP and 7<sup>th</sup> CPC. The concerned veterans, widows or reps can contact NAVPEN for guidance and further necessary action.

**Action: All Chapters NF/ NAVPEN**

### **Item VIII : Celebration of Veterans Day**

28. **Point.** Veteran day function standards may be promulgated to be followed by all Chapters.

29. **Deliberations.**

(a) President NFPC brought out that ex-CNS did not receive any invitation. On enquiry, army authorities requested for a letter indicating details of retired senior naval officers at Pune so that they can extend invitations for various functions as required.

(b) Secretary NFMC informed that the Veterans Day should be known to general public and the celebration should be done on a grand scale at Raj Bhavan and a reception could be held for octogenarians, gallantry award winners and veernaris. This will happen only if it comes from top. The event should be published in media. He also brought out that, he had interacted with Principal Secretary, GoM and she had agreed in principle. However, she mentioned that the proposal should come from official sources and not from NF.

(c) President NFBC brought out that, this may be possible in Mumbai but may not be feasible for other stations.

30. **Decision.** C-in-C directed that:-

(a) Event be publicised in newspapers to inform the masses.

(b) Increase the level of celebrations as adequate time is available.

(c) Discuss with relevant organisations including Army/ IAF and officers and men and take their perspective also into consideration.

**Action: HQWNC(CRSO)/NFMC**

**Item IX:Admiral Tahiliani Memorial Lecture**

31. **Point.** During the last AGM of NFPC it was unanimously decided to conduct yearly Adm. Tahiliani Memorial Lecture at Pune. Formal approval for the same is solicited.

32. **Deliberations.** This requires an approval of IHQMoD(N) and can be taken up. However, NFPC will have to make all the arrangements, especially since there is no station support available in Pune.

33. **Decision.** C-in-C brought out that we have a model of Mumbai and Bengaluru available with us. NFPC will need to raise sponsors to finance the event and directed that following issues be factored in the proposal:-

(a) NFPC to check sustainability and deliberate on periodicity.

(b) The time of lectures at Mumbai, Bangalore and Pune is to be staggered over the year.

(c) Grant as per practice and peculiarity of the place concerned will be considered.

(d) Proposal is to be put up for consideration/approval.

**Action: NFPC/ HQWNC(CRSO)**

**ItemX:C-in-C Interaction with Veterans**

34. **Point.** Annual interaction with the C-in-C may please be arranged. This, besides keeping the veterans updated on naval developments, will facilitate social interaction with the highest level in the Command. For the Veterans, a sense of belonging to the Navy would be a huge take away.

35. **Deliberations.**

(a) CRSO brought out that this was an agenda point of AGM of Navy Foundation and IHQMoD(N) has received feed backs from all Commands. However, such an interaction has already taken place at Bengaluru and Pune and is planned at Goa shortly.

(b) President NFPC thanked C-in-C for holding the interaction for the first time in Pune in 33 years.

36. **Decision.** Point closed.

**Action: All concerned**

**Item XI:Camps for I Cards**

37. **Point.** Periodic camps may be held at Powai and Navi Mumbai by Kunjali and Angrefor making of Veterans & Spouse I - Cards.

38. **Status.** As per comments received from units, deputing naval provost personnel (who are quite busy otherwise), from identity cards section for holding camps at PowaiandNavi Mumbai is not considered beneficial view:-

(a) Very few retired officers availed the facility in the last Camp held at Powaiand Nerul.

(b) Only the collection of duly filled application forms from the veteran is possible at the camp. The identity cards are made at the identity cards section of Kunjali using specific software.

(c) Instead of holding camps, the application forms along with detailed instruction could be handed over to Secretary, Navy Foundation for dissemination to applicants and the duly filled application may be sent to Kunjali by regular speed post for

processing. Once I-Cards are made they could then be dispatched to the applicant by registered/ speed post.

39. **Deliberations.**

(a) Sec NFMC brought out that there were 25 to 30 personnel/ dependents who used the facility at Powai and at Nerul during the last camp.

(b) This facility is of great help and in order to minimise the burden on manpower state this camp can be organised on a Sunday, first at Powai and the same people can then move to Navi Mumbai.

(c) The postal dispatch may not work as the individuals have to submit the old I-Cards before they can be issued with new passes.

(d) There is also the issue associated with correctness in filling of forms.

40. **Decision.** C-in-C directed that:-

(a) Since a camp was conducted once we can do it again and see the response. It can be held at ECHS polyclinic on a pre planned and advertised day.

(b) Sec NFMC can discuss with Kunjali and Angre and simplify the procedure and evolve a method which is efficient, faster, convenient and easy.

**Action: INS Angre/ Kunjali**

**Item XII:Office of Dir RC ECHS**

41. **Point.** Relocation of office of DirRC in South Mumbai is recommended for better interaction with stake holders like Navy Foundation, HQWNC etc.

42. **Deliberations.** A meeting chaired by COS is planned to examine the issue.

43. **Decision.** The issue be re- examined at HQWNC.

**Action: RC ECHS**

**Item XIII:Posters for Navy Day Activities**

44. **Point.** Customer care number should be indicated on the poster and hoardings put up by WNC all over the Mumbai city, for the Navy Week activities. This should be manned 24\*7 by a suitable sailor for answering queries of the civilian public.

