

## Background

The Bombay Sappers Association was established in May 99 on obtaining approval in principle accorded by the Government of India vide their letter No 12326/CC/ BSA/ 183/ 99/ D(AG) dated 14 Jan 99. The Association was registered under the Societies Registration Act 1860 on 22 May 99. The inception of the Association was conceived by then Colonel Commandant, The Bombay Sappers, Lt Gen (Retd) A K Puri, PVSM, AVSM. This is a unique Association of members drawn from Bombay Sappers serving and retired officers, JCOs and Other Ranks which is not so with other Army Associations.

The present Chairman is Lt Gen Noble Thamburaj, PVSM, SM, ADC, Vice Chief of Army Staff, under whose able guidance the BSA is functioning as a vibrant organisation.

The Association has grown to 34698 members as on 31 Dec 2008 (Offrs 1084 , JCOs 2081 and ORs 31533). The office of the Association has been established at BEG & Centre, Kirkee. Subsequently, as the membership increases, it is planned to open Chapters of the Association at other places such as Chandigarh, Amritsar etc.

## Aim

❖ To promote esprit-de-corps and to promote general welfare matter of all ranks of Bombay Sappers, both serving and retired and their families

## Objectives

- ❖ To enable members, as old comrades, to keep in touch with each other and with the Bombay Sappers so as to promote and foster spirit of brotherhood and comradeship among its members.
- ❖ To promote esprit-de-corps and social interaction amongst its members and their families.
- ❖ To engage in such other activities as may be incidental or ancillary to the attainment of the above objectives .
- ❖ To assist in the rehabilitation of widows/widowers amongst retired including their family members.
- ❖ To undertake all welfare activities.
- ❖ All the incomes, earnings, movable, immovable properties of the Society shall be solely utilised and applied toward the promotion of its aim and objectives.
- ❖ To raise funds for achieving these objectives.



## Welfare Schemes

- ❖ **Education Scholarship.** The BSA offers education scholarships to deserving students of standard 5<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup>
- ❖ **Education Loan.** The BSA caters for giving loan to needy Bombay Sappers and their wards to pursue higher studies.
- ❖ **Sports Scholarship .** The BSA offers sport scholarships to deserving students who are potential sportspersons of very high standard.
- ❖ **Distress Grant.** BSA also offers grant for serving and retired soldiers who are in distress eg sudden death, heavy loss due to natural calamity, assisting soldier's child in case of severe disability etc.
- ❖ **Boys Hostel.** BSA funds a boys hostel where sons of Bombay Sappers get admission to pursue their studies. The boys are motivated and given training to become good citizens and to become officers in Armed Forces or in civil depending on their aptitude.
- ❖ **Girls Hostel.** We are planning to start another hostel for daughters of Bombay Sappers. It is in advance stage of planning.
- ❖ **Sapper Sarai.** It is difficult for an ex-serviceman to stay in Pune when he comes here for short duration for some important job or for taking medical treatment. We have created a facility where he can stay for a few days at very low rates and even avail facility of meals at nominal rates.
- ❖ **Help in getting Medical Treatment.** All ex-servicemen are covered under contributory health schemes. They sometimes need help in getting proper information and assistance which are provided by us.
- ❖ **Assistant in Resettlement.** We interact with industry and government bodies and create a data base on availability of jobs. We then help retired soldiers to get these jobs.



ARTIST'S VIEW OF NEW BLDG UNDER CONSTRUCTION

# GURNAM ACADAMY



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