

69th Issue

Sep 2025



# AFA NEWS



**AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION**

## EAGLE'S EYE



**MARSHAL OF THE AIR  
FORCE ARJAN SINGH, DFC  
MEMORIAL LECTURE**

**RAKSHA MANTRI  
DELIVERED THE KEYNOTE  
ADDRESS AT THE  
INAUGURAL LECTURE.**



**a FORCE for GOOD**

**Pledge to Help...**

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# AFA NEWS

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# President's Page



Fellow Air Veterans,

**L**et me begin my message in this edition of the AFA News Magazine by expressing our deep pride in our Air Warriors on behalf of our entire Air Veterans community. I salute the dominant role of the Indian Air Force in Operation Sindoor.

Triggered by the brutal killing of civilians in Pahalgam, this mission saw our Air Warriors strike deep into hostile territory, destroying terrorist camps with precision and overwhelming force. In doing so, they have upheld the finest traditions of our Service, brought glory to the Nation and made every Air Veteran proud.

The skies of India remain safe because of their skill, courage and unshakable resolve. Our Air Warriors have once again reminded the world that the IAF is a force to reckon with — today and always.

Our Association continues to grow in strength and spirit. We have opened a new chapter at Gwalior and our membership has now crossed the landmark figure of one lakh.

On behalf of all veterans, I exhort all AFA volunteers and honorary members to continue with their good work and selfless service to the veteran community. It is very encouraging that you connect our community, extend a helping hand to those in need and bring comfort, dignity and pride to the lives of our comrades and their families. Whether it is securing medical care, resolving pensionary matters, assisting with last rites, arranging scholarships, providing shagun on daughter's marriage to widows or organising social celebrations, you embody the finest traditions of service — long after your active duty has ended.

Our strength lies not just in numbers, but in the compassion, camaraderie and commitment that define us. Together, we honour the past, serve the present and inspire the future.

**Jai Hind**



**Air Chief Marshal VR Chaudhari**  
PVSM AVSM VM (Retd)

# MESSAGE FROM THE EDITORIAL BOARD

**W**e are delighted to bring to our readers the 69th issue of the AFA News Magazine, now available in your mailbox and on your mobile. You can also access it anytime through our official platforms — Facebook (**AirforceAssociation India**), Twitter (**@AirForceAssoci1**) and the AFA website (**afa-india.org**).

It is with immense pride and joy that we share a remarkable milestone in our collective journey - the Air Force Association has now crossed the one lakh membership mark. Air Commodore Jaspreet Singh (Service No. 22547) has the honour of becoming our 1,00,000th member, a moment that reflects the growing strength and unity of our fraternity.

The Association also marked another significant occasion with the inaugural Marshal of the Air Force Lecture, hosted by the AFA Head Office on 23 April 2025 at the Air Force Auditorium. The event was graced by Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh, who delivered the keynote address. Earlier, on 15 April 2025, Air Marshal VK Garg, AVSM, VSM, AOC-in-C MC had presented a statue of the Marshal of the Air Force to the Senior Citizens' Home, Tughlakabad, a gesture symbolising reverence and continuity of our rich heritage.

Your words of appreciation and encouragement have been our greatest motivation. The overwhelming response from our readers continues to inspire us to keep raising the bar with each issue.

This edition features a diverse range of stories and updates — from a nostalgic farewell to the MiGs to the inspiring Space Rendezvous by Astronaut Gp Capt Shubhanshu Shukla. We also present coverage of the Marshal's inaugural lecture, activities from various AFA branches, and a captivating photo gallery. The magazine includes informative pieces on national infrastructure, motivational real-life narratives, and the latest news from the Indian Air Force to keep our veterans informed, inspired and connected.

Our branches across the country continue to uphold the spirit of excellence. A special note of appreciation is extended to the Bangalore Branch for organising the Air Chief Marshal LM Katre Memorial Lecture, with Air Chief Marshal AP Singh delivering the keynote address — a true reflection of our shared commitment to tradition and learning.

The Air Force may have been our profession, but the Air Force Association is our lifelong home. It embodies the ethos we all hold dear — Service Before Self. While we may have hung up our uniforms, the values and camaraderie that bind us remain eternal.

We invite all Air Veterans — and every serving Air Warrior who looks forward to joining this proud fraternity — to become a part of the AFA. Join not for material gain, but for the unbreakable brotherhood that only those who have worn the blue can truly understand.

Let us continue to stand together — now, always and forever.

# MIG-21: THE SUPERSONIC SENTINEL BIDS FAREWELL



India's first supersonic fighter, the MiG-21 retired at a befitting decommissioning event after 62 years of service in Chandigarh on 26 September 2025.

The decommissioning ceremony was held at the same Air Force station in Chandigarh, where it was first inducted in 1963. Defence Minister Sh. Rajnath Singh was the Chief Guest. He was joined by CDS General Anil Chauhan, COAS General Upendra Dwivedi

and CAS Air Chief Marshal AP Singh and former IAF chiefs, AY Tipnis, SP Tyagi and BS Dhanoa. Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla, India's first man on the International Space Station and scores of veterans, many who had piloted the aircraft, were present on the occasion. The iconic MiG-21 was accorded an Aerial Salute and a traditional water cannon salute.

Majestic fly past and immaculate Air Warrior Drill were the other highlights of the day. Air Chief Marshal A P Singh took the final sortie with the call sign 'Badal 3', as the last of the MiG-21 jets from No. 23 Squadron, the 'Panthers', bid farewell at the decommissioning ceremony.

Defence Minister Sh. Rajnath Singh lauded the MiG-21 for its unmatched contribution to India's defence history. He recalled its decisive role in multiple operations and highlighted how the aircraft stood as a symbol of courage, speed and power for generations of air warriors. By all accounts, the MiG-21 was more than just a fighter jet. It was an icon of India's military aviation history. From the day it touched down at Chandigarh in 1963, it captured the imagination of the IAF and the nation alike. Nicknamed "The Bullet That Flies", it brought supersonic capability to the subcontinent for the first time, transforming the IAF from a tactical force into a strategic air power.

Born in the Soviet Union but raised in India, the MiG-21 lived a full life—fierce in battle, stoic in endurance and noble in its legacy. It taught generations of young pilots what it meant to fly fast, fight hard and defend fearlessly.

**THE WAR YEARS (BAPTISM BY FIRE):** Barely two years into service, the MiG-21 faced its first true test in the 1965 Indo-Pak War. It patrolled the skies relentlessly, intercepting enemy aircraft and proving its speed and agility but it was during the 1971 war where it truly became a legend.

In the years that followed, India began producing the aircraft indigenously. Over 800 MiG-21s served the IAF, playing vital roles in every major operations including the 1999 Kargil War and the 2019 Balakot aftermath, where Wg Cdr Abhinandan Varthaman, brought down a Pakistani F-16.

**EPILOGUE (A SALUTE TO STEEL AND SOUL):** The MiG-21 was never just about metal and machinery. It carried with it the dreams of a young republic, the discipline of generations of air warriors and the blood & sweat of ground crew who kept it alive.

**As it soared one last time, we echo its words: "Now, the time has come for me to take my final flight. I leave not in silence, but with the thunder of duty fulfilled."**

Jai Hind.

# ARJAN SINGH MEMORIAL LECTURE



FA held the inaugural Annual Marshal of Indian Air Force Arjan Singh, DFC memorial lecture on 23 April 2025 at Air Force Auditorium. Honourable Raksha Mantri Sh Rajnath Singh delivered the keynote address.

The auditorium was packed to its full capacity. To begin the proceedings all Air Warriors and Air Veterans present in the Auditorium were requested to rise for one minute silence to pay homage to all who lost their lives in the barbaric terrorist attack in Pahalgam on 22 Apr 25.

President AFA in his welcome address informed the house that the idea of this memorial lecture was received from ACM NC Suri (Retd) around two years back. Two memorial lectures in memory of MIAF Arjan Singh DFC had already been held, one each by CAPS & USI. However, AFA will take on this task as an annual feature from now onwards.

Since the lecture was held a day after the tragic terrorist attack in Pahalgam, which had claimed 26 lives, Raksha Mantri in his opening remarks condemned the attack describing it as an “extremely inhuman act” that has plunged the nation into deep grief. He assured the country through this lecture that we would take every necessary and appropriate step. He highlighted India’s zero-tolerance policy against terrorism, stating, “India is such an old civilization and such a big country that it cannot be intimidated by such terrorist acts.” He reiterated that the people responsible for such acts would receive a strong response shortly.

Reflecting on the legacy of Marshal Arjan Singh, Hon’ble RM paid rich tributes, calling him a visionary military leader whose leadership and dedication continue to inspire. He described the journey of the IAF as an aspiring, inspirational and transformational epic, contributing significantly to national security as a strong pillar.

He highlighted the importance of Indigenous defence manufacturing, citing examples like the Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Tejas, Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH) Dhruv and the Akash & BrahMos Air Defence systems. Addressing the evolving nature of warfare, he pointed out the challenges posed by technological advancements including the growing use of Artificial Intelligence, Hypersonic Directed Energy weapons, Quantum Computing, drones and cyber & space technologies. He voiced the Government’s commitment to tackling these challenges and uncertainties, ensuring that the Armed Forces are equipped to handle complex scenarios in a fluid international order.

Hon’ble RM also felicitated Gp Capt Karan Singh Bhati (Retd) and Wg Cdr Oncar Singh Sareen (Retd) who had worked with Marshal and also have been assisting AFA in the management of Marshal of the Air Force Trust.

In the closing ceremony ACM VR Chaudhari, presented the AFA memento to Hon’ble RM. A special request was made to Dr Arvind Singh, son of the late Marshal of the Air Force to make it convenient to attend the inaugural memorial lecture of his late father. Unfortunately he could not attend. However Dr Arvind Singh made an additional contribution of Rs. 50 lacks to Marshal Trust.

106th birth anniversary of Marshal of the IAF Arjan Singh, Padma Vibhushan, DFC, was also commemorated at AASTHA Senior Citizens’ Home in Tughlakabad Delhi by



unveiling his bust on 15 April 2025. The ceremony was led by Air Marshal Vijay Kumar Garg, AOC-in-C MC and Air Marshal Jagjeet Singh (Retd) Sr VP of AFA. Mrs. Ritu Garg, President, AFFWA (R) also graced the occasion. Residents of “AASTHA” (SCH) and personnel of AF Stn Tughlakabad were also present.

## CAS MEETS BRAVEHEART SGT SURENDRA MOGA'S FAMILY AND CPL VARUN



Air Chief Marshal Amar Preet Singh visited Mehradasi village in Mandawa, Jhunjhunu district of Rajasthan on 14 Aug 25. He paid tribute to Sergeant Surendra Moga, who lost his life during Operation Sindoor in Jammu and Kashmir's Udhampur in May.



During his visit, the CAS met with family members of late Sgt Moga, including his widow Seema Devi, mother Nanu Devi, daughter Vartika and son Daksh. He offered his condolences and assured them that the Indian Air Force stands firmly with the families of all martyrs. He also laid a floral wreath at Sergeant Moga's photograph, acknowledging his invaluable sacrifice to the Nation.

Chief of the Air Staff also visited the Artificial Limb Centre, Pune, wherein he met Cpl Varun Kumar who suffered injuries during Op Sindoor.

## IAF: A LIFELINE IN THE SKIES

In 2025, the Indian Air Force (IAF) once again proved to be the nation's lifeline, carrying out critical humanitarian assistance and disaster relief (HADR) missions at home and abroad. Internationally, under Operation Brahma in Myanmar, the IAF delivered over 656 tonnes of relief material after a devastating earthquake. Within India, its aircraft and helicopters became saviours in flood and landslide-hit regions. In Uttarakhand, over 750 pilgrims and villagers were evacuated from Dharali valley, while in North Sikkim, Mi-17s and Cheetahs rescued 77 civilians, including tourists. In Manipur, Operation Sahyog sustained 1,500 people in 18 cut-off villages by air-dropping essentials. When Himachal, Punjab and Jammu faced severe floods, IAF helicopters flew relentless missions, rescuing hundreds and airlifting tonnes of aid, while C-130Js deployed NDRF teams to speed up relief efforts. A daring Mi-17 V5 crew even saved a man swept away in Bastar's Sabari river, a testament to unmatched skill and courage. Beyond defending the skies, the IAF continues to stand by the nation in its hour of need—truly living upto its motto, “Touch the Sky with Glory.”

**THE PENCIL AND THE ERASER:** The eraser kept shrinking while fixing the pencil's mistakes. The pencil said sorry; the eraser replied, “That's my purpose”.

**MORAL: TRUE FRIENDS SACRIFICE FOR YOUR BETTERMENT.**

# NEW APPOINTMENTS: IAF

## **AIR MARSHAL NARMDESHWAR TIWARI, SYSM, PVSM, AVSM, VM: VCAS**



Air Marshal Narmadeshwar Tiwari assumed the appointment of VCAS on 02 May 25. He was commissioned as a fighter pilot on 07 June 1986. He is an alumnus of RIMC and NDA. He has over 3600 hours of flying experience on various types of aircraft. Besides being a QFI and an Experimental Test Pilot, he is a graduate of the Air Command and Staff College, USA. He was actively involved in the flight testing and final clearance of the LCA as the Project Director at the National Flight Test Centre. The Air Marshal served as Air Attache in Paris from 2013 to 2016. His senior-level appointments include DCAS and AOC-in-C SWAC.

## **AIR MARSHAL NAGESH KAPOOR, SYSM, PVSM, AVSM, VM: AOC-in-C SWAC**



Air Marshal Nagesh Kapoor assumed the appointment of AOC-in-C SWAC on 01 May 2025. He was commissioned in the Indian Air Force in the fighter stream of the Flying Branch on 06 December 1986. He is an alumnus of NDA, DSSC and NDC. He is a QFI and a Fighter Combat Leader with more than 3400 hrs of flying experience. During his tenure as CI (Flying) at AFA, he was instrumental in the induction and operationalisation of PC-7 MK II aircraft in the IAF. He has also undertaken a diplomatic assignment as Defence Attaché, Pakistan. His senior-level appointments include ACAS (Ops Strategy); AD Cdr SWAC, SASO CAC, AOP and AOC-in-C TC.

## **AIR MARSHAL B MANIKANTAN, PVSM, AVSM, VM: AOC-in-C CAC**



Air Marshal Balakrishnan Manikantan assumed the appointment of AOC-in-C CAC on 01 May 25. He was commissioned in the Indian Air Force on 07 Jun 1986. The Air Marshal is a Helicopter Combat Leader and a type Qualified Flying Instructor and has more than 5500 hours of flying experience to his credit. He is an alumnus of NDA, DSSC, CDM and NDC. His senior-level appointments include SASO EAC and AOC-in-C SAC.

## **AIR MARSHAL TEJINDER SINGH, AVSM, VM: AOC-in-C TC**



Air Marshal Tejinder Singh took over as AOC-in-C TC on 01 May 2025. He was commissioned in the fighter stream of the IAF on 13 June 1987. He is a Category 'A' Qualified Flying Instructor with over 4500 hours of flying, an alumnus of NDA, DSSC and NDC. His higher-level appointments include ACAS Ops (Offensive), ACAS Ops (Strategy) and SASO, EAC. Before he assumed his present appointment, he was the Deputy Chief of the Air Staff at Air HQ (VB).

## **AIR MSHL AK BHARTI, SYSM, AVSM, VM: DCAS**



Air Marshal Awadhesh Kumar Bharti took over as DCAS on 01 Jun 25. He was commissioned in the Fighter stream of the IAF on 13 Jun 1987. He is an alumnus of NDA, DSSC, and NDC. He has 3300 hours of experience on various aircraft and is a Fighter Combat Leader. His senior-level appointments include AVM (AV) Strat at HQ SFC, AOC Advance HQ EAC, ACAS Ops (Offensive) and SASO CAC. He was instrumental in setting up the Sukhoi Squadron and train the pilots of the Royal Malaysian Air Force on Sukhoi-30 MKM aircraft. Before taking over as DCAS he was DG (Air Operations) and oversaw all the air operations during Ops-Sindoor.

