

BOMBAY SAPPERS ASSOCIATION (BSA)
MINUTES OF 13TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)
HELD ON 26 AUG 2011 AT RANE AUDITORIUM, BEG & CENTRE, PUNE

GENERAL

1. The 13th Annual General Meeting (AGM) of The Bombay Sappers was held on 26 Aug 2011 at 1530 hrs onwards at Rane Auditorium, BEG & Centre. The meeting was convened by the Secretary cum Treasurer Col A K Mitra. The meeting was adjourned due to lack of quorum and recommended to be re-convened after 30 minutes at 1600 hrs.
2. Once the Meeting was reconvened, a total of 536 members, consisting of 51 officers, 65 JCOs and 420 Other Ranks, including retired Bombay Sappers, attended the meeting.

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

3. The Director Brig S Dandekar (Retd) in his introductory remarks, welcomed all the members of the Management Committee and serving and retired BSA members to the 13th AGM of the BSA.
4. **Confirmation of Min of 12th AGM.** The min of 12th AGM were sent to all units and put on our website and were also circulated. It was proposed by the Dir that, if there is no objection, the min of the meeting be passed. Col R Balasubramanin, CO 109 E R proposed the passing of minutes of 12th AGM and Col Paramanand Kumar, SM, CO 115 ER seconded it.
5. Dir BSA then briefed all present on the various maj activities carried out during last one year by BSA. These are given in subsequent paras.

BSA ACTIVITIES

6. **Membership.** The present state of membership is as under:-

S, NO	CATEGORY	01 SEP 2010	08 AUG 2011
01.	OFFR	1162	1207
02.	JCO	2247	2292
03.	OR	35493	37100
TOTAL		38902	40599

7. **Edn Scholarship.** Last year Edn Scholarships worth Rs 4.06 lacs were given to the children of 112 JCOs and 349 ORs. Almost all those who qualified were given scholarships as funds were available. BSA will try to do so this year as well.
8. **Edn Grant against Loan.** Two years ago, BSA had started the scheme of giving edn loans to those children who are pursuing higher studies. However, the scheme was modified last year. It was decided that BSA will not give loan but will pay bulk of interest amount, if parent takes loan from Bank. The detailed procedure has been given in the SOP. Last financial year, six children were given 'Grant against Loan' worth Rs 1.74 lacs.
9. **Sports Scholarships** Children of Bombay Sappers get sport scholarships worth Rs 25000/- each for representing district at the State level provided he/she has potential to become sportsperson at national level. In year 2010-11, only one child could qualify to get sport scholarship from those two children who were given scholarships in the previous year. The other child could not be given scholarship because her performance had dropped.

