

ALL INDIA EX-ITBPF PERSONNEL WELFARE ASSOCIATION

Registered under 'Societies Registration Act (XXI of 1860)

Regn No. ROFS/PB/0019 of 2018-19

Post Box No. 19, GPO Sector 17, Chandigarh 160017

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By E-Mail

DO/ 19 -19

14.06.19

Dear Commandant

On 25 th of April, last year, we had the Association registered, and since then have been working to make it an efficient and compassionate Organisation, devoted towards the welfare and unity of ex-ITBPF and the serving personnel. The challenges were numerous, and we had to literally learn on the move. Many obstacles were tackled and breached, and in due course we came to realise our strengths and weaknesses, and what was needed to be done. We were encouraged by most, and distressed by a few. And yet, here we are, after an year, still in the run in this marathon, going steady and taking everyone along. Soon we will have our Delhi Chapter (Sub-Committee) too.

Previously, on 5th Sep 2018, I had addressed you and your colleagues, informing about the formation of the Association, and laying out our Aims and Objectives. Our Website went 'online' on 25th Sep '18, and we took up the job of making personal Contacts, getting to know of the grievances of retired Himveers earnestly by holding Contact Rallies at some of the places in North India and in Kerala. In between, we were reaching out to our comrades through a 'WhatsApp' group, and taking up their cases with Dte Gen ITBP, and other Govt Offices. I called on DG ITBP on 10 Dec '18 in his Office and submitted a Memorandum of expectations and grievances of the retired veterans. In April and May, I wrote to Cabinet secretary, Home Secretary, Spl Secy in PMO, Secy DOPT, and The Chairmen of Expert Committee on respecting the verdicts of Hon'ble Supreme Court/ High Court on the NFFU and OGAS case, apart from to DG ITBP on the case of Retirement Age. We have been receiving good cooperation from DIG Welfare at Dte Gen, though the compliance of most of the points submitted in the Memorandum to DG ITBP is still awaited.

There are many important issues concerning the retired and serving personnel which still remain in limbo/ unattended at the highest level, and I am sad to state, there is no urgency in resolving it. I am listing a few of them below.....

- a) Waking up the slumber of WARB and making it a useful and effective Institution comparable to similar in Army
- b) Making CPC meaningful and beneficial for Himveers, their families and veterans
- c) Streamlining and simplifying the CGHS cover to serving and retired personnel
- d) Strengthening the apparatus of Contacts and Recognition between Veterans and ITBP Units/ Formation Hqrs/ Dte Gen

What I will like to stress here is that most of these are common issues, on which detailed orders and SOPs exist, but are ignored. You at your level can also raise and

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demand them as frequently as possible. Please understand, this is our genuine entitlement, and not a favour. Additionally, I have been also feeling that many of the Commandants and senior Officers are not earnest towards the welfare and amelioration of retired Personnel. Everyone has to retire one day sooner or later. During your Sainik Sabha/ interaction with rank & file, do inform them about us, showcasing our Website and Brochures, and asking them suggestions. We in the Association and you have common goals and need to coordinate and support each other well.

We need your help in spreading the word regarding the Association in your respective areas, and enthuse them to join it. The Aims & Objectives, Vision and Mission Statement, policy initiatives and Key result Areas of Association are amply laid out in our Website, www.aiepwa.org, which you must visit and patronise. I will await your valuable Feedback too. The activities and news regarding various projects/ initiatives are uploaded on the Site regularly. In case you organise any assembly, or meeting of retired personnel, please inform us, and we will proudly display on our Site. We would also like to send one of our Member to attend and liaise. In this context, I will also request you to update your Unit's list of retired personnel around you periodically, and send a copy to us too. Also please do let us know the advance list of Personnel who will retire in next 6 months, and at your level approach and inform them to consider joining the AIEPWA. We are in the process of forming a Placement Cell in AIEPWA, through which we will endeavour to provide post-retirement employment and rehabilitation. The Application Form for it is enclosed. It is the era of rapid Information sharing and possibilities are endless. Let us exploit this resource. We work for the benefit of those veterans who have given their best years of life in service of Nation. Don't make us feel ignored or forgotten. We deserve a life of 'Honour and Dignity', which can be augmented by all of us getting united, taking care of each other.

We are 74 strong today and growing. On 1st June '19, we celebrated our first year by holding 'Annual General Meeting', photos and details appear on our Website. We are very Thankful to those who helped us in its organisation. ITBPF is the Nation's Second Line Of defence, and we the veterans are its 'Third line of Defence'. When the opportunity will call, we will be there. We are proud of the Force, and have kept its Flag flying high when in service. We are confident, you will raise it further high.

A copy of this DO is being addressed to DG ITBP also.

Jai Hind

**M S Bhurji, IG retd
President**