## NEW APPOINTMENTS: IAF

### AIR MARSHAL MANISH KHANNA, UYSM, AVSM, VM: AOC-IN-C SAC



Air Marshal Manish Khanna assumed the appointment of AOC-in-C SAC on 01 June 2025. He was commissioned in the fighter stream of the IAF on 06 Dec 1986. He is an alumnus of NDA, CAW, DSSC and NDC. He has done PhD in Defence and Strategic Studies. He is a Category 'A' QFI and has over 4000 hr of flying experience. He has been CFI with the Botswana Defence Forces and has had a tenure at the National Security Council Secretariat, Air Cmde Operations Air Defence (Weapon Systems) and ACAS (PO). Before assuming the current appointment, he was SASO at HQ SWAC.

### AIR MARSHAL SANJIV GHURATIA, AVSM, VSM: AOM



Air Marshal Sanjiv Ghuratia assumed charge as Air Officer-in-Charge Maintenance at Air Headquarters on 01 Sep 25. With 37 years of distinguished service, the Air Officer has vast experience and numerous qualifications. He is an alumnus of Defense Services Staff College, Air Force Test Pilot School and Air Force Technical College. He is also a Fellow of the Royal Aeronautical society, London, Aeronautical Society of India and the Institute of Electronics and Telecommunication Engineers.

### AIR MARSHAL S SIVAKUMAR, VSM: AOA



Air Marshal S Sivakumar assumed the appointment of Air Officer-in-Charge Administration on 01 Jul 25. The Air Marshal was commissioned in Administration branch in June 1990. He has done MBA in HRM from Pondicherry University and M Phil degree in Defence and Strategic Studies from Osmania University. The Air Marshal has held number of important Command and Staff appointments which include Air Force Examiner, Chief Administrative Officer of a premier Flying Station, C Wks O and CPSO at Operational Commands, AOC 23 ED, ACAS (Air Force Works) at Air HQ and SOA of an Operational Command. He also represented IAF in UN Mission at Congo. Before assuming the present appointment, the Air Marshal was DG (Adm) at Air HQ.

## GOVERNING COUNCIL MEETING: AFA HO



As mandated, the Air Force Association holds two Governing Council meetings every year. For FY 2025–26, the first Governing Council Meeting was held on 19 August 2025, under the chairmanship of President AFA, Air Chief Marshal V R Choudhari (Retd.). The meeting was duly attended by all Governing Council members, reaffirming the Association's commitment to effective governance and welfare of veterans.

## TRI SERVICES COMBAT SYNERGY



Master Warrant Officer to CAS, MWO Pradeep Kumar Yadav, Subedar Major to COAS, Sub Maj Gopa Kumar, and Master Chief Petty Officer to CNS, MCPO Ram Dular, held discussions at Air HQ on matters related to training, discipline, welfare and measures to enhance combat synergy. The CAS interacted with them and emphasized that while the colours of our uniforms are different, our aim is common - to ensure national security.

# A MARVEL OF INGENUITY: SAMAR WEAPON SYSTEMS BY AIR MSHL S CHOUDHARY, PVSM, AVSM, VSM



AIR MSHL S CHOUDHARY  
AOC-IN-C, MC (RETD)

**D**uring the review of assets held with one of the important Equipment Depots, it emerged that a large number of serviceable but life expired Air to Air missile assets were stored. These stores had gone through the process of life extension and OEM had expressed their inability to carry out any further life extension. As a result, these stores were slated to be demolished. In the brainstorming session held at HQ Maintenance Command, a number of options were deliberated, namely to carry out further life extension by exploring indigenous efforts, possibility of alternate use as training aids by removing the explosives etc.

Around the same time, one of the news input was communicated by one of the Defence Attaché that Houthis rebels are using truck mounted system for launching missiles at the opponent's air assets. Accordingly, a team of system specialists drawn from various weapon systems was formed to deliberate possibility of using these life expired stores in Surface to Air mode. This team after studying various aspects expressed possibility of fabricating such a system.

After having given a green signal, the work to be done by the team was divided in three distinct groups. The first group was to establish safety of life expired stores and personnel while utilising these stores in surface to air mode, the second group was tasked to mimic the aircraft weapon control system to be used from a vehicle mounted launch system and the third group was to develop / modify a vehicle and fabricate the rugged mechanical launch system. After six months of intense work, the prototype was ready for field trials. Everyone associated with this development was confident of the success as each team had put in their heart and soul to know the nitty gritty of functioning of the missile and all other associated systems etc to fabricate a viable system.

The system was designed and fabricated in consultation with Indian Institute of Technology Delhi. With involvement of MSMEs, the prototype was developed in record time. After first successful field trial, a number of modifications / upgrades and series of trials were carried out to enhance reliability, efficiency and above all its ability to be operationally deployed. Specific attention was given to the ability of the system to be operationally ready in very short time and its ability to fire and move swiftly to confuse the enemy. This weapon system was named as **Surface to Air Missile system for Assured Retaliation (SAMAR)**. SAMAR systems have successfully participated in Ex Vayu Shakti, Ex Astra Shakti, Ex Tarang Shakti etc. In these exercises, SAMAR system was found to be reliable and quick to deploy. Fabrication of a reliable, robust and effective Air Defence System is also hailed as a good example of defence, industry and academia partnership towards achieving **Aatmanirbharta**.



**SAMAR 1**



**SAMAR 2**

## READER'S FEEDBACK



We are deeply grateful to our esteemed veterans and readers for their warm appreciation of the recent issue of AFA News. Your encouragement inspires the editorial team to continue striving for excellence. A few of the heartfelt messages received are shared below:

- Air Chief Marshal Krishnaswamy (Retd): “This edition is the best among the earlier ones—very comprehensive, interesting and informative. Congratulations to you and the Team.”
- Air Chief Marshal SP Tyagi, PVSM, AVSM, VM (Retd): “Dear Air Marshal, Brilliant. Well done. Very interesting.”
- Air Chief Marshal NAK Browne, PVSM, AVSM, VM (Retd): “Thanx Jaggi.”
- Air Marshal Athawale: “Wonderful to see this. Thanks.”
- Air Marshal Amit Tiwari, President, Lucknow Branch: “Good morning Jaggi Sir, thanks a lot for making an effort and personally sending it to us. It has come out very well. Congratulations to you and the editorial team.”
- AVM Gagneja, Ex-VP AFA: “You deserve kudos for rolling out yet another AFA Magazine sharing valuable information and knowledge.”
- Maj Gen Ravinder Singh, VSM: “A good recognition of the selfless service by Wg Cdr RS Pandey, founder and leading force of NCR-2 Care & Share.”
- Gp Capt Bhatti : “Excellent. Thanks a lot, Sir.”
- Gp Capt S Mohan, Ex-Editor AFA: “The issue is very well-edited. Heartiest congratulations. Kindly send me a hard copy if possible.”
- Wg Cdr Goswami (Author): “It is kind of you to publish my little story in AFA Magazine. It is an honour for me. Grateful.”
- Wg Cdr Yadav (Father of Aditi Yadav, IAS): “President Sir, I congratulate you on the release of AFA News Magazine. Special thanks for giving place to Aditi in the magazine. Jai Hind, Sir.”
- Veteran Sgt Sajikumar VR: “I express my heartfelt gratitude to the Marshal of the Air Force & Mrs. Arjan Singh Trust for granting my daughter the scholarship. It has been a great support in meeting her educational expenses.”
- Smt. Babita Sharma (W/o Ex-Sgt Manoj Kumar Sharma): “I gratefully acknowledge the financial grant of ₹31,000/- from the Marshal of the Air Force & Mrs. Arjan Singh Trust for my daughter’s wedding. This timely and generous support has been of great help to my family.”

**DUE TO SPACE LIMITATIONS, WE REGRET BEING UNABLE TO  
INCLUDE ALL THE APPRECIATIVE MESSAGES RECEIVED.**



## PRESIDENT DROUPADI MURMU PAYS HOMAGE TO BRAVEHEARTS AT NATIONAL WAR MEMORIAL



On Independence Day 2025, President Droupadi Murmu paid solemn tributes to the bravehearts at the National War Memorial, New Delhi honouring those who made the supreme sacrifice in the armed conflicts of Independent India. The President was accompanied by Chief of Defence Staff Gen Anil Chauhan, Chief of Air Staff Air Chief Marshal Amar Preet Singh, Chief of Army Staff Gen Upendra Dwivedi and Chief of Naval Staff Admiral Dinesh Tripathi. In a poignant moment, all five dignitaries marched together to the memorial, braving heavy rain. The wreath

was ceremonially carried by two women officers of the Indian Air Force reflecting the growing role of women in the Services. Also present were Defence Minister Sh Rajnath Singh and Union Minister of State for Defence Sh Sanjay Seth, who joined in paying homage.



## ACM LM KATRE MEMORIAL LECTURE

The Air Chief Marshal LM Katre Memorial Lecture organised by AFA Bengaluru branch was held on 09 Aug 25 at HAL Academy, Bengaluru honouring his legacy in shaping Indian aviation. Air Chief Marshal AP Singh lauded Op Sindoor's success, stressing Air Power's primacy and the need for indigenisation, R&D, jointness and synergy for future strength.

## UNIQUE ACT OF PHILANTHROPY



**Veteran Gp Capt SM Puri, VM and Mrs Sonia Puri** have donated Rs Two Crores to Air Force Association for “**Gp Capt SM Puri, VM and Mrs Sonia Puri Benevolent Fund**”.



Gp Capt SM Puri was commissioned on 29 Oct 1966 in Transport stream of the Flying Branch. He is an alumnus of Higher Command Course at MHOW with Army and has held important appointments of CO 12 Sqn, Stn Cdr AF Stn Sulur, Jt Director Ops (T & H) and has 10000 hours of accident free flying. Mrs Sonia Puri's role, the joint donor, is especially commendable wherein she has joined hands with her husband for this magnanimous and humongous donation and agreed to part with this large sum for a noble cause. The amount has been invested with IAFBA and the interest thereon is being used for the Grant for **IVF treatment** to childless couples and Scholarships for **UG professional courses**. Since inception Rs 12.70 Lacs have been distributed for IVF treatment and Rs 10.75 Lacs for scholarships. As a special case, one civilian employee of Senior Citizens' Home, Sh. Ram Asre was given a grant of Rs. 1.5 Lakh for IVF treatment. The Donors can be contacted at Mob No. 9810264835 and email ID [smpuri483@hotmail.com](mailto:smpuri483@hotmail.com)

## AIR VETERAN YOGESH WITH PM



Sitting next to the Prime Minister are Pune-based Yogesh Siddhartha and his wife Sumita Siddhartha. Prime Minister Sh. Narendra Damodar Das Bhai Modi has invited them both to his home to congratulate them. What have they done to deserve the Prime Minister's invitation to his home? Yogesh Siddhartha is a retired Indian Air Force officer. Our soldiers in the Siachen glacier were suffering from oxygen shortage from time to time. Wanting to find a solution to this, Yogesh Siddhartha sold all his savings and all the jewellery from his house and set up an oxygen production plant in Siachen, the highest battlefield in the world, with the total amount of ₹ 1.25 crore. As a result, the oxygen shortage there has disappeared and now our 20,000 soldiers are getting the oxygen

they need. There are many who talk about problems. There are very few who solve problems. Yogesh Siddhartha and his wife Sumita Siddhartha, who have remained silent after performing a rare act, are both worthy of praise.

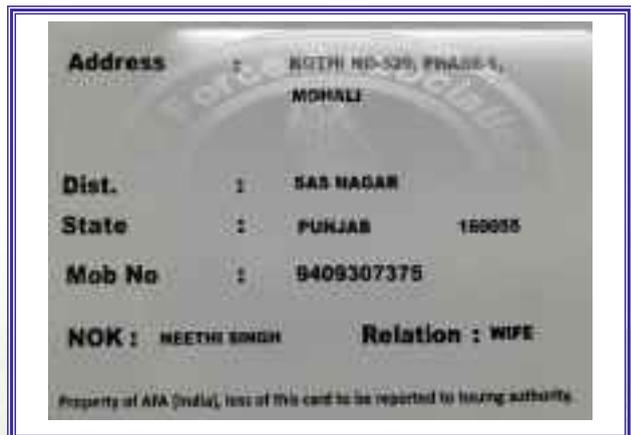
## FRENCH GOVERNMENT HONOURS INDIAN AIR VETERANS



On 28 April 2025, the French Government awarded the Médaille de l'Aéronautique to three distinguished Indians which include two Veterans of IAF, Air Marshal Anil Chopra, Air Marshal Simbhakutty Varthaman and Mr PV Rao, CEO of Dassault MRO. The award ceremony took place at the French Embassy in New Delhi. The citation was presented by Lieutenant General Gaël Diaz de Tuesta, Director for Development of International Relations and Director General of Armament (DGA) in the French Ministry of Defence. The medal was bestowed by the French Ambassador, HE Thierry Mathou. The "Médaille de l'Aéronautique" (Aeronautical Medal) is a prestigious French state decoration that honors exceptional contributions to the field of aeronautics,

recognizing both civilian and military personnel. Established in 1945, the medal acknowledges significant achievements in aviation and related technologies. While it was primarily awarded to French citizens, a select few foreign nationals have received it in recognition of their contributions to friendly nations. Notably, this was the first time the medal was awarded to Indian citizens with contributions to Indo-French military aviation being a key criterion for selection.

## AFA MILESTONE: 1, 00,000 MEMBERS



# ROLE MODELS



**MAJOR ROHIT BACHWALA:** On 05 July 2025, a quiet railway platform in Jhansi became the center stage for an extraordinary act of courage, compassion and dedication. A doctor from the Indian Army, Major Rohit Bachwala, trained in battlefield medicine and posted at Military Hospital Jhansi, was en-route to his hometown (Hyderabad) when he noticed that a woman in advanced labour, had fallen from a wheelchair near the lift area. With no time to waste and no medical tools on hand, Major Rohit stepped forward. Armed with a towel, a pocket knife and hair clips, he conducted an emergency delivery on the platform. The newborn was unresponsive, but Major Rohit's swift resuscitation revived the baby. When the mother developed complications, he managed her condition with improvised techniques and unwavering composure. Both mother and child were stabilised under his care before being shifted to a nearby hospital. The woman, Ashwarfalak Quershi, had gone into sudden labour while travelling with her family and it was a distress call via the Rail Madad App that drew attention to her emergency. But it was Major Rohit's quick thinking and clinical acumen that saved two lives that day, the mother and the new born.



In recognition of this selfless act, Major Rohit was awarded the Chief of Army Staff Commendation Card, personally presented by **General Upendra Dwivedi, Chief of the Army Staff. Director General Armed Forces Medical Services, Surgeon Vice Admiral Arti Sarin**, also commended his courage, joined by the senior-most gynecologists of the Armed Forces. The Indian Army, in a tribute, called it **“SERVICE BEYOND THE CALL OF DUTY”** and the Nation echoed with praise. Social media hailed him as the **“DOCTOR ON DUTY—EVEN ON LEAVE”** a title that reflects not just his

medical skills, but his humanity, presence of mind, and deep commitment to service. Major Rohit's story is a powerful reminder that heroes don't wait for perfect conditions—they act with what they have, wherever they are. His courage turned a chaotic moment into a miracle, proving that one person's action can change the course of lives.

May his act inspire us all to stay alert, step forward and never underestimate the power of one compassionate response.