45. **Deliberations.** Last year was the first time when there was a change in the schedule which affected general public. Point under consideration

46. **Decision.** Point closed.

**Action:** HQWNC(Cd Wel O)

#### **Item XIV:Band Concert**

47. **Point.** Band Concert at 700 seated D Y Patil auditorium at Nerul, Navi Mumbai be considered in addition to the Central Park in Kharghar.

48. **Deliberations.**

(a) CRSO brought out that the number of band performances is being considered for reduction and, therefore, additional performance may not be feasible. However, this will be discussed in the next meeting for the Navy Week activities.

(b) Sec NFMC mentioned that an event of this nature will go a long way in helping the empanelment of a very good multi-specialty hospital (DY Patil Hospital in Navi Mumbai) and, therefore, needs to be considered positively.

49. **Decision.** Point may be deliberated at next Navy Week meeting. Point closed.

**Action:** HQWNC(CGO)/ INS Kunjali

#### **Item XV:Heritage Walk**

50. **Point.** Heritage Walk should be scheduled as part of the Navy Week event in the afternoon of C-in-C's lunch for veterans so that veterans would not have to travel again to South Mumbai from suburbs.

51. **Deliberations.** It has already been included in Navy Week activities.

52. **Decision.** Point closed.

**Action:** HQWNC(CRSO)/ ND(Mbi)

#### **Item XVI>Last Rites**

53. **Point.** Along with laying of wreath on the mortal remains of the deceased veteran, Naval Ensign be also draped on the mortal remains of the veteran as is being done by IAF for their deceased veterans.

54. **Deliberations**.CRSO brought out that the issue has common application across the Navy and post discussing on file, recommendations have been forwarded to IHQMoD(N).

55. **Decision**. Point to be monitored.

**Action**: HQWNC(CRSO)

### **Item XVII:RGC(W) Meetings**

56. **Point**. Consideration be also given to hold the RGC(W) meetings in Goa/ Pune (INS Shivaji / NDA).

57. **Deliberations**.CRSO brought out that, due to admin considerations it has been considered appropriate to hold RGC meeting at Mumbai.

58. **Decision**. C-in-C informed the veterans that, while meetings can be held at places as desired, but since all staff officers concerned are available at Mumbai the meetings will continue to be held in Mumbai. Point closed.

**Action**: All concerned

### **Item XVIII:Accommodation at Asvini**

59. **Point**. One room in Asvini be earmarked for the spouse of the veteran for the duration of his stay in the hospital to avoid commuting daily from far off suburbs.

60. **Deliberations** EXO INHS Asvini communicated that, due to lack of adequate accommodation and gross overcrowding of available accommodation at Asvini, it may not be feasible to provide accommodation as suggested by NFMC. The veterans may seek accommodation at Sagar, Sagarika etc if available.

61. **Decision**. C-in-C informed the veterans that there is substantial shortage of accommodation for doctors, nurses, PG trainees. In addition, accommodation for DIL/ SIL patients, which is authorised, is also inadequate. Point closed.

**Action**: INHS Asvini

### **New Points with the Permission of Chair**

#### **Item XIX : Accommodation at Mumbai for Veterans from Pune**

62. **Point.** There is a need for accommodation to veterans who need to visit Mumbai for various reasons like visit to Asvini. NAVPEN, NPO, CDA etc and veterans find it difficult to book accommodation.

63. **Deliberations.**

(a) President NFPC brought out that there should be one point contact to book accommodation. They could also be permitted to stay in hotels at service rates. This is possible only if official communication is made to the hotel as the MoU with hotels does not include veterans.

(b) C-in-C informed the GC members that the veterans requirement will have to be considered for providing accommodation. If the visit is for any naval event then the responsibility of providing accommodation is with Navy. If the visit is for personal reason associated with IN or for medical reasons then it can be considered. However, if the visit is for professional reasons associated with the present employment of the veteran, then, the veteran is morally responsible to seek accommodation from the concerned organisation.

(c) LOi/C, NPO informed that new accommodation is coming up and as far as possible accommodation will be made available.

64. **Decision.** Point closed.

**Action: NPO/ HQWNC(CRSO)**

#### **Item XX : Charges for Functions**

65. **Point.** CdrDua, member NFMC brought out that, of late there is a tendency to charge veterans more for functions held in the Navy.

66. **Deliberations.**

(a) President NFPC brought out that for functions held in

US Club the charges are same but in IMSC the veterans are charged more for entry for the functions.

(b) CSO(P & A) informed that the rates used to be same 6 to 7 years back but has been changed over during this period.

(c) LOi/C, NPO mentioned that the charges levied are as per existing orders on the subject.

67. **Decision**. C-in-C directed LOi/C, NPO to look into the matter.

**Action**: NPO

**Item XXI : Closing Address**

68. C-in-C mentioned that we will make full efforts to address the issues brought out. We will take discussion ahead and when we meet next year we will have a clear cut idea. He also requested the veterans not to wait for such meetings to forward any suggestions, bring out issues as and when they arise and send them to the CRSO. He also requested them to provide regular feed back to CRSO.

69. These minutes have the approval of the chairman.

Sdxxxx  
(Rajeev Kishore)  
Captain  
CRSO (West) (AOL)

**Distribution**: - Normal