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No. 9 (37/92/US (WE) /D (Res))
Government of India,
Ministry of Defence,
New Delhi-110011
31 January, 1996.

Director General Resettlement,
West Block IV, Wing S,
R.K.Puram,
NEW DELHI-110056

Subject: Recognition of ex-Servicemen's Associations.

Sir,

I am directed to state that various associations of ex-Servicemen have been representing to the Government for according them recognition. Their request for recognition has been under consideration of this Ministry for some time. It has since been decided that the ex-Servicemen's associations that are non-political in character and fulfil the prescribed conditions may be considered for recognition. The term 'recognition' in the context of ex-Servicemen's Associations will not imply any right to negotiate but will only allow such Associations to project the problems/grievances of the ex-Servicemen.

2. The Associations will be accorded recognition subject to their fulfillment of following conditions:

2.1. The Association should be registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860.

2.2. The Association should have been formed with aims and objectives of promoting the common interests of ex-Servicemen and should have well defined bye-laws, and rules approved by the Registrar of the Societies under the Societies Registration Act, 1860.

2.3. The Association should have a minimum membership of one lakh ex-Servicemen. However, the Associations exclusively of Naval ex-Servicemen or exclusively of Air Force ex-Servicemen may have a minimum membership of 10,000 ex-Servicemen. War Widows Associations and Disabled War Veterans Associations will be exempted from the criterion of minimum membership.

2.4. The ex-Servicemen Association should be All India Character and should have adequate number of branches at State and District level.

2.5. The Composite Associations representing ex-Servicemen of the three Services should have a balanced ~~Ter-~~

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service representation and also balanced representation of all ranks, i.e. Officers, JCOs, and OR and equivalent ranks of the Navy and the Air Force.

2.6 The Association shall have only ex-Servicemen, as notified by the Department of Personnel & Training from time to time, as its members and submit the list of members and Office bearers to the DGR annually after the Annual General Meeting.

2.7 The Association shall have duly elected body of office bearers from amongst its members only, valid for a specified period.

2.8 Any amendment in the constitution / bye-laws of the Association, after its recognition under these rules, shall be made only with the prior approval of the Government, if the recognition is to be continued thereafter.

2.9 The Association shall submit an undertaking affirming its faith in democratic principles and binding itself to resort only to the lawful activities for representing the ex-Servicemen's problems.

2.10 The Association shall not raise issues in the interest of any caste, tribe or religious denomination.

2.11 The Association shall not maintain any political fund or lend itself to the propagation of the views of any political party or a member of such party.

2.12 The annual accounts of the Association will be audited by a Chartered Accountant.

2.13 The Association shall submit a copy of the audited accounts as well as its annual report to the DGR every year for scrutiny.

2.14 The Association shall not publish any periodicals, magazines or bulletin without the previous approval of the Government. If already publishing a periodical, magazine or bulletin, it will cease to publish them if directed by the Government to do so, on the ground that the publication thereof is prejudicial to the interests of the Central Government, the Government of any State or any Government authority, or good relations between the Government of India and the Government of a foreign State. It shall regularly supply copies of the each of the periodical, magazine or bulletin published by it to the DGR and the Government.

2.15 The Association shall not address any communication to or enter into correspondence with any foreign authority except through the Government which shall have the right to withhold it.

2.16 The communications addressed by the Association or any office bearers on its behalf to the Government or Government authority shall not contain any disrespectful or improper language.

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3. The Associations including the existing ones, desirous of being considered for recognition, may apply to the Director General Resettlement, West Block IV, Wing 5, R.K.Puram, New Delhi-110066., with documentary proof in support and fulfillment of the conditions of recognition as mentioned above alongwith Memorandum of Understanding, Constitution, Bye-laws, Name & Addresses of Office bearers, membership, certificate of registration by the Registrar of Societies.

3.1 Verification of the membership for the purpose of recognition of ex-Servicemen Association shall be done through the Director General Resettlement.

3.2 The recognition of the Association shall be subject to the continued observance and fulfillment of the conditions and criteria laid down in these guidelines in letter and spirit and can be withdrawn by the Government if any of the Associations fail to so comply with these conditions.

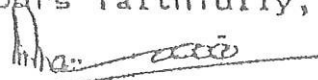
3.3 Authorised signatories of a recognised Association will alone be submitting letters/representations to the Government on matters of common interest of its members. The association shall, however, not espouse or support the cause of individual ex-Servicemen.

3.4 The recognition would not entitle an Association for any kind of financial or other assistance from the Government.

4. The recognition of an Association representing re-employed ex-Servicemen in any organisation shall be governed by the rules and regulations of recognition applicable to the organisation where the ex-Servicemen have been so re-employed.

5. The above guidelines for recognition of the ex-Servicemen Associations may please be brought to the notice of all concerned. Any matter relating to the resolution of dispute, relaxation, or interpretation of the provisions of this letter or any matter incidental thereto shall be referred to the Government for arbitration/ruling and its decision shall be final and binding on all parties.

Yours faithfully,


(S.K. CHOURASIA)
DIRECTOR

C.C. to:

The Chiefs of the three Services.