**JWO ARUNA KUMAR MOHANTY (RETD):** Every year on 31st August, the Government of Odisha observes Local Self-Government Day to honour individuals who contribute selflessly to society— be it through cleanliness drives, tree plantation, or caring for people and animals in their communities. This year, JWO Aruna Kumar Mohanty (Retd), a proud member of AFA Odisha Branch and its Secretary for the last 15 years, was felicitated with the Nagar Bandhu Sanman – 2025 by Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation. His outstanding dedication towards environmental protection and community welfare stands as a true inspiration, reminding us that service to society is the highest form of duty.

# ACHIEVERS



**G HARISHANKAR, SON OF VETERAN SERGEANT R GANESHAN** has achieved an All India Rank of 107 in the 2024 UPSC Civil Services Examinations. He secured the second-best position during the 99th Foundation Course at the Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration in Mussoorie. He received his award from the Honorable Home Minister Shri Amit Shah. He is currently under training at the Sushma Swaraj Institute of Foreign Services (SSIFS) in New Delhi. G. Harishankar completed his schooling at Air Force Bal Bharati School in New Delhi, where he ranked 12th (99.2%) in the CBSE examinations in 2014. He was the All India topper in Commerce that year. He earned his B.Com (Honours) degree from Sri Ram College of Commerce (SRCC), Delhi University. Previously, he worked

as a consultant at McKinsey & Company and Warburg Pincus.



**SQUADRON LEADER VINUTHA GR (RETD)** is a distinguished Indian Air Force officer who has achieved 906th rank in UPSC 2024. She is the daughter of Mr. Ravindranath and Mrs Renukamma (both retired government officials). Vinutha graduated in Electrical Engineering from Sri Jayachamarajendra College of Engineering (SJCE) Mysore and later obtained her M.Tech in Electrical Engineering from IIT Delhi. She was commissioned in AE branch of the Indian Air Force in 2011 and served with the Mirage 2000 Squadron. Later, she was stationed at ETI Jalahalli. After completing her SSC tenure in 2021, she worked as Deputy Director of Sainik Welfare and Resettlement in Karnataka.

## VENKATA SUBBALAXMI



"I had never even stepped into a pool before," reflects Venkata Subbalaxmi, a retired Botany professor from Andhra Pradesh, who began swimming at 68 but when my grandson said, 'You won't be able to do it', I found the courage to dive in, able to do it,' something sparked in me. I wanted to try to prove to myself that I could." She started swimming at a local pool in Hyderabad, guided by trainers initially hesitant to coach a beginner of her age. However, her discipline quickly won them over. Within a year, she was competing and winning in veteran competitions. Over the next decade, she accumulated medals in freestyle, breaststroke and

backstroke categories at Masters-level championships including All India Senior Meets and international events for senior citizens. Now at the age of 79, she has won 170 medals in swimming and various athletic events, including javelin, discus, triple jump, long jump and sprinting. She has represented India in over five international competitions. Women like Subbalaxmi challenge the inertia that often accompanies aging. They defy traditional gender roles that discourage post-retirement self-investment, especially in physical or athletic pursuits. Subbalaxmi's success has made her a local role model. "I'm not slowing down", she asserts. "If anything, I'm just getting started."

**WHERE THERE IS WILL, THERE IS A WAY**

## WORLD'S HIGHEST RAIL BRIDGE



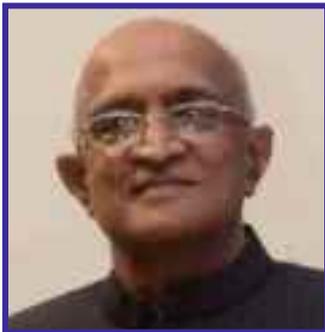
India has inaugurated the iconic Chenab Rail Bridge, now the world's highest railway bridge, standing 359 metres above the Chenab River in Jammu and Kashmir—taller than the Eiffel Tower. Spanning 1.3 km, the bridge is a vital part of the Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Rail Link (USBRL) project, aimed at connecting Kashmir to the rest of India via rail.

An engineering marvel, the arch bridge is designed to withstand earthquakes and strong winds and it marks a significant achievement in India's infrastructure development.

## AIZAWL GETS ITS FIRST RAILWAY LINK

After decades of longing and logistical challenges, **Mizoram's capital, Aizawl**, is finally on the railway map. The 51.38 km Bairabi–Sairang broad-gauge line marks a historic milestone, connecting one of India's most remote state capitals to the National Rail Network for the first time since Independence. Engineered through 48 tunnels and over 140 bridges—one soaring 81 meters high—this rail line defies geography. With only four workable months a year due to landslides and heavy rains, the project took over a decade to complete. Its final stretch has been inaugurated by Prime Minister Sh. Narendra Modi on 13 Sep 2025. The new line slashes travel time from Guwahati to Aizawl from 18 hours to under 12, with fares as low as ₹450. Designed to be earthquake-resistant, it also boosts logistics, tourism, education & healthcare and enhances strategic mobility near the Myanmar and Bangladesh borders. This is more than infrastructure. It's a bridge to opportunity, unity and progress for the Northeast.

## WING COMMANDER PRAKASH NAVALE CHOWK: MAHARASHTRA



In honour of valour and service, the Sangli–Miraj–Kupwad Municipal Corporation, Maharashtra, has renamed Akashwani Chowk on Kolhapur Road as Wing Commander Prakash Navale Chowk.

An alumnus of Sainik School Satara, Wing Commander (Retd) Prakash Dhulappa Navale was awarded the Shaurya Chakra for exemplary courage during floods in Odisha on 20 September 1980. Then a Flight Lieutenant, he flew Chief Minister JB Patnaik to assess flood-hit areas. On landing at Gunpur, an agitated mob turned violent, threatening the safety of the Chief Minister and the crew. Displaying presence of mind and bravery, Navale controlled the situation, safeguarded the aircraft and evacuated the Chief Minister to safety—averting a major tragedy.

Wg Cdr P Navale is residing at Sangli, Maharashtra. Contact number - 9421185044

**THE TWO WOLVES:** An elder told his grandson, "Inside every person, two wolves are fighting. One is anger, envy, greed. The other is kindness, peace, love." The child asked, "Which wolf wins?" The elder smiled, "The one you feed."

**LESSON: OUR CHOICES SHAPE WHO WE BECOME.**

**THE TORTOISE AND THE LAMP:** A tortoise asked a lamp, "You shine so brightly, while I hide in my shell. Aren't you proud?" The lamp replied, "My light lasts only till the oil burns but your patience and endurance keep you alive for a century."

**LESSON: QUIET STRENGTH OFTEN OUTLIVES BRILLIANCE**

# AIR CRASH - ESCAPE OF FORMER PM

On the night of 04 November 1977, Prime Minister Sh. Morarji Desai narrowly escaped death when the Indian Air Force's VIP aircraft, a Tupolev Tu-124K, Pushpaka crashed while attempting to land at Jorhat, Assam.

The aircraft had taken off from Delhi to Jorhat as its destination. It was commanded by Wing Commander Clarence Joseph D'Lima with Sqn Ldr Mathew Cyriac as co-pilot. The other Crew included Wg Cdr Joginder Singh (navigator), Sqn Ldr VVS Sunkar (flight engineer) and Flt Lt OP Arora (flight signaller). Flt Lt PK Raveendran, an additional flight engineer under training and other Ground Crew were seated in the rear cabin.

As the aircraft neared Jorhat, it encountered severe weather and near-zero visibility. Jorhat airfield lacked modern Instrument Landing Systems (ILS) and was equipped only with basic World War II-era gooseneck flares and a rudimentary Non-Directional Beacon (NDB) offering minimal landing guidance. With limited fuel reserves and no viable alternate airfields nearby, the crew made a critical decision to attempt a landing at Jorhat. The first approach had to be aborted due to poor alignment. On the second approach, worsening weather and near-total darkness led the aircraft to strike a tall tree, severing the left wing and engine, before it crash-landed in a bamboo grove and marshy field about four kilometers short of the runway near Tekelagaon village.

The cockpit was destroyed and all five crew members in the front were killed, likely having been ejected through a breach caused by the impact. Miraculously, the passenger cabin remained largely intact.

Inside the darkened smoke-filled cabin, Flt Lt Raveendran and flight steward Sergeant Iyer, though injured, opened the rear exit door. Along with Sgt Upadhyaya, they helped evacuate Prime Minister Sh. Morarji Desai and other passengers to safety, fearing an imminent fire. The incident remains a rare case of a VIP air crash with minimal loss of life, thanks to the bravery of the surviving crew and the natural conditions that softened the impact. For their courage and quick action, Flt Lt Raveendran and Sgt Upadhyaya were awarded the Shaurya Chakra by Honourable President of India on 26 January 1979.

**ABOUT THE AUTHOR -** Wg Cdr Raveendran started his career in aviation in July 1971. He has a rare distinction of being an officer of the engineering branch to get two wings -- one as a parachutist and the second one when he did his PPL (Private Pilot License). Around the time of the crash, Raveendran had been selected to go to France to do the prestigious Flight Test Engineer course at the EPNER. Back in India, he was at the Aircraft and Systems Testing Establishment (ASTE) at Bangalore, putting all the theory that he had learnt in France into practice, testing new systems to be used on future aircraft of the IAF. He was actively involved in the design and development of the Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) even after he left the IAF.



## **KARGIL VIJAY DIWAS: HONOURING INDIA'S 1999 VICTORY**

Every year on 26 July, India observes Kargil Vijay Diwas to commemorate its hard-won victory in the 1999 Kargil War. The day marks the successful conclusion of Operation Vijay, through which Indian armed forces recaptured strategic peaks in the Kargil sector of Jammu and Kashmir from Pakistani infiltrators. On 26 July 2025 the nation solemnly celebrated the 26th anniversary of this military triumph, a tribute to the courage, resilience, and supreme sacrifice of India's soldiers.

## ISRO MILESTONE - LAUNCH OF EARTH IMAGING SATELLITE



Launched on 30 July 2025, **NISAR** (NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar) is a landmark joint mission between ISRO and NASA. Orbiting the Earth every 100 minutes at a speed of 27,000 km/h, this is world's most experienced and advanced radar satellite which watches over our planet with unmatched precision. With a mission life of 3 to 5 years and a shared cost of around ₹10,000 Crore, NISAR is designed not just for scientific monitoring—but will directly benefit India's people and economy. **NISAR** offers real-time data on Crop health, droughts, floods, landslides,

earthquakes, deforestation, glacier melting, urban growth and land use changes. Farmers, disaster managers, urban planners and industries are going to benefit from this.

## KARTAVYA BHAVAN

On 06 August 2025, Prime Minister Sh. Narendra Modi inaugurated Kartavya Bhavan, the first building of the Common Central Secretariat under the Central Vista Redevelopment Project. Spread over 1.5 lakh sq. metres, the modern facility brings together key ministries such as Home, External Affairs, Rural Development, Petroleum & Natural Gas, DoPT and the Office of the Principal Scientific Advisor. The building features two basements, six floors, 27 elevators, parking for 600+ vehicles (with EV charging) and amenities like a creche, yoga zone, medical centre, cafeteria, multipurpose hall and 100+ meeting spaces.

## PRIME MINISTER'S SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME - FOR GIRL STUDENTS

The Prime Minister's Scholarship Scheme (PMSS) is a flagship initiative designed to encourage higher professional and technical education among the wards and widows of Ex-Servicemen (ESM) and Ex-Coast Guard personnel (below officer Rank). For girl students, this scheme provides crucial financial assistance, helping them pursue careers in diverse fields and empowering them to build independent, secure futures.

An amount of Rs 3,000 per month is given as scholarship for girl students with a duration of up to **FIVE** years, depending on the course. Eligible courses include Professional degree programmes such as Engineering, MBBS, Dental, Veterinary Sciences, MBA, MCA, B.Ed., B.Sc. Nursing and other recognised professional courses. Eligibility is a minimum of 60% marks in 10+2, Diploma or Graduation

Applications are accepted online only as per the details available at the National Scholarship Portal (NSP): <https://scholarships.gov.in>.

## PMBJP: ECONOMICAL MEDICINES FOR VETERANS

Rising healthcare costs often strain family budgets, especially for veterans managing long-term health needs. The Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP), launched in 2016, addresses this by making quality generic medicines available at affordable prices.

With over 14,000 Janaushadhi Kendras nationwide, veterans can access medicines and surgical items at 50–90% lower cost than branded alternatives. Covering more than 2,000 medicines and 300 surgical devices, these Kendras ensure that essential drugs for diabetes, hypertension, heart disease and other conditions remain within easy reach.

# NEW NOMINATION RULES FOR BANKS

<b>WHAT'S NEW</b>	You can now nominate upto <b>FOUR</b> people for your bank account (savings/fixed/recurring deposits).
<b>WHAT CHANGED</b>	Old rule: Only 1 nominee allowed.
<b>PROBLEMS</b>	(a) No fallback if nominee died before the account holder. (b) Legal delays & disputes. (c) Unclaimed money moved to DEAF after 10 years
<b>NEW OPTIONS AVAILABLE</b>	(a) Joint nomination: Split shares by percentage (e.g., 50% to wife, 30% to son, 20% to daughter etc). (b) Successive nomination: If one nominee is dead, the asset passes to the next (e.g., Wife → Son → Daughter) in the order that you would have given to the bank.
<b>WHY THIS MATTERS</b>	(a) Standardizes rules across financial products (MFs, demat, insurance). (b) Reduces disputes, simplifies inheritance.
<b>CASE STUDY EXAMPLE: BEFORE:</b>	Mr. A nominates only his son. Both pass away—the bank can't release funds.
<b>NOW:</b>	Mr. A nominates wife, son, daughter (Let us say that he nominates in this order).
<b>OPTION 1:</b>	<b>SUCCESSIVE</b> – wife gets it. If she's deceased, son and then daughter.
<b>OPTION 2</b>	<b>JOINT</b> – split as per set ratio (e.g., 50%, 25% and 25%).

## DIGIPIN



DIGIPIN (**Digital Postal Index Number**) is a digital address system developed by the postal department in collaboration with IIT Hyderabad and the National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC) of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) which is headquartered in Hyderabad. A DIGIPIN is a 10-character alphanumeric code uniquely identifying every 4x4 meter grid square across India. This system is based directly on latitude and longitude rural, forested and unstructured areas. While PIN codes

indicate a neighborhood, DIGIPIN provides the exact location at your doorstep. This innovation is ideal for logistics, rural inclusion, e-commerce, emergency services, marking a significant advancement in national infrastructure and digital governance.

**Know Your DIGIPIN** (<https://dac.indiapost.gov.in/mydigipin>) and **know Your PIN Code** (<https://dac.indiapost.gov.in/knowmypincode>).

## ADIEU - REGISTERED POST SERVICES

India Post has undergone a major operational shift very recently. One of its long-operating services - the Registered Post has been discontinued. With effect from 01 September 2025, this service has been merged with Speed Post, a move aimed at streamlining operations, enhancing delivery speed and improving tracking accuracy. This is part of India Post's broader push toward modernising and digitizing postal services.

## E-PASSPORT LAUNCHED

On passport Seva Divas, India officially launched e-passport across the country, ushering in new era of secure and tech-enabled travel for its citizens. The e-Passport features on embedded microchip that stores encrypted biometric data, including the holder's name, photograph and fingerprints. These are compliant with International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) standards, ensuring global acceptance and enhanced security. **KEY BENEFITS** being faster immigration with chip-based verification, Enhanced Security against tampering and identity, theft and Tamper-Proof Design with digital signatures.

