

Sub: Suggestions to be tabled at the Special National Council on 09/07/2017 Regarding.
Ref no.: D-3-1/904/2017

Dear Sir,

With reference to the above subject, I would like to propose the following changes which will enable good governance across The Bharat Scouts & Guides – a voluntary movement for the youth driven by the experienced

1. Age Limit

- a. **For professional:** National Association - No. 21 - 25 of the Rules, Page No. 19 to 23 of the Rules Book
 - The age for **professionals** at national headquarters is limited to **65 years**. This is agreed and age limit should be retained.
 - However, I propose that the service conduct rules requires to be updated based on the current day situation and considering various other related aspects
 - A resolution must be passed where in each professional will be able to hold **ONLY ONE designation**. This will enable efficient functioning of professional within their designated area while providing opportunity to involve more number of professionals in the movement
 - Right to vote – A movement which is voluntary in nature and is driven by elected volunteers must ensure that only volunteers have right to vote. This means to say that professionals who are salaried employees of The Bharat Scouts & Guides must be refrained from voting to avoid any **conflict of interest**. However, their involvement in elections can be for the purpose of conducting and executing the event without any hurdles
- b. **For volunteers:** A volunteer who is nominated or elected, irrespective of age contributes towards the progression of organization and not in the interest of self. One such selfless act cannot be restricted ONLY because of age. An individual with good health, competency, experience and willingness to serve the movement for the benefit of the young MUST be encouraged rather than being discouraged. As rightly said by our founder Lord Baden Powell – “Once A Scout, Always A Scout” – Let us put this into action

2. Number of elected members in Executive Committee

- a. One observation which is critical to consider is that the number of appointed members in a given executive committee [National / State / District / Local Association] is more than the elected members. This may result in a situation where in a competent and efficient volunteer may not be able to be a part of executive committee as a result of biased appointment
- b. Hence I propose to increase the number of elected positions as compared to appointed positions

3. The appointment of District Chief Commissioner

- a. As per rule no. 86 of the RULES [Page 80] of The Bharat Scouts & Guides, the position of The District Chief Commissioner is appointed by The State Chief Commissioner in consultation with the State Commissioners of Scouts & Guides, from among the members of the District Association. However, this position earlier was elected and did

serve the purpose. The election of an office bearer indicates the confidence level and support extended by the council, while the appointment may be based on the visibility of the appointing body. Hence in the larger interest of the movement, I propose to reinstate the procedure of formally electing a volunteer from among the district association to the position of The District Chief Commissioner in accordance with that of The State Chief Commissioner and The Chief National Commissioner of The Bharat Scouts & Guides. Also please note that the appointed individual may be inexperienced and may not lead the district association in right direction.

- b. In line with my earlier inputs, I would also like to propose reinstatement of election for the post of **Treasurer** at National, State, District and Local association level which is now an appointed post as per amended rules the resolution for which was passed during the 65th National Council meeting held at Delhi on 29th of November 2015. The Treasurer shall be elected by the Executive Committee from among the members of the Local/District/State/National Associations. Treasurer's post involves finance, Annual Budget, Audit Statement of Accounts etc. And hence **MUST** be an elected one considering the transparency and implementation.

4. THE STATE CHIEF COMMISSIONER: Rule no. 52 of the Rules-Page 49

- a. *In the event of a vacancy in the office of State Chief Commissioner the function of the State Chief Commissioner may be performed by the State Commissioner senior by age or if there is only one State Commissioner, by the said State Commissioner, or if there is no State Commissioner, by such person as may be appointed pro-Term by the President of the State Association, until, a new State Chief Commissioner is elected for the remaining of the term, The election of the new State Chief Commissioner shall be held as soon as practicable.*
- b. **In the above rule, duration for election of the new State Chief Commissioner is not specified. Hence, I propose the duration of six months or before the next State Council Meeting whichever is earlier**

5. Rule No.28 & 32 of the Rules Book:

- a. **28-Rules Committee and 32-National Adult Resource Management Committee**
 - In the above committees experienced leaders, retired professionals from the posts of Directors or Joint directors may be included as advisors along with the youngsters for the relevant changes suitable to be incorporated according to the needs

6. Active and increased involvement from youth

- a. Scouting and guiding being a movement for the youth, it is disheartening to see that their involvement is limited to the awards and getting more of academic rather than the actual scouting / guiding activities
- b. The development of social, responsible and leadership skills cannot happen just based on the academics and that is where Scouting / Guiding has to play a key role
- c. Hence to accommodate this, I propose review of:
 - The requirements marked for every step along with duration as per APRO Part II and III of The Bharat Scouts & Guides,
 - Alignment of activities mentioned in the APRO Part II and III in line with today's trend and expectation from the young

On a conclusive note, I would like to put forward my view to say that The Bharat Scouts & Guides has to be strengthened with the fundamentals laid down by our Founder Lord Baden Powell in 1907. Scouting & Guiding is a movement for the Youth and it is the adult commitment that inculcates the spirit of Citizenship & Service.

Let us Join the hands & strengthen the Youth Movement.

The Bharat Scouts and Guides is a Joint Movement affiliated to WOSM (World Association of Scout Movement) and WAGGGS (World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts) as a full member and proudly marching ahead not only quantitatively but also qualitatively. The lead by veteran leaders for more than 60 years is the proof that age is no limitation in our movement.

The flag of The Bharat Scouts & Guides is flying higher among the flags of other nations for which we should get off our unnecessary trivial matters / conflicts allowing the strengthening of the movement towards newer heights

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