10. **Distress Grants.** Last financial year three types of distress grants were given.
- (a) Imdt relief of Rs 5000/- given to 38 widows whose husbands passed away while in service.
 - (b) Normal Distress Grant of Rs 6000/- each to 20 JCO/OR.
 - (c) Grant of Rs 6000/- each to 58 widows.
11. **Help to widows for Edn of Children.** A separate SOP has been made to grant money to those widows whose children are young and studying in classes up to 12th std. Last financial year, BSA gave approx Rs 2400/- per child to 30 widows.
12. **Help for Orphans.** Following orphans were given financial help last year to pursue studies :-
- (a) Master Arjan Dev is staying in Gurnam Boys Academy (GBA) and is studying in Garrison Children High School Kirkee. His complete expenditure is borne through donations by Regt of his father (270 ER), Col MM Bhushan, Maj S. Shinde, GBA and BSA. He has passed his 9th std exam. BSA helps out those orphans who join GBA. Monthly expenditure of approx Rs 4000/- is met by donation from the Regt to which the deceased Bombay Sapper belonged, a donor, GBA and BSA.
 - (b) Master Sachin Pawar and Miss Swati Pawar were given grants of Rs 37,425/- for their college fees by a Trust of Maj Gen SCN Jatar (Retd). Both children have cleared their exams and BSA will help them in getting employment.
13. **Maj Gen A L Suri's Fine Gesture.** Maj Gen Suri has given Rs 1.00 lac every year for last two years as grant for higher edn. He had written to the BSA that the Edn Grant of Rs 1.00 lac (called 108 Engr Regt Scholarship) would continue to be provided every year, even after his demise. He has also volunteered to help if BSA needs more money for any specific purpose such as help to widows for children's edn.
14. **Donation from Mr Harris.** The donation of UK Pound 1000 has been received from late Mr Harris of UK (a veteran Royal Bombay Sapper officer). The amount has been transferred to Gurnam Boys Academy as the reason quoted at the time of seeking permission from Ministry of Home Affairs was "construction and running of hostel for poor students". Dir thanked the Col Comdt for expediting the permission from Min Of Home Affairs.
15. **Donation received through Brig B K Kohli (Retd).** 26 veteran Bombay Sapper officers and 15 civilians from Punjab and Delhi have donated funds worth Rs 2.32 lacs for helping the children of widows in their edn due to the efforts of Brig B K Kohli (Retd). BSA is trying to ensure that the donor and the widow belong to the same unit. Last financial year, BSA gave approx Rs 2400/- per child to 30 widows.
16. **Scholarship.** Mrs Usha Dixit, wife of late Lt Col A K Dixit, has donated Rs 11000/-. She has requested that the amount should be put in fixed deposit and a scholarship be given to the best student (from children of widows) of Gurnam Boys Academy every year. The amount has been transferred to GBA.
17. **SBI Veh.** The vehicle was purchased from the grant given by SBI and some contribution from BSA. The veh is being put to good use for all members of BSA .The rate per Km charged is such that there is practically no profit or loss. In last one year, it has done approx 37000 Kms.

18. **Paraplegic Bombay Sappers.** AHQ has declared this year as the year of paraplegic. BSA has initiated a case this year to find out as to how many ret'd Bombay Sappers are paraplegic. So far, 21 names have been received. Out of these, 15 have retired and six are in QMTI undergoing resettlement course. A format has been sent to all to ascertain their needs. BSA will try to help them as part of distress grant. BSA will also explore the possibility of progressing each case with AG Branch through BEG & Centre or through ZSB/KSB for help.

19. **Comptr Edn to Retiring JCO & OR.** It has been observed that ret'd JCO/OR who are comptr literate get better pay in civil at the time of re-employment compared to others. A company called Creative Group is employed by DGR for giving comptr trg to JCO/OR during the last month of their stay in service. However, only two/three such courses are conducted in one year. Other batches do not get this benefit. Creative Group or any such company would run a trial course in Oct 2011 and, depending on feed back, decision to run more courses can be taken. The course would be run in the afternoon so that de-mob process is not hindered. The cost of the course will be shared by individual and BSA.

20. **Help in Resettlement.** BSA provides help to retired Offrs/JCO/OR for resettlement in civil. By and large, there are enough jobs in Pune, , Mumbai and Delhi but there are problems in getting jobs in other parts of Maharashtra, UP & Punjab. Efforts are being made to identify jobs in these parts through Dir Northern Region and Nodal Offrs. Wherever possible, BSA also provides job opportunities to widows, their children and children of JCO/OR.

21. **Problems related to Widows and ESM.** Considerable effort of BSA is spent on resolving problems of widows and ESM, especially related to pension ,discharge books, AGI, ECHS cards, grants from KSBs, right of mother if wife of deceased soldier has remarried, pension to children if both parents have passed away, jobs for dependents & widows, canteen facilities, info about enrollment etc. BSA interacts with the Record Office and sends clarification to the queries of widows and ESM.

22. **Concept of Nodal Offrs.** Twenty Nodal offrs have been nominated. The concept has been initiated by the Col Comdt, and is working well. We hope to enhance and enlarge the activities of BSA through these Nodal Offrs all across the country.