# AMRIT BHARAT STATION SCHEME (ABSS)

The Amrit Bharat Station Scheme (ABSS) is transforming over 1,300 railway stations across India under the motto “Virasat Bhi, Vikas Bhi”—preserving heritage while advancing development. Key Features include Modern waiting halls, high-level platforms, lifts, escalators, toilets and free Wi-Fi. Ramps, Solar panels, LED lighting, rainwater harvesting, architecture reflecting regional culture (from Gujarat’s Modhera to Odisha’s Jagannath motifs), executive lounges, business areas, digital signage and improved circulation plans. So far, 103 stations have been inaugurated, with many more underway. Backed by strong government funding ABSS blends modern infrastructure with cultural pride, accessibility and new economic opportunities.

## FREE RAIL TICKET UPGRADE

Indian Railways offers a Free Automatic Up-gradation Scheme for passengers with confirmed tickets, allowing them to enjoy travel in a higher class at no extra cost—while paying only for their originally booked class. To benefit, simply keep the “Consider for Auto Up gradation” option selected while booking on IRCTC. If vacant seats are available in a higher class during chart preparation (4–8 hours before departure), you’re eligible for a free upgrade—up to two classes higher (e.g., Sleeper to 3AC or even 2AC). This facility applies only to confirmed, full-fare tickets and not to tickets purchased on concession or pass holders. Up-gradation applies to the entire group under a PNR and berth preferences may not carry over.

## JOB OPPORTUNITIES FOR EX-SERVICE MEN

India has 28.3 lakh ex-servicemen as per the data available as on 30 June 2024. To support their resettlement, the Government conducts nationwide job fairs with CII and FICCI, offering direct interaction with employers for on-the-spot tests, interviews and placements. In addition, 14.5% of Group ‘C’ posts and 24.5% of Group ‘D’ posts in CPSUs and PSBs are reserved for ex-servicemen, including 4.5% for disabled ESM and dependents of those killed in action. For details visit <https://desw.gov.in/>

## SMILES & GIGGLES

- I used to run marathons... now I just run out of breath.
- The best thing about being forgetful is meeting new people every day—sometimes they’re my old friends!
- I don’t count candles on my cake... I count blessings instead.
- Growing old is mandatory, but growing up is optional.
- My memory is like the internet—lots of tabs open, but I can’t find the right one.
- Doctor: “How’s your new hearing aid?” Elder: “Fantastic! I’ve already changed my will twice!”

## LAUGHTER CORNER

**Doctor:** “At your age, walk 5 km every day.” **Veteran:** “Sure, but can you arrange transport to bring me back?”

\* \* \* \* \*

**Grandson:** “Grandpa, were you scared flying fighter jets?” **Veteran:** “Never! But sometimes the seat cushion was.”

\* \* \* \* \*

**Friend:** “Do you still wake up at 5 a.m.?” **Veteran:** “Of course. Old habits die hard. The difference is—I go back to sleep at 5:05!”

# ASTRONAUT GROUP CAPTAIN SHUBHANSHU SHUKLA



Group Captain S Shukla of the Indian Air Force has safely returned to Earth after a 14-day mission aboard the International Space Station (ISS) — marking a significant chapter in India's space journey and global collaboration in human spaceflight.



As the mission pilot on Axiom Mission 4, Gp Capt Shukla was

launched aboard SpaceX's Crew Dragon on 25 June 2025. Over two weeks, he contributed to more than 60 scientific experiments aboard the ISS, ranging from the effects of microgravity on muscle loss to testing autonomous systems — critical for future Moon and Mars missions. The mission's estimated cost per astronaut, ₹500 Crore (~\$65 million), underlines the high stakes and global scale of this endeavour.

**INSIDE THE ISS:** Orbiting 400 km above Earth at 28,000 km/h, the ISS is humanity's largest space laboratory. Gp Capt Shukla lived in this unique environment — where astronauts eat rehydrated meals, sleep in floating sleeping bags and exercise daily to combat muscle and bone loss. He also connected with his loved ones back home via video calls offering a human touch to an otherwise high-tech voyage.

**FROM LUCKNOW TO LOW EARTH ORBIT:** Born in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh in 1985, Shubhanshu Shukla rose from a middle-class home in Triveni Nagar to the stars. A graduate of the National Defence Academy and a decorated fighter pilot, he has flown aircraft like the Su-30MKI, MiG-29 and Jaguar clocking nearly 2,000 flying hours. In 2019, he was chosen for ISRO's Gaganyaan astronaut cadre — India's first human spaceflight program. He underwent cosmonaut training at Russia's Gagarin Cosmonaut Centre followed by joint training with ESA and JAXA before being selected for the Axiom mission.

**A PERSONAL JOURNEY:** Beyond the technology and training lies a deep human story. Shukla's wife, Dr Kamna Mishra, a dentist, has been his pillar of support since their childhood in Lucknow. The two married in 2009 and are parents to a young son.

Gp Capt Shukla's return is more than a touchdown — it is lift-off for India's dreams in the final frontier.

## STORIES FROM SPACE - ASTRONAUT GP CAPT S SHUKLA

For Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla, the adventure began the moment his spacecraft thundered off the launchpad. "It was so powerful," he recalls, "it literally shook every bone in my body. In just eight and a half minutes, we went from **zero to 28,500 kilometers** per hour." That roar of liftoff soon gave way to the quiet wonder of life in orbit. On the ISS, even simple acts felt magical. Sleeping, for instance, meant zipping yourself into a bag and fixing it to the wall—or even the ceiling. "**Up here, there is no floor and no roof,**" Shukla explained with a smile. "You just float and tie yourself so you don't drift away." And then there were the views—sights so breathtaking they defied imagination. From his window, Shukla watched the Earth bathed in light. Every day, he saw **sixteen sunrises and sixteen sunsets**. Each one painted the planet in otherworldly colours, a reminder of Earth's beauty and fragility. In space, astronauts grow **3–5 cm taller** because microgravity lets the spine stretch without Earth's compression. The gain is temporary and height returns to normal upon coming back.



**FELICITATION BY RM:** Defence Minister Rajnath Singh felicitated four Indian Air Force (IAF) officers selected as Gaganyatris for India's first human space mission Gaganyaan. The honored astronauts are: **GP CAPT SHUBHANSHU SHUKLA, GP CAPT P. BALAKRISHNA NAIR, GP CAPT AJIT KRISHNAN, GP CAPT ANGAD PRATAP SINGH**

## CSR CONCLAVE: ARMED FORCES FLAG DAY



Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh urged the public to wholeheartedly contribute to the welfare of soldiers and their families, emphasizing that this is a national duty for every citizen. Speaking at the Armed Forces Flag Day Corporate Social Responsibility (AFFD CSR) Conclave in New Delhi, Shri Rajnath Singh stated that CSR is more than just a 2% financial contribution; it signifies a genuine connection with our brave soldiers and their dependents. He remarked, "Whatever contribution you make will not be ordinary. Ensure that when your actual balance sheet is prepared tomorrow, it reflects more assets of satisfaction and happiness than liabilities." Companies wishing to contribute to the Armed

Forces Flag Day through CSR can donate to the Armed Forces Flag Day Fund (AFFDF), which is managed by the Kendriya Sainik Board (KSB). Donations to the AFFDF qualify as eligible CSR contributions. The Kendriya Sainik Board (KSB) provides details on how to donate to the AFFDF. For more information, please visit their website (<http://ksb.gov.in/donateaffdf.htm>).

## NCC EXPANSION PLAN

In a major step to strengthen youth engagement and national preparedness, the Ministry of Defence has approved the expansion of the National Cadet Corps (NCC) by three lakh cadets, raising the total strength to nearly 20 lakh. The plan, announced at the Joint State Delegates Conference Held on 03 June 2025, at the Kushabhau Thakre International Convention Centre in Bhopal, includes the creation of four new Group Headquarters and two additional NCC units. Minister of State (MoS) for Defence Sh Sanjay Seth, DG NCC Lt Gen Gurbirpal Singh, officials from the Ministries of Defence, Education, Youth & Sports, state NCC chiefs and senior representatives from central and state governments attended the conference.

To enhance training quality and support veteran welfare, Ex-Servicemen (ESM) will be employed as NCC instructors—leveraging their military experience for youth mentoring. The move also aligns with the National Education Policy 2020, promoting NCC as an elective subject in schools and colleges. This expansion is the first phase of a 10-year vision to grow the NCC to 27 lakh cadets, with a focus on border, tribal and coastal areas. It reflects the center–state partnership and underscores the NCC's growing role in leadership development, disaster response and national service. This will be a good opportunity for our air veterans to get a gainful employment in a field of their interest.

## HOME DELIVERY FOR ECHS MEDICINES

The Ministry of Defence (MoD) has approved a project for home delivery of non-available medicines for ECHS beneficiaries who are over 70 years old, white card holders and war-disabled veterans. This initiative aims to enhance access to ECHS healthcare services throughout India. Please note that home delivery of medicines will only be available to ECHS beneficiaries through their designated parent polyclinic. Additionally, home delivery will not include certain medicines that require administration at the polyclinic, such as injectables and high-value drugs.

## ONLINE CSD CARD RENEWAL

- Apply for new CSD Card or renew your old CSD Smart Card at [csdsmartcard.co.in](http://csdsmartcard.co.in).
- Fill the online form, pay online and get the card delivered to your home in 7–20 days.
- Track your application status anytime on the website.
- Cards are valid for 10 years; expiry date is printed on the card and purchase bill.
- Read all instructions on the website before applying.

## THE 80-YEAR-OLD WALL: SECRETS TO A LUCKY OLD AGE

Psychiatrist Hideki Wada published a book called “80-Year-Old Wall”. As soon as the book was released, sales exceeded 500,000 copies, becoming the best-selling book at the moment. Dr. Wada is a doctor specializing in mental illnesses in the elderly. Dr. Wada summarized the secrets of 80-year-olds to become “lucky people” into a few sentences”. Prominent sentences are summarised as below:

1. Keep walking
2. Take a deep breath when you feel irritated
3. Exercise to the extent that your body does not feel stiff
4. Drink more water when using the air conditioner in summer
5. The more times you chew, the more energetic your body and brain will be
6. Being alone does not mean loneliness, but enjoying a relaxing time
7. Being lazy is not a shameful thing
8. You can still have all natural desires when you are old
9. Instead of fighting the disease to the end, it is better to coexist with it
10. A smile brings good luck

**PLEASE SHARE WITH ALL ELDERS.**

**MAHINDRA BAGS AIRBUS CONTRACT:** On 09 April 2025 Mahindra Aero structures Pvt. Ltd., Kolar, secured a contract from Airbus Helicopters to manufacture and assemble the main fuselage of the H130 light helicopter. The assembled sections will be shipped to Europe for final integration — a key boost to “Make in India” in aerospace manufacturing.

# NALSA - VEER PARIVAR SAHAYATA YOJANA, 2025

**A LEGAL LIFELINE FOR SOLDIERS' FAMILIES:** The National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) launched the Veer Parivar Sahayata Yojana in 2025 to support serving defence personnel, veterans and their families with free, accessible and speedy legal aid.

**WHY IT MATTERS:** Our soldiers often serve in remote areas, far from home. There may be occasions when the families left behind have to struggle with property disputes, pension claims, welfare entitlements and personal issues. This scheme bridges this gap by ensuring timely legal help without financial burden.

The scheme is significant as it saves time and cost for defence families, provides dignity and empowerment to those who shoulder the nation's burdens, and uphold India's constitutional promise of justice for all under Article 39A. The ESM may benefit in one or more of the ways listed below:

1. **Free Legal Aid & Representation**
  - (a) For civil, family, property, inheritance, pension, consumer fraud, and criminal cases.
  - (b) No need to pay private lawyers or panel lawyers.
2. **DEDICATED LEGAL CLINICS:** These have been set up at Rajya Sainik Boards (RSBs) and Zila Sainik Boards (ZSBs). ESM can approach their local board to file applications and get assistance.
3. **DIGITAL SERVICES FOR REMOTE ACCESS:** E-filing, e-counselling, online mediation and e-Lok Adalats. Case tracking through NALSA online portal / mobile app. Special slots in e-Lok Adalats for pension/property / family disputes.
4. **SPECIALISED DEFENCE SUPPORT:** Panel lawyers trained in Armed Forces Tribunal (AFT) law and service matters. Legal Aid Desks near AFT benches to help with petitions, affidavits, and hearings.
5. **INCLUSION OF FAMILIES & DEPENDENTS:** Spouses, children, widows and parents of ESM are fully covered. Helps widows with succession, pension, property and welfare claims.
6. **PARALEGAL VOLUNTEERS (PLVS):** Ex-servicemen and dependents can also become PLVs after short training. This creates employment opportunities while helping the ESM community.

**HOW TO APPLY:** Visit the Legal Services Clinic at your ZSB/RSB. Submit an application, if the case is outside your district/state, the system forwards it automatically to the correct authority. Track your case through the NALSA portal/app. National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) <https://nalsa.gov.in>

## MOD SIGNS MOU WITH QCI FOR VETERAN WELFARE

On 26 August 2025, the Ministry of Defence's Department of Ex-Servicemen Welfare (DESW) signed an MoU with the Quality Council of India to improve services for over 63 lakh veterans and their families. DESW will coordinate with state governments, Sainik Boards, Armed Forces HQ, and hospitals, while QCI will provide digital tools and AI support to make pensions, healthcare, resettlement, and welfare delivery more efficient and transparent.

"KINDNESS IS A LANGUAGE WHICH THE DEAF CAN HEAR AND THE BLIND CAN SEE."

# WHAT HAPPENS TO AADHAAR, PAN, VOTER ID, PASSPORT & DRIVING LICENCE AFTER DEATH

The death of a family member brings emotional pain, but there are a few documents which need to be handled with utmost care after the death of the individual. The details with some cautionary words are given below:

**AADHAAR:** Cannot be cancelled after death. Keep it safe with the death certificate. Biometrics can be locked on the UIDAI website to prevent misuse.

**PAN:** Required until all financial matters (ITR, refunds and account closures) are settled. Later, the heirs may surrender it by writing to the Assessing Officer with death certificate, though it's not mandatory.

**VOTER ID:** Can be cancelled. Submit Form-7 with death certificate at the local election office to remove the name from the voter list.

**PASSPORT:** No surrender required; it becomes invalid after expiry. Retain safely for any future verification needs.

**DRIVING LICENCE:** Rules vary by state. Heirs can approach the RTO for cancellation. Also, transfer ownership of any vehicle in the deceased's name.

Not informing authorities has no penalty, but documents may be misused.

**BEST PRACTICE:** Store Aadhaar/Passport securely with the death certificate and notify authorities for PAN, Voter ID and Driving Licence once affairs are settled.

**STORAGE AND RETENTION OF DOCUMENTS OF A DECEASED FAMILY MEMBER:** For documents like Aadhaar and Passports that cannot be surrendered, Store them securely with the Death Certificate and **DO NOT DESTROY** these documents, as they may serve as proof of identity or address for future legal or financial matters.

## ASSISTANCE TO AIR VETERANS AND FAMILIES IN DISTRESS

A 'Police Help Desk' has been set up at CHAF Bengaluru with helpline number **155226** to assist air veterans and their families in distress. While medical emergencies will continue to be handled by the **Emergency Medical Response Service (EMRS)**, this desk will address urgent non-medical issues requiring support from local administration or police. Routine matters like property disputes or marital cases **Will Not Be** covered.

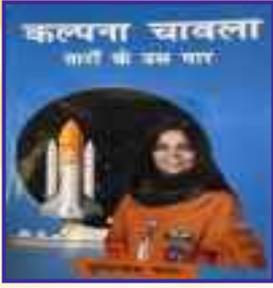
## TRUE BUT AMAZING FACTS ABOUT DELHI

**INA MARKET** in Delhi is not named after the Indian National Army. It's actually named after a private airline, the Indian National Airways that was later nationalized and became part of Indian Airlines.

**BENGALI MARKET** in Delhi is named after Lala Bengali Mal Lohia, who built the place and had no connection with Bengal or Bengalis.

