

No. 28(86)2017/D (Res-1)  
Government of India  
Ministry of Defence  
Department of Ex-servicemen Welfare  
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Sena Bhawan, New Delhi  
dated the 6<sup>th</sup> March, 2018.

To

Directorate General Resettlement  
West Block IV, Wing 5,  
R.K. Puram, New Delhi-110066.

**Subject:** Recognition of Ex-Servicemen's Association.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to this Ministry's letter No. 9(37)92/US(WE)/D(Res) dated 31.1.1996, on the subject mentioned above and to revise the guidelines for formation and conduct of Ex-Servicemen Associations and their recognition. The Associations will be accorded recognition subject to their fulfillment of revised conditions as under:-

- (a) The Associations should be registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860. The state chapters of the said Ex-Servicemen Association too should be registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860. 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.
- (b) The Associations should have a minimum membership of One Lakh. This membership, however, in case of associations exclusively of Naval Ex-Servicemen or exclusively of Air Force Ex-Servicemen should not have less than ten thousand members. War widows Associations and Disabled War Veterans Associations will be exempted from the criteria of minimum membership.
- (c) The Associations formed shall be with the sole intent of projection of grievances/recommendations/problems of Ex-Servicemen and for their amelioration to the Government through its Offices. The Ex-Servicemen Associations will not imply any right to negotiate to the problems/grievances of the Ex-Servicemen.
- (d) The Associations in no case should be formed on religious, social, linguistic, area and caste lines. They should be apolitical in nature with no affiliation or contiguity to any Political party or political Association. The Ex-Servicemen Associations shall not espouse any political or religious thoughts to its members or the society, nor should it be in possession of or maintaining any fund amassed through political or religious leaders.

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- (e) The membership should be comprised exclusively of ESM and they should not be involved in any type of criminal activity/proceedings in any Court of Law.
- (f) No other source of fund is allowed to be collected by the Associations except subscriptions.
- (g) The Associations should not be associated with any Foreign Government or Company/conglomerate and any foreign Governments. Under no circumstances should the association accept any donation/pecuniary benefits from any foreign concern/entity.
- (h) The Association shall in no way enter into any communication with any foreign entity. All such correspondences are to be exclusively channelized through the Government and the Government shall have the prerogative to withhold it, if it so deems necessary.
- (i) The Acts, charter and conduct of the Ex-Servicemen Associations should not be for anti-Government activities or for acts prejudicial to national interest and security.
- (j) 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.
- (k) The Association shall not raise issues in the interest of any caste, tribe or religious denomination.
- (l) The Association shall not maintain any political fund or lend itself to the propagation of the view of any political party or a member of such party.
- (m) The Association shall be composed of Ex-Servicemen, widows and their next of kin only.
- (n) The Association should have a Pan India presence i.e. the Ex-Servicemen Association should be of all India Character and should have adequate number of branches at State and District level. Its Office bearers should be composed of a mix of personnel of all three services and ranks. The Composite Associations representing Ex-Servicemen of the three services should have a balance of tri service representation and also balanced representation of all ranks i.e. Officers, JCOs and OR and equivalent rank of the Army, Navy and Air Force. The Associations shall submit duly verified list of its members and Office bearers once every year to Directorate General of Resettlement (DGR) after their Annual General Meeting.
- (o) The Association shall have duly elected body of office bearers from amongst its members only, valid for a specified period.