23. **Gurnam Boys Academy.** The strength of the Academy this year is 58. The Academy has shifted to its new building. There is a plan to coach those students of the Academy who are interested in getting admission in NDA. The cost of coaching will be borne by Maj Gen SCN Jatar (Retd).

24. **Jor Mela.** Last year, Jor Mela was held on 31 Oct 2010 at Amritsar. This year, it will be held in Maharashtra. BSA had contributed Rs 1.0 lacs as part of the total expenditure. Mela was very successful and was attended by a large number of ESM. The staff of BEG & Centre including Record Office and reps of all maj/minor units are present at the Mela. They try and solve the problems of most of those present then and there. In some cases, follow up action is taken by Nodal offr/BSA & CRO.

25. **Sapper Sarai at Chandimandir.** Sapper Sarais are functioning at Pune, Amritsar and Jalandhar. The sarai at Chandimandir has been closed since the unit in which the Sarai was located, has moved out.. The assets like furniture etc have been transferred to New Sapper Sarai at Delhi. ESM make use of these Sarais whenever they come to resolve domestic issues or for med treatment at these locations.

26. **Office of Director BSA Northern Region.** The office has been shifted to Zirakpur.

Budget Presentation.

30. The presentation of budget FY 2009-10 was done by Secy-cum-Treasurer as per tables shown below:-

EXPENDITURE FOR	ALLOTMENT 2010-2011 (AS APPROVED IN 33RD MCM) (Rs)	EXPENDITURE 2010-11 (Rs)
Edn Scholarship	3,45,800.00	4,06,883.00
School Fees (Orphans)	1,17,765.00	94,345.00
Children Edn Grant Widow (Northern Region)	1,02,655.00	88,000.00
Edn Scholarship (Higher Edn)	2,24,000.00	1,73,500.00
Sport Scholarship	50,000.00	25,000.00
Distress Grant	4,92,000.00	4,92,000.00
Financial Assistance	1,16,655.00	1,16,655.00
Imdt Relief	1,90,000.00	1,90,000.00
Jor Mela	75,000.00	1,00,000.00
Initial Exp of SBI Veh	20,000.00	20,000.00
Salary	5,92,500.00	6,38,300.00
Computer Maintenance	15,609.00	18,918.00
Tele Bill	7,778.00	7,105.00
Office Contingency	28,156.00	24,062.00
Audit Fees	20,000.00	20,000.00
SBI Veh	7,57,999.00	6,87,999.00
Depreciation	22,200.00	93,623.29
TDS Charges	1,800.00	1,200.00
Misc	10,562.00	14,447.00
Refund of Excess Membership	3,200.00	-
Net Sur Tfr to Balance sheet	4,50,000.00	4,08,612.26
TOTAL Rs =	35,66,024.00	36,32,650.55

Passing of Balance Sheet for the Year 2009 – 10.

31. The Secy-cum-Treasurer presented Income & Expenditure Statement and the Balance Sheet as given at Appx `A' and `B' respectively.

32. The passing of Balance Sheet was proposed by Col C J Rego and seconded by Col P K Singh, CO 116 ER.

.....5/-

Budget for FY 2011-2012.

34. The Budget for current year was presented by the Director:-

EXPENDITURE FOR	AMOUNT PROPOSED FOR 2011-12 (Rs)
Edn Scholarship	3,60,000.00
School Fees (Children Of widows)	3,00,000.00
Higher Education Grant	2,50,000.00
Sport Scholarship	1,00,000.00
Distress Grant + Imdt Relief	9,50,000.00
Jor Mela	75,000.00
Salary	6,48,000.00
Maint of Cmptr	20,000.00
Tele Bill	10,000.00
Office Expdr	30,000.00
Audit Fees	20,000.00
Depreciation	90,000.00
TDS Charges	1,200.00
Misc	41,000.00
Tfr to Next Year	3,04,800.00
TOTAL Rs =	32,00,000.00

Election of Mgt Committee.