**MEHRCHAND MARKET** and Khanna Market of Delhi, separated by a few hundred yards, are named after one person, Mehrchand Khanna, who was Rehabilitation Minister after independence.

**THE FAMOUS PANDARA ROAD** was actually Pandava Road. It was a clerk's misreading while copying it that led to the current name.



## BOOK REVIEW

Kalpana Chawla – Taron Ke Us Paar is a compelling and inspiring biography that pays tribute to one of India's brightest stars—Kalpana Chawla, the first woman astronaut of Indian origin. Written by MWO

Sureshchand Nagar, the book chronicles her remarkable journey from a small town in Haryana to the vast expanse of space.

The author was first drawn to Kalpana's story in 2003, after her untimely **death in the Columbia Space Shuttle tragedy**. What began as a moment of curiosity evolved into a deep admiration that led to this detailed biography. The book traces Kalpana's life with warmth and insight—from her childhood in Karnal to her education at Punjab Engineering College in Chandigarh and finally to her pursuit of aerospace dreams in the United States.

Despite achieving global fame, she never forgot her roots. She gave back generously to her school, college, community, and supported students from various countries in their educational pursuits. Her belief in being a "global citizen" resonates strongly throughout the book.

Written in a simple yet engaging style, the book captures the essence of Kalpana's indomitable spirit—her perseverance in the face of societal norms, her scientific passion, and her compassionate heart. It serves not only as a biography but also as an inspiration for young minds, especially girls, to dream fearlessly and reach beyond the stars.

**AUTHOR** - MWO Sureshchand Nagar (Retd) Mob - 9818190298 & 9873706595. Mail id [sureshchandnagar@gmail.com](mailto:sureshchandnagar@gmail.com). Earlier publications by him in Hindi are 'कोराश' published in 2016 and 'शब्दों की फसल' published in 2018.

## PERINNIAL EYES BY EX CPL MANI P M

Here's a wonderful presentation  
A pair of eyes for transplantation  
You might have seen it before  
At the time of my birth  
Shut tight against the rays of light.  
At school, while playing 'Kho-Kho'  
Boys threw mud in those eyes.  
As a lad, for skipping home work  
Mother put chilly powder in my eyes.  
As a young soldier in the Air Force  
It served as India's Radar eyes.  
At nineteen, their love bloomed  
In the corner of my eyes.  
In the course of married life  
Two more pairs of eyes I fathered  
And they became 'Apple of my eyes'.  
For parents, I was a log in their eyes  
So they threw me out of their eyes  
When the whirlwind began to blow  
With tears in eyes, fortunes I had to forgo  
Sobbing at night and soaking my pillows.  
There was 'hell of a fire' in those eyes  
As last, I decided to pull it out  
B'coz bible says – 'It's easy for a camel  
To pass through a needle's eye  
Than a rich man entering Heaven  
So I pierced it out, for you  
You may see this world, thro' my eyes  
Or of what use are these eyes  
When our hearts are blind?

Contact Number - 9446382937

## MISS INTERNATIONAL SECURES COMMISSION IN INDIAN ARMY



Pune-based **Kashish Methwani**, crowned Miss International India 2023, is now commissioned as an officer in the **Indian Army**.

Armed with **MSc** from Savitribai Phule Pune University and a **neuroscience thesis at IISc Bengaluru**, she cleared the CDS exam 2024 with an all India Rank of 2 and trained at the Officers' Training Academy, Chennai. On 06 September 2025, she was **commissioned** into the Army Air Defence (AAD).

# AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION (HEAD/BRANCH OFFICE)

Branch	Tele/Fax	Address & E-mail of Branch	Nearest AF Unit
AFA HEAD OFFICE	011-23015762 9560276648	Air Force Station Race Course Camp, New Delhi-110003 <a href="mailto:afaheadoffice@gmail.com">afaheadoffice@gmail.com</a>	AFND
AP & TELANGANA	Gp Capt PR Prasad (Retd) 9868818850, 040-27757020 / 27753500 Extn-283	C/O AF Station Begumpet, Bowenpally, Secunderabad – 500011 <a href="mailto:afa.andhra@gmail.com">afa.andhra@gmail.com</a>	AFS Begumpet
BIHAR	Sqn Ldr Bhuneshwar Singh (Retd) 6205105760 / 8757461121	C/o Mother Indian Academy, Jai Prakash Nagar North Ashiana Digha Road, Patna - 800025, <a href="mailto:afa.bihar@gmail.com">afa.bihar@gmail.com</a>	AFS Bihta
GOA	AVM Sunil Nanodkar, AVSM, VM, VSM, (Retd) 70429 63355  Staff - 8698958101	Plot no. 217, Defence Colony (near NEXA Workshop) Alto Porvorim, Bardez, Goa - 403521, <a href="mailto:afa.goaa@gmail.com">afa.goaa@gmail.com</a>	AFS Belagavi
GUJARAT	Air Mshl PK Desai, PVSM, AVSM, VSM (Retd) 8290500974, 9979049967 Tel No. 0124-2572999	C/O 2 AFSR, Old SMSO Office, Air Force Campus, Sector - 9, GandhiNagar - 382007, <a href="mailto:afa.gujarat@gmail.com">afa.gujarat@gmail.com</a>	HQ SWAC
HARYANA	AVM Sanjay Agarwal, VSM (Retd) 8447527662	C/O 54 ASP, AF Stn Gurgaon, Gurgaon - 122001, <a href="mailto:afa.haryana@gmail.com">afa.haryana@gmail.com</a>	AF Stn Gurgaon
JAMMU & KASHMIR	Air Cmde Ravinder Sharma, VSM Retd) 9717421545 <a href="mailto:rash1301@rediffmail.com">rash1301@rediffmail.com</a>	Air Force Station Satwari, Jammu Cantt - 180003, <a href="mailto:Afajammu23@gmail.com">Afajammu23@gmail.com</a>	AF Stn Satwari
JHARKHAND	Air Cmde AK Adhikari, VSM (Retd) 9199269331	H No – 63, New AG Co-operative Colony Kadru (Opp DAV Kapil Dev Public School) Ranchi - 834002, <a href="mailto:afa.jharkhand@gmail.com">afa.jharkhand@gmail.com</a>	AFS Kalaikunda
KARNATAKA	Air Mshl HB Rajaram, PVSM, AVSM, VSM (Retd) 8884860001	HQ Training Command, JC Nagar Post, Mekhri Circle, Hebbal, Bangalore – 560006 <a href="mailto:afakarnataka@gmail.com">afakarnataka@gmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:afabengaluru@gmail.com">afabengaluru@gmail.com</a>	HQ Training Command
KERALA	Wg Cdr PNS Nair (Retd) 8593921362	C/O HQ SAC (U), AF Akkulam, Thiruvananthapuram - 695031, <a href="mailto:afa.kerala@gmail.com">afa.kerala@gmail.com</a>	HQ SAC (U), AF
LUCKNOW	Air Mshl Amit Tiwari, PVSM, AVSM, VM (Retd) Mob No. 8800868325, 5227166059	Beside Army Veteran Cell MUPSA command canteen, Lucknow Cantt Lucknow – 226002, <a href="mailto:presidentafalucknow@gmail.com">presidentafalucknow@gmail.com</a>	AFS BKT
MADHYA PRADESH	AVM PK Shrivastava, VSM (Retd) 7022530889	2 MP Air Sqn NCC Near Jain mandir, Bhopal – 462001 (MP) <a href="mailto:afabhopal2022@gmail.com">afabhopal2022@gmail.com</a>	C/O 2 MP Air NCC
MAHARASHTRA	Gp Capt SV Phatak (Retd) 020 - 26442344 (R), 020 – 26840442Extn - 7867, 9921603611, 2029953904	C/O Advance HQ SWAC, IAF Pune – 411001 <a href="mailto:afamaha24@gmail.com">afamaha24@gmail.com</a>	Adv HQ SWAC, IAF
NOIDA	Gp Capt Seraj Mehdi (Retd) 9718671355 / 9458787574 <a href="mailto:gp.capt.mehdi@gmail.com">gp.capt.mehdi@gmail.com</a>	JVSAS Complex, Sector -21, Jalvayu Vihar, Noida - 201301 (UP), <a href="mailto:afa.noida@gmail.com">afa.noida@gmail.com</a>	28 WG, C/o AFA Hindan
NORTHERN ZONE	Air Mshl Sukhchain Singh, AVSM, VSM (Retd) 9560668228	12 Wg AF C/O Air Force Station Chandigarh -160003 <a href="mailto:afa.nzb@gmail.com">afa.nzb@gmail.com</a>	12 WG, AF
NORTH EASTERN ZONE	AVM Sanjib Bordoloi, AVSM (Retd) 8800977022	C/O RJ Junior College Dispur - Basistha Road, Guwahati - 781028, <a href="mailto:afa.nezone@gmail.com">afa.nezone@gmail.com</a>	Air Force Stn Guwahati
ODISHA	Air Cmde A Mohanty, VSM (Retd) Ph.: 9958593331	D/102, Gatikrushna Lagoon, Tankapani Road Near Maghewar Temple, Bhubaneswar, Odisha- 751018 <a href="mailto:airforceassociation.orissa@gmail.com">airforceassociation.orissa@gmail.com</a>	9 ASC
RAJASTHAN	Wg Cdr MC Mehta (Retd) Ph.: 0291-2671971 (O) Extn - 2520, 0291-2430038 (R) 9829508038	Station Medicare Centre, Air Force Station, Jodhpur - 342011, <a href="mailto:afa.rajasthan@gmail.com">afa.rajasthan@gmail.com</a>	32 WG, AF
TAMIL NADU	AVM S Swaminathan, AVSM,VSM (Retd) Ph.: 044-22392546	C/O 413 Air Force Station Tambaram, Chennai - 600046, <a href="mailto:afatamilnadu@gmail.com">afatamilnadu@gmail.com</a> , Ph.:044-22290396	Air Force Stn Tambaram
UTTAR PRADESH	Gp Capt RK Yadav, VSM (Retd) 9198646495	Main Guard Room Building, Air Force Stn, Chakeri, Kanpur - 208008, <a href="mailto:afa.kanpur@gmail.com">afa.kanpur@gmail.com</a>	Air Force Stn Chakeri
UTTARAKHAND	Air Cmde Amul Kapoor, VM (Retd) <a href="mailto:amul.kapoor@gmail.com">amul.kapoor@gmail.com</a> , 9412992335	Uttarakhand AFA Office C/o 1 AFSB, Clement Town, Dehradun - 248002, <a href="mailto:afaukindia@gmail.com">afaukindia@gmail.com</a>	1 AFSB Dehradun
WEST BENGAL	Gp Capt KK Kundu (Retd) Ph.: 8135853023	Integrated Mess Complex, 1st Floor, Air Force Camp Ballygunge Circular Road, Kolkata - 700019, <a href="mailto:afawbb@gmail.com">afawbb@gmail.com</a>	Adv HQ EAC, IAF
AUSTRALIA	Gp Capt VK Vidyadhar (Retd) Mob- 02-97864649	178 Eagleview Road, Minto, NSW 2566, Australia. <a href="mailto:vvidya42@gmail.com">vvidya42@gmail.com</a>	-NA-



# OFFICE BEARERS OF AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION

President:	Air Chief Marshal VR Chaudhari, PVSM, AVSM, VM (Retd)	
Sr Vice President:	Air Marshal Jagjeet Singh, PVSM, VSM (Retd)	9910948444
Vice President:	Air Vice Marshal Amit Tyagi, VSM (Retd)	8800998272
AFA Branch Presidents:	<b>(FOR DETAILS KINDLY SEE PAGE 27)</b>	
Secretary:	Gp Capt A Kapur (Retd)	7982805764
Treasurer:	Gp Capt V Sareen (Retd)	8800630014
Jt Secretary	HFL NK Chhabra (Retd)	9560276648

<b>NOMINATED MEMBERS</b>		<b>ELECTED MEMBERS</b>	
Gp Capt SM Puri, VM (Retd)	: 9810264835	Gp Capt RK Padhi (Retd)	: 9405827717
Gp Capt Ashok Sethi (Retd)	: 9810044033	Gp Capt Sanjay Sirohi (Retd)	: 9478547317
Mrs Mamta Arora	: 9810320120	Wg Cdr HK Nagpal (Retd)	: 9810018578
HFO RJ Singh (Retd)	: 9650784077	HFO SC Yadav (Retd)	: 9354206963
Sgt Shyam Mourya (Retd)	: 8826115016	MWO Yashpal (Retd)	: 9935398606
Mrs Indra B Jhala	: 9313347609		

## OTHER INCUMBENTS: AFA HEAD OFFICE

CEO, Senior Citizens' Home	Air Cmde Gulshan Rai, VSM (Retd)	8130678881
EO, Senior Citizens' Home	Sqn Ldr Mange Ram (Retd)	7290003424
Manager Senior Citizens' Home	HFO Lal Chand (Retd)	8130270263
Editor, Eagle's Eye	Gp Capt VK Kapur, VSM (Retd)	9910643258
Web Administrator	Gp Capt Vinay Sareen (Retd)	8800630014
Legal Advisers	Gp Capt KS Bhati (Retd)	9811168948
	Air Cmde I J Singh (Retd)	9810324738
	Wg Cdr Ajit Kakkar (Retd)	9958006409

## MARSHAL OF THE AIR FORCE & MRS ARJAN SINGH TRUST

Manager Trust	Gp Capt V Sareen (Retd)	8800630014
WO I/C Trust	JWO UK Kundu	85319 29260

## WELCOME & FAREWELL

The Air Force Association extends a warm welcome to Air Vice Marshal S Swaminathan, AVSM, VSM (Retd), who takes over as President AFA TN Branch and Air Cmde A. Mohanty, VSM, who assumes charge as President AFA Odisha Branch. We look forward to their dynamic leadership in further strengthening veteran welfare and camaraderie. At the same time, we express our heartfelt gratitude to Air Marshal S Varthman (Retd), outgoing President AFA Tamil Nadu Branch and Gp Capt J Brahma (Retd.), outgoing President AFA Odisha Branch, for their invaluable contributions in successfully guiding and managing veterans' affairs during their tenures. Their dedicated service has left an enduring mark on the Association.

### THE DROP OF WATER

A LITTLE DROP OF WATER FELL INTO THE OCEAN AND CRIED, "I AM LOST FOREVER!"  
THE OCEAN WHISPERED, "NO, LITTLE ONE. NOW YOU ARE ME, AND I AM YOU."

**LESSON: WHEN WE LET GO OF EGO, WE DISCOVER ONENESS WITH THE WHOLE.**

# IAF NEWS / EVENTS

## PM MODI CELEBRATES SUCCESS OF OPERATION SINDOOR AT AFS ADAMPUR



On 13 May 2025, Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited Adampur Air Force Station to mark the success of Operation Sindoor, a major joint military achievement. He was welcomed with full military honours and joined by senior officers from the Indian Air Force and Army. PM interacted with Air Warriors, soldiers and their families, praising their courage, coordination and swift execution. "Every Indian sleeps in peace because of your commitment," he said, acknowledging their role in safeguarding the nation. In a heartfelt gesture, the Prime Minister

shared lunch with the troops, listening to their stories and expressing the country's gratitude.

## SERVICE CHIEFS BRIEF THE PRESIDENT ON OPERATION SINDOOR.



On 14 May 2025, the CDS along with Chiefs of the Army, Navy and Air Force jointly briefed the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces, President Droupadi Murmu, on the successful execution of Operation Sindoor at Rashtrapati Bhavan.

## RAKSHA MANTRI VISITS AF STATION SRINAGAR AND BHUJ



On 15 May 2025, Raksha Mantri Sh Rajnath Singh undertook a dual-location visit to Srinagar and Bhuj, paying tribute to the bravery, sacrifice, and steadfast commitment of the Indian Armed Forces. In Srinagar, the Defence Minister met with troops deployed in forward areas and interacted with families of fallen soldiers. He laid a wreath at the War Memorial, acknowledging the courage of those who gave their lives in the line of duty. Addressing the soldiers, he said, "Your dedication in the face of adversaries safeguards the integrity

of our nation. The country stands with you, proud and grateful." Later in the day, he arrived at Bhuj, a key strategic location, where he reviewed operational readiness and ongoing infrastructure upgrades. At a ceremonial gathering, the Raksha Mantri honoured gallantry awardees, veterans and next of kin of martyrs. He reaffirmed the government's unwavering commitment to troop welfare, modernisation and strengthening of national defense.



## MARSHAL OF THE AIR FORCE ARJAN SINGH MEMORIAL HOCKEY TOURNAMENT- 2025:

The 6th edition of the Marshal of the Air Force Arjan Singh Memorial Hockey Tournament was conducted from 29 Apr to 06 May 25 at Raghbir Singh Bhola Hockey Stadium of AF Chandigarh. The event involved twelve teams, including Air Force Hockey Teams and teams from two foreign countries. Air Mshl PK Ghosh, AVSM AOA was the Chief Guest. Indian Railways team won the final against RCF Kapurthala.

### **THE CAS REVIEWS CGP AT AFA:**

Air Chief Marshal AP Singh reviewed the Combined Graduation Parade (CGP) at the Air Force Academy on 14 June 25, wherein, 254 flight cadets were commissioned as Officers in the Indian Air Force. In his address to the newly commissioned officers, Air Chief Marshal Singh congratulated them on achieving this significant milestone and exhorted them to serve with integrity, excellence and unwavering dedication to the nation.

### **IAF IN A RESCUE MISSION IN ISRAEL:**

Operation Sindhu is a large-scale evacuation mission launched by the Indian government to repatriate Indian nationals from both Iran and Israel amid the regional conflict and hostilities. 4,415 Indian nationals (3,597 from Iran and 818 from Israel) were evacuated using 19 special evacuation flights.



### **PRESIDENT AFFWA JOINS MOVIE EVENT - SITARE ZAMEEN PAR**

In a touching celebration of inclusion, compassion and community, a special screening of Sitaare Zameen Par was held on 05 July 2025 at Nirala Hall, Air Force Station New Delhi, creating an unforgettable experience for the special children of Umeed Vocational Training Centre (VTC) and their parents. The event was graced by Mrs. Sarita Singh, President AFFWA, whose presence added warmth and encouragement to the occasion. Her interaction with the children and their families embodied the core values of empathy, dignity and empowerment that AFFWA champions.

### **IAF AIRBUS C-295 SUPPORTS EYE SURGERY CAMP FOR VETERANS**

The Indian Air Force (IAF) utilized its newly inducted Airbus C-295 transport aircraft to support a significant eye surgery camp for the West Bengal veterans. This initiative involved airlifting medical personnel and advanced ophthalmic equipment from the Army Hospital Research and Referral (R&R) in New Delhi to the 158 Base Hospital in Bagdogra.

### **AIR CHIEF MARSHAL AP SINGH ATTENDS IAFTPS GRADUATION**

On 23 May 2025, Air Chief Marshal AP Singh presided over the valedictory ceremony of the 47th Flight Test Course at the Indian Air Force Test Pilots School (IAFTPS) in Bengaluru. Globally renowned and one of the only eight such institutions, IAFTPS has been training elite test pilots and flight test engineers since 1976.

### **IAF MI-17V5 RESPONDS SWIFTLY TO SHIP FIRE OFF KOCHI COAST**

Demonstrating exemplary readiness and versatility, an Indian Air Force Mi-17V5 helicopter sprang into action in early morning hours on 19 June 2025 to assist in firefighting operations aboard the Singapore-bound container vessel MV Wan Hai 503, which had caught fire off the coast of Kochi, Kerala.

### **EXERCISE TIGER CLAW 2025**

In a major stride toward deepening Indo-US defence cooperation, the Indian Air Force (IAF) and the United States Air Force (USAF) conducted their first-ever independent Special Forces bilateral Exercise Tiger Claw 2025, at the Garud Regimental Training Center (GRTC), AFS Hindon from 26 May 25 to June 10, 2025.

### **INDIAN ENVOY RECEIVES 16<sup>th</sup> AIRBUS C 295 AIRCRAFT IN SPAIN:**

In a major boost to India's defence capabilities, the last of the 16 Airbus C-295 military transport aircraft were received on 02 Aug 25 by Indian Ambassador to Spain, Sh. Dinesh K Patnaik along with senior officials from the Indian Air Force in the Spanish city of Seville.



**SEKHON HANGAR INAUGURATED AT AF STN SRINAGAR:** To commemorate the 80th birth anniversary of Flying Officer Nirmaljit Singh Sekhon, Param Vir Chakra, Air Mshl Jeetendra Mishra, AOC-in-C WAC IAF, inaugurated the Sekhon Hangar and joined Mrs. Vatsala Mishra, President AFFWA (Regional), for a solemn tree plantation at AF Stn Srinagar on 17 July 2025. He also met the officer's family, paying tribute to his legacy of courage and valour.

### **L&T HANDS OVER FIRST SET OF TEJAS WINGS TO HAL**



In a significant milestone for India's defence industry, Larsen & Toubro (L&T) handed over the first set of Tejas Mk-1A wing assemblies to HAL on July 17, 2025, at its Coimbatore facility. This marks the first-ever flight-critical Tejas structure built entirely by an Indian private firm.

### **IAF CONDUCTS FIRST SPACE ANALOGUE MISSION – ANUGAMI**



Indian Air Force conducted its first Space Analogue Mission, ANUGAMI, at the Institute of Aerospace Medicine (IAM), Bengaluru. Led by one of the designate astronaut Group Captain Angad Pratap, the 10-day mission simulated long-duration space conditions on Earth. Launched by ISRO's Human Space Flight Centre Director DK Singh and concluded in the presence of DGMS (Air) Air Marshal Sandeep Thareja, ANUGAMI marks a major step in India's civilian-military space readiness.



### **KARGIL VIJAY DIWAS 2025: NATION PAYS TRIBUTE TO HEROES OF OPERATION VIJAY**

On the 26th anniversary of Kargil Vijay Diwas, President Droupadi Murmu and Prime Minister Narendra Modi led the nation in honouring the bravehearts of the 1999 Kargil War. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh laid a wreath at the National War Memorial, joined by top military leaders, to commemorate the valour and sacrifice of Indian soldiers during the successful culmination of Operation Vijay.

**DHARALI FLOOD RECOVERY:** IAF's Swift Response: Following flash floods in Uttarakhand's Harsil-Dharali valley on 05 Aug 2025, the IAF evacuated over 220 civilians using Chinook and Mi-17V5 helicopters, while C-295 and AN-32 aircraft delivered 20 tons of relief supplies and airlifted 130 NDRF, SDRF and Army personnel, providing vital support in the tough mountain terrain.

## IAF OBSERVES 11TH INTERNATIONAL DAY OF YOGA WITH UNITY AND RESOLVE



On 21 June 2025, the Indian Air Force celebrated the 11th International Day of Yoga (IDY) across its units, aligning with the global theme “Yoga for One Earth, One Health.” Air Chief Marshal AP Singh and Mrs. Sarita Singh led the central event at Air Force Station New Delhi, drawing inspiration from the Prime Minister’s message on wellness and collective mindfulness. Across key stations—including HQ Western Air Command, AFS Palam, Hindan, and Subroto Park—air warriors and their families participated in guided yoga sessions. A symbolic highlight was the “OP SINDOOR” formation at Subroto Park, expressing unity and remembrance. Similar observances at HQ Training Command Bengaluru and Isha Yoga Centre Coimbatore reflected inter-service harmony and IAF’s commitment to physical and mental resilience.

## IAF HANDS OVER INDIGENOUS ‘RADSIM’ SIMULATOR TO INDIAN COAST GUARD



In a boost to inter-service cooperation, the Indian Air Force formally handed over the indigenously developed ‘RADSIM’ Radar Simulator to the Indian Coast Guard on 26 June 2025, at a ceremony held in Daman. Designed by the Software Development Institute (SDI), Bengaluru—the IAF’s premier software R&D centre—RADSIM is a high-fidelity radar and air traffic control (ATC) simulation system. It enables realistic training for radar and ATC controllers, enhancing preparedness for complex airspace and maritime operations.

## AIR FORCE ATHLETICS & MARATHON CHAMPIONSHIP 2025–26



The Air Force Athletics and Marathon Championship 2025–26 was held from 01-05 July 2025 at Air Force Station Jalahalli, Bengaluru. Organised under the aegis of the Air Force Sports Control Board and Training Command, the event aimed to foster competitive spirit among air warriors and select talent for the IAF athletics and marathon teams. Eight teams representing Air HQ and all IAF Commands competed in 24 events. Eastern Air Command emerged victorious in both Athletics and Marathon categories.

## AGNIVEERVAYU PASSING OUT PARADE HELD AT BELAGAVI



The 5th Passing Out Parade of Agniveer vayu Trainees was held on 06 June 2025, at Airmen Training School, Belagavi, marking the completion of 22 weeks of rigorous training by 1,634 trainees, including women. Air Marshal PCP Anand, Reviewing Officer, praised the performance of the trainees and felicitated top achievers. The ceremony was witnessed by proud families, with Air Marshal Anand thanking them and the training staff for shaping India’s future Air Warriors.



### **DGAFMS VISITS HQ MAINTENANCE COMMAND, IAF**

Surgeon Vice Admiral Arti Sarin, AVSM, VSM, Director General Armed Forces Medical Services (DGAFMS), visited Headquarters Maintenance Command, IAF. She met with Air Marshal Vijay Kumar Garg, AOC-in-C MC and discussed initiatives aimed at enhancing holistic and modern healthcare for troops and families.



### **RAKSHA BANDHAN BY CHILDREN**

Students from Delhi NCR schools celebrated Raksha Bandhan at Air Force Station New Delhi, tying rakhis to Air Warriors and expressing gratitude for their service. Air Chief Marshal AP Singh joined the festivities, strengthening the bond between the Armed Forces and the younger generation.

**IAF CONDUCTS 3-DAY BORDER EXERCISE IN RAJASTHAN:** The Indian Air Force (IAF) recently conducted a high-intensity three-day military exercise from 23 July to 25 July 2025, in Rajasthan's border districts of Jaisalmer, Barmer, and Jodhpur. The drill aimed to bolster combat readiness and sharpen the IAF's ability to respond swiftly to potential threats along the Pakistan border.

### **IAF MI-17 DELIVERS RELIEF IN MANIPUR**

On 01 August 2025, responding to a request from the Government of Manipur, a Mi-17 helicopter from an Eastern Air Command unit successfully executed a humanitarian aid mission. Flying nine sorties, the aircraft airdropped 5,300 kg of rice, pulses, and medicines to villages in Henglep Sub-Division, which had been cut off due to severe landslides.

**AGNIVEER VAYU TRAIN AT AFS DEVLALI:** On 09 August 2025 The Materials Management Institute, Air Force Station Devlali, marked the graduation of 262 Agniveervayu trainees, including 36 women, after completing the eight-week ASTRA course in Accounts and Supply Chain Management. Air Commodore Manish Dialani reviewed the ceremonial parade.

### **ECHS EXTENDED TO MEDICALLY BOARDED-OUT CADETS**

The Government has approved ECHS benefits for cadets invalidated from Armed Forces Training Academy on medical grounds linked to training. Affected cadets will now receive cashless, capless medical care under ECHS without paying the one-time subscription fee, easing the financial burden on families.

**ARMY HOSPITAL R&R PIONEERS ROBOTIC CATARACT SURGERY:** Army Hospital (Research & Referral), Delhi, has become the first government hospital in India to perform robotic laser cataract surgery using the advanced ALLY system. The first surgery was done on 28 August 2025 by Brigadier SK Mishra. This bladeless, computer-guided method gives high precision, safety and better results, showing the Armed Forces' commitment to providing world-class healthcare to its personnel and families.

## MANGO FESTIVAL OF INDIA



The vibrant Mango Festival was recently held at the IAF Aakash Officers' Mess in New Delhi, celebrating India's rich horticultural heritage. The event saw the esteemed presence of Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan, Chief of the Air Staff Air Chief Marshal AP Singh with President AFFWA, Mrs. Sarita Singh and several senior officials, along with their families from the armed forces and academic institutions.

Dr Manmohan Singh Chauhan, Vice-Chancellor of Govind Ballabh Pant University of Agriculture and Technology (GBPUAT), Pantnagar, also graced the occasion. Held annually across major cities like Delhi and Lucknow, the Mango Festival showcases over 500 mango varieties, including Alphonso, Dasherri, Langra and Kesar. It offers tasting sessions, mango-based delicacies and cultural performances, along with competitions like the biggest mango and mango-eating contests.

## PERFORMANCE OF IAF BANDS ON THE OCCASION OF 79TH INDEPENDENCE DAY 2025



The Indian Air Force (IAF) Band, raised in 1944 at Kohat, carries forward the legacy of a rich blend of Indian and Western melodies. Today, nine IAF Bands stationed across the country continue to enthrall audiences, boost morale and foster camaraderie through their stirring performances. On the 79th Independence Day the IAF Bands performed at iconic venues nationwide—War Memorial (Guwahati), Chandra Shekhar Azad Park (Prayagraj), Shanivar Wada (Pune), Shanghumukham Beach (Thiruvananthapuram), Gateway Brigade Lake (Bengaluru), Golconda Fort (Hyderabad), Futala Lake (Nagpur) and Ambience Mall (Vasant Kunj, New Delhi). Through their melodies, the IAF Bands not only celebrate India's freedom but also strengthen the bond between the Air Force and the nation—reminding us that patriotism can march as strongly in music as it does in arms.

## AFFWA PRESIDENT AT R&R



On 05 Aug 2025, Mrs Sarita Singh, President AFFWA, along with Executive Committee Members, visited the PRERNA team at Army R&R Hospital, New Delhi. Run by tri-service lady volunteers, PRERNA supports cancer patients and families with care and encouragement.

## IAF MWO MEETS AUSTRALIAN ARMY WO



IAF MWO, Master Warrant Officer Pradeep Kumar Yadav interacted with Australian Army RSM Warrant Officer Kim Felmingham, NSC, OAM, during visit of Lt Gen Simon Stuart, AO, DSC, Chief of Army, Australia to India.