35. Director asked all present whether any one wants to become member of mgt committee or wants to suggest name of any member for the committee. Since no fresh names were proposed, the existing members were requested to continue. Maj Gen SCN Jatar suggested that young members should volunteer to become members. Col Comdt pointed out that, in future, the exercise to nominate new management committee members should start three to four months prior to AGM. The new members should remain under-study initially.

Vote of Thanks.

36. In the end, the house thanked the Management Committee for the excellent work done during the year, and desired that the good work should continue in the coming year.

Closing Address by Chairman.

37. Chairman in his closing address spoke about following issues :-

(a) BSA is a unique org in three services. This was initiated by Lt Gen A K Puri in 1999. The present corpus of BSA is Rs 3.1 crores. BSA is being managed by a very good team lead by Maj Gen SCN Jatar (Retd) who has lot of experience in running a welfare org. The org is being run honestly and with complete transparency as per rules and regulation on the subject.

- (b) The Exec Committee meeting should be held during the VC Day every year as was done last year. This will resolve a number of pending issues/decisions.
- (c) A list of 386 widows from Punjab was obtained from the RO and 276 widows have been contacted so far. Rs 2.75 have been collected by means of donations by BSA office of Northern Region for helping the widows. Similar action should be taken in Maharashtra region also.
- (d) Maj units should adopt four children and minor units two children of widows of Bombay Sappers and should contribute Rs 2400/- per year per child. Our children are future of the nation and edn is the best method to help them. BSA's main thrust should be to help children in edn. Over Rs 3.5 lacs are given every year as scholarships to children by the Bd of offrs headed by Col M M Bhushan.
- (e) Mrs Usha Dixit is the wife of late Col A K Dixit, who was Adm Comdt at Stn HQs Kirkee. She was impressed by the work of GBA and has decided to give Rs 11000/- every year.
- (f) Col Comdt complimented the SO Lt Col Atul Suryavanshi for the good work he is doing in solving many problems of members by contacting various agencies at Delhi. He expedited the case of Mr Harris. One Bombay Sapper who was suffering from failure of kidney, was given financial help of Rs 1.93 lacs and he was also given medicines worth Rs one lac by DG AFMS.
- (g) Twenty nodal offrs are functioning to lookafter the needs of retired as well as serving Bombay Sappers. They are providing a link between ESM and KSBs. Nodal Centres should remain functional even when the units shift out through a local retired Bombay Sapper offr/JCO, who should be involved in the functioning of nodal centres throughout the stay of the units. He will then form the backbone of Nodal Centre as units keep moving.
- (h) 107 ER is providing assistance in solving difficult pension cases .
- (j) 201 and 202 BD Coys are providing help to a large number of ESM in their locations.
- (k) Retiring Bombay Sappers should be provided help in getting passport, gun license, trades trg, comptr trg by units before retirement. Advantage should be taken of projects like Gyandeeep and Kshamata. 113 Engr Regt has done an excellent job in this field.
- (l) It has been decided that future promotions of OR will be linked with their proficiency in trades trg. This will also help them in seeking emp or 2nd career on retirement.
- (m) All COs should explore the possibility of providing jobs to widows in the stations where they are located in station canteens and URCs.
- (n) GBA is a good institution and has gained popularity among the members. we must exploit its full usage of 100 children. Tuitions etc should be improved.
- (o) There is shortage of accn in Sapper Sarai at Pune. Depot Bn may consider using some barracks for the purpose. This will meet the reqmt of ESM during UHQ Rectg every year.

(p) Bombay Sappers are doing well in sports, especially sports like rowing where they were lagging behind in the past. In the Inter Center Rowing, we have stood first in last tow years.

(q) Concept of Jor Mela was evolved by Lt Gen Noble Thamburaj, PVSM,SM,(Retd). and it is continuing since then. It helps in solving grievances of ESM then and there. Expenditure on Jor Mela is totally funded by BEG & Centre. Last year 695 cases were solved during the Mela. Next Mela will be held at Pune. COs should attend the Mela. Sanction for move will be arranged.