## MAJOR DONORS 2024-2025 AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION

SL NO.	NAME	AMOUNT
1.	WG CDR RANBIR SINGH	10,000.00
2.	SQN LDR ARCHANA	15,000.00
3.	WG CDR RK KAPOOR	20,000.00
4.	MRS SONAL VILAS SALI	2,50,000.00
5.	MRS VEENA DEVI JAIN	5,00,000.00
6.	WG CDR SC PANDEY	5,00,000.00
7.	MRS V BHAMA	10,000.00
8.	GP CAPT JK KAUSHIK	10,000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>13,15,000.00</b>

### MARSHAL OF THE AIR FORCE & MRS. ARJAN SINGH TRUST GRANTS

SL NO	BENEFICIARY NAME	AMOUNT	PURPOSE
1.	Ex Cpl Angad Kumar Tripathi	6,000	Non pensioner (₹ 2000/-pm)
2.	Ex AC Chandrasekhar Sharma	3,000	Non pensioner (₹ 1000/-pm)
3.	Ex Sgt Mukundan V	9,000	For medical treatment (₹ 3000/-pm)
4.	Ex Sgt PK Mahto	10,500	For Self medical treatment (₹ 3500/-pm)
5.	Smt Babita Sharma	31,000	One time grant for daughter's marriage
6.	Ex NC(E) Mohan Singh	10,500	Non pensioner (₹ 3,500/-pm)
7.	Ex Cpl GL Rajam	9,000	Non pensioner (₹ 3000/-pm)
8.	Smt Saraswati Nayak	9,000	For Self-Maintenance (₹ 3000/-pm)
9.	Smt Manju Verma	15,000	For Self-Maintenance (₹ 5,000/-pm)
10.	Smt Kumkum Panda	9,000	For Self-Maintenance (₹ 3000/-pm)
11.	Smt Meera Bhai H	6,000	For Self-Maintenance (₹ 2000/-pm)
12.	Ex Sgt M Ravi Prasad	9,000	For Self medical treatment (₹ 3000/-pm)
13.	MT Section AFND	74,930	Amenity Items as welfare gesture to Air Veterans/Air warriors
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>2,01,930</b>	

### DONATIONS RECEIVED BY MAFT

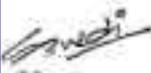
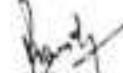
SL NO	NAME	AMOUNT
1.	DR ARVIND SINGH	50,000.00
2.	GP CAPT VS RADHAKRISHNAN (RETD)	1,00,000
3.	EX SGT SP MITTAL	25,000
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>51,25,000</b>

**"WE MAKE A LIVING BY WHAT WE GET,  
BUT WE MAKE A LIFE BY WHAT WE GIVE"**

# BALANCE SHEET

## AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION AIR FORCE STATION RACE COURSE CAMP NEW DELHI-81 CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET AS ON 31 MAR 2025

Previous Year	Liabilities	Approx	Current Year	Previous Year	Assets	Approx	Current Year
2023-24			2024-25	2023-24			2024-25
	General Fund				Cash in hand	1	2,79,321.34
	Balance B/F	19,31,13,728.98			Cash at Bank	8	1,38,82,366.87
	Add-				Investment	5	29,10,02,011.00
	(A) Excess of Income over Exp	1,20,09,180.49			Stock	10	8,51,806.45
	(B) Donation Fund Grant	33,73,371.20			Security Deposit	11	87,347.28
	Less-				Sundry Debtors	12	19,84,674.08
	(A) W/Off to BOD, OIA, C, MWA				Accrued Interest	13	88,13,802.00
	(B) Transfer to Fund A/C				Land and Secondary well - BCH	14	19,810.00
	(C) Excess of Exp over Income				TDS on Account int	15a	-
	(D) Fund/Leave Fee	8,35,781.23					
	19,31,13,728.98 Total General Fund		19,75,67,418.88		Property A/C		
	19,45,793.00 Sundry Creditors		23,23,871.00		Balance B/F		48,30,015.00
	14,74,48,025.50 Fund Account		15,28,67,504.39		Add Purchase during the year		15,47,074.00
	- Security Deposit Residential Member				Less: Depn of value		75,248.95
	- License Residential Member (SCH)				Depreciation Value		8,74,775.25
					Value Carried off		24,837.87
					48,00,015.00 Total Property	2	53,71,226.87
					Rounding Off		1.48
	36,31,06,427.08 Total		32,27,88,821.44		36,31,06,427.08 Total		32,27,88,821.44
	4,85,84,022.00 Property purchased by AFCAP for SCH	15	4,85,84,022.00	4,85,84,022.00	Property purchased by AFCAP for SCH	15	4,85,84,022.00
	27,24,484.00 Property purchased by AFVWA for SCH	16	27,24,484.00	27,24,484.00	Property purchased by AFVWA for SCH	16	27,24,484.00
	1,81,785.00 Property gifted by individual	18a	1,81,785.00	1,81,785.00	Property gifted by individual	18a	1,81,785.00
	- Property gifted by individual SCH	18a	81,248.00		Property gifted by individual SCH	18a	81,248.00
	18,40,90,888.00 Grand Total		37,43,21,168.44		18,40,90,888.00 Grand Total		37,43,21,168.44

					<b>Audit Report</b>
(B Trivedi) Sp SNGO IC Accts	(G.P. Pandey) WO WO IC Accts	(G.A. Kapur) Go Capt (Retd) Secretary	(Vinay Grewal) Go Capt (Retd) Treasurer	(H.P. Wagle) AVM (Retd) Vice President	As per our audit report of even date
25 Aug 25	25 Aug 25	27 Aug 25	27 Aug 25	29 Aug 25	 For STM Associates PRV 020220

### "PROFOUND"

I saw a little kid eating ice cream in the elevator. Out of concern, I casually said, "It's such a cold day; you'll get sick eating that!"

The kid replied, "My grandma lived to be 103."

I asked, "From eating ice cream?"

He said, "No, because she never meddled in other people's business!"

**How profound!** I finally understand why I'm aging so fast—too much unnecessary meddling.



# OBITUARY LIST

SI No	Ser No.	Rank	Name	Contact No.	SI No	Ser No.	Rank	Name	Contact No.
1	659356	MWO	Satyapal	09311337202	49	612334	Sgt	RN Pradhman	7847884664
2	704865	WO	Sanjay Kumar Mishra	7042330392	50	636493	Sgt	SG Murali	
3	232960	HFO	PV Chandran	9495756385	51	255742	HFO	Mankotia Jodha	9860931881
4	18711	Wg Cdr	Hari Singh	9350086226	52	217561	Cpl	MK Surendran	9846523722
5	276920	Sgt	Madan Lal Pandey	9839263365	53	277454	JWO	M Fakaruddin	9435138565
6	261713	MWO	VPS Tyagi	9911377610	54	14018	Wg Cdr	Rup Kumar K	9494471983
7	604344	Sgt	PR Kumar		55	210896	WO	Udyavar R Dutt	2751978
8	728852	Sgt	Narendra Babu	9886826603	56	655204	HFL	Udai Shankar	8050004155
9	8211	Wg Cdr	SC Jyotipunj	9810582432	57	655018	JWO	Naresh Thakur	09818763265
10	6988	Wg Cdr	TR Ramanathan	23336373	58	718101	Sgt	Harish Chander	09728997253
11	290263	Sgt	RCS Chauhan		59	718290	JWO	R Ramesh	8012271712
12	6967	Wg Cdr	A Singh	9810846723	60	697779	JWO	Susrendran	
13	251525	Sgt	NR Chakraborty	9810526410	61	624937	JWO	KPC Sekhar Rao	9247327000
14	683949	Sgt	M Selvam	6380444329	62	400600	MWO	CS Wig	9815060441
15	255822	Sgt	SK Mazumdar	09935349483	63	751240	JWO	Raj Kishor Singh	9409389710
16	766355	Sgt	Jitendra Kumar	09451748648	64	602075	Sgt	PP Pandian	
17	263717	Cpl	Raghavan CP	8547176845	65	262839	Cpl	Unnikrishnan Alangat	8281367621
18	723878	Sgt	Prasanta KR Sahoo	9910493035	66	671148	MWO	Ram Narain Singh	9465971889
19	233200	Sgt	N Sethumadhavan	09847977405	67	7540	Wg Cdr	Narayan Gopalkrishnan	9449014791
20	217375	JWO	VE Kunhi Sankaran	2503606	68	737391	Sgt	Govindan Sasikumar	
21	8897	Air Cmde	P Singh	2461422	69	8040	Wg Cdr	SV Narayanan	08025443186
22	269914	MWO	P Sethumahavan	9994743660	70	252625	Sgt	A Savarimuthu	09659879087
23	612347	JWO	Dwarka Nath Chopra	9880126394	71	9879	Wg Cdr	IJ Madan	
24	241239	MWO	KS Mahajan		72	682776	MWO	Sila Rajendra Patro	7767087823
25	229941	Cpl	Edakkandy Raju	9539338024	73	626884	Sgt	RK Singh Beniwal	9461274428
26	645373	Sgt	OM Prakash Tiwari	7897089955	74	14571	Gp Capt	Deepak Verma	9871990909
27	766474	Sgt	RK Mallick	09216853556	75	239527	Sgt	V Gangadharan	2513135
28	232987	JWO	GS Nair	9447866060	76	273941	MWO	NL Sharma	
29	17301	Sqn Ldr	RN Thanpi		77	656161	HFO	RS Naidu	7386886083
30	612636	WO	BM Ganguly	09767960203	78	745440	Cpl	P Manoj	09446534089
31	12547	Wg Cdr	DV Vaswani		79	722795	Sgt	Kamala Kant Behera	09437855424
32	692092	WO	Suresh Prasad	9536613047	80	739937	Sgt	Ganesh KP	9442731307
33	745371	Sgt	BB Behera	09470526303	81	19183	Air Cmde	P Maheshwar	9650308887
34	244258	Sgt	PB Hazare	9620555278	82	626170	JWO	Somnath Chakravartty	
35	236167	Cpl	Vinod KAD	26675082	83	19468	Gp Capt	MK Sanyal	7760789544
36	279568	MWO	K Thyagarajan	2622452	84	225916	JWO	RL Choudahry	
37	610734	Sgt	V John		85	5673	Gp Capt	MM Saigal	2575482
38	768726	Sgt	Lalit Narayan Singh	7250212070	86	244390	MWO	MPSriastava	
39	719074	Sgt	Chand Krishan	9799164022	87	646052	Sgt	B Sudhakaran	
40	272781	Cpl	G Balakrishnan	9400877879	88	238132	AC	Karnam Rama Rao	42169289
41	297553	HFO	Vedpal Singh	9871641445	89	9106	Flt Lt	SS Sandhu	
42	288017	JWO	MM Naidu		90	16196	Gp Capt	Dhruba Bhattacharya	09836884666
43	224290	Sgt	TR Rao	8978658052	91	6715	Air Cmde	PK Pradhan	5088765
44	274940	MWO	A Gopalakrishnan	09444533901	92	633503	Sgt	BS Rathore	
45	230834	HFL	Montosh Kumar Nag	9780023211	93	13534	AVM	AK Khosla	9810970290
46	227609	Sgt	M Nair	9946421040	94	699169	Sgt	Prasanna Venkatesan	9890257682
47	241635	Sgt	R Sharmarajan	9388300883	95	657083	MWO	Ramashish Prasad	09708512245
48	18350	Gp Capt	U Khapali	9894641520	96	18844	Wg Cdr	Robin Singh	09974988840



SI No	Ser No.	Rank	Name	Contact No.	SI No	Ser No.	Rank	Name	Contact No.
97	253625	WO	KP Sharma		114	654484	Sgt	S Uppala	9502405049
98	237805	Sgt	Vijayan Neelat	0483-2768191	115	222837	HFL	P Balachandran	0491-2571238
99	7186	Wg Cdr	DK Patel	9099760488	116	280385	Sgt	G Abram	
100	695988	Sgt	GG Siva Gnanam	252253	117	600788	WO	AK Sharma	9839642778
101	401619	MWO	Awdhesh Chandra	9979766515	118	716551	JWO	Jay Narayan Singh	
102	603693	JWO	BKN Sinha	09958518946	119	648740	Sgt	R Prasad	
103	631757	MWO	Mohan Lal	02933240092	120	290832	MWO	Chandra Pal Singh	09412850187
104	224177	MWO	DM Herbert	9497218953	121	222938	HFL	SKC Ghosh	
105	614121	Sgt	Gopalakrishnan Nair	9847914314	122	281038	Sgt	Sasidharan CK	8547515724
106	746179	Sgt	Narender Verma	08802623717	123	632726	MWO	Abdul Hamid	09580975756
107	801042	NC(E)	RaJ Bahadur Singh	9971920093	124	218664	Cpl	PV Menon	
108	255691	Sgt	Natarajan VC	9567573438	125	251015	JWO	S Panicter	
109	11064	Wg Cdr	Nand Bihari Singh	9868255826	126	614068	HFO	Babu Ram	09650833779
110	215729	Cpl	K Rajendra Reddy		127	263377	Cpl	Shunmugasundara	9489210652
111	3067	Air Cmde	VM Bhatnagar	2555433	128	3773	Sqn Ldr	TRV Iyengar	9487433543
112	5860	Sqn Ldr	AM Bhalla	9634317769	129	818321	NC(E)	Jabar Singh	6264631868
113	29600	Wg Cdr	Dinesh Kumar Saini	9906961186	130	745890	Sgt	SK Gautam	09808952543

**शहीदों की चिताओं पर लगेंगे हर वर्ष मेले,  
वतन पर मरने वालों का बाकी यह निशान होगा**

## SYNOPSIS OF BRANCH ACTIVITIES

**AP & TS:** The Branch President participated in the Sadbhavana Rally alongside veterans of sister services and other civil dignitaries. Rally was led by Hon'ble CM of Telangana. President was also jointly conferred the NTR Desha Rakshak Award with Army and Navy counterparts by the Kala Vedika Film Awards jury—marking the first time when veterans were honoured at this forum. Important liaison meetings were held with State Government Officials to extend the Supadam Darshan Scheme to veterans and their dependents. A major welfare initiative was the inauguration of an HDFC Bank-sponsored CSC-cum-Sparsh portal at Branch HQs on 25 May 25, dedicated to assisting veterans and spouses with pension and Sparsh-related matters.

**BIHAR:** The branch celebrated Republic Day and Holi Milan Samaroh on 09 Mar 25 with active participation of members and families. Branch Secretary attended the Hind Sena Gaurav Yatra on 18 May 25 to honour Operation Sindoor martyrs. Branch President awarded the Appreciation Certificate to Sgt Jaswant Kumar (Retd), for his exceptional services in the presence of branch members.

**GUJARAT:** The 8th “Fg Offr Nirmal Jit Singh Sekhon PVC, Memorial Lecture” was held on 16 Feb 2025 at Neelamber Auditorium, HQ SWAC, Gandhinagar. President AFA, Air Chief Marshal ACM VR Chaudhari (Retd), Lt Gen Pradeep Chandran Nair (Retd) and Rear Adm Sudarshan Y Shrikhande (Retd) shared insights on national security. Hon'ble Minister of State for Home, Shri Harsh Sanghavi, was the Chief Guest. Air Marshal N Tiwari, AOC-in-C SWAC graced the event as Guest of Honour. The lecture drew an audience of about 600 and was widely appreciated. Branch also organised a Women Safety & Empowerment workshop at Ahmedabad, felicitated NCC cadets and arranged a visit for Saraswati Vidya Mandir students to AF Stn Jamnagar. Veterans and families also joined the 79th Independence Day celebrations at Gandhinagar with patriotic fervour.

**HARYANA:** A Social Get-together was organised by the branch for the members along with spouses on 12 Mar 25. Forty six members and spouses attended the function. A lecture on Cyber awareness for the Veterans was given by Wg Cdr VK Verma (Secretary AFA Haryana). Fifteen members attended the MIAF Arjan Singh memorial lecture on 23 April 25. AGM was held on 28 May 2025 and was duly attended by 30 members.

**JAMMU AND KASHMIR:** On 01 Jun 25 SPARSH Cell was inaugurated next to AFA office at Jammu. On 01 Aug 25, veterans from the Jammu region had the honour of interacting with the AOA, Air Mshl PK Ghosh during a cordial tea gathering held as part of his inspection visit to 23 Wing.

**JHARKHAND:** On 19 Apr 2025, the Chief of the Air Staff, Air Chief Marshal AP Singh visited Ranchi to witness the Air Display by SKAT responding to a request from the President. The CAS graciously met a team of air veterans at Raj Bhawan. On 26 Jul 2025, the Sainik Kalyan Nideshalaya, Ranchi organised a seminar on the NALSA Veer Parivar Sahayata Yojana 2025. Under this initiative, the Jharkhand Legal Services Authority proposed setting up a State Level Legal Services Clinic at the Sainik Market Office, Ranchi to provide free and competent legal services to serving defence personnel, ex-servicemen, and their dependents, marking a major step in veteran welfare.