(r) Lt Gen Bikram Singh, UYSM,AVSM,SM,VSM,ADC, the Col Comdt of Sikh LI & Army Cdr, Eastern Comd has confirmed the strong bonds between the SIKH LI & the Bombay Sappers. He brought out contribution of Lt Gen P S Bhagat to SIKH LI and promised full sp & coop. He was of the view that a bond created between Bombay Sappers and Sikh LI by Lt Gen P S Bhagat VC, PVSM, should be kept alive.

(s) Bombay Sappers should feel proud of the fact that the South Pole expedition was planned and executed by Bombay Sappers. Similar is the case with expedition "Round the World Sailing Expedition", which is in the formative stages of planning.

38. There being no other point, the 13th AGM was concluded with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

(AK Mitra)
Col
Secy-cum-Treasurer
For Vice Chairman

10002/AGM-12/BSA

Bombay Sappers Association
C/O Headquarters
Bombay Engineer Group & Centre
Kirkee, Pune-411003

09 Sep 2011

Distribution:-

Chairman.

Vice Chairman.

All members of the Management Committee.

All Bombay Sappers Units

Websites of BSA and the Bombay Sappers.

Col Comdt Sectt, SIKH LI

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE PERIOD
1st APRIL 2010 TO 31st MARCH 2011

INCOME	AMOUNT (Rs)	EXPENDITURE	AMOUNT (Rs)
Interest Edn Loan	20,247.00	Salary	6,38,300.00
Charges Dupl Card	11,680.00	Telephone bill	7,105.00
Donation Received	8,88,845.00	Edn Scholarship (Higher Edn)	1,73,500.00
Non Ench of Edn Sch	16,600.00	Edn Scholarship	4,06,883.00
Non Ench of Distress Grant	46,000.00	Office Contingency	24,062.00
Non Ench of Widow Grant	40,000.00	Audit Fees	20,000.00
Interest from Saving A/C	4,33,904.00	Depreciation	93,623.29
Interest on FDs	14,69,799.55	Immediate Relief	1,90,000.00
Non Ench of lmdt Relief	5,000.00	JOR Mela Expdr	1,00,000.00
Non Ench of Excess of BSA Membership	400.00	Computer Maint	18,918.00
Refund of TATA Sumo excess amt	175.00	Photo Uploading Charges	5,000.00
		Sports Scholarship	25,000.00
		Children Edn Grant Widows (Northern Region)	88,000.00
		TDS On Salary	1,200.00
		Distress Grant	4,92,000.00
		Financial Assistance	1,16,655.00
		School Fees (Orphans)	94,345.00
		Misc Expdr/reserve	9,447.00
		Initial Exp of SBI Veh	20,000.00
		Net Sur Tfr to Balancesheet	4,08,612.26
TOTAL Rs =	29,32,650.55	TOTAL Rs =	29,32,650.55

BALANCE SHEET FOR THE YR ENDING MAR 2011

LIABILITIES	AMOUNT (Rs)	AMOUNT (Rs)	ASSETS	AMOUNT (Rs)	AMOUNT (Rs)
TRUST FUND (CORPUS)	2,58,09,466.69	3,01,37,810.69	FIXED ASSETS		6,97,042.32
OPENING BAL			INVESTMENTS		2,89,00,000.00
ADD : LIFE MEMBERSHIP	43,28,344.00 -----		RBI BONDS	1,88,00,000.00	
			SHORT TERM FDs	22,00,000.00	
			LONG TERM FDs	79,00,000.00	
OTHER FUND		7,86,272.17	CURRENTASSETS		30,78,871.69
EXCESS OF INCOME OVER		17,51,831.15	LOANS TO BSSI	5,85,506.00	
BALANCE OF LAST YEAR	17,63,762.89		EDN LOAN	28,750.00	
ADD : NET SURPLUS	4,08,612.26		BANK BALANCE	24,62,615.69	
LESS : 14 % TFR TO CORPUS	4,20,544.00		TELEPHONE DEPOSIT	2,000.00	
TOTAL Rs =		3,26,75,914.01	TOTAL Rs =		3,26,75,914.01