**KARNATAKA:** Branch organised two SPARSH Sahayata Shibirs at Hubli/Dharwad and Shivamogga in early 2025, assisting 377 veterans and families with pension and document issues. The 45th AGM was held on 26 Jul 25 with 300 members, featuring guest lectures and an address by Air Mshl Tejinder Singh, AOC-in-C, TC IAF. On 09 Aug 25, the "ACM LM Katre Memorial Lecture" was delivered by Air Chief Marshal AP Singh on "**Operation Sindoor – Takeaways.**"

**KERALA:** The first Governing Council Meeting under the new Executive Committee was held on 23 Feb 25 at Thiruvananthapuram, where welfare measures were discussed and Chapters were presented with the IAF Ensign, mementoes, and AFA MoA copies. The Kozhikode Chapter held its AGM and family get-together on 02 Mar 25 with over 100 participants, honouring ten octogenarians and Ex-Sgt Santhosh Kumar, recipient of the Best Village Officer Award. On 24 Apr 25, centenarian HFO Haridas Pullat Menon (Retd) was felicitated, along with reps of SAC, at his residence in Kochi. The Pathanamthitta Chapter AGM drew over 300 members and families, honouring senior veterans. The Palakkad Chapter organised a Peace March and Floral Ceremony on 03 May 25 for Pahalgam victims, while members from Neyyattinkara and Kattakada held a solidarity function on 10 May 25 to honour victims and express support for soldiers at the border.

**LUCKNOW:** Branch organised several welfare and patriotic activities during the year. A memorable Holi Milan was celebrated on 16 Mar 25 at Astha Old Age Home, run by Dr Abhishek Shukla, bringing joy to residents through gifts, cultural programmes and a shared lunch with veterans and their families. On 27 Jun, around 20 veterans volunteered in an SBI blood donation camp, while the branch's emergency blood donation team continued to support needy veterans and their families. A solemn wreath laying was held at Smarnika on Kargil Diwas (26 Jul), to honour martyrs. Veterans also took part enthusiastically in the Tiranga Yatra on 12 Aug, a citywide tricolour procession and joined Independence Day eve celebrations on 14 Aug under the aegis of Army Central Command, sharing camaraderie and patriotic spirit with serving and retired personnel.

**MADHYA PRADESH:** On 15 Jul 25 the Gwalior Chapter's new office was inaugurated by Air Marshal Jagjeet Singh (Retd) Sr. Vice President AFA. AVM PK Shrivastava (Retd) President MP Branch and Air Cmde Manish Sharma, AOC AF Station Gwalior, alongside a distinguished gathering of serving personnel and veterans graced the occasion.

**MAHARASHTRA:** On 04 Jun 25, the Branch held its quarterly meeting and bid farewell to AVM R Ravishankar, AOC ADV HQ SWAC, for his valuable support. In Jul 25, an ECG machine was donated to ECHS Polyclinic Lohegaon, funded through voluntary contributions from Pune veterans.

**NOIDA:** The Branch organised a lecture on Cyber Security during Annual General Meeting on 28 Feb 25. Sainik Samman samaroh was celebrated on 10 Jun 25 at Hapur having Veteran Air Chief Marshal RKS Bhadauria (Retd) as the Chief Guest. Octogenarian / Nonagenarian veterans were facilitated during AGM. Veteran MWO Harmandar Singh (Retd) was felicitated on his 100th birthday by visiting his residence at Modi Nagar.

**NORTH ZONE:** A social get together was organised by the branch for its members with their spouses on 15 Feb 2025. Former CAS, Air Chief Marshal S Krishnaswamy (Retd) also graced the function. The General Council Meeting on 11 Jul 2025, chaired by Air Mshl Sukhchain Singh (Retd), addressed veterans' issues such as PPO, SPARSH, ECHS and cyber safety etc. Under its CSR initiative, IDS Infotech, Mohali, donated a fully equipped computer system to the branch.

**ODISHA BRANCH:** The Branch AGM was conducted on 09 March 2025. Social outreach remained a strong focus – from honouring daily wage workers on Labour Day with a Jala Chhatra serving over 3,500 people, to Balasore Chapter's donation of chairs and financial aid to Ananda Marga School and another Jala Chhatra serving 5,000 citizens. The Sanginis extended support to cancer-affected children at Umeede in Seva Home, spreading the message "You are not alone." Environmental stewardship was marked by tree plantation during Van Mahotsav at Cuttack.

**RAJASTHAN:** Branch actively resolved numerous pension, NE benefit, and welfare cases for Air Veterans and widows, while assisting a few with ECHS and EPPO formalities. A lecture organised by DAV at AF Station Jodhpur on 07 March 2025 guided widows on financial entitlements. On 25 March, nine octogenarian members were honoured at AFA Jodhpur by Air Cmde J Shreeram, AOC 32 Wg with mementos and shawls.

**TAMIL NADU:** A felicitation function was held on 25 Jun 2025, during which 35 Octogenarians and one Nonagenarian were honoured at the Roopvani Auditorium, AF Station Tambaram. The event was presided over by Air Mshl S Varthaman (Retd), President AFA TN Branch, who presented the mementoes. On 01 Jul 25 AVM S Swaminathan (Retd) took over the charge of AFA TB branch president from Air Mshl S Varthaman.

**UP BRANCH (KANPUR):** International Yoga Day was observed on 21 Jul 25 where a good number of veterans were present. A qualified Yoga instructor was also present. Independence Day was celebrated with flag hoisting by Air Cmde MK Praveen, AOC, AF Stn Kanpur and President AFA (UP) Branch Gp Capt RK Yadav (Retd). Around 250 Air Veterans and families attended. This was followed by a cultural programme and a community lunch.

**WEST BENGAL:** The Branch remained active in 2025 with a Veterans' Camp at Panagarh, SPARSH camp at Barrackpore and the opening of a new chapter at Bagdogra. Felicitations were held for students scoring above 90% in Board exams, as well as for octogenarians / nonagenarians veterans. Centenarian veteran MWO GC Roy was facilitated during the AGM at Ballygunge. A Shradhanjali was paid to Veer Naari Mrs Arundhuti Samanta. Awareness was spread through a guest lecture on aging and dementia. These initiatives reflected the Branch's strong commitment to veterans' welfare and camaraderie.

## ACTION BY SPOUSE / NOK ON DEMISE OF AIR VETERAN

SI No.	Agency and Contact details	Purpose
1	Nearest AF Station	Intimate death of Air Veteran for necessary assistance to provide Assured Decent Last Rites (ADLR) and claiming 'GARIMA' grant from local Service Institute (Delhi area: Approach Adjutant AFND)Rs. 15,000/-
2	SPARSH <a href="http://Sparsh.defencepension.gov.in">Sparsh.defencepension.gov.in</a> <u>Toll Free number:</u> 18001805325	<b>Commencement of Family Pension / Stoppage of Pension</b> In the event of death of Air Veteran after discharge from service, where PPO was issued from SPARSH forward death intimation to PCDA (AF) Prayagraj through online mode. Spouse/NOK is requested to upload death information and initiate / stop family Pension claim from SPARSH portal using URL: <a href="https://sparsh.defencepension.gov.in/">https://sparsh.defencepension.gov.in/</a>
3	Dte of AV (DAV) DAV (011-25683191 & 25683351) 1800115800 Mob - 7428926801 FAX: 011-25683190 <a href="http://www.iafpensioners.gov.in">www.iafpensioners.gov.in</a>	- Intimate DAV in writing along with original copy of Death Certificate for issue of HDN (Home Death Notification) to AFGIS, IAFBA, AFA, AFFWA (C) & JCDA (AF). HDN mentions the details of likely Family pension payable to the spouse along with various accruable benefits from different agencies.
4	AFGIS AFGIS (011-25694415 & 25694068) 011-25683995  <a href="mailto:afgis@iaf.nic.in">afgis@iaf.nic.in</a>	(a) Approach AFGIS along with duly filled Forms 222 and 229 (downloaded from AFGIS website) <a href="http://www.indianairforce.nic.in">www.indianairforce.nic.in</a> (HR Initiatives) for claiming PRIC/AVIC benefit (Post Retirement Insurance / Air Veteran Insurance Cover). The insurance cover of the current AVIC scheme is as given below:  Rs 14 Lakhs (Officers) Rs 7 Lakhs (Airmen) Rs 3.5 Lakhs NCs(E)
5	IAFBA IAFBA 011-25687194/95 9125692791 <a href="mailto:iafba@yahoo.com">iafba@yahoo.com</a>	- Approach IAFBA along with NEFT mandate form for grant of FAS (monthly grant for 8 years depending on scheme prevalent at the time of retirement of Air Veteran).
6	URC	- Approach nearest URC for surrender of Veteran's Canteen Smart Cards and apply for new Canteen Smart Cards for Spouse (Both Grocery and Liquor).
7	ECHS 7703818578, 7701976194 1800114115 <a href="http://www.echs.gov.in">www.echs.gov.in</a>	- ECHS Card of Air Veteran is to be deposited at ECHS Poly Clinic (along with Death Certificate). It is presumed that the spouse and dependant parents / children would be holding their respective ECHS cards. If not, the same can be applied for now.
8	Air Force Association AFA (011-23015762, Mob – 9910948444 7982805764 9560276648 <a href="mailto:afaheadoffice@gmail.com">afaheadoffice@gmail.com</a>	- Ex-Gratia amount of Rs 7,500/- if the Late Air Veteran was a member of AFA. For the same, please approach the nearest AFA Branch.
9	Zila Sainik Board (ZSB)	- Approach Zila Sainik Board (ZSB) office to surrender Veteran I-Card issued by ZSB (if the Late Veteran had obtained one) and get an update on the State Benefits (if any). This is optional.

## ATTENTION - VETERANS AND NOK

Veterans and their families are advised to take note of an important procedure regarding the initiation of **Family Pension** after the demise of a pensioner. The death must be promptly reported online to SPARSH (System for Pension Administration Raksha) along with a copy of the **Death Certificate**. It is critical that the name of pensioner on the death certificate exactly matches the name recorded in the Pension Payment Order (PPO). Mismatches have previously caused delays and difficulties for Next of Kin (NOK) in claiming the Family Pension. Families / NOK are urged to ensure the same at the time of obtaining the death certificate - preferably during funeral arrangements to avoid complications later. **For queries or assistance, SPARSH Toll-Free Helpline: 1800-180-5325.**

# PHOTO GALLERY



**CHAIRMAN PRESIDING MAFT BOARD OF TRUSTEE'S MEETING**



**PRESIDENT AFA CHAIRING GOVERNING COUNCIL MEETING**



**PRESIDENT AFA RECEIVED RM SH. RAJ NATH SINGH AT MIAF MEMORIAL LECTURE**



**RM DELIVERING KEY NOTE ADDRESS AT MIAF MEMORIAL LECTURE**



**CAS WITH CNS AND AIR CHIEF MARSHAL NC SURI (RETD) AT MIAF MEMORIAL LECTURE**



**HONOURING OF MAFT PIONEERS BY RM**



**PRESIDENT AFA HANDING OVER MEMENTO TO RM**



**TEAM AFA HO WITH STAFF OF ECHS FARIDABAD**

# PHOTO GALLERY



ACM RKS BHDAURIA (RETD) DELIVERING KEYNOTE ADDRESS AT SAINIK SAMMAN SAMAROH AT HAPUR (UP)



ACM RKS BHDAURIA (RETD) RELEASING BOOK AT SAINIK SAMMAN SAMAROH IN HAPUR (UP)



MP BRANCH: INTERNATIONAL YOGA DAY CELEBRATION



MP BRANCH: SR VP INAUGURATING GWALIOR CHAPTER



TN BRANCH: FELICITATION OF OCTOGENERIAN MEMBER



TN BRANCH: AVM S SWAMINATHAN TAKING OVER AS PRESIDENT



HARYANA BRANCH: CYBER AWARENESS LECTURE FOR VETERANS AND FAMILIES



HARYANA BRANCH: ANNUAL GENERAL BODY MEETING

# PHOTO GALLERY



**JHARKHAND BRANCH: THE CAS AND PRESIDENT AFFWA WITH AFA STAFF AT RAJ BHAWAN**



**JHARKHAND BRANCH: ORGANISED SEMINAR ON NALSA (VEER PARIVAR SAHAYTA YOJNA)**



**SAILAM CHAPTER (TN BRANCH): DISCUSSION DURING EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING**



**NE BRANCH: PRESIDENT RECEIVING CHEQUE FROM VP AFA HO**



**LUCKNOW BRANCH: HOLI MILAN SAMAROH AT OLD AGE HOME**



**LUCKNOW BRANCH: WREATH LYING CEREMONY ON KARGIL VIJAY DIWAS**



**AP & TS BRANCH: AIR VETERANS AT SADBHAWNA RALLY**



**AP & TS BRANCH: OPENING OF HAWAI ANUBHAVI KALYAN KENDRA (HAKK) AT BEGUMPET**

# PHOTO GALLERY



**KARNATAKA BRANCH: THE CAS LIGHTING LAMP AT ACM LM KATRE MEMORIAL LECTURE**



**KARNATAKA BRANCH: INAGURATION OF SPARSH SAHAYTA SHIVIR**



**NOIDA BRANCH: FELICITATION OF OCTOGENERIAN VETERAN AFA MEMBER**



**NOIDA BRANCH: TEAM AFA FELICITATED CENTENARIAN MWO HARMANDER SINGH NATT AT HIS RESIDENCE**



**WB BRANCH: FELICITATION OF NONAGENERIAN AND CENETERIAN AIR VETERANS**



**WB BRANCH: ACM ARUP RAHA (RETD) ATTENDED GET-TOGETHER**



**NORTH ZONE BRANCH: CSR INITIATIVE BY M/S IDS INFOTECH, MOHALI**



**NZ BRANCH: WREATH LAYING CEREMONY AT AIR FORCE STATION CHANDIGARH, WAR MEMORIAL**

# PHOTO GALLERY



**GUJARAT BRANCH: PRESIDENT AFA AT LATE FG OFFR NIRMAL JIT SINGH SEKHON PVC MEMORIAL LECTURE**



**GUJARAT BRANCH: NCC CADETS FELICITATION CEREMONY**



**KERALA BRANCH: FELICITATION OF VETERANS DURING AGM**



**KERALA BRANCH: FELICITATION OF OCTOGENERIANS**



**ODISHA BRANCH: INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATIONS**



**ODISHA BRANCH: AIR CMDE A MOHANTY TAKING OVER AS PRESIDENT**



**KANPUR BRANCH: INTERNATIONAL YOGA DAY CELEBRATED BY VETERANS**



**KANPUR BRANCH: VETERANS GATHERED TO CELEBRATE INDEPENDENCE DAY**

# PHOTO GALLERY



**MAHARASHTRA BRANCH: GP CAPT SV PHATAK  
TAKING OVER AS PRESIDENT**



**MAHARASHTRA BRANCH:  
DONATING ECG MACHINE TO ECHS LOHEGAON**



**RAJASTHAN BRANCH: FELICITATION OF  
NONAGENARIAN MEMBER**



**RAJASTHAN BRANCH: DISCUSSION DURING  
EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING**



**BIHAR BRANCH: INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION**



**BIHAR BRANCH: HIND SENA GAURAV YATRA**



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## Variant-Rakshak Pensioner

- ▶ Eligibility: All pensioners under Rakshak & Police Rakshak
- ▶ PAI – ₹50 Lakh, PTD – ₹50 Lakh, PPD – ₹25 Lakh, AAI – ₹100 Lakh
- ▶ Up to 0.1% concession in RoI over & above applicable RoI in Retail Loan
- ▶ Free OTT subscription, Annual Health checkup, Complimentary lounge & spa services
- ▶ Emergency medical expense-upto ₹0.25 lakh
- ▶ Ambulance charges-upto ₹0.10 lakh
- ▶ Vouchers of Bookmyshow, Myntra, Blinkit, 3 months Swiggy one membership etc